



SOSC 11500 3 - Power, Identity, Resistance II - Instructor(s): Patricia Posey

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

Number Enrolled: **15**

Number of Responses: **9**

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
writing skills
How to analyze a dense text.
The ability to read and comprehend political text like the Wealth of Nations/Capital/Division of Labor. The ability to formulate argumentations (at an intermediate level).
Close Reading
I learned how to write academic papers on political economy.
Learned about the exploitative nature of capitalism and the different origin stories for the division of labor. Discussed the merits of different economic constructions, from free markets supported by the invisible hand to gift economies driven by personal relationships.
How to read literature on political economy and sociology, how to participate in a class discussion to analyze and evaluate the arguments of the text, and how to advance an argument about the writers' ideas. We read Smith's The Wealth of Nations, Marx's Capital Volume 1, Durkheim's The Division of Labor in Society, and Mauss's The Gift.
This quarter had a heavy focus on Marx and Smith while also touching on Durkheim and Mauss. This quarter focuses on the economic organizations compared to the first quarter which was more politically focused. Learned a lot about the authors and questioned a lot of economic intuitions I had.

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

Comments
discussions among students were great. Professor Did not really help facilitate discussions and it got silent and awkward often.
The thing that contributed the most was discussions.
Well, the classes were very discussion oriented.
Everything was great. Lectures are interesting, and assignments are a healthy progression.
The 3 writing assignments that chronologically progressed in length and difficulty helped me work my way up to writing a full-length essay. Class discussions were hit-or-miss in terms of value. Some discussions really helped me understand the text, while others fell a bit flat. I always liked when we were divided into groups for discussions and came back to the whole class to share our group's thoughts; it made it a lot easier to participate without feeling too socially anxious.
Class time was certainly helpful in breaking down the readings, many of which were quite long.
Lectures and readings are the bulk of the class and were executed fairly well. Canvas discussions didn't seem engaging enough, however.
Strictly a seminar course. Every class you have a reading and every week there is one required discussion post. Discussion post is really an avenue for students to pose questions about the readings or share insights they have.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	11.11%	66.67%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	22.22%	55.56%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	55.56%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.00	4.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	55.56%	33.33%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	44.44%	55.56%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
I felt respected in this class.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	44.44%	55.56%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.11	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	33.33%	44.44%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
None
I was good.
Compared to the first quarter—which was a different professor—this quarter felt substantially easier. Discussion posts were graded for completion only, so quality wasn't a top priority. Discussions in class felt similar – questions were "softer" and easier to answer.
Biggest thing about this course is that the reading load is no joke. Not uncommon to have 150–200 pages of reading a week. Can be burdensome and frustrating at times but overall the readings are thought provoking and enjoyable.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	11.11%	88.89%
Anyone interested in the topic	22.22%	77.78%

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

Comments
She did not really help us in our discussions. It was entirely dependent on the students.
Her facilitation of discussion.
It's hard to say. She was generally helpful.
The summaries Professor Posey would give.
Professor Posey had excellent feedback on the writing assignments. I appreciated that she pushed back the due date for the final essay when she realized that having less than a week in between the prompt release and the due date was far too tight.
Prof. Posey always had a plethora of comments to make on various questions from the text, so we were able to get a lot of out each reading rather than focusing on something highly specific. Made it easy to compare and contrast the different authors.
Lectures, writing assignments, readings.
Professor Posey has you practice skills in class which she expects you to perform in her essays. Her guidance in this respect makes writing essays easier because you know exactly what she wants from you whereas in previous classes I have sometimes struggled understanding what the prof wants.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Actually engage with the students. Sometimes the tone used in class was a bit condescending which discouraged participation.
Nothing
In person office hours?
Nothing
I would really like to see more active discussion moderation. It was very clear that Professor Posey had a certain end-point in mind with each discussion, and sometimes, the class got a little lost while searching for the 'right' answer to her prompting questions. When things went uncomfortably quiet, I wish she was willing to step in and guide us a little more. Professor Posey has really well-articulated understandings of these texts—it's apparent whenever she reads from the notes on her laptop—and sometimes I found myself wishing that she made use of that and lectured more. Listening to her words always gave me the best understanding of these texts, so I would love to see a more even lecture/discussion split.
I suppose my first minor concern was that this class didn't feel as rigorous as I was expecting and perhaps desiring. The first assignment was only a short close reading and the second assignment was a short outline. We only had to write one complete paper with a word count limit on the low end.
I also wish the discussions were slightly more spontaneous. It seemed like Prof. Posey had a predetermined set of points she wanted to make and would read them off from a computer at various times; sometimes it seemed like comments made by classmates wouldn't get heard if they were unrelated to the points Prof. Posey wanted to make.
Letting the discussion be somewhat freer, while also being able to guide it to reach points of the text that are necessary, is a difficult skill to develop. Prof. Posey was definitely improving as the quarter went on, but seminars felt constrained in the first few weeks.
Sometimes we got behind in discussion in this class so maybe less of an emphasis on close readings so we can cover the entire contents of the reading instead of just a 10 page section. Certainly frustrating when you complete a ~100 page reading and you feel like you cover none of it.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.63	4.00	11.11%	0.00%	22.22%	33.33%	22.22%	11.11%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	3.78	4.00	11.11%	11.11%	11.11%	22.22%	44.44%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	3.78	4.00	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	22.22%	44.44%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	22.22%	55.56%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	44.44%	33.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	33.33%	44.44%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	55.56%	33.33%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	22.22%	66.67%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.89	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	33.33%	33.33%	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
Danny Jacobs – writing advisor. Ran a good seminar and provided highly useful feedback on my work!
For this class we had Daniel Jacobs as our writing assistant. Daniel is super helpful in providing feedback when requested and he does a good job of developing skills such as structuring paragraphs and forming thesis statements.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Challenged you to learn.	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%

