



SOSC 12600 16 - Self, Culture, and Society III - Instructor(s) - Siva Kumar

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

Number Enrolled: **12**

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
Different views on sexuality, the evolution of knowledge, ways in which AI works, orientalism.
The topics include science, sexuality, gender, environment, fact&doubts, and AI
We read Kuhn, Foucault, Said, Judith Butler, and various other texts chosen by Prof Kumar. We learned the specific ideas and arguments used by these authors respectively; however, the more important things that I learned this quarter was to directly analyze texts not for what they are in their specific context but to apply and view them in context of modern world. It's easy to read the authors mentioned above for what they are but we must also consider their place now in modern society. For example, Kuhn's depiction of research does not generalize to what most would consider research to be today in the modern world.
I feel like I learned a lot about AI, orientalism, Foucault, and gender.
Science, Sexuality, Gender, Environment, AI, etc.
We learned about the history of science, and about some works of social theory concerning Orientalism, gender, and the environment.

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

Comments
I learned a lot through lectures and the assignments were very reasonable and engaging
Lectures were great. I love Prof Kumar's lectures about the topics present throughout our readings as well as his exercises to get us more involved with the topics at hand. For example, during our time reading Said's Orientalism, Prof Kumar encouraged us to find primary sources as early as the 17th century to see the presence of Orientalism as Said describes it in academic texts. Furthermore, the group work close reading exercises we did helped to facilitate a much enhanced understanding of the text particularly for Foucault where his ideas could have been misconstrued otherwise.
Readings were interesting and definitely helped in discussion.
Lectures and discussions are super helpful!
The class discussions contributed to my learning, as well as the readings.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%
I felt respected in this class.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Professor Kumar was super kind and approachable and made each class super engaging. As someone who usually dreads speaking in discussion, I found myself participating a lot and enjoying giving my opinion. I really liked that after reading our main texts we studied AI and environmental trends today as well. It made the class very engaging and relevant to every day life today. He also included many modern day references and it was interesting to dissect these topics in class. Overall, I learned so much and was genuinely super interested in the content due to how great Professor Kumar was. Highly recommend taking this class for a caring professor and to learn a lot!
Professor was great really down to earth which made discussion easy and accessible overall had a great time, interesting readings, assignments

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
Asking questions during discussion or mini lectures to give background before a discussion
Professor Kumar is a great professor. He is funny and caring.
Discussion was great. Prof Kumar was extremely helpful and clear with answering questions we had about the text and in facilitating excellent discourse on the readings for the day. I especially appreciated Prof Kumar's anecdotes about when he as a student in our shoes had to read the very same texts that we read and in his interpretations at the time of them.
I had never participated in any class like I had for this one. The teacher made discussions intellectually challenging while also being super fun and engaging. He would involve us by bringing up real-world scenarios and our past experiences, which made me more interested in the topics and helped me understand them more when I struggled. Overall a fantastic teacher.
Professor Kumar was great at leading discussions and creating more interesting paper and reading assignments that led to some class discussion that I really enjoyed, especially the ones about AI.
Lectures!
The instructor helped motivate class discussions and encouraged us to engage actively with the text.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing – maybe assigning a little less reading because the texts were really dense
Nothing
Nothing. Absolutely loved this class. Prof Kumar is incredibly based.
Maybe more ways of discussing each topic.

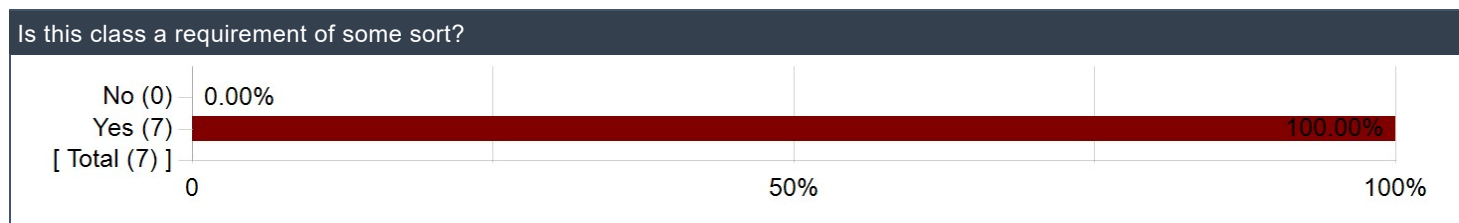
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	85.71%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	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.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%

