



# SOSC 14200 1 - Mind II - Instructor(s): Kerry Le Doux

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

Number Enrolled: **20**

Number of Responses: **11**

---

## 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
Exploring different psychological phenomena at different levels of analysis (behavioral, neurological, etc).
Mechanisms underlying processes of the mind, explaining the how of things rather than the why of things.
Mind II focused on the psychological, biological, and social mechanisms behind phenomena (e.g. "How does cognition arise?"). I think the most important general concept is that behaviors and cognitive phenomena cannot be reduced to any one level; while it is tempting to think everything can be reduced to a neural or genetic basis, this is not true.
The mechanisms through which the mind operates and different methods of analysis that can be employed to study them
How the mind works on varying levels of analysis and how this corresponds with each other.
Mechanisms of the mind – continuation from last quarter.
NA
The mechanisms of different phenomena (aphantasia, stress, face recognition, dyslexia, plasticity, circadian rhythms, etc.), how to differentiate between different levels of analysis for each phenomenon (biological, social, and psychological), differentiating between broader claims and specific findings, gene x environment interactions
I learned a lot about the mechanisms underlying mind processes and behaviors like the FFA for face selectivity and the effects of social rank on stress.

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

Comments
Lectures were very interesting, discussion mostly involved prof sharing her views about how to interpret the week's materials and lecture.
Lectures were often a little dragged, discussions were extremely helpful but not for crafting of response paper, as paper is due before discussion.
Like the first quarter, the course consisted of one weekly lecture and one weekly discussion section along with supplementary readings. I think the lectures provided a lot of good material and often helped synthesize the week's readings. The discussions were also helpful; Professor Ledoux did an excellent job of helping us understand the overall themes of the week and consider alternative perspectives.
Discussions helped improve my understanding of the lectures, the lectures threw a lot of information at us in one sitting.
Lectures, readings, discussions are all needed.
NA
Lectures are always very interesting, the lecturers always present "fun" or otherwise immersive examples of the concepts they're explaining, discussions are also helpful to perhaps understand weekly material in a different perspective
Lectures were very informational and discussions provided new insight on the content for the week.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	70.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	60.00%	30.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.60	4.00	10.00%	10.00%	20.00%	30.00%	30.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.90	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	40.00%	30.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	10.00%	60.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	3.80	4.50	10.00%	10.00%	20.00%	10.00%	50.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	80.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	20.00%	40.00%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
You really have to remind yourself that there is a deeper layer in readings/lecture material. Often times, information does not feel novel, try to look beyond that!
Professor Ledoux was one of the nicest professors I've ever had. She is also great at moderating discussion.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	30.00%	70.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	20.00%	80.00%

## Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Professor Ledoux tended to share her views on how to interpret the materials and tried to facilitate discussion amongst students. The productivity of the discussion varied from week to week.
Professor Ledoux is a wonderful professor! She works to push every student; biggest contribution to her grading follows growth of the student, if you've actually gotten better at assignments.
Professor Ledoux's office hours were most useful for me. Discussions were great, but for the weekly response papers, the 10 minute sessions really helped me get my thinking in order and/or confirm ideas. Professor Ledoux is excellent at using time efficiently and maximizing even short meetings. I also think her lecture on reading phenomena was quite good although I might be biased because it was the first, psychological mechanisms-focused week we had.
She cares about your success and will give you plenty of opportunities to earn points back.
Professor LeDoux's discussions helped me understand the previous lecture, however the timing of this is incredibly inconvenient (not her fault) because it is after the lectures and the assignments pertaining to the lecture.
Facilitated very engaging and thought-provoking discussions.
Fun discussions
Each lecturer was engaging and knowledgeable about their topic, Professor Ledoux was very patient and encouraging in discussions, often prompting us to approach things in a different mentality than we're used to
Her kindness and understanding helped me feel less overwhelmed. Her ability to moderate discussions smoothly also helped keep things engaging and insightful.

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

Comments
High scores on weekly response papers are incredibly difficult to receive with Professor Ledoux, expectations for the weekly papers are pretty high, but she is such a sweetheart, prepare to spend some time at office hours discussing weekly response papers.
I just wish we had more time for discussions! Class and lecture never felt long enough to cover all the fascinating topics of the mind.
Maybe being more clear about what the expectation is for us to get higher grades on the weekly written assignments.
NA
The material of the course is a bit difficult to understand at times, but this is more a note on the readings than the instructor—Professor Ledoux is great!
N/A

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	70.00%	10.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.30	5.00	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	22.22%	44.44%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.30	5.00	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	80.00%	0.00%

