



SOSC 12600 17 - Self, Culture, and Society III - Instructor(s) - Molly Cunningham

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **6**

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
Deconstructing and understanding the arguments of the various writers/texts we encountered in the course. Additionally, expanding that understanding to my own curiosities and constructing questions/essays based on that.
How to structure my writing
<p>Knowledge (a gloss):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How scientific communities shape the production of knowledge over time (Kuhn), – How sexuality, networks of (bio)power, knowledge (production), pleasure and desire emerge and relate (Foucault), – How networks of power shape the historical record through sources, facts, archives, and historical narratives (Trouillot), – How Western discourses obscure violence by conceptually constructing the "the suicide terrorist" in opposition to secular forms of morality. <p>Skills (a gloss):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How to read generously, articulating a thinker's project towards the kinds of questions they hope to answer – How to discuss productively, working with other students to generate understanding – Close reading and reconstruction, how to read a thinker in your own terms towards the kinds of you hope to answer with their work
This quarter focused mainly on the formation of knowledge and how this is affected by societal power structures
The coolest part of the course was getting to trace the genealogy of thought across different scholars as they responded to one another. The course also contributed greatly to my ability to analyze scholars' claims. I would argue though that more than learning to analyze scholars' claims, we spent time learning to trace through the author's movements and how they worked to the claim, and that was often as illuminating as the claim itself. The readings from the course were enjoyable and thought-provoking and Professor Cunningham did an especially fantastic job when selecting the supplementary readings to the core texts.

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

Comments
Discussions during class contribute the most to this course. Hearing other thoughts and inputs on a reading was extremely beneficial to my own understanding
Class discussions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Readings set the ground work – Class discussions helped flesh things out and develop a nuanced understanding of the text how it moved – Discussion board posts allowed us to informally propose our analysis of passages and respond to others ideas – –The final project had us develop our own argument for a reading of a class text (or texts)
discussions in class seminars were super insightful; she introduced discussion posts this quarter which i thought were probably the weak point, but archives helped solidify understanding incredibly as usual.

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.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
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.	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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Professor Cunningham is the nicest professor I have ever had
My favorite quarter so far: the syllabus included both canonical texts and more recent, pressing, and fascinating material.
Molly Cunningham is incredible; I understand what people mean now when they say Self is life changing.
My favorite course at UChicago so far.

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
Professor Cunningham had a hands-off approach that I really liked. I believe this allowed everyone to get their thoughts out there and she would only step in if she wanted to stress something really important.
Audio Feedback
Prof. Molly is the best teacher that I have had at UChicago: She is not only knowledgeable and accommodating, but she facilitates incredibly enlightening discussions in class, and provides insightful comments on all of our writing assignments.
Note: Professor Molly had us read Michel-Rolph Trouillot's <i>Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History</i> in addition to the other course texts. Not only did this text introduce us to a seminal UChicago Anthropologist, it also highlighted important concepts regarding the work of the Social Scientist and the influences that power plays historical concept-creation.
she mainly facilitated the discussions while occasionally clarifying things or bringing up points of her own, overall she was excellent. each class she also draws a mental map of concepts that gets filled out with a lot of complex angles by the end of the class
If you take this course, you will learn a lot from Professor Cunningham! Her teaching style from discussion to writing assignments reconstructing the author's thinking is the reason I regard this course so highly.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
She's great!
Nothing
Nothing really, Prof. Molly is great!
no more discussion posts :(

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	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.	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.	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
Maggie Rothrock – Maggie provided insightful activities for developing academic writing skills.

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.	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.	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%	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%
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%

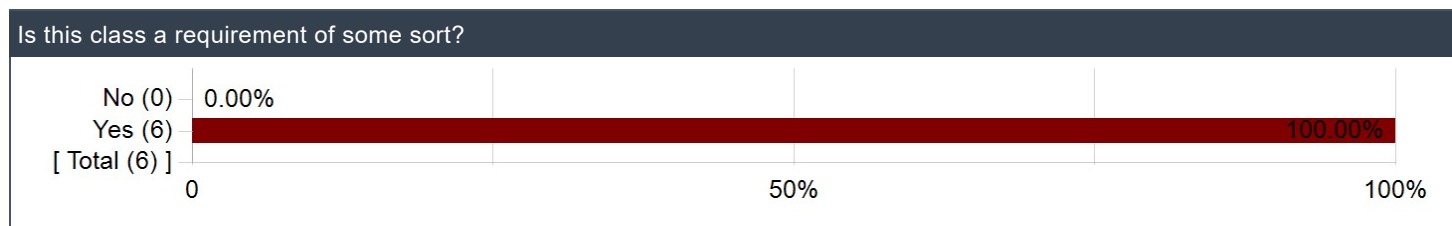
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	75.00%
Field Trips	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	75.00%
Library Sessions	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	75.00%
Review Sessions	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	75.00%
Writing Seminars	3.60	4.00	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	40.00%	20.00%	0.00%

