



SOSC 14100 8 - Mind I - Instructor(s): David Gallo

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **12**

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**

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

| Comments |
|---|
| Info about the human psyche and how we perceive the world around us. |
| How to read scientific papers and journals and synthesize evidence into short papers. |
| cognitive psychology infused with philosophy; the mechanisms of the mind– how they are prone to error and interpret and encode the world in fascinating ways. this was probably the most interesting course I've taken thus far at UChicago |
| How the mind constructs realities from sensory input. |
| About the mind and its processes |
| I learned how the mind goes beyond the information it absorbs and how this is influenced by factors such as past experiences and biases. I also learned how and why we perceive the world the way we do. |
| how to evaluate on a deeper psychological level |
| How the mind perceives reality |
| how to be concise |

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

| Comments |
|--|
| Lectures were relatively engaging because there was a decent amount of the audience trying illusions which was fun. Discussions were fine but professor didn't really add anything to them, so I gained more from the students. |
| Lectures were required since you have to use the evidence in your weekly papers, and were generally interesting, if technical. Discussions were fun but felt unrelated to writing the weekly paper, which was odd. Readings were important and interesting but were sometimes heavy on the psychology jargon/theory, which was tough as a non-psych major. |
| the general lecture on Tuesdays, the two readings each week, and the discussions in class all contributed to my knowledge in a salient manner |
| Lectures were interesting and I looked forward to it. Discussions were great, but sometimes I felt like I didn't get anything out of them. |
| The lectures were super helpful. |
| The lectures were very interesting and each was related to the previous lecture in some way. At times, the readings were complex and difficult to understand, but the discussions helped enhance my understanding of the material. |
| lectures but mostly discussions |
| Gallo's discussions were amazing |
| helped with the understanding of the readings |

Please respond to the following:

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|--|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|--------|----------------|
| This course challenged me intellectually. | 4.33 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 8.33% | 50.00% | 41.67% |
| I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it. | 4.25 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 41.67% | 41.67% |
| I understood the standards for success on assignments. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 8.33% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 33.33% | 41.67% |
| Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments. | 4.08 | 4.00 | 8.33% | 0.00% | 8.33% | 41.67% | 41.67% |
| I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work. | 4.42 | 5.00 | 8.33% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 25.00% | 66.67% |
| My work was evaluated fairly. | 4.50 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 8.33% | 33.33% | 58.33% |
| I felt respected in this class. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 66.67% |
| Overall, this was an excellent course. | 4.33 | 4.50 | 0.00% | 8.33% | 0.00% | 41.67% | 50.00% |

Additional comments about the course:

| Comments |
|--|
| Professor would fluctuate so much on grading. Comments on the discussion essays were always extremely vague and not helpful to correct what I did incorrectly, even on the ones that I scored really low on. Didn't provide much in discussion, any expansion on topics usually came from students. The class wasn't really a discussion except for when we would split into small groups. Other than that, it was basically just him asking rhetorical questions. |
| Professor Gallo is a great discussion leader and really cares about helping you improve. Talk to him if you need help! |
| Gallo is a goated prof; I'm sad that I won't have him next quarter because he is one of the most articulate and passionate professors I've met |
| I really enjoyed this course! |
| Professor Gallo is an amazing teacher. I highly recommend this class. |
| Gallo is the best |

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 |
|---|
| Honestly looking back at this class, I don't really think I have learned anything, it was just a reiteration of AP Psychology in less biological depth. |
| Lecture was the most helpful for the weekly papers, and posting lecture slides helped when writing the papers since the lectures tended to be really dense. |
| his mini lectures about the topic of the week, as well as the breakout group discussions, which managed to be productive and interesting because all the people in my section were truly passionate about the content |
| I liked the format of professor Gallo summarizing weekly material and then us doing breakout rooms. That way, I felt like I was participating in discussion every class. He also made sure to answer questions the best he can, which I appreciate. |
| The summaries of the readings he gave. |
| I found Professor Gallo's recap of the lecture and assigned readings to be the most helpful as it helped me better understand the main idea and key points made. This helped me better grasp the material. |
| He challenges us to think deeper and challenged us intellectually. I mostly liked the discussion sections |
| He facilitated discussion really well |
| answering our questions |

