



SOSC 17300 6 - Religion: Cosmos, Conscience, and Community III - Instructor(s) - Bruce Winkelman

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

Number Enrolled: **20**

Number of Responses: **14**

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
The most important thing I learned in this course is how to write an essay that synthesizes multiple texts for the purposes of my own argument rather than restating the texts' arguments.
Learned about how we can define religion in many different ways to different ends. Also learned about the diversity of religious thought, and about the role of religion in government.
I learned a lot about the intricate relationship between religions and politics
We discussed and analyzed different viewpoints about the role of religion within society now and in the future
How religion can be used to facilitate social change
How to write better (signposting, clarity connecting arguments)
How to write about the complexities of religion and its effects on various societies.
I learned how to think about and study religion which was pretty cool!
religion in the context of society. how religion could be used to press and manipulate. personal spiritual journeys. learning about different religions.
Broadened my view of religion and enriched my understanding.
The different ways religion exists in society, how it can influence people, cultures, and governments, as well as how to analyze religious texts.
Religion's role in every facet of society. How religion impacts social structure / political power / spirituality.
document analysis, contextual framing, complexities of religion

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

Comments
The discussions were integral to understanding the readings.
Class discussions supported learning.
Class discussions helped us put our ideas together and think critically about the readings.
discussions were super helpful in developing my understandings of the texts
Mr. Winkelman was central to my learning experience.
I loved the readings and class discussions were great!
Readings were very interesting, class was a lot of discussing the readings, assignments were all reasonable and interesting to work on.
we have two lectures (discussion-based) every week. Bruce does a great job into making each of us feeling not only respected but also most importantly welcomed.
Helped improve my writing and discussion skills.
Discussions were very engaging and helped with my understanding. I liked having the mini assignments to guide class discussion.
Favorite course out of my 8 core seminar courses (Hum / Sosc / Civ) because Dr. Winkelman is a fabulous instructor. He does an excellent job at moderating discussions. He also gave short lectures that contextualized texts and allowed me to understand at a deeper level .
the essays were based on one's inquiry, so I could use them to explore the things I was interested in.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.77	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	84.62%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%
My work was evaluated fairly.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I felt respected in this class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.93	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	92.86%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I really enjoyed this course and would highly recommend it!
One of the best profs I've had at UChicago.
Bruce is awesome!
GREAT

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
Bruce is a fantastic professor. He connects with his students and encourages them to improve in their interpretation of the readings and their construction of written arguments.
Explaining the readings and being inclusive in discussions and guiding discussions.
Prof. Bruce is really patient and attentive. He often gives students wonderful, inspirational thoughts!
The engaging way in which he led his discussion section
His discussion sections
Mr Winkelman makes learning deeply personal and accommodating while continuing to push students to improve their outcomes and abilities. His interest, excitement, and enthusiasm for learning, fostering discussion, and listening is apparent in every minute he is in the classroom.
Lectures and bringing in his own experiences studying religion into our discussions.
He's great at explaining things! 10/10 teacher love Bruce.
Bruce is an exceptionally nice and smart instructor. He is great at expressing his own thoughts and questions and laying down the basis for our discussions. He not only makes every one feel respected but also welcomed. He takes into consideration our diverse backgrounds. He is not biased which is important in such a sensitive topic like religion. He is very flexible and always willing to help as much as he could. He does care about our mental and intellectual well-beings.
Professor Winkleman creating an open, accessible, and intellectually stimulating learning environment.
He did a great job leading class discussion and providing background info on our readings
The additional context he provided reinforced my understanding of the texts. Discussions were moderated well and felt like non-stressful conversations. Really respectful of students and lively atmosphere for every class.
small group discussions, discussions as a class typically weren't as successful.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
I think having a bit more structure to the lessons could be useful, because sometimes there is just dead silence when no one knows how to answer a question.
n/a
Prof. Bruce is the best!
N/A
nothing, i was very pleased with the course
Be less accommodating to students who come in late to class.
nothing really
nothing.
nothing
More tension and engagement with student's ideas, to not just be a container for the class's thoughts but contend with them respectfully.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.79	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	21.43%	78.57%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.79	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	21.43%	78.57%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.93	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	92.86%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.79	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	21.43%	78.57%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	92.31%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.93	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	92.86%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.93	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	92.86%	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
Joshua Wagner. Super flexible and nice and helpful.
Joshua Wagner
Josh Wagner, his seminars were good, but we did not interact with him much other than that.
Josh Wagner. HE IS THE BEST!!! He is great! Very understanding and helpful and most importantly kind.