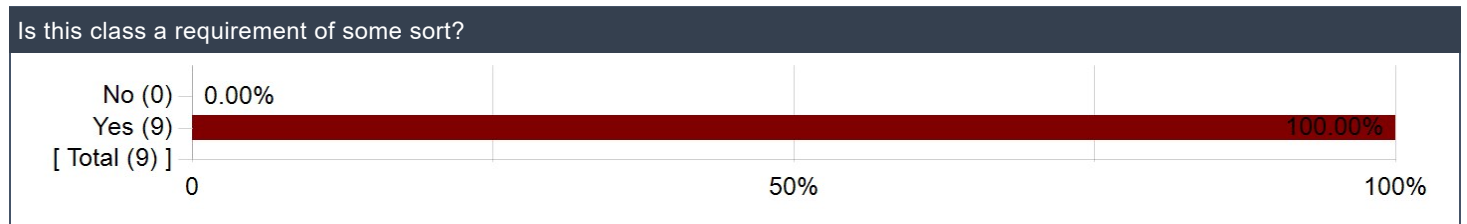
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	42.86%	28.57%	0.00%

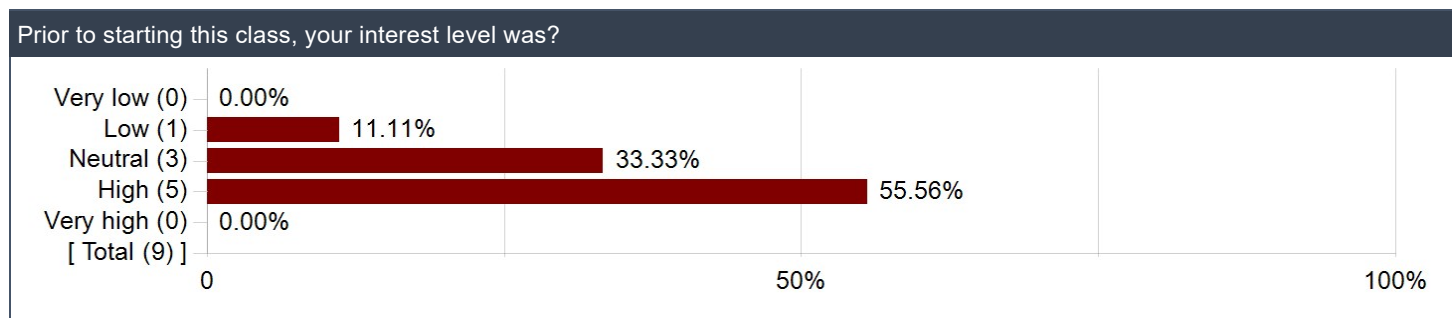
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
none
Mandatory office hours with Sosc Writing Advisor Daniel Jacobs were moderately helpful

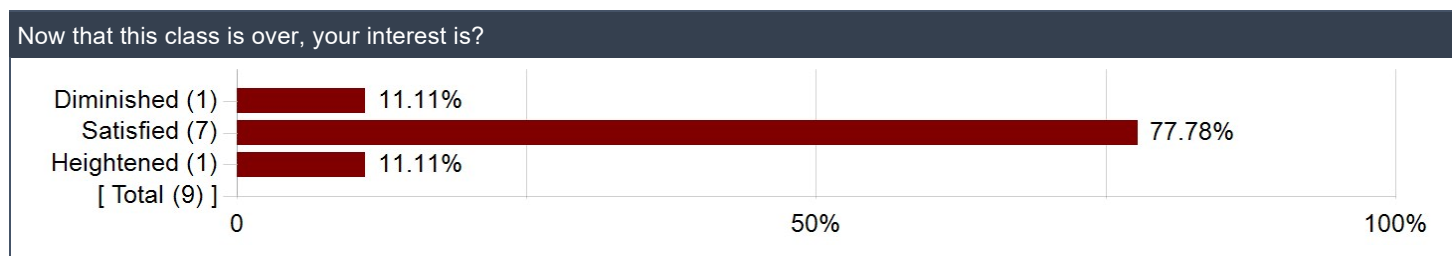
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