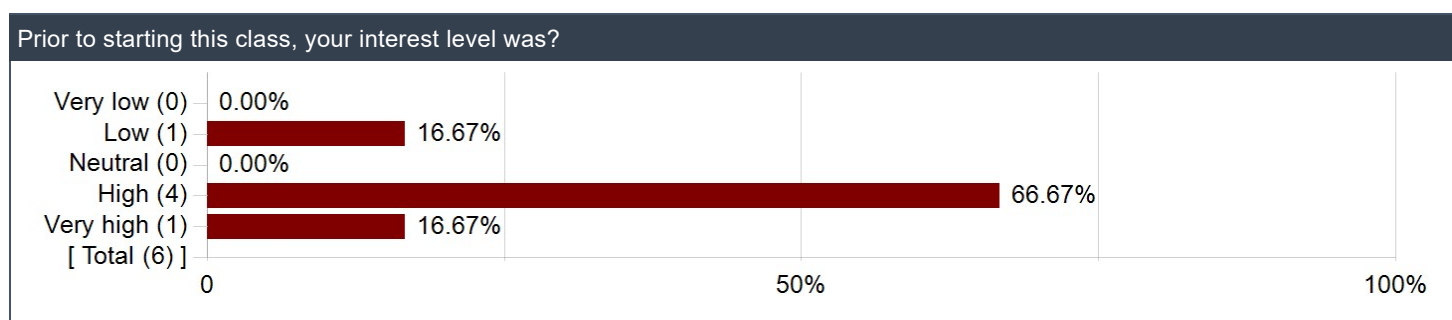
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Evening Lectures were usually very insightful!

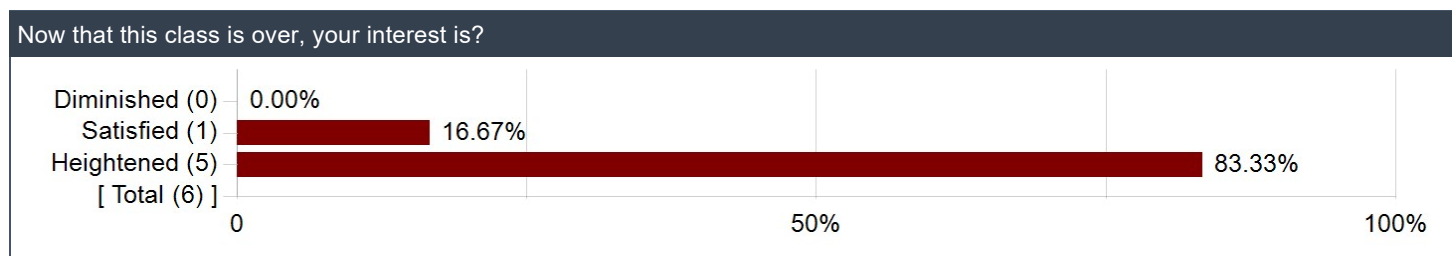
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



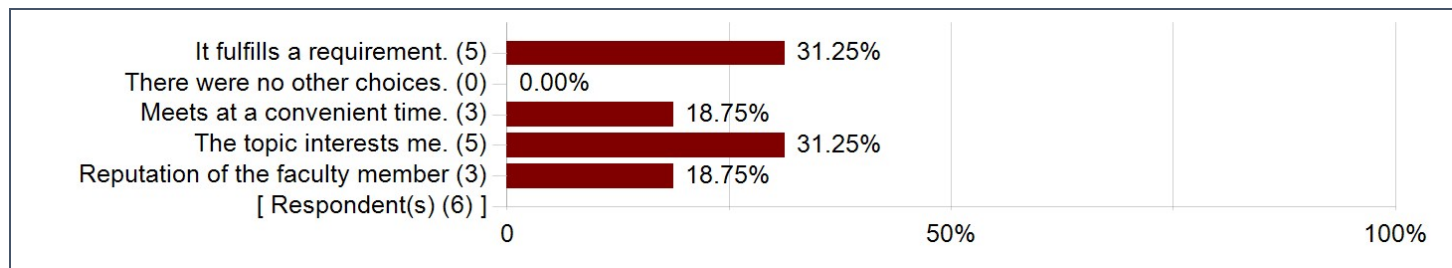
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