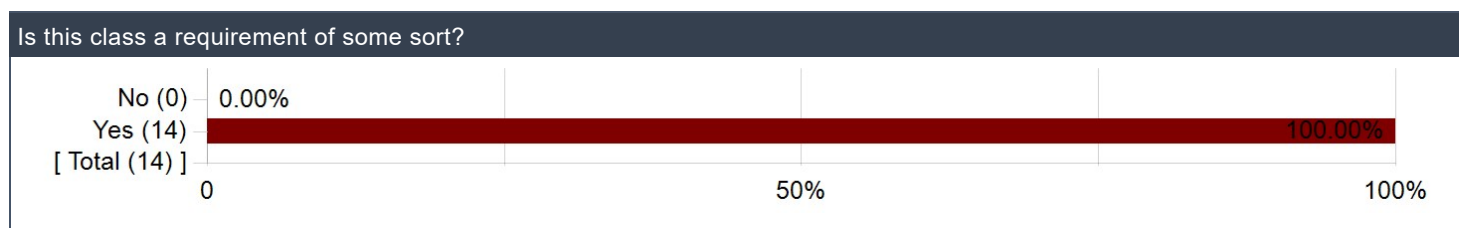
The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	20.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	80.00%	20.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	80.00%	20.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%

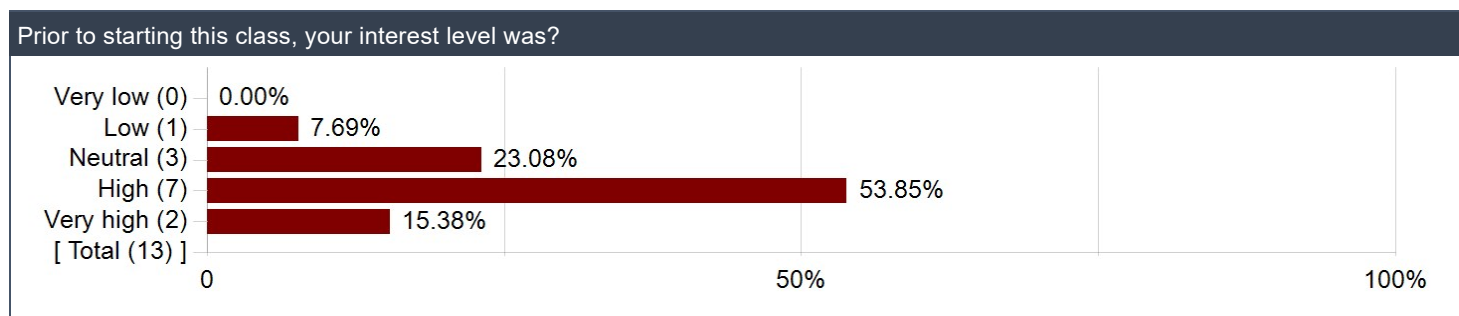
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	3.67	4.00	0.00%	22.22%	11.11%	44.44%	22.22%	0.00%

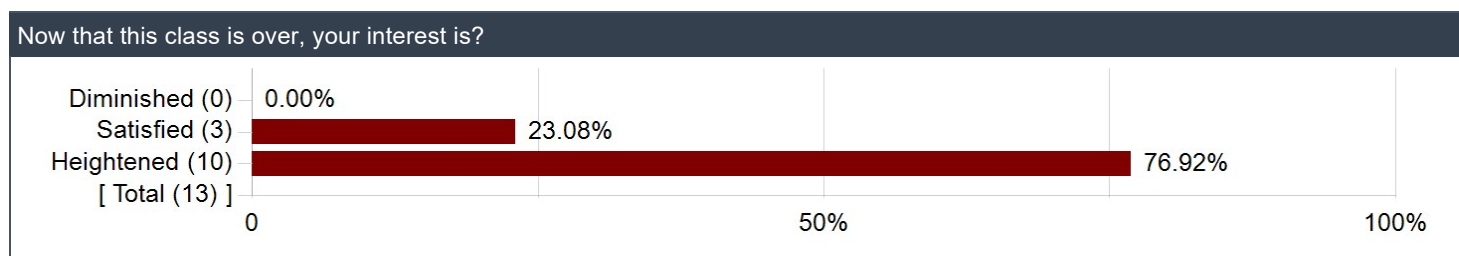
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