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

| Comments |
|---|
| More class discussion. More clarity on assignments and expectations. More clarity on where grade stands throughout the quarter. We are about to enter week 9 and I have no idea what my final grade is even close to because he doesn't put discussion essay grades into the canvas gradebook. Writing seminars also were just extra work and were not helpful. |
| Having discussions that were more related to helping us write our papers, or giving stronger guidelines for the papers early in the quarter. It was difficult to know what was expected for our papers at the start of the quarter. |
| maybe making the criterion for grading more explicit; I didn't do as well as expected for the first paper, but did very well on every paper since as soon as I understood the type of writing he was looking for |
| Perhaps providing more feedback on weekly papers and making the expectations a little bit clearer. |
| Nothing |
| Nothing |
| ask us more questions |

The Instructor . . .

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | N/A |
|--|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|--------|----------------|-------|
| Organized the course clearly. | 4.42 | 4.50 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 8.33% | 41.67% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding. | 4.42 | 5.00 | 8.33% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 25.00% | 66.67% | 0.00% |
| Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful. | 4.33 | 5.00 | 8.33% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 58.33% | 0.00% |
| Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course. | 4.33 | 5.00 | 8.33% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 58.33% | 0.00% |
| Challenged you to learn. | 4.42 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 8.33% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 58.33% | 0.00% |
| Helped you gain significant learning from the course content. | 4.33 | 5.00 | 8.33% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 58.33% | 0.00% |
| Was available and helpful outside of class. | 4.42 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 25.00% | 58.33% | 0.00% |
| Motivated you to think independently. | 4.50 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 8.33% | 33.33% | 58.33% | 0.00% |
| Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 66.67% | 0.00% |
| Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning. | 4.42 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 8.33% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 58.33% | 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 |
|----------------|
| Sarah Jeffries |

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | N/A |
|--|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|-------|
| Facilitated discussions that supported your learning. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Gave you useful feedback on your work. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Challenged you to learn. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Helped you succeed in the class. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 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. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |

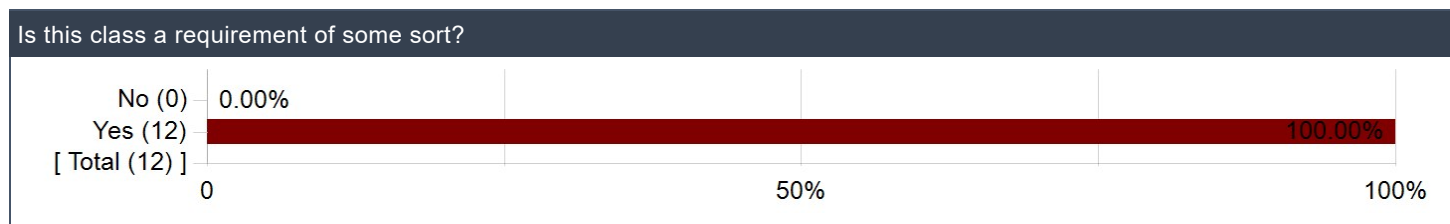
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

| | 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 | 3.50 | 3.50 | 0.00% | 25.00% | 25.00% | 25.00% | 25.00% | 0.00% |