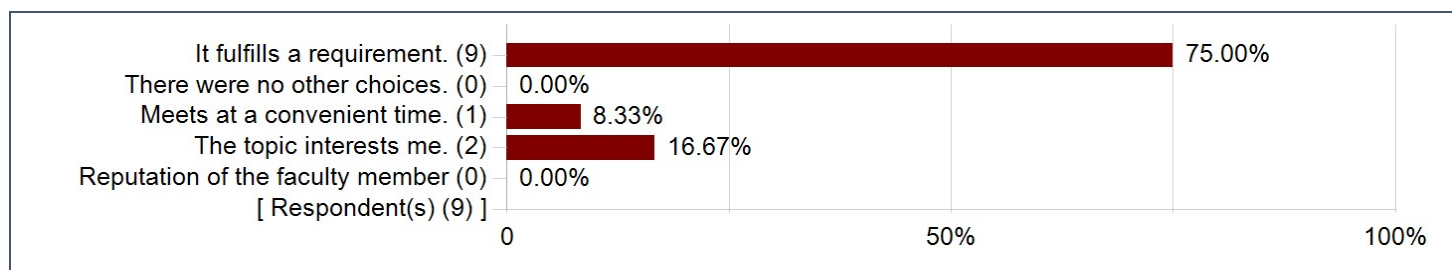
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



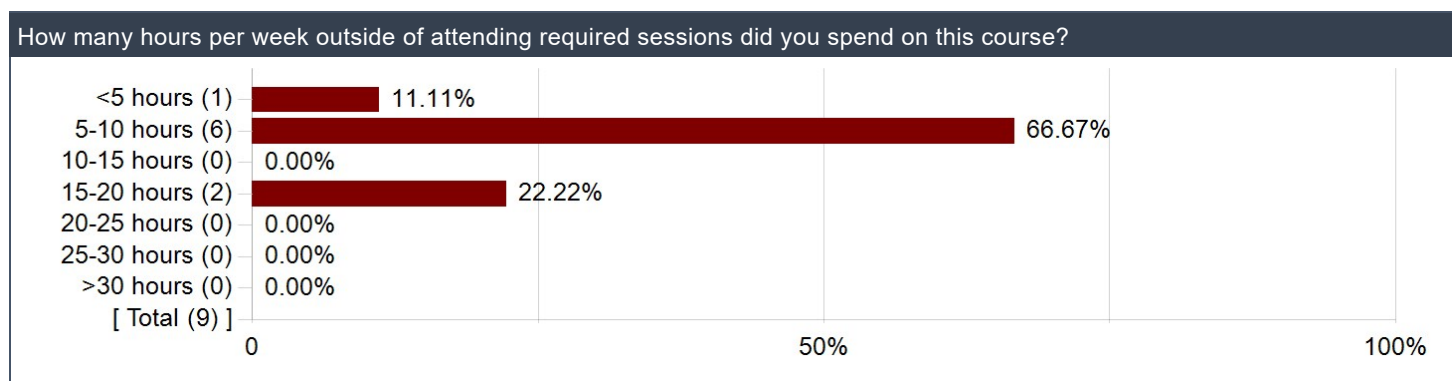
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



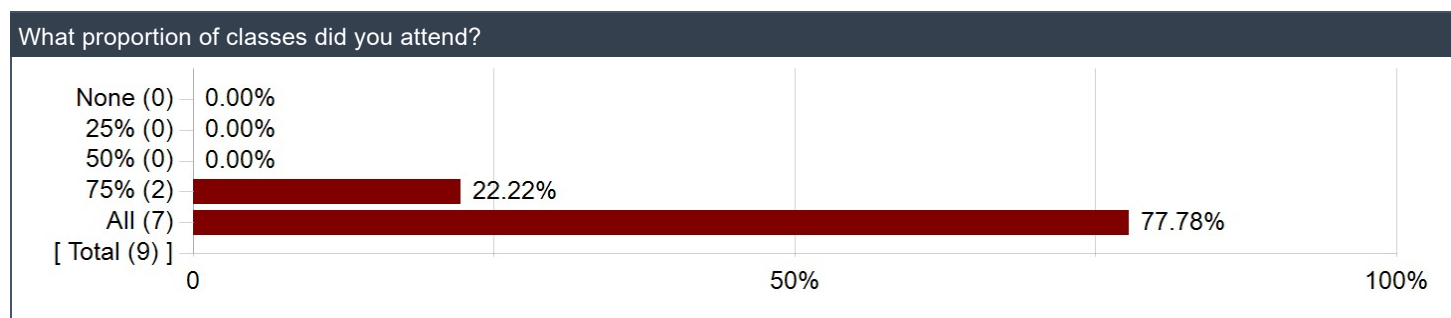
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Not hard
Very difficult
Decent SOSC
Manageable but challenges you to. think
This was a tough class. The readings are dense and if you're not interested in political economy, it's a bit of a bore.
Dense readings, but robust discussion was possible with skimming. Writing assignments were short and straightforward.
The hardest part is sitting down and reading through moderately dense theory of political economy.
Not an easy SOSC especially due to the reading burden. I enjoyed the discussions and the questions the books we read made us think about.