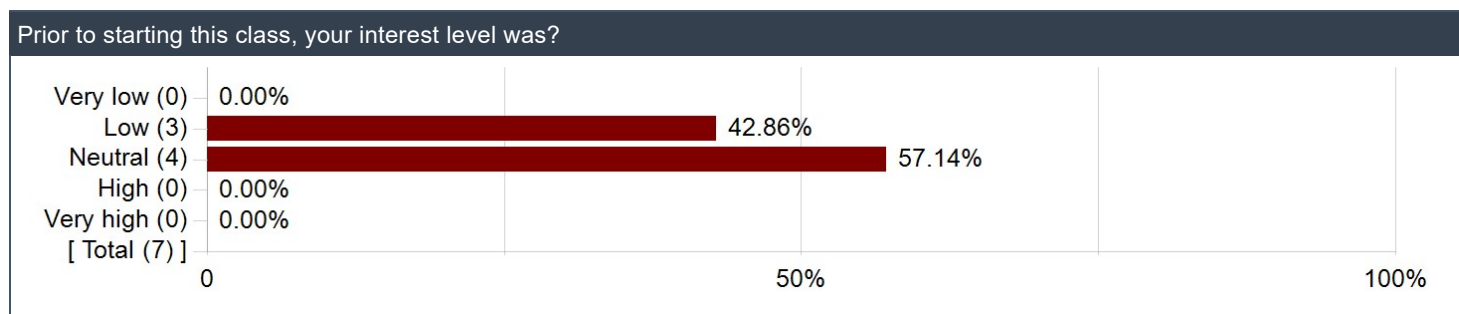
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Field Trips	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Library Sessions	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Review Sessions	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Writing Seminars	NRP	NRP	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

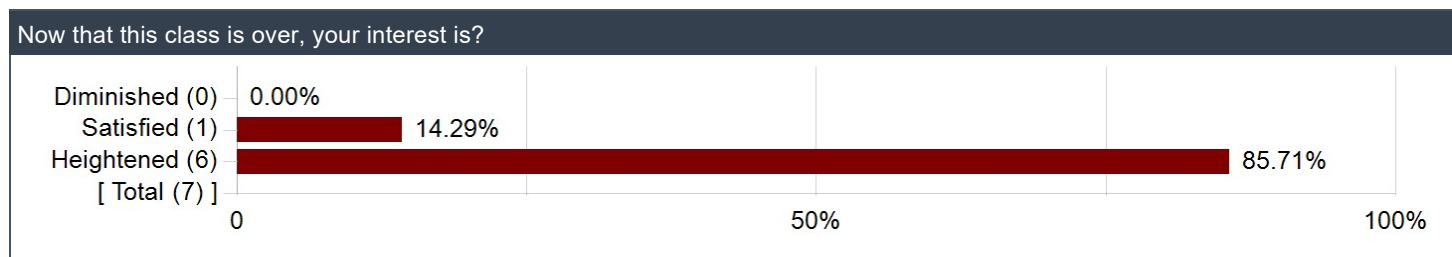
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



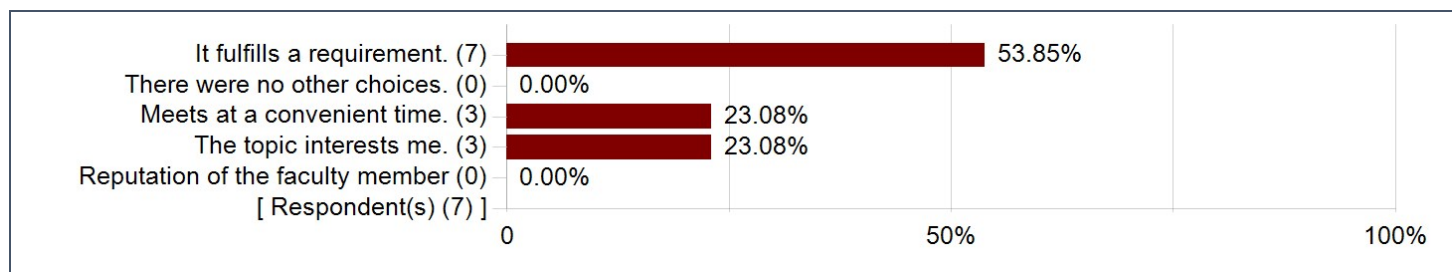
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