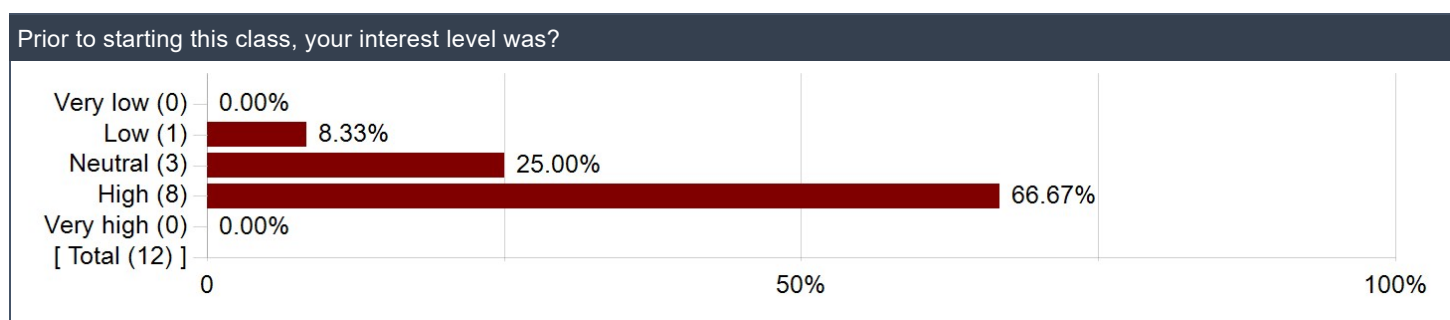
Other course elements not mentioned above:

| Comments |
|----------|
| N/A |

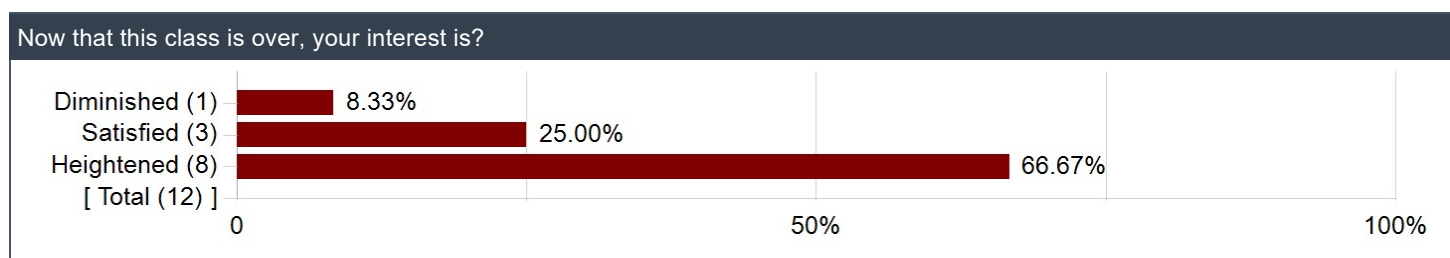
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



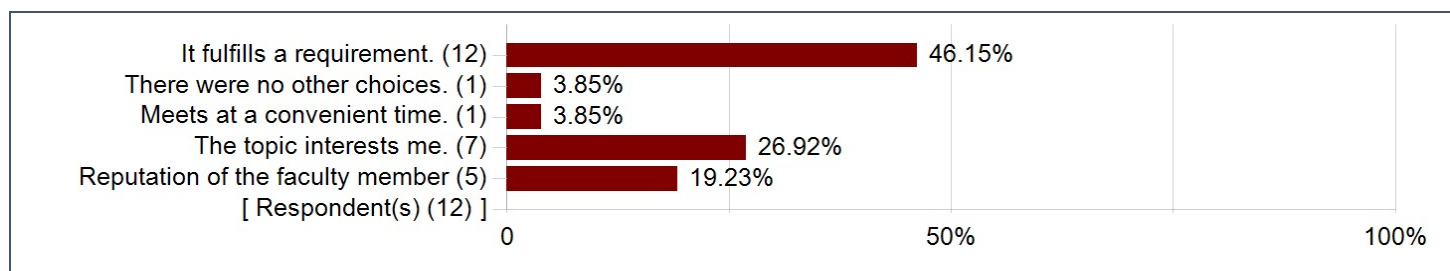
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