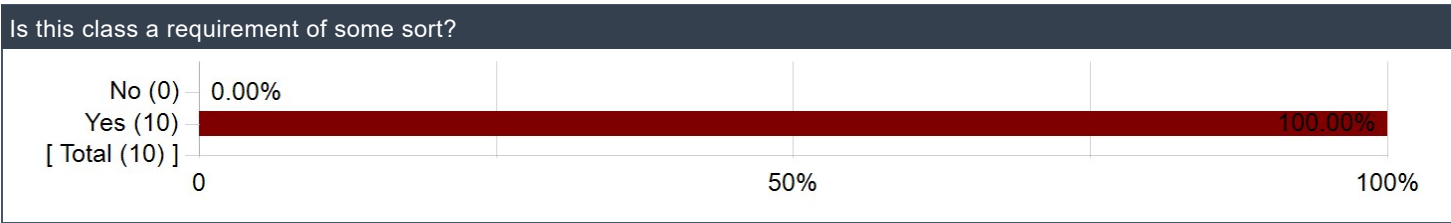
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.00	4.50	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	50.00%	0.00%

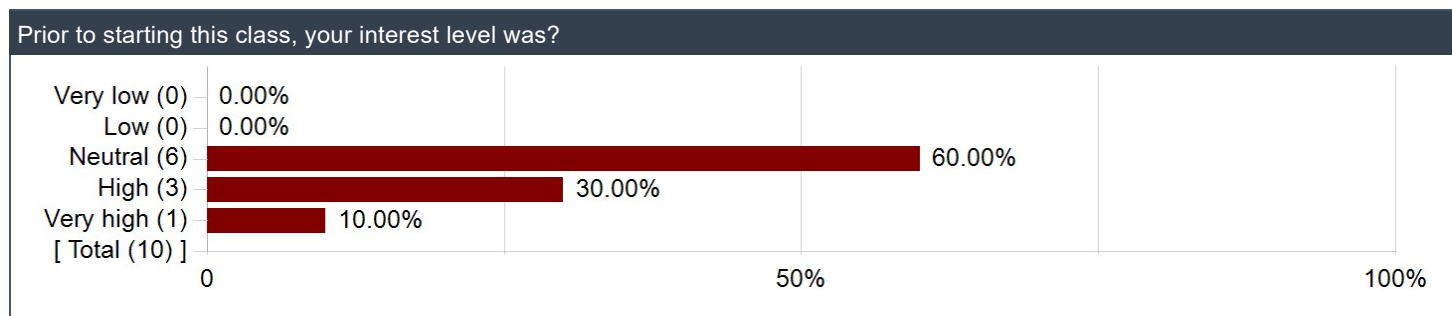
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Research participation

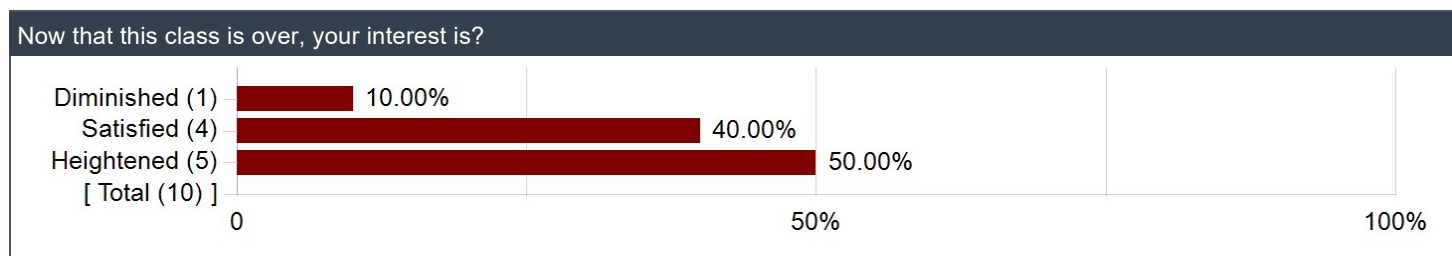
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



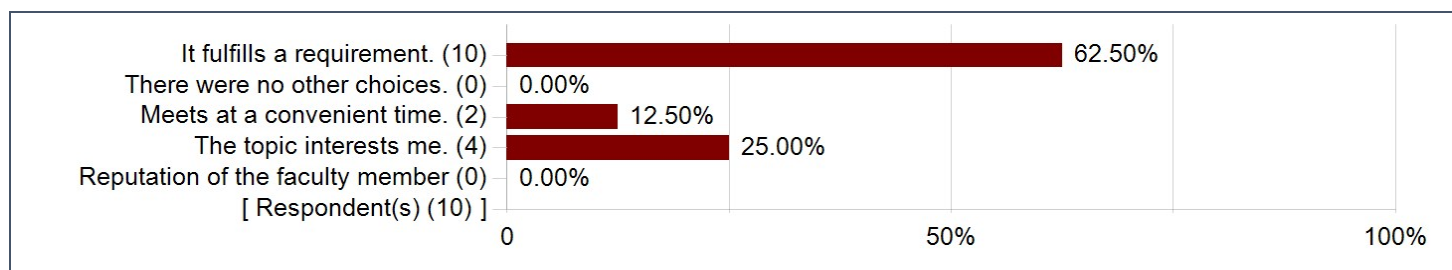
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



