



SOSC 12500 12 - Self, Culture, and Society II - Instructor(s): Melanie Jeske

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **10**

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
How the self relates to various social and philosophical movements
Learned the idea of a Self and the Other in intersection fields of sexuality, gender, and race.
How we think and where important aspects of our society came from
In this course, we read authors including Durkheim, Freud, Fanon, Beauvoir, and others. We frequently discussed the role of agency versus structure in determining the behavior of individuals. We also discussed different levels of society (macro, meso, and micro) and examined the idea of "objective" knowledge or perspectives in sociology.
I learned what it means to have agency and the effects of structure on an individual. I also learned about the social construction of religion, gender, and race. Also learned about Freudian topics.
Sociological analysis of both older and modern text
"In the second quarter of Self, Culture, and Society, we will investigate canonical approaches to understanding society and the individual through the writings of Durkheim and Freud, with particular attention paid to symbolic representation, social forces and their bodily inscription, emotion, the construction of the self, and the role of the unconscious in shaping thought and behavior. Later in the course, we will explore the complexities of gender and race, as developed in the works of Beauvoir and Fanon. We will examine various forms of domination and social structures, and the tensions that are created between such structures and notions of individual agency and potential for social change. We will also draw on contemporary theorists to surface critiques of the social theorists we engage and draw connections to our contemporary moment" – Course description I learned how to analyze texts, and relate them to personal experiences and recent events.
I learned about many different psychological terms, such as the super ego, self-consciousness, psychoanalysis, to name a few. We read about different authors, such as Freud, Durkheim, Fanon, and many other authors that helped us understand the concept of the self a bit better. I feel that all of the content we learned about was great in advancing our knowledge on how we can be more aware of the concept of self.
How to read dense theory, how to have interesting discussions about aforementioned theory texts, how to apply what we read about to real life. Theories of gender and race as social constructs, how societies and individuals function, mental illness, religion as a social institution.

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

Comments
Discussions were very helpful as were reading comprehension questions. Midterm was weird though
The discussions and lecture format was very clear, concise, and well organized. The professor is clearly very invested in her work and enjoys teaching which shows in the students' interest. I enjoyed her assignment formats of essays and "fieldnote" discussions. It allowed the students to show their understanding in many different forms.
Discussions and books
The presentations that the instructor presented, as well as the class and peer discussions that she facilitated, were the most helpful for learning and understanding the material we read.
Class was discussion based and extremely beneficial to understanding the topics.
Readings and discussions were very productive
Lectures were mandatory and very useful in understanding different perspectives and what authors meant in their time and writing.
The discussions were great! Professor Jeske did a great job of providing us background evidence at the beginning of class, which definitely helped me whenever I was confused about some of the readings. I also appreciated her patience whenever the class got quiet, she's the best!
The class time was great for cementing what we learned from the reading by discussing it. The Reading Comprehension Questions and Fieldnotes also helped with that and helped with understanding the texts by responding to it.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	80.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	80.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Prof is very nice and very good at facilitating discussions
Although it's a required part of the SOSC sequence, it's amazing.
There was a midterm paperish (more about analysis) and a final, which could either be a podcast, interview, or paper. I liked that there were options. We also had a weekly writing assignment. readings for each class were typically 50–100 pages.
Awesome course! I recommend Self 100%.

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
Discussions w supplemental materials were interesting, and helped me understand content that was previously difficult to parse
The lectures
Little slide shows summarising the reading and asking big questions about it
The presentations and feedback provided by the instructor were very helpful.
The professor is so knowledgeable about the content and asks us carefully constructed questions to reveal concepts to us.
The discussions we had in class, as well as the material was covered in a very interesting way– other material introduced to the class was very engaging.
Her input and leading discussion was very vital in learning, she offered comments that helped me understand the content a lot more. The reading list was very well selected.
her passion for the topics we were talking about! i could tell that she really loved teaching the course, and i loved hearing her perspective on different viewpoints regarding her background in science and technology.
Professor Jeske was an active participant in our class discussions as well which really made it more fun and engaging. She also prepared some slides that served to refresh our memories on important parts of the reading.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing, everything was amazing
n/a
Nothing
I would've liked a little bit more context to each class discussion, and maybe having slides available on Canvas so I can go back and see what we talked about.
sometimes the readings felt a bit too long, and it was also hard to get hold of some of them.
Perhaps shorten the readings from Tuesday–Thursday, as some classes have problem sets due Wednesday and that gives people very little time to read 65 dense pages of Freud.

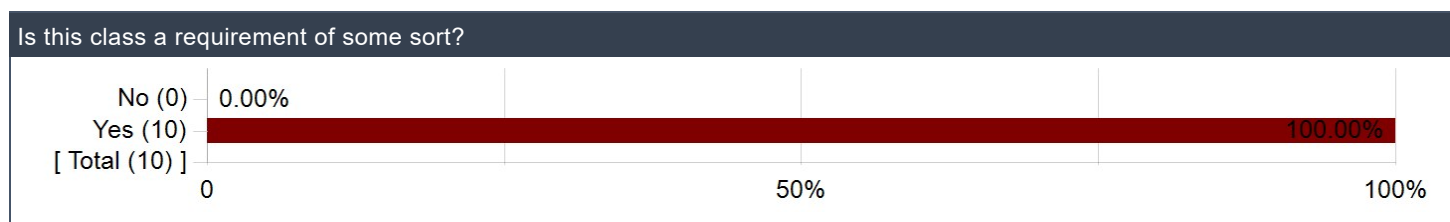
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%	0.00%

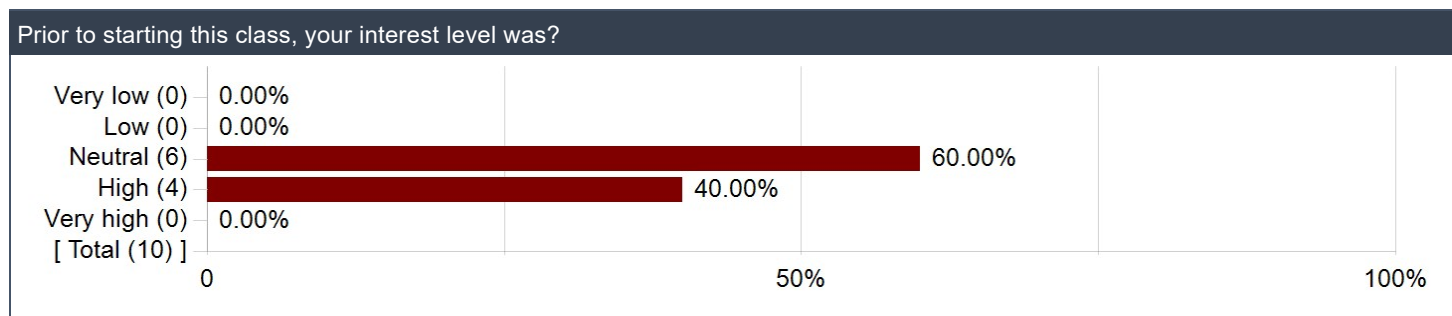
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
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	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

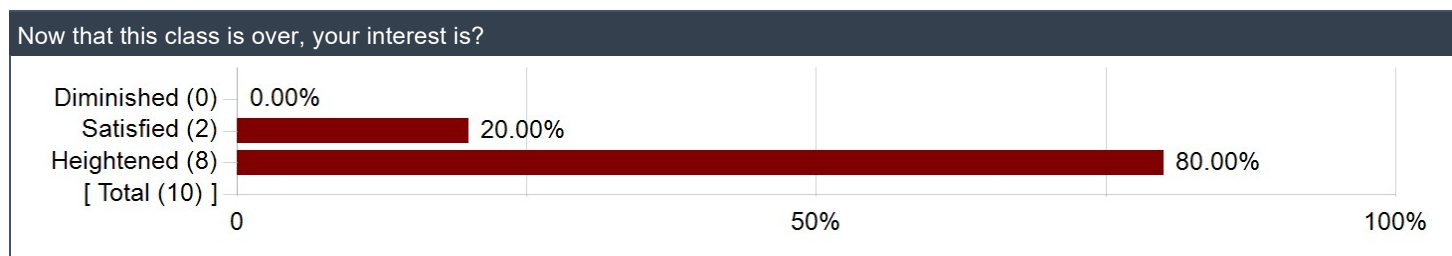
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



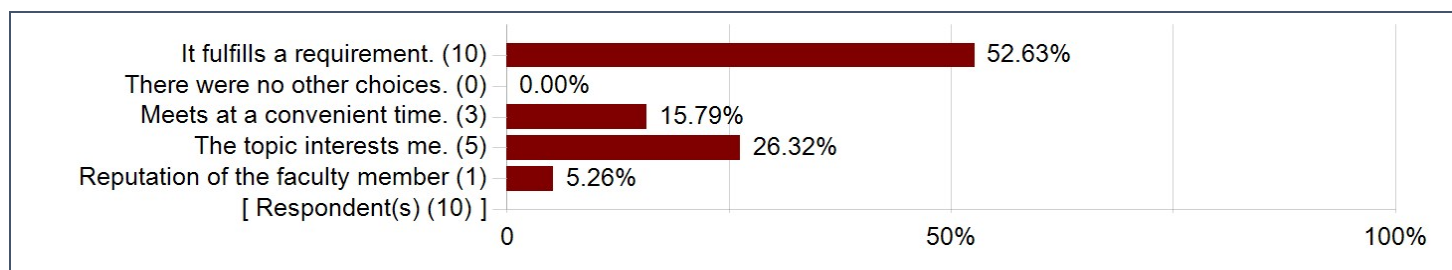
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



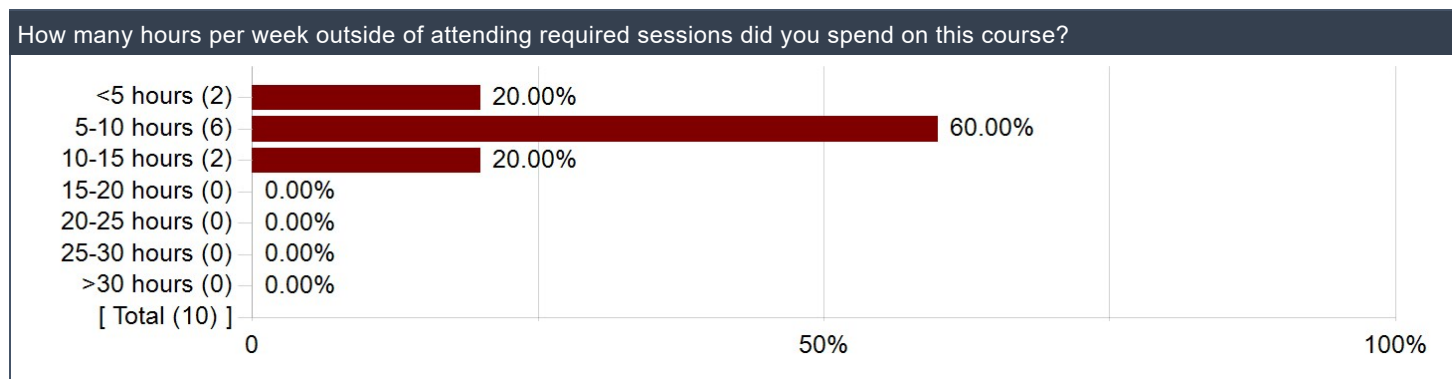
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



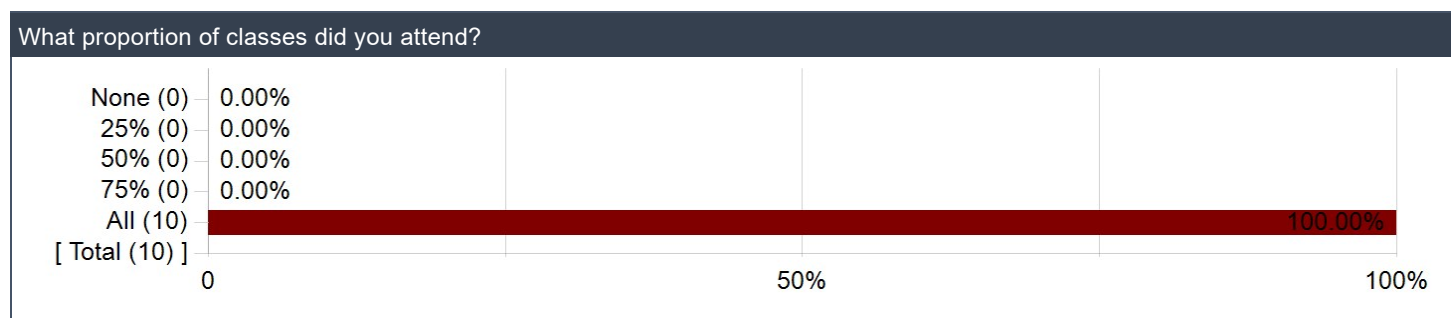
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Not difficult if you put effort into assignments
The writing assignments were somewhat more difficult in comparison to my previous sosc and hum classes.
SOSC I experience, just reading analysis and comprehension
Taking the self class in autumn before, this class was relatively the same in difficulty, but focused on the idea of the self more.
After Self Culture and Society I, this was about the same level of difficulty in terms of reading, but harder in terms of work probably because of the mandatory Reading Comprehension Questions.