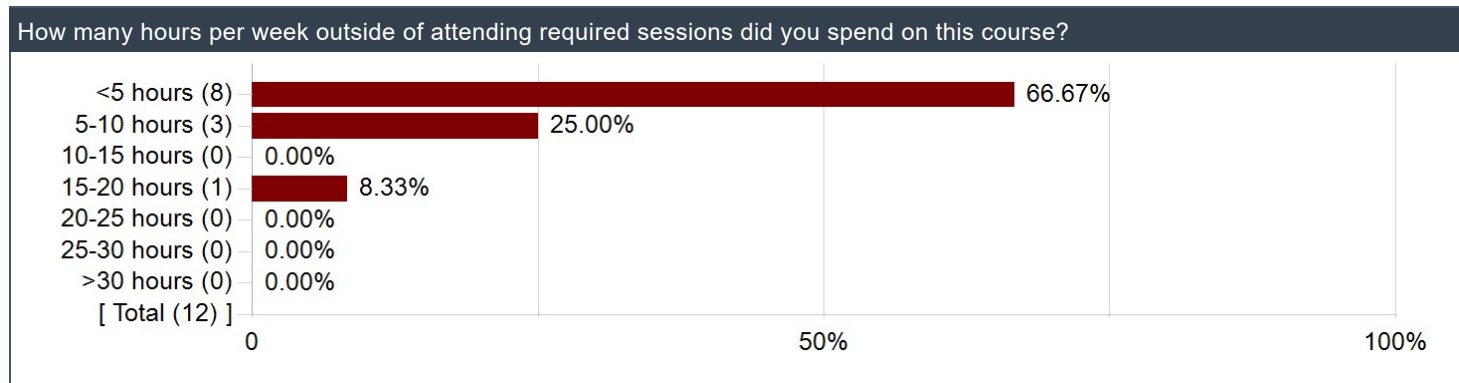
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



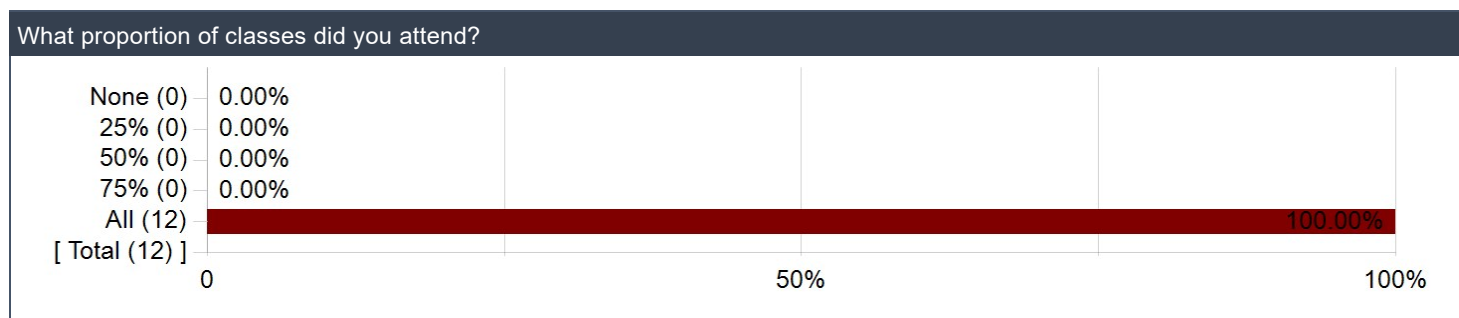
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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 hard in terms of how strenuous/work-heavy it is, but can be hard based on professor grading |
| Not bad, psychology jargon can get a little much but not a lot of work overall |
| Despite the reputation of Mind as the easiest SOSC, performing well grade-wise isn't trivial. the margin for earning an A is quite small, and I am not even sure if I will end with an A despite earning very high scores on nearly every weekly paper. Having said that, I would absolutely recommend this class because of how brilliant Professor Gallo is and how fascinating the topics proved to be. Taking AP Psychology would serve as a very useful backdrop for much of this course, but you can certainly succeed without it as long as you learn to write effectively. The weekly papers taught me to trim every ounce of fat/fluff from my writing, and synthesize articles that don't immediately have connections. |
| Readings were complicated sometimes but overall the workload felt light |
| I have no prior experience and found the class not too difficult. The readings were at times complex but very interesting! |