



SOSC 14200 8 - Mind II - Instructor(s): Sarah London

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **13**

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
The neural mechanisms of the mind, levels of analysis, reading and dissecting scientific articles
I learned a lot about the mechanisms that explain psychological phenomena. We discussed the "how" of mental processes instead of the "why." I also learned a lot about digesting empirical essays and integrating materials that don't have a clear connection. That action was stressed more in this course than in the autumn quarter.
Mechanisms of the mind
The most important thing that I learned in this course was how phenomena can be explored and better understood through different levels of analysis: biological, psychological, and social. I learned how to view phenomena through mechanisms at different levels of analysis. I gained different perspectives.
I learned about some of the more biological sides of the mind and psychological concepts. It was interesting to get a deeper understanding compared to first quarter.
Patience
Writing argumentative essays in 300 words, synthesizing evidence from academic papers
I learned about the mechanisms of the mind and how to relate biological, social, and psychological mechanisms to phenomena that occur.
different levels of analysis (biological, psychological, social). Also, a general nature vs nurture argument.
Biological, psychological, cultural, evolutionary ways to analyze psychological phenomena

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

Comments
Tuesday lectures were necessary to write the weekly papers, Thursday discussions enriched my understanding of the week's focus
Lectures gave me a great framework to look at readings, explained things that might have confused me, and emphasized the key takeaways. The assignments demonstrated the demonstration of the readings/lecture and challenged my skills in integrating sources. Discussions were a great way to solidify my understanding of the week's lecture and readings. However, since they occurred after the weekly assignments were due, any clarification couldn't be applied to my work.
Discussion was really fun and engaging
The discussions helped enrich my understanding of what was discussed in the lecture. Being able to discuss material from the lecture with my peers really helped cement my comprehension of it.
Discussions were really helpful and I really enjoyed how much flexibility Professor London gave us to lead discussions in whatever format we want to.
Lectures were about the same as last quarter, discussions were 100% student led with not much professor engagement
I really enjoyed discussions because they were really low-key and enjoyable. Especially the one on one and groups of 3-conversations.
discussions
Lectures were good, discussions were a blast since Prof. London let us dictate how we wanted to spend discussion time, which resulted in interesting small group and large group conversations.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	53.85%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.69	4.00	0.00%	23.08%	23.08%	15.38%	38.46%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.15	5.00	0.00%	15.38%	7.69%	23.08%	53.85%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.31	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	23.08%	53.85%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.38	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	30.77%	53.85%
I felt respected in this class.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
It was really fun, but she was very unclear about how she will calculate final grades
Expectations for weekly papers were very different than what our autumn quarter professor had, but the exact standards were not made clear until very late in the course. Giving some clearer examples of paper expectations earlier would have been very helpful.

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
London is an amazing person– funny, witty, personable– and helped pique my interest in neuroscience and psychology. Having her chime into our discussion when we were speculating/hypothesizing about a niche topic was great given her expert understanding.
Discussions were completely student–led, so I can't say I got to hear much from Professor London at all.
Engaging discussions
The instructor's brief comments on the lecture and contribution to the discussions helped me better grasp the key ideas of the week.
Her remarks during class as well as her interactions with us while we were doing smaller group discussions.
Explaining the papers or providing links between them.
Her kind heart and open mindset to our abstract concepts.
I loved the discussions and Professor London made the discussions so engaging. It was student run but she also contributed to the discussions if we were a bit lost. I also really liked the smaller discussion groups which made discussions much more effective.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Perhaps be a bit more clear about what is graded/evaluated; it took a few papers for me to get what she was looking for
More clarity regarding expectations for the weekly writing assignments would have been great. Even at the end of the quarter, I can't confidently say I know what a proficient weekly assignment looks like. Last quarter, we received examples of good assignments, which would also be helpful here. Also, it felt like students were given too much free rein regarding discussion. The appointed discussion leaders were in charge of structuring the entire class, and it felt like students were discussing any random aspect of the materials that came to mind, so I don't feel like I learned much from the discussion. Hearing Professor London's ideas on the materials, as someone knowledgeable in the field, would have been insightful. Or even if she gave us some points to center our discussion around.
Be clearer about grades, so students don't stress as much
To help modify learning, perhaps establishing a rubric for the weekly papers as well as giving a quick recap of the readings and what was discussed in the lecture would be helpful. This would help in understanding the topics of focus for the week and would help cement understanding of the material.
Not much, I really liked her class!
Clear examples of what's expected on essays at the start of the quarter and more specific feedback on how to improve.
Nothing – she did amazing!
Professor London is a harsh grader but pushes you to always improve
Discussion posts heavily emphasized incorporating both papers AND the lecture, which somewhat limited the depth of analysis that was possible within the strict 300wd limit