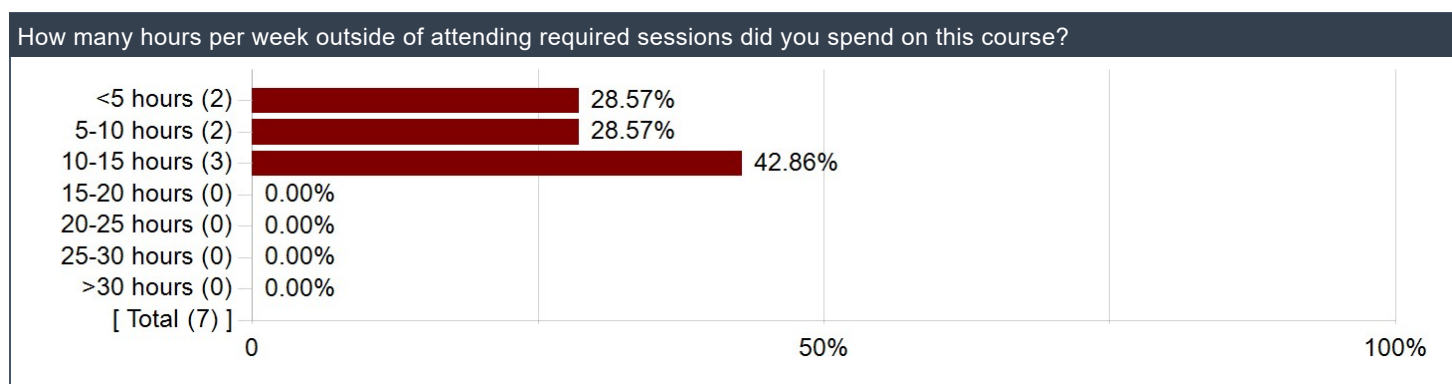
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



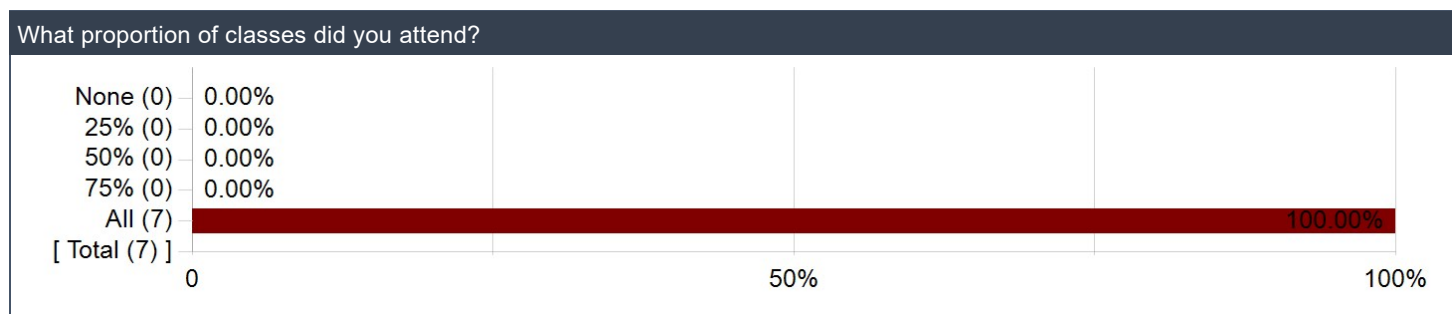
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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 doable
It is a social science core class but given most would have taken HUM by now and the other two quarters of SOSC, this quarter should not be a surprise in difficulty.
Not a very difficult course and quite interesting
The course was relatively difficult, but not impossible, for someone who doesn't read any social theory outside SOSC requirements.