THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

SOSC 14100 10 - Mind I - Instructor(s): Boaz Keysar

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **19**
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: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

blue®

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

Comments
How the mind constructs reality.
How the mind constructs reality on various different levels of perception and conscious awareness
I learned about different examples and situations in which the mind makes sense of the world around it. I learned a lot about how to read a scientific paper, elucidate a claim, and be concise in my writing.
How to think scientifically about lectures and papers we are presented with. How the mind constructs reality.
Very good professor learned how to use my mind more efficiently
I am walking away with a plethora of knowledge about neuroscience, psychology, and how the mind constructs reality.
How the mind constructs reality.
the main functions of the mind and how reality is distorted in many ways
Professor Keysar is awesome!
How the mind constructs reality.

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

Comments
I think the writing assignments started from the most basic aspect of writing a paper and then went much more in depth towards the later part of the course. Professor Keysar really helped me understand the processes for how to write a good paper.
lectures were fascinating. discussions seemed largely like a waste of time – most people don't have the scientific background to speak intelligently about the topics we covered, and while people did make interesting points, I'm not really sure what I gained from the discussion. articles were also interesting – I liked that they provided a real–world analysis of the things we were studying
Both the lectures and discussions were very helpful to my learning. I enjoyed how in lectures we often participated in certain illusions or psychological examples to illustrate a concept.
I really enjoyed the lectures as I thought they presented the information in a very digestible and attainable way.
Very good professor learned how to use my mind more efficiently
The lectures were always fascinating, and I appreciated the degree of specialization that each professor offered.
Discussions were awesome.
lectures were interesting and discussions were helpful
Discussion was hugely helpful
We were lectured on Tuesday regarding a topic for the week and had a group discussion on Thursday with our smaller sectoin.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.20	4.50	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	30.00%	50.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	50.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	30.00%	60.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.30	4.50	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	40.00%	50.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I really enjoyed the content of this course, but I kind of wish there was a little more rigor to it – I know this is the "easy SOSC", but I still expected there to be more effort required than there it. It might be interesting to do mini–labs, like trying to spot the concepts talked about in real life and doing short writeups on that. I feel like the assignments right now aren't really adding anything – they're just busy work.
Very good professor learned how to use my mind more efficiently
Professor Keysar was magnificent!
Professor Boaz is the best!
It was truly fascinating.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	20.00%	80.00%
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 discussions helped to go over the topics from the lecture. Professor Keysar was instrumental in making class feel welcoming.
I like that he forces us to explain things as if to a totally uninformed outsider – it forces us to break things down to their components and facilitates a greater understanding of the concepts. The in–class presentations are also helpful
Dr. Keysar was fantastic! One of the best professors I have had. I really enjoyed how he steered discussions always back to our central question: How Does the Mind Construct Reality?
I liked that it was very student–oriented and that a lot of the discussion was very open–ended.
Very good professor learned how to use my mind more efficiently
I appreciated how each subsequent assignment built off each other so that our knowledge was gradual.
So easy going and understanding one of the best professors I have ever had.
Would highly recommend Prof. Keysar. Creates an inclusive environment. Discussions are engaging. Not looking to penalize students.
discussions bringing together the topics from multiple weeks of content was helpful
Professor Keysar did an excellent job of facilitating discussion.
Boaz Keysar is amazing– friendly, and sets up his section well to help actually improve your science writing
His openness to not focusing on grades but rather content learned.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Maybe a rubric for writing assignments or an example via email? It's more of a preference.
A little more focus in the discussions, maybe. I would also like a little more clarity on how assignments are graded, and a more gradual buildup to the final paper rather than short, paragraph–long assignments to a full final paper. I knew it was coming, but I feel a little underprepared to take it on.
N/A
I think we could have drawn a clearer connection between all the weekly topics throughout the course.
Very good professor learned how to use my mind more efficiently
Perhaps a digital resource to view feedback on our coursework.
Nothing.
be more clear about the course direction
Online submissions would be nice
Nothing comes to mind.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	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%

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
Maggie Rothrock.
Margaret Rothrock. The first writing seminar was very helpful. At the second one there seemed to be a disconnect between what she thought we were doing and what we were actually doing.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