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	15.38%	61.54%	7.69%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.31	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	15.38%	61.54%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.46	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	15.38%	69.23%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.38	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	15.38%	61.54%	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

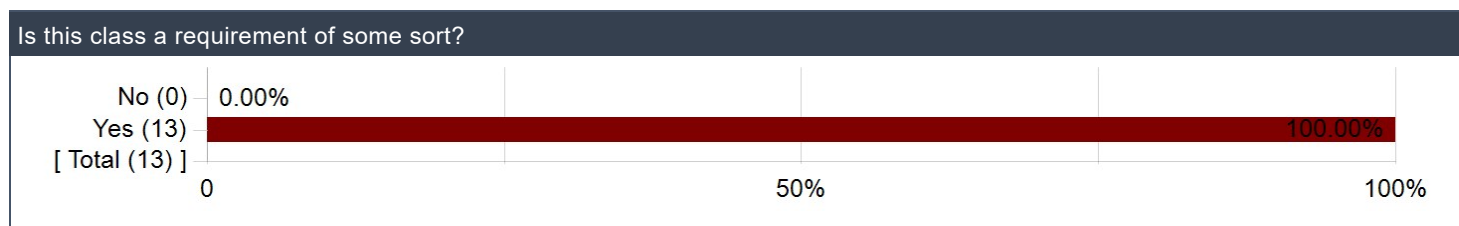
The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	66.67%	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%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	66.67%	0.00%

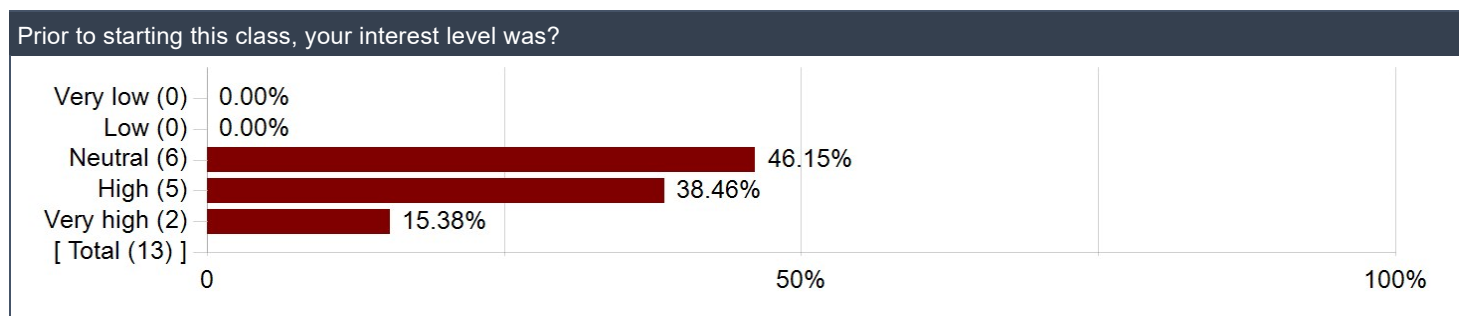
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
Field Trips	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
Library Sessions	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
Review Sessions	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
Writing Seminars	3.70	4.00	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	40.00%	30.00%	0.00%

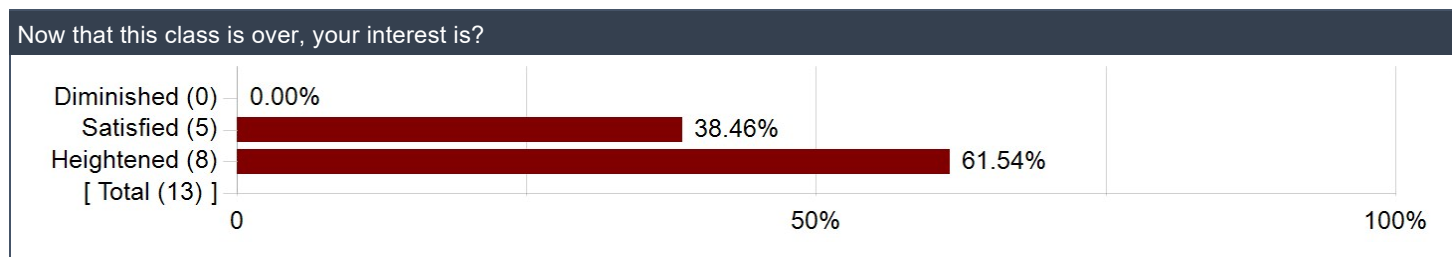
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