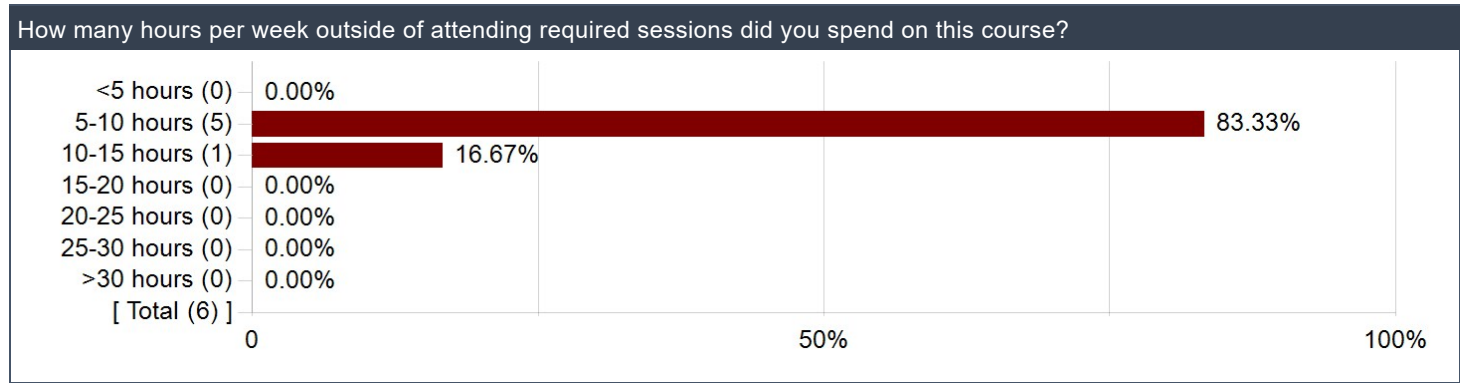
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



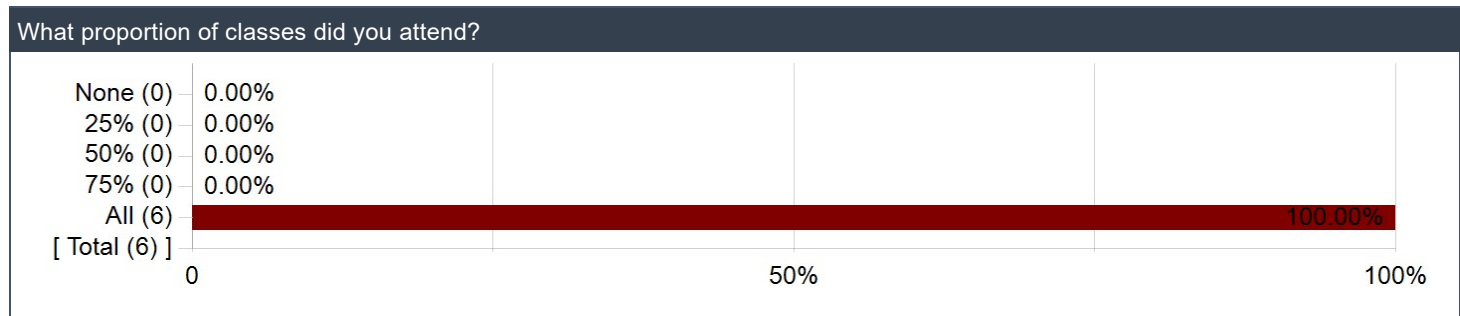
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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 this course is challenging intellectually. But it's not in a stressful way. If you put in effort you will get an A
Same difficulty as the two previous quarters: readings can be long, discussions require attentiveness, and writing assignments require that you think and read closely
it is as easy as you want it to be and as challenging as you are willing to let it be. Cunningham grades very leniently but you have to put in the work in order for the class to be fulfilling.