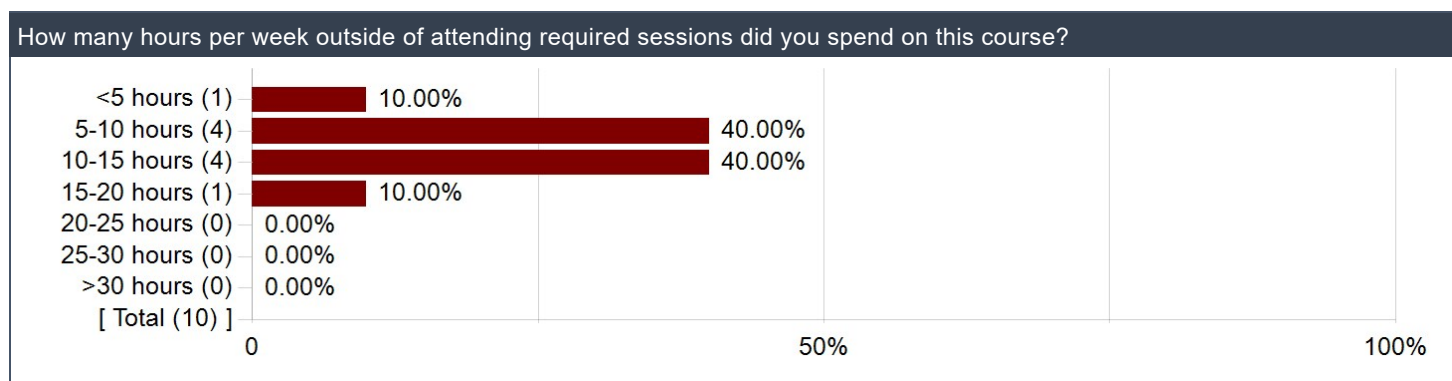
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



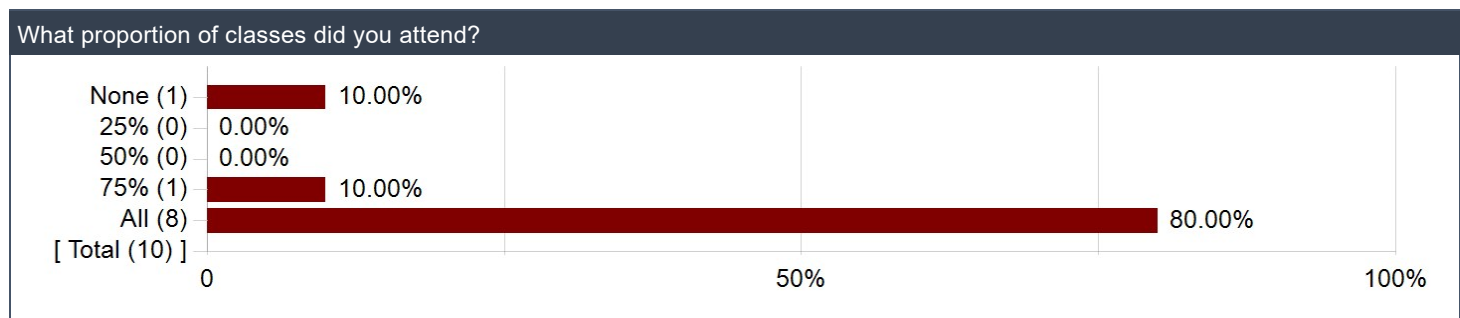
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## 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
Not difficult; I had no prior experience. Note that you must frame the ideas in writing as the professor does/wants.
Depending on prof, Mind is either easy or it is NOT
I previously had experience from the first quarter (Mind I), AP Psychology, and some behavioral economics reading (e.g. Nudge by Richard Thaler). I think the external information was more useful in the first quarter than the second quarter – we dived a lot more into specifics (gene x environment interaction, cognitive mapping, the stress response, etc.). Still, I think the course was challenging but not impossible; a lot of the challenge came from writing well and conveying ideas in just a few hundred words. However, Professor Ledoux provided excellent feedback, so I made progress over the quarter.
I had little background but a high interest and it is quite difficult if this is your first class about psychological/neuro materials
Very challenging grader for the amount of work and time I am putting in, doesn't feel reciprocal
No previous experience or knowledge required for this course, it's built on a weekly approach to different topics, although similar themes can be found throughout the week (although the first part of the sequence is helpful in understanding what is required for assignments and the type of thinking you need to be doing)
It wasn't very difficult to grasp the concepts despite having a minimal understanding of psychology.