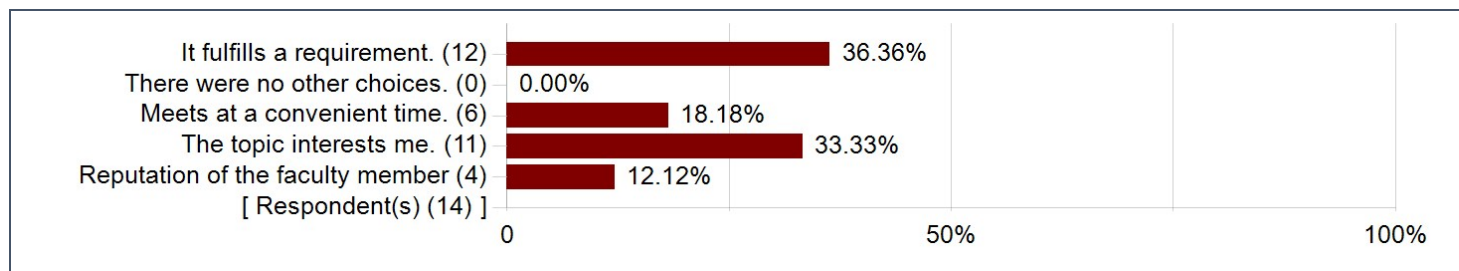
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



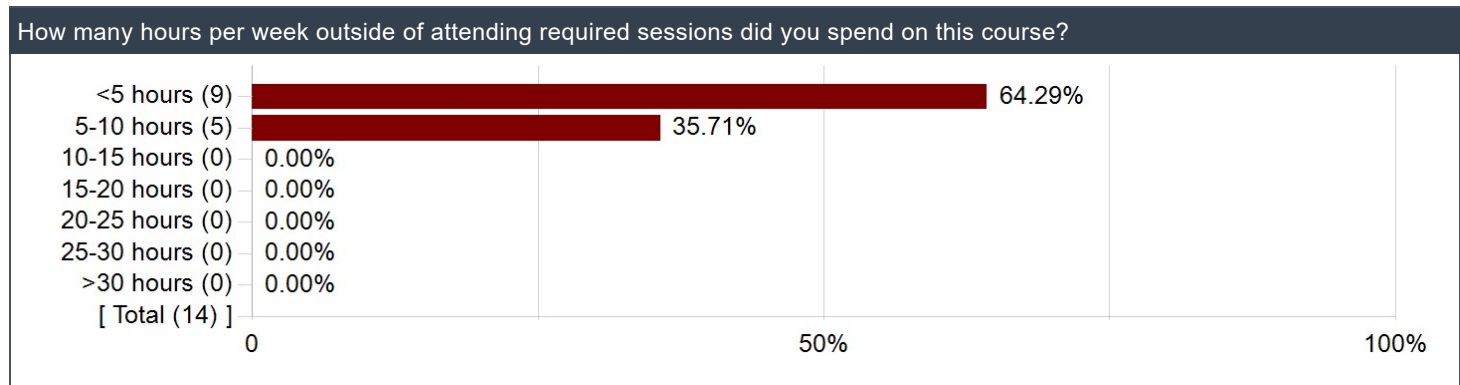
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



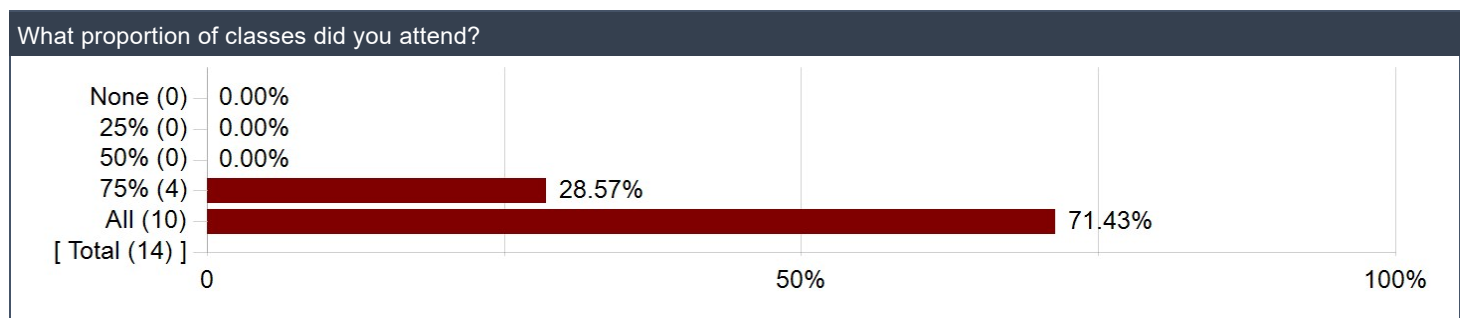
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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



What proportion of classes did you attend?



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

Comments
Very manageable with no experience in religious studies.
I have a bit of a religious background but it is definitely not required.
was very accessible
Not too difficult at all for someone who likes readings and writing.
Professor made it accessible.
good class for any level of background experience
The class is itself not hard, but if you want to get something out of it intellectually or personally, you will have to put a good amount of work in.