



# SOSC 12600 9 - Self, Culture, and Society III - Instructor(s) - Michele Friedner

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **6**

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## Report Comments

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

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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
I learned a lot about power and read important texts from Butler, Mahmood, Kuhn, and especially Foucault (who we talked about a lot). I also learned how these readings relate to everyday life.
This class to me was more anthropology heavy and modern than the last two quarters of sociology and political economy which was a nice shakeup.
Kuhn, Foucault, Said, Butler, and other authors and their ideas.
The "fall of the house of reason" has been a recurring theme. We started with Kuhn who challenged the universalist objectivity of science by emphasizing how scientific practice has a strenuous, often antagonistic, relationship with paradigm shifts. In a similar vein, feminist scholars documented cases of Middle Eastern women subverting hegemony and defining a "woman's consciousness" in ways that escape prized Western principles of complete liberation that supposedly "define" the rational being. We explored the various ways in which our body shapes and structures various existential possibilities that are unbounded by instrumental reason. In particular, we observed that these possibilities are in constant flux and, sometimes, fractured into liminal spaces
Foucaultian bottom-up power and other similar authors.
The course readings had a lot of different and interesting themes to discuss like the power of numbers and statistics, disability, and resistance. I got better at writing essays and at doing class discussions.

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

Comments
Discussions were nice. Professor Friedner did not cold call or expect everyone to talk, but everyone loved talking because of the class and the fun and funny discussions we had. I liked how she related the text to everyday life. I think she also discussed questions we had in the book but also extended the discussions which was nice, so it wasn't just lecturing. For essays she let us have flexibility with what we write about and it doesn't have to be formal, which I LOVED. I have never had a teacher let me do this and I did well on the essay.
Discussion heavy with professor friedner implementing lecture and small group discussion.
Lectures were the best part
The seminar discussions were really productive. It was an 80–20 split of discussion and lecture. Prof. Friedner did a great job facilitating and drawing our attention to the key ideas of the readings. Some of the themes discussed during the course were new to me, but I felt Prof. Friedner helped me see their critical significance— which is really important for SOSC core class such as this.
Discussions are well directed and meaningful
Discussions and essays contributed the most to my learning.

## 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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

### Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I think she did a good job of making everyone feel welcome and jump into discussion. I also think the group you are with is important. I had a good class. One thing she does not like if you are late.
This course is a great end to the self sequence. Forced me to think deeply about pertinent modern questions.
Greatest of all time
I very much enjoyed our discussions

### I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	16.67%	83.33%
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
I think talking about the texts that were pretty dense and hard to read. I also liked the discussion posts we only had to do 7 which were nice and not too stressful.
Prof. Friedner is a great teacher! Highly recommend taking her courses. The course expectations were fairly lax, so I had a lot of fun.
Professor Friedner is incredibly caring. She makes sure to include everybody in discussion without pushing anyone. She also pays to attention to applications of social theories to real life, which leads to fantastic discussions. She also won the mentor of the year award. Well deserved. GOAT
She was good at making the discussions accessible even when the readings were very hard to understand.

### What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
She sometimes does not catch everyone when their hand is raised. She will skip over people because she doesn't see them and then moves on when people still had something to say. Besides that I think she does a pretty good job at teaching SOSC. She is also passionate about certain topics like when reading about gender and disability, which is nice to hear her story too with her time in India.
Nothing
None. She is simply perfect

## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	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%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	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
Justin Smolin. Was very available and writing seminar was helpful for thinking through first paper.
Justin Smolin
Justin Smolin. He is professional and caring. He is considerate and helps you succeed in writing

## The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

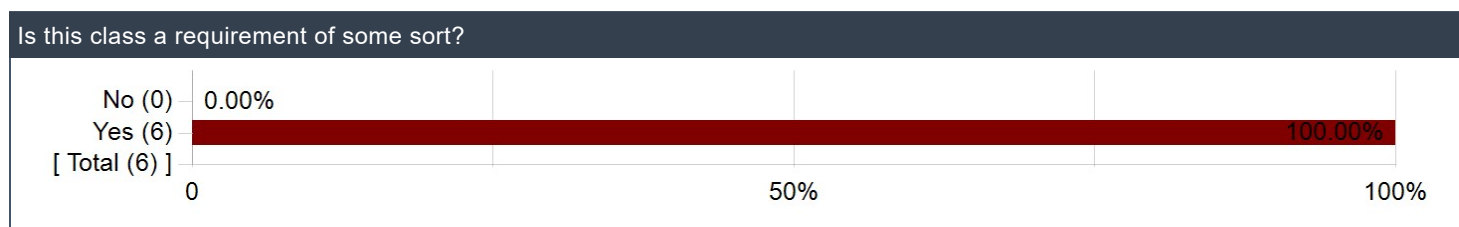
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%
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	3.50	4.00	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%

