



SOSC 15200 11 - Classics of Social and Political Thought II - Instructor(s): Julia Brown

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

Number Enrolled: **16**

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 |
|--|
| I learned how to approach theoretically complex texts and deconstruct their arguments. I also learned how to compare these arguments across different texts, even when those texts are particularly dense or difficult to read. |
| how to separate and understand complexity in reading |
| How to write on and engage with a smaller section of a reading(few sentences) |
| How to think critically about varying authors' writings on political systems and governments, and what those specific authors think about government. |
| Interpretation of Rousseau, Hobbes, and Locke. Closely examining specific passages. |
| Schools of thought regarding how political societies are instituted |
| How to close read philosophy. |
| Locke and Hobbes taught me most about the formation of government from a state of nature. |
| I learned how to analyze intently into political philosophers who tend to be extremely hard to understand. This class allowed me to read deeper into what the author is trying to say while also trying to put this into more practical terms. |
| How to interpret complicated texts in a nuanced way |
| This class helped me properly connect other pieces of the text together without doing a lot of summarizing. |

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

| Comments |
|--|
| Class discussions were always incredibly helpful. Julia is an amazing teacher — anyone is lucky to be in her class. I always left class with a better grasp of the reading than the one with which I entered. |
| The lectures had a good balance of student–led discussion and activities to piece together more complicated points in the texts. |
| diagrams drawn on the board were very helpful for understanding the ideals |
| No labs |
| Discussions helped a lot with comprehending the readings, which were often a bit difficult to understand on their own. |
| The discussions in class were helpful and Professor Brown asked good questions. It was also helpful when we discussed certain ideas in small groups. Commonplace Entries every week made me understand the readings we were doing. |
| The seminars were very conducive to essay writing. |
| Lectures, writing seminars, weekly assignments, one essay and a final exam. |
| In class discussions helped with my understanding of the material. |
| This course is a seminar–based class so its more discussion based. |
| The class discussions introduced me to different interpretations that I was unaware of. |
| The biggest aspect was group class discussion. It helped me understand parts I couldn't interpret by myself. |

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% | 0.00% | 46.15% | 53.85% |
| I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it. | 4.62 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 38.46% | 61.54% |
| I understood the standards for success on assignments. | 4.31 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 23.08% | 23.08% | 53.85% |
| Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments. | 4.77 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 7.69% | 84.62% |
| I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work. | 4.62 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 38.46% | 61.54% |
| My work was evaluated fairly. | 4.62 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 23.08% | 69.23% |
| 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. | 4.54 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 30.77% | 61.54% |

Additional comments about the course:

| Comments |
|---|
| Julia is definitely a harsher grader, but she gives very helpful feedback. It is very clear that she wants her students to succeed, which, in turn, makes me motivated to keep improving. |

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 |
|--|
| I think our class discussion when Julia wrote on the board to dissect particular parts of arguments from the text were particularly useful. I think honing in on specific points enhanced my understanding of the reading and the topics we discussed in class as a whole. I also think the Commonplace Entry assignments were very helpful as practice for close reading of texts and analyzing salient points of readings. All of Julia's feedback on written assignments was also incredibly helpful. |
| class discussions |
| Closer to the end half of the semester diagrams were used more frequently. Help in understanding but also constricted conversation expectations(sometimes). Other times it helped progress discussion, win some lose some overall it was good though |
| The guided discussions, especially the ones where she used the whiteboard to make diagrams or more clearly explain the authors' points. |
| Professor Brown asked great questions and explained the content clearly. |
| Professor Brown was very good at facilitating our discussion when, for example, that day's reading was particularly difficult to parse through. She also emphasized the importance of the readings through writing our commonplace entries. |
| Very nice and smart |
| Julia was a lot more helpful in providing us with context and ways to analyze the text efficiently. Compared to my fall quarter professor I felt more engage in the class and ability to understand the material increased. |
| The teacher's weekly book entry assignment helped me the most. It was very short and easy, but helped me with analysis. |

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

| Comments |
|--|
| N/A |
| lessen the reading per week so we can take more time to take notes and understand the reading |
| N/A |
| A little context before each reading would have been nice, to make it a bit easier to figure out what's going on while reading as opposed to waiting until it gets discussed in class. |
| less talking to students |
| Probably a little clearer interpretation on some points |

The Instructor . . .

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | N/A |
|--|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|--------|----------------|-------|
| Organized the course clearly. | 4.77 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 7.69% | 84.62% | 0.00% |
| Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding. | 4.83 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 15.38% | 76.92% | 7.69% |
| Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful. | 4.83 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 83.33% | 0.00% |
| Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course. | 4.69 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 15.38% | 76.92% | 0.00% |
| Challenged you to learn. | 4.69 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 15.38% | 76.92% | 0.00% |
| Helped you gain significant learning from the course content. | 4.62 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 23.08% | 69.23% | 0.00% |
| Was available and helpful outside of class. | 4.75 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 25.00% | 75.00% | 0.00% |
| Motivated you to think independently. | 4.77 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 7.69% | 84.62% | 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. | 4.85 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 7.69% | 0.00% | 92.31% | 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 Sarah was great! Very helpful, communicative, and patient |
| Sarah Jeffries |
| Sarah Jeffries |
| Sarah Jefferies |
| Sarah Jeffries |
| Sarah Jefferies |

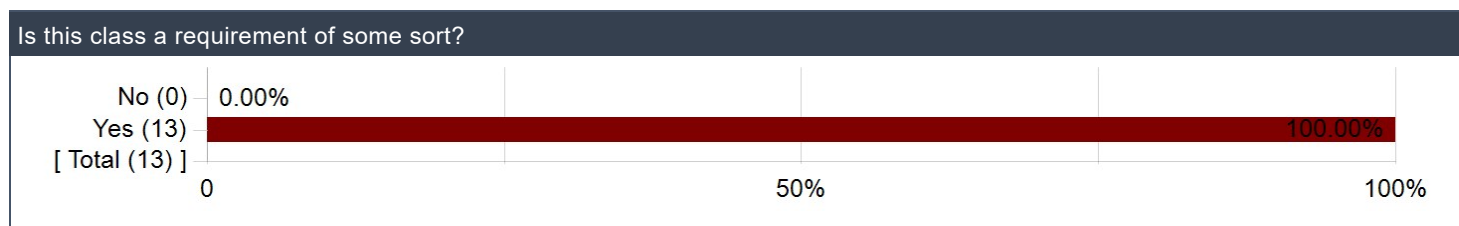
The TA/CA or Intern. . .

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | N/A |
|--|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|--------|----------------|-------|
| Facilitated discussions that supported your learning. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 0.00% | 83.33% | 0.00% |
| Gave you useful feedback on your work. | 4.50 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 16.67% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 83.33% | 0.00% |
| Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 0.00% | 83.33% | 0.00% |
| Challenged you to learn. | 4.60 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 20.00% | 0.00% | 80.00% | 0.00% |
| Helped you succeed in the class. | 4.83 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 83.33% | 0.00% |
| Was available and helpful outside of class. | 4.80 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 20.00% | 80.00% | 0.00% |
| Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 16.67% | 0.00% | 83.33% | 0.00% |

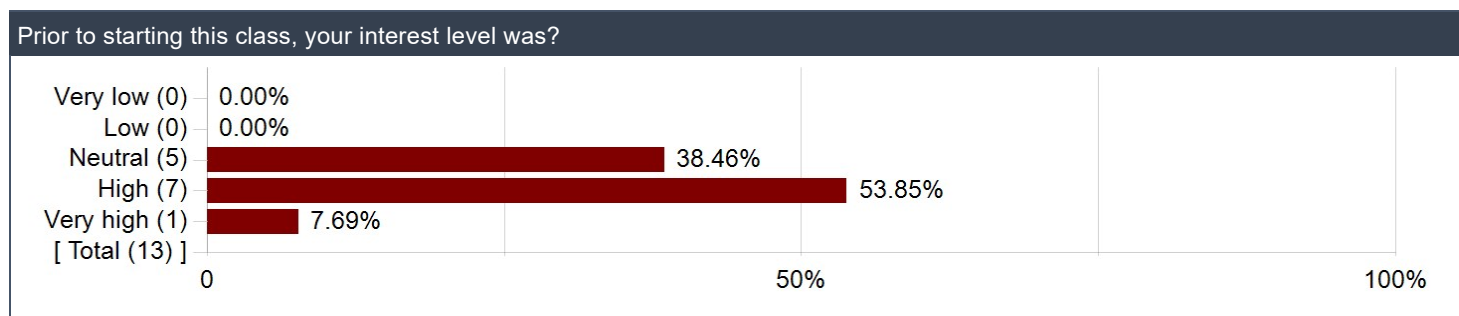
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

| | 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 | 2.83 | 3.00 | 0.00% | 33.33% | 50.00% | 16.67% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

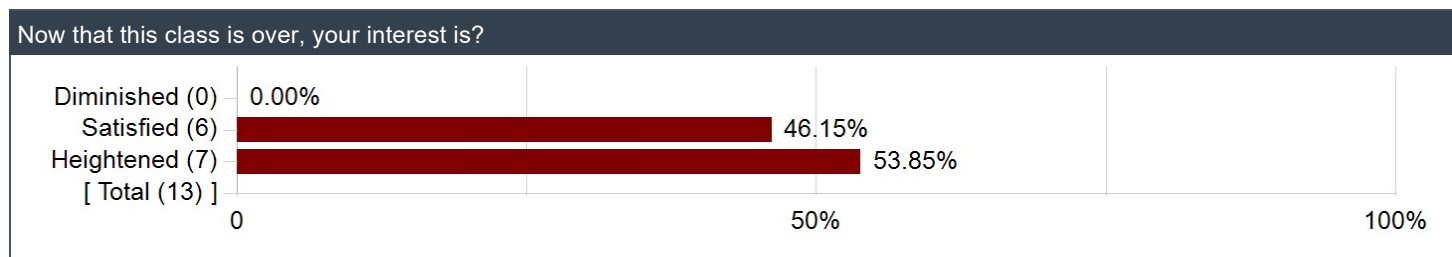
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



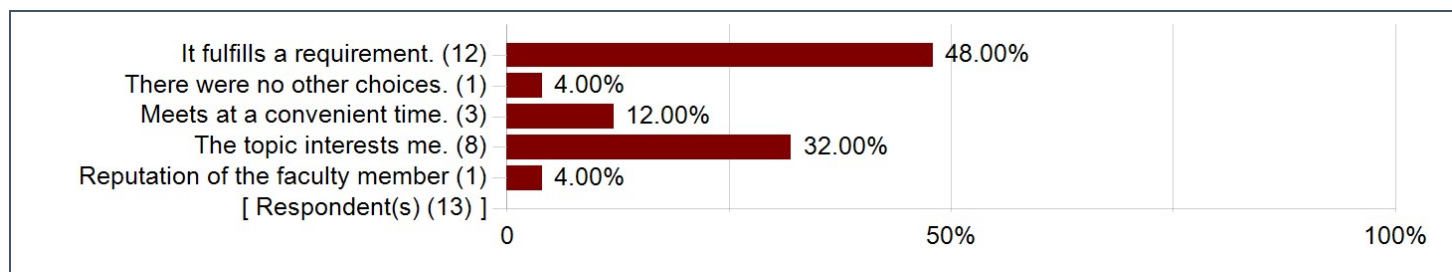
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



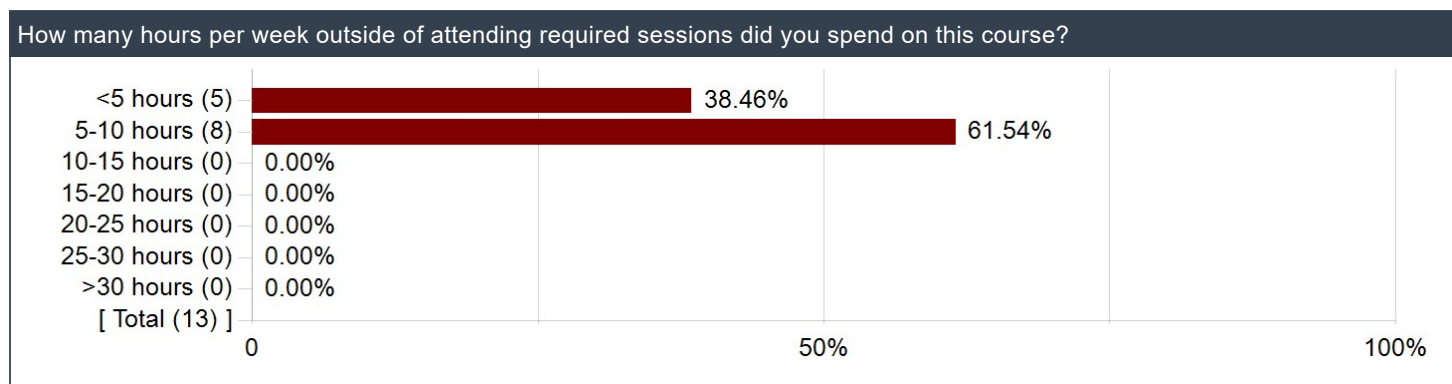
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