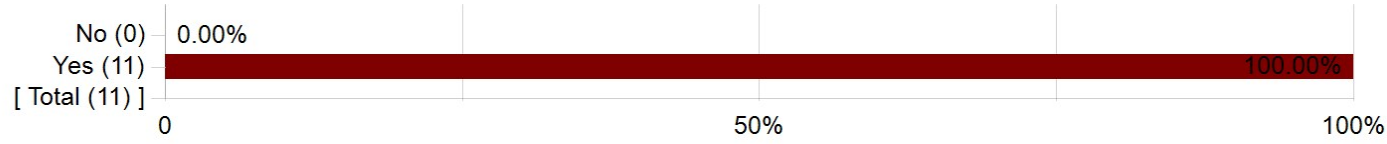
	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
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%	50.00%	50.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	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	3.00	3.00	0.00%	40.00%	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%

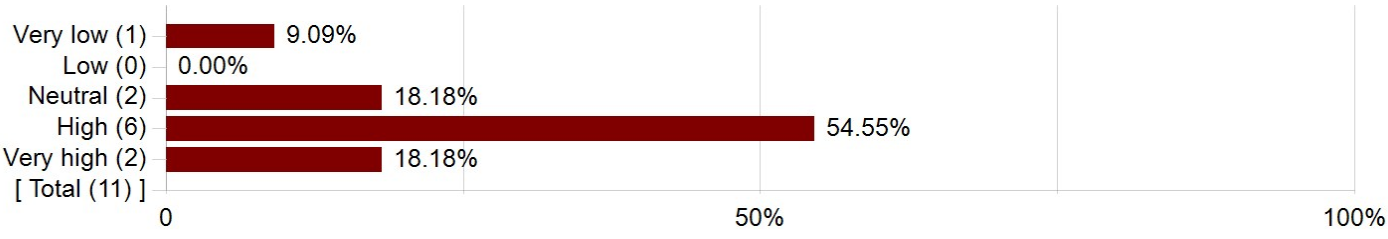
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

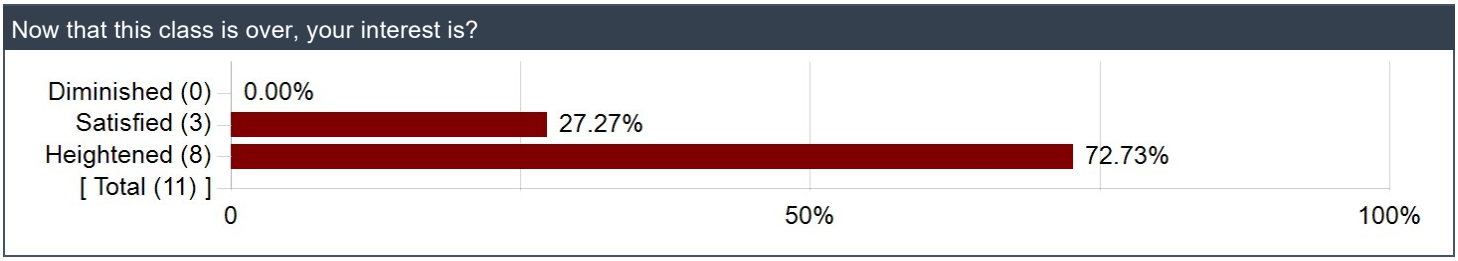


Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

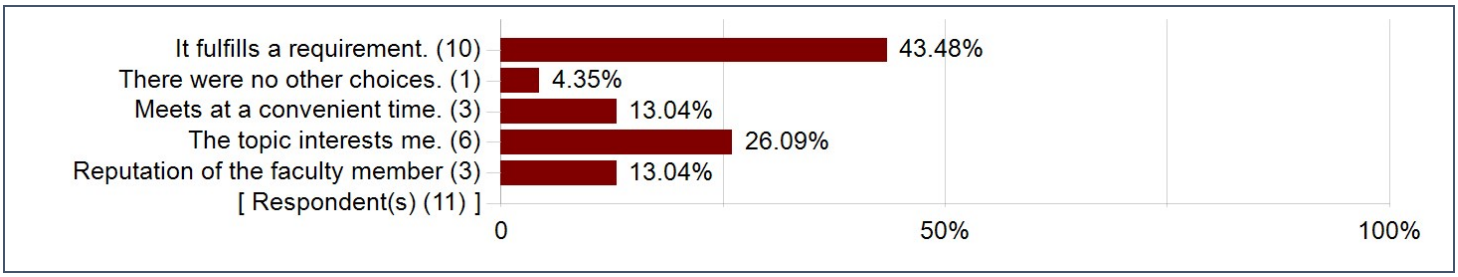
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