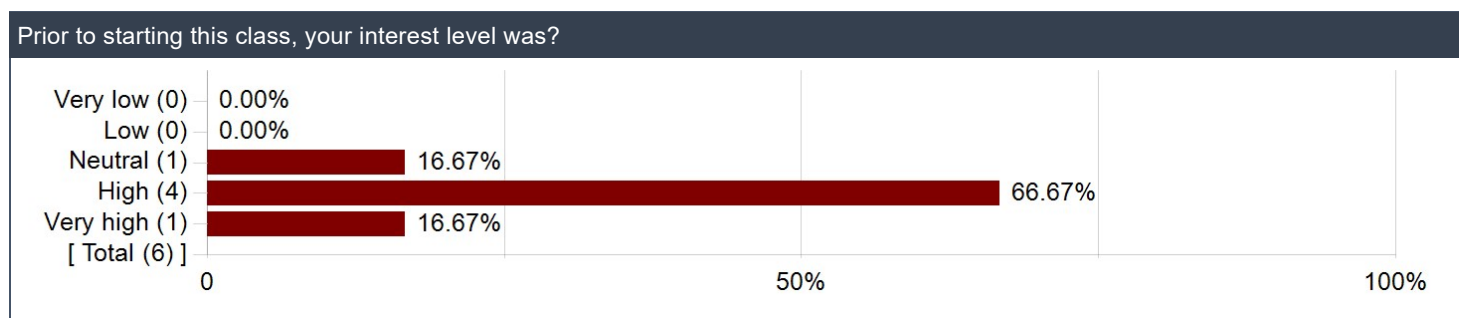
## Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
I think the writing seminar was a waste of my time. Did not help at all. it would be better to have mandatory office hours with the professor instead of a writing teacher.
Really enjoyed the field trips to a research lab and ISAC on days relevant to Kuhn and Said. Professor Friedner has a really great approach to having us think through these different ideas.

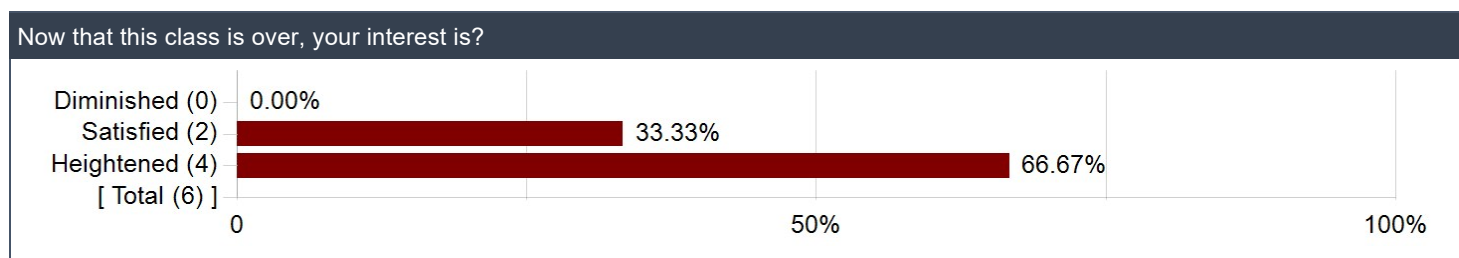
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



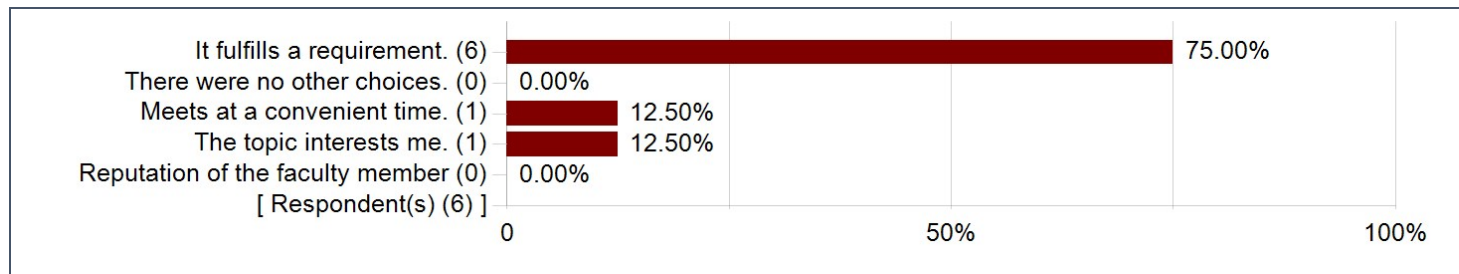
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



