



SOSC 12600 21 - Self, Culture, and Society III - Instructor(s) - Thomas James Newbold

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

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **8**

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, July 11, 2024**

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

Comments
Discussing the progression of societies in a scientific and political sense—thinking about the structure of scientific revolutions through Kuhn and the experience of sexuality with Foucault to grappling with questions of modernity later in the course.
I learned a lot about social theory and how to understand texts that I otherwise would never read.
Broadening perspectives on theory of knowledge
good discussions
I learned about the practice of social theory. We read through Kuhn's The Structure of Scientific Revolutions and Foucault's The History of Sexuality.
The origins of science and Foucault's the history of sexuality (and about the transition of power in it). Also what is modernity and time as a linear progression

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

Comments
Professor Newbold is very knowledgeable, meaning lectures are helpful (if not a little hard to understand given the depth of his knowledge) in engaging with the given text(s). We would break off into groups during one of the class periods each week, which I found to be less beneficial, given we were missing as close of a reading of the text by the professor, and the conversation was not always directly related to the readings.
Professor Newbold's clear passion about the content of the course, and the genuine compassion and understanding he showed us made me excited to go to his class every single day.
Lectures were helpful as prof helped to explain material and answer questions clearly
discussions
The discussions were heavily directed by Professor Newbold. The fact that the second essay question was more open-ended allowed me to demonstrate my accumulated knowledge of social theory.
Classes were great and very informative; vital to making the readings make sense. Thomas explained things super well and enthusiastically

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%
I felt respected in this class.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
The course is very interesting and I really felt like it led to self reflection on a more advanced level than I was capable of previously

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

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

Comments
The lectures were insightful given Professor Newbold's fluency in the topic, which was especially the case when we got to questions of modernity in the latter portion of the course.
Professor Newbold's clear passion about the content of the course, and the genuine compassion and understanding he showed us made me excited to go to his class every single day.
When the prof would just answer questions and go through content
class discussions
Dr. Newbold has a very deep knowledge of the topics discussed in class.
Thomas is knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and kind. This unfortunately makes him quite rare. His class is very thorough and he does a good job of making things clear. His enthusiasm for the works is obvious. He also clearly wants his students to actually succeed and to love the work like he does, which made a big difference. I'll miss him if he does choose to leave UChicago as he plans. I feel like he embodies UChicago

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Breaking off into groups didn't always yield the most informative discussions, so it would have been nice to have a longer lecture beforehand.
Nothing.
Probably drop the discussions, I felt like it just meant that we would have to answer these lowkey irrelevant questions and divert attention away from actual material
There were some times where the class felt more like a lecture and less like a discussion.
I love the professor so much hes so awesome and nice and wholesome and made this my best soc quarter !! prof newbold we loved having you!!
He did have a habit of distracting himself in his enthusiasm—maybe set a timer for each group/subject?

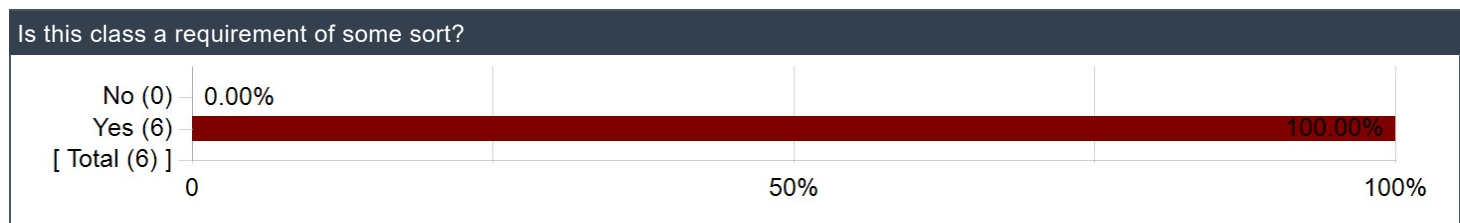
The Instructor . . .