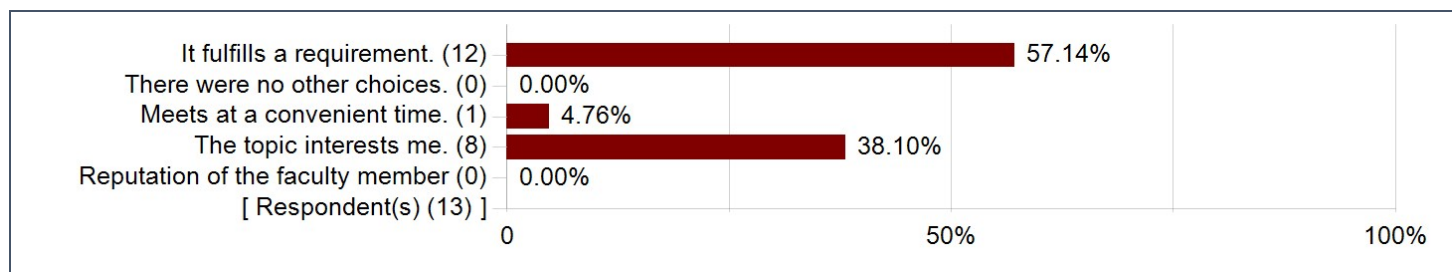
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



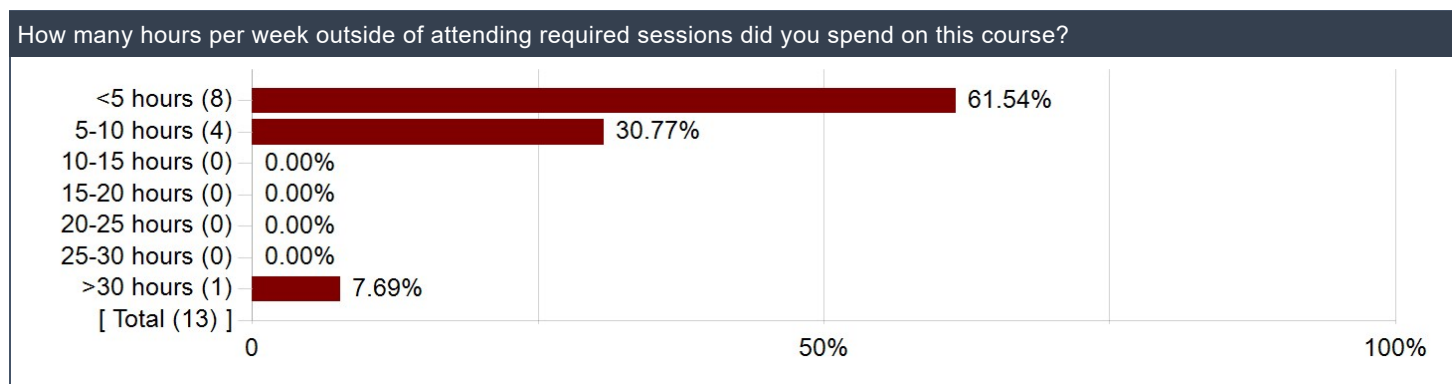
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



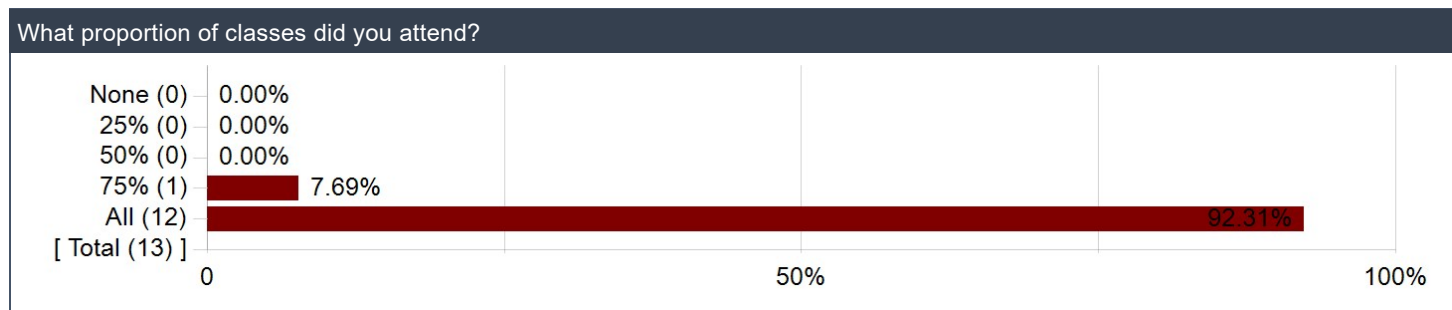
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
London is definitely tough about grading relative to other professors (I am not sure that many people will end with A's depending on if she curves), but a rewarding experience overall. Harder than last quarter but easier than HUM.
The work wasn't necessarily difficult, but having to guess what Professor London was looking for regarding assignments made it so.
Course wasn't too difficult, but the grading was
I had no previous experience in psychology and found the course to be adequately challenging.
More challenging than fall quarter since a lot of the papers were more neurologically based, but the same structure and work.