



SOSC 15200 7 - Classics of Social and Political Thought II - Instructor(s): Gary B Herrigel

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2024**

Number Enrolled: **15**

Number of Responses: **6**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
the hardest part of the course for me was learning how to understand the content. beyond that, i also developed the skill of not using any direct quotes in my writing, which proved to be challenging at times but ultimately not as difficult as I thought it would be
How to analyze early political though. Spacing out my writing to fit broader ideas in a large essay more effectively.
In class discussions. While the texts are heavy and dense, the discussions helped alleviate the confusion created from the text.
Understanding of notable political philosophy
How Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, and Mary Wollstonecraft view the state of nature and the ideal structure of government.
Great overview and comparison of Hobbes, Locke, and Rosseau's political philosophy.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
our class time was pretty discussion-based but the most helpful part of those discussions was when the professor would lecture us a bit about what was happening in the text and why because it was more clear than trying to separate classmates' incorrect interpretations from what was actually happening.
The discussions were great and discussed most aspects of the reading. I learned a lot from it.
Mostly discussion and reading outside of class. In class discussion was the most helpful..
Herrigel's way of teaching and his propensity to not let people get away with saying nonsense
Class discussions helped everyone understand the readings.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	3.83	4.00	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	33.33%	33.33%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.50	3.50	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	33.33%	16.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	16.67%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.17	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	50.00%	33.33%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.00	4.50	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	16.67%	50.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Everything feels repetitive and the same. I don't think I gained much from the first quarter or the second quarter.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	16.67%	83.33%
Anyone interested in the topic	20.00%	80.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
when he would tell us what was going on and help us forge connections between the texts
The discussions, he made them fun and engaging while also making sure most people talked and that everyone walked out having understood.
Gary is overall really good at connecting with the students and finding ways to maintain the discussion relevant during class. His method of discussion, while based on cold-calling, helped me become motivated and prepare before class. As well as that, the guy is super funny, which made me want to be in discussion.
Herrigel's challenging way of teaching
The discussions helped me understand the readings. Professor asked us lots of questions to help develop our understanding.
Great metaphors and humor + demeanor to explain difficult concepts and nuances of the authors' respective positions.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
sometimes it felt like parts of class were wasted by the cold-calling because people were just aimlessly guessing at what they think the text was saying
The 8–10 page essays were a bit much and I would have preferred if the first essay was shorter as to give the students an ability to get accustomed to the professor's preferred writing style.
Decreasing the size of the essays. Three 8–10 page papers was insane, as well as balancing other classes with essays too. Shortening the length slightly would help students a lot.
Provide learning objectives
The paper comments are very specific and hard to use for the next paper. Maybe some more general or overall comments can help us know what to improve for the next paper.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.17	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	50.00%	33.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.17	5.00	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	83.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	3.83	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	16.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%	0.00%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comments
Elena was super nice! She was always available and incredibly flexible in helping both check+correct my essays for class.
Elena Schafer. It was clear that she didn't know the texts very well. Therefore, her paper comments were very basic and were very contradicting to the professor's comments. She was also very hard to meet with. Most students in the class had to wait a week or a week and a half to meet with her even though it was a requirement to. I was disappointed with the paper I had vetted with her because her comments made me believe I had a strong paper but then my professor came back with very different comments.
Elena Schafer

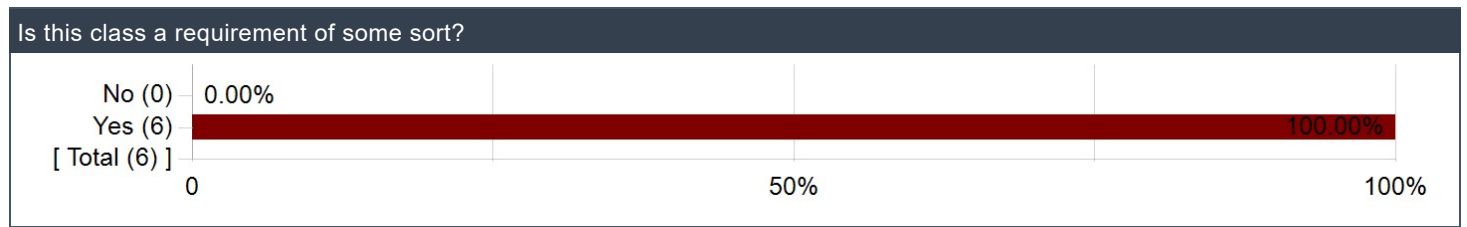
The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	3.33	4.00	33.33%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	2.50	2.50	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%
Challenged you to learn.	3.00	3.00	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	33.33%
Helped you succeed in the class.	3.00	3.00	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	33.33%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	3.67	5.00	33.33%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	2.50	2.50	33.33%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	33.33%

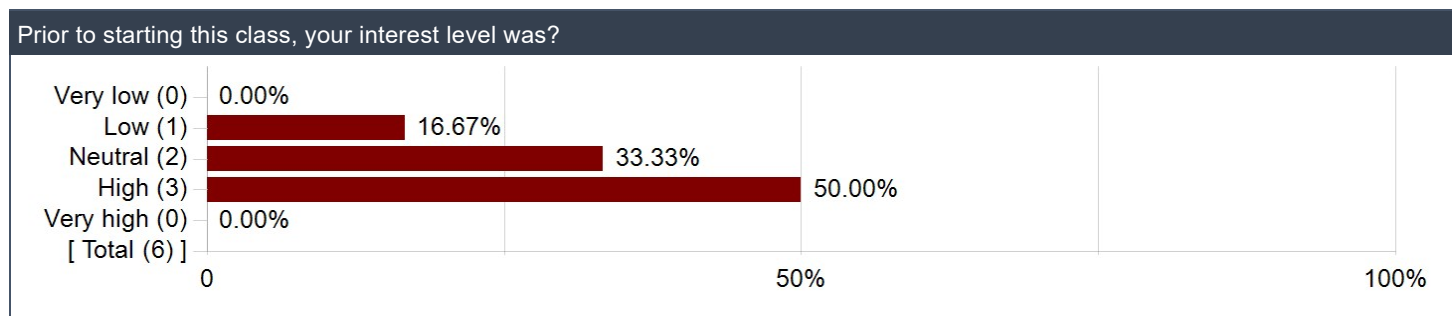
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	2.33	2.00	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

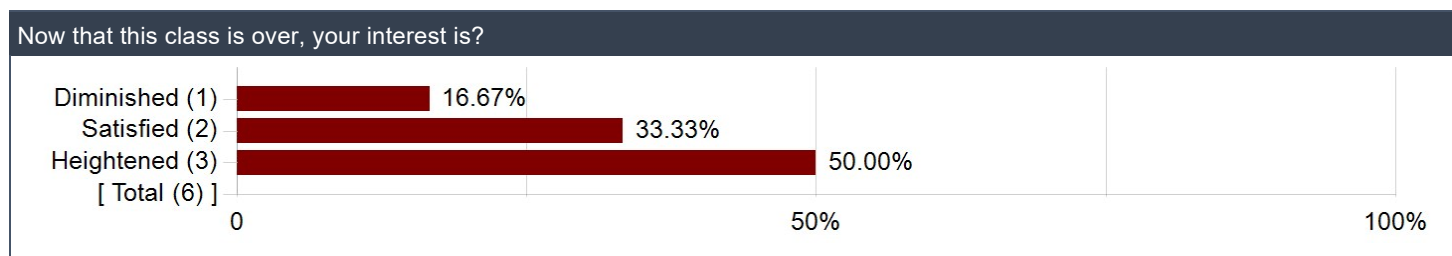
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



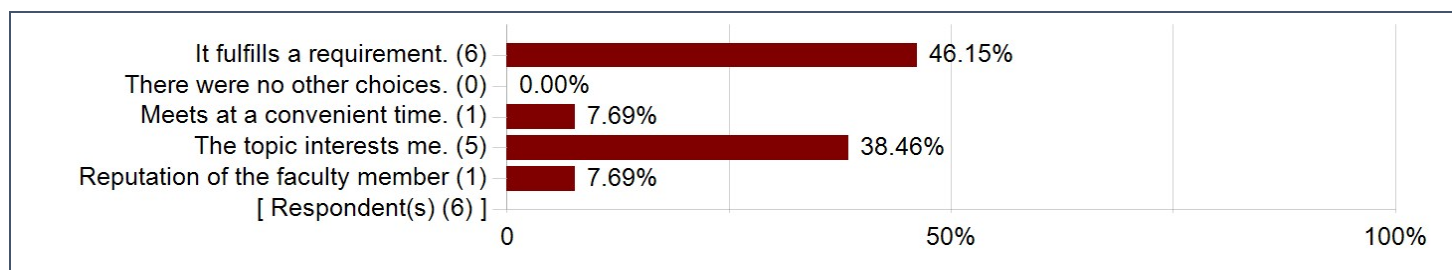
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



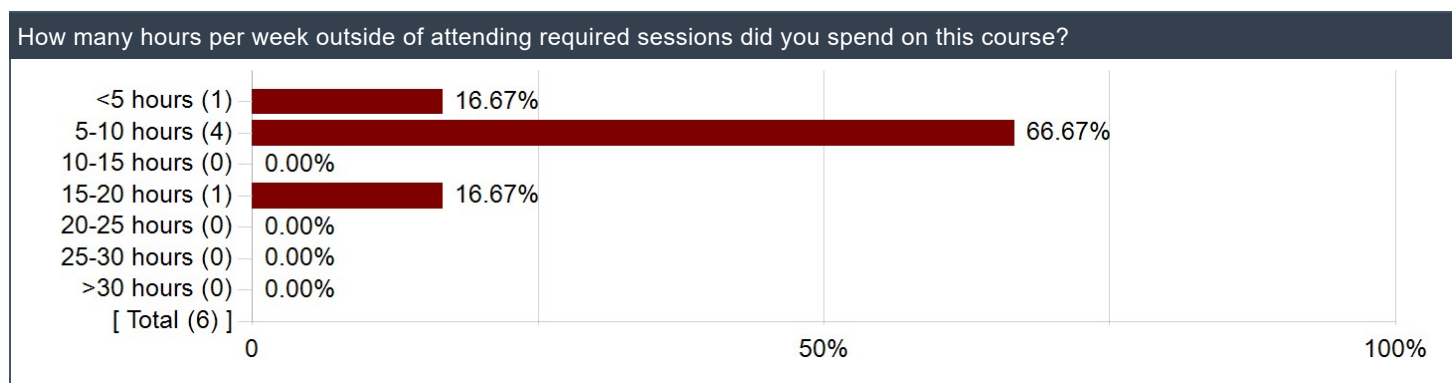
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)

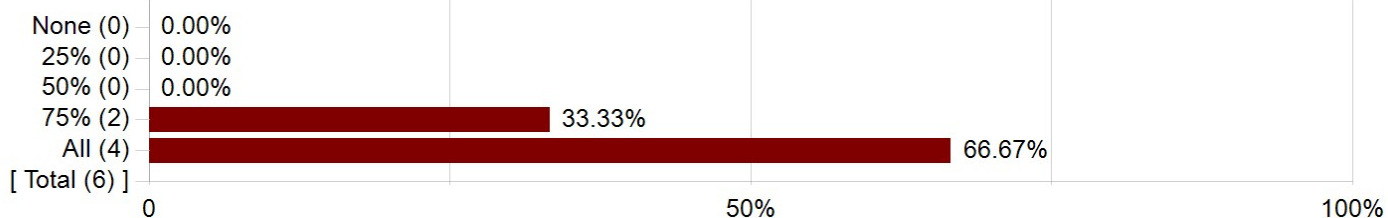


How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments

Classics is definitely one of the most difficult SOSC classes to take. The papers are much more challenging to write and the readings are more difficult.