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

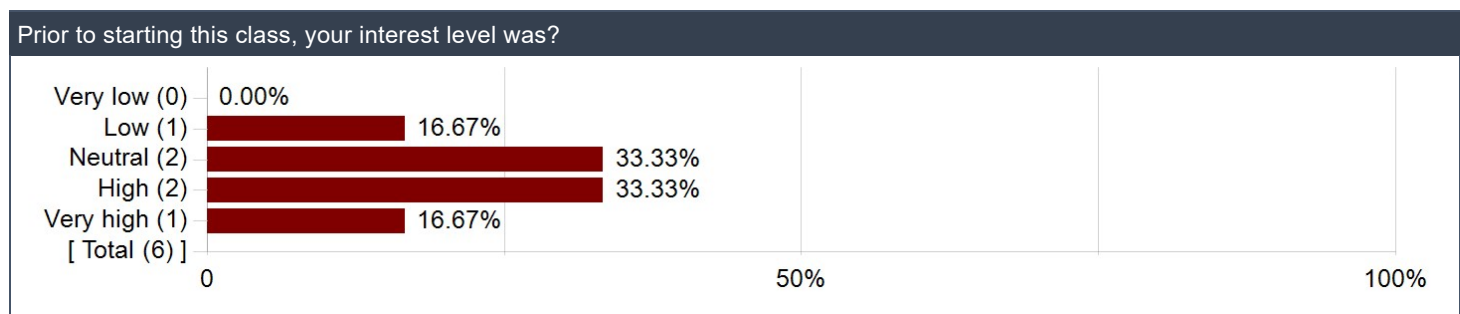
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

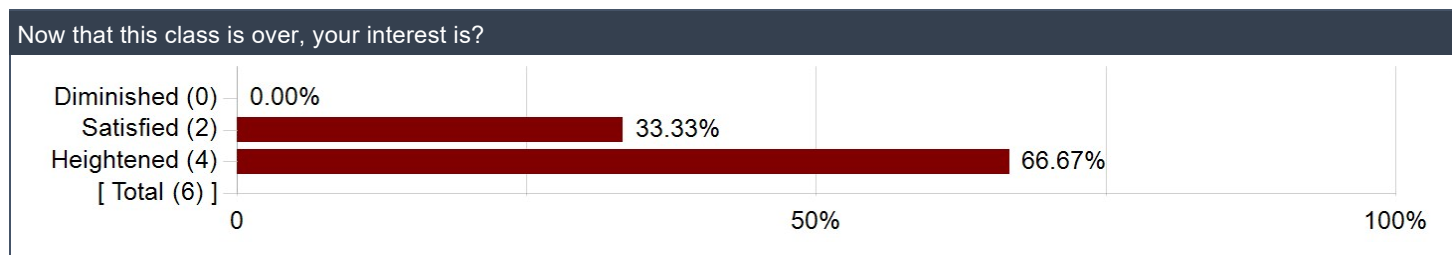
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



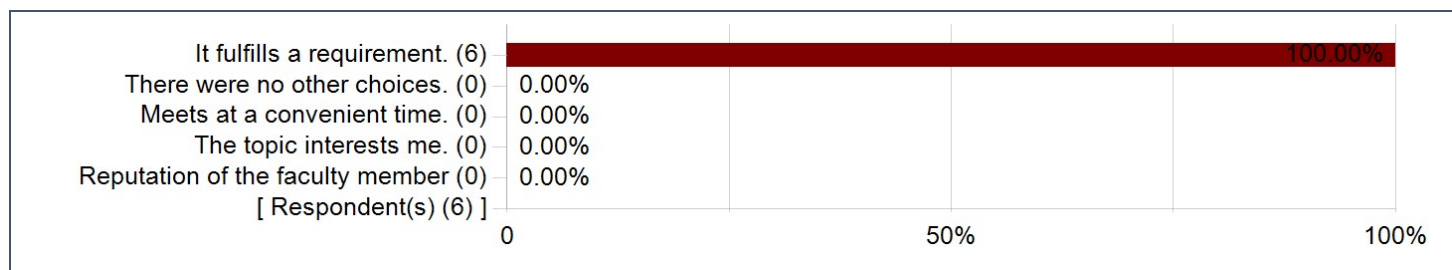
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