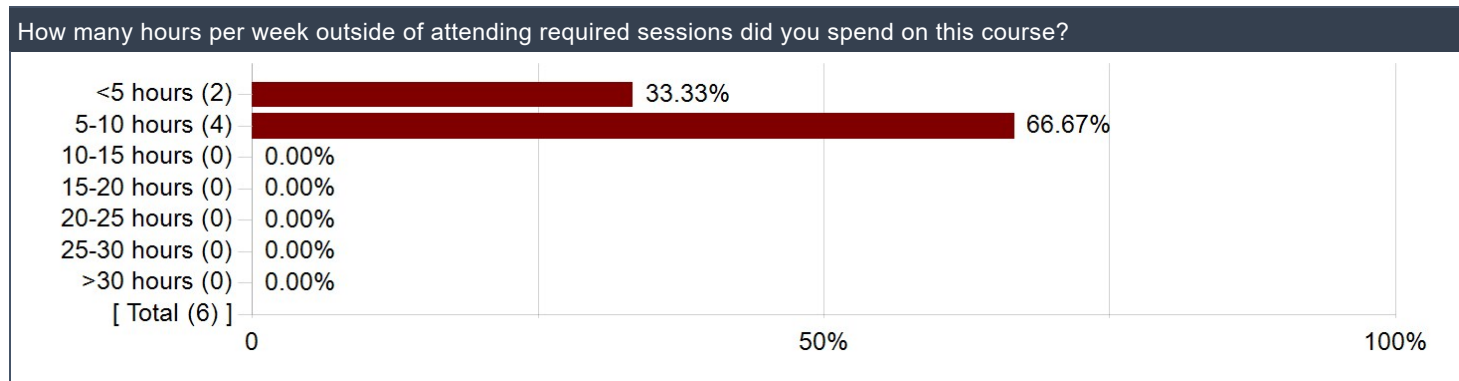
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



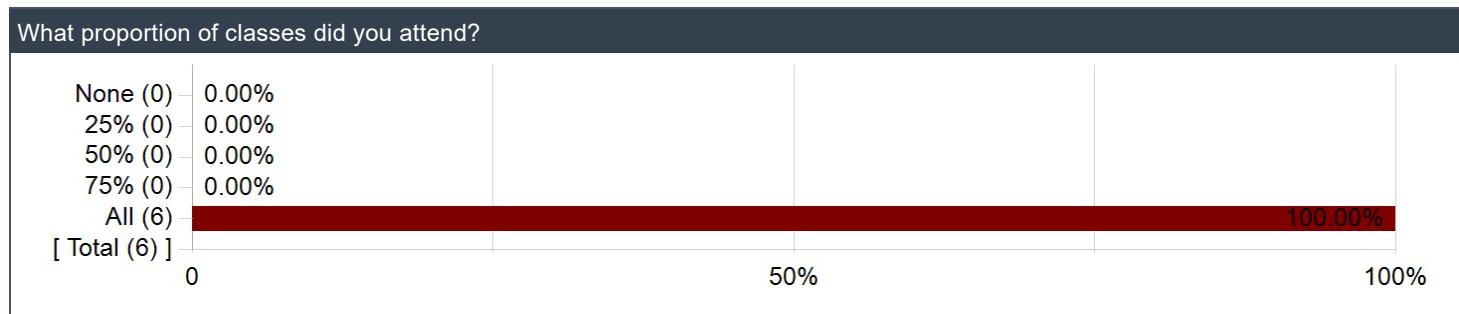
### Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



### 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 think the texts are heard but professor Friedner does a good job making it light hearted and relating it to everyday life.
Not super difficult after doing well in the first two quarters of self. You have to do the readings thoroughly and think about them to be able to succeed.
Put in effort and guaranteed A. This is just the best course and best professor I've had at this school. Take it