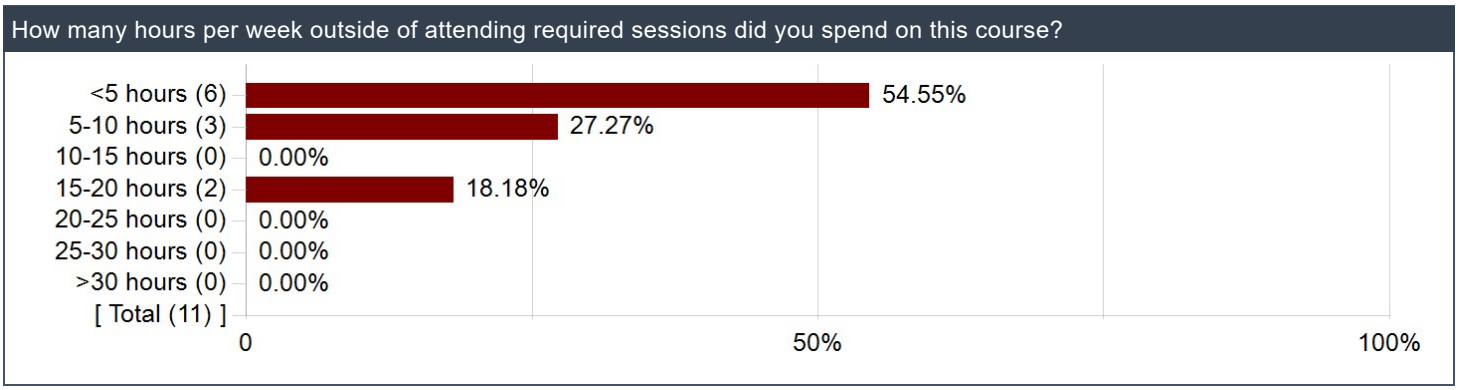
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



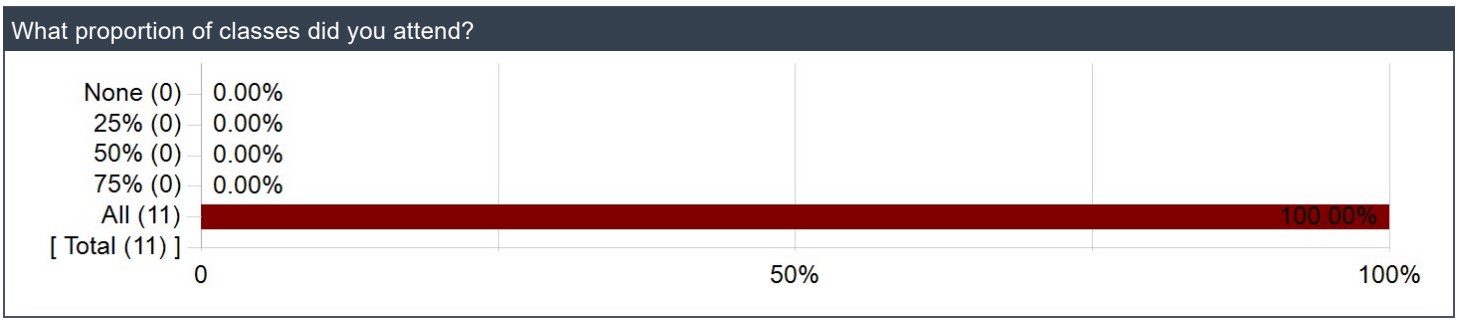
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Easy without any psychology background.
content is complex, but assignments/commitment are must easier than expected
For someone who had no background in psychology, this class was a fantastic introductory course.
It was definitely hard topics but the course work was manageable and interesting.
Very good professor learned how to use my mind more efficiently
not difficult at all
Not difficult
Course was very friendly to newcomers.