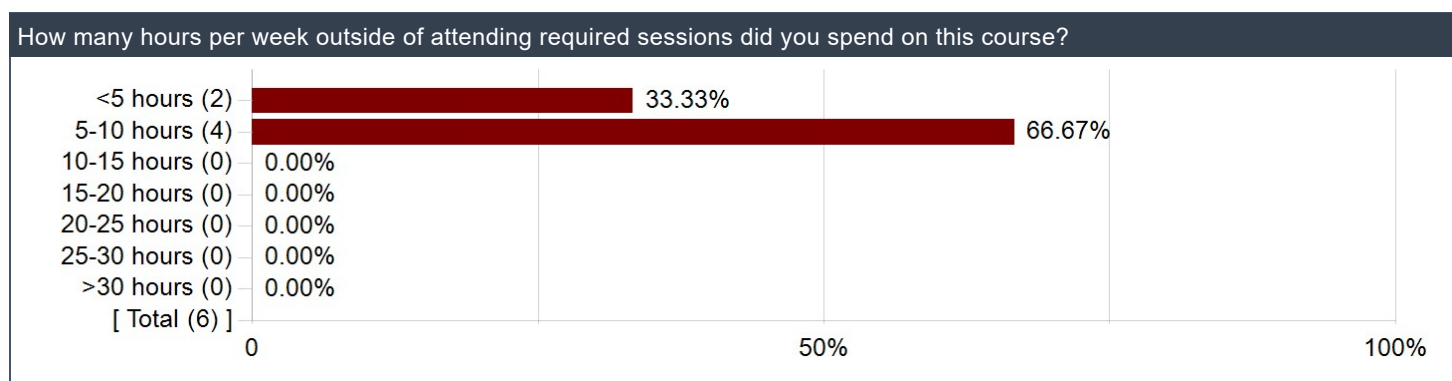
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



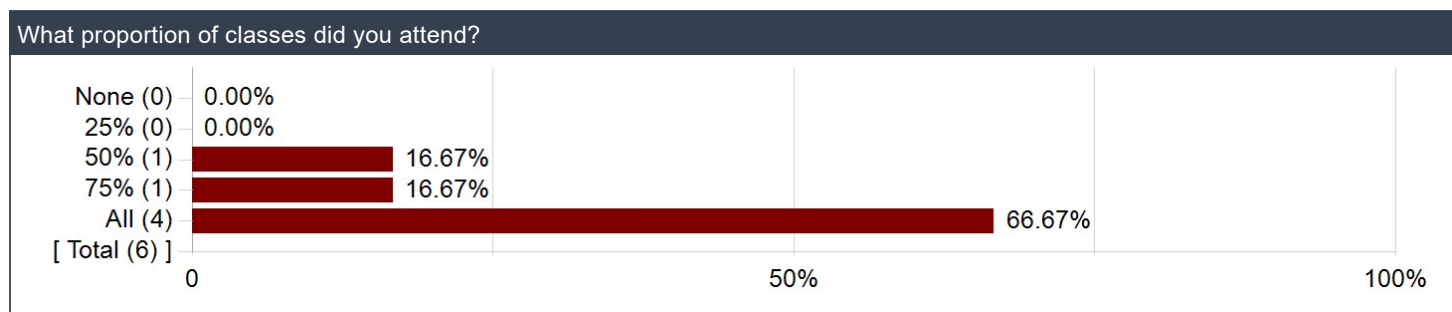
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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



What proportion of classes did you attend?



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

Comments
I found the beginning of this part of the Self sequence to be harder than past
As difficult as any other SOSC or HUM. Its just reading and essays. Assigned ~80 pages a week
The reading takes a good amount of time but if you actually DO it and pay attention in class and discuss, it'll make sense and the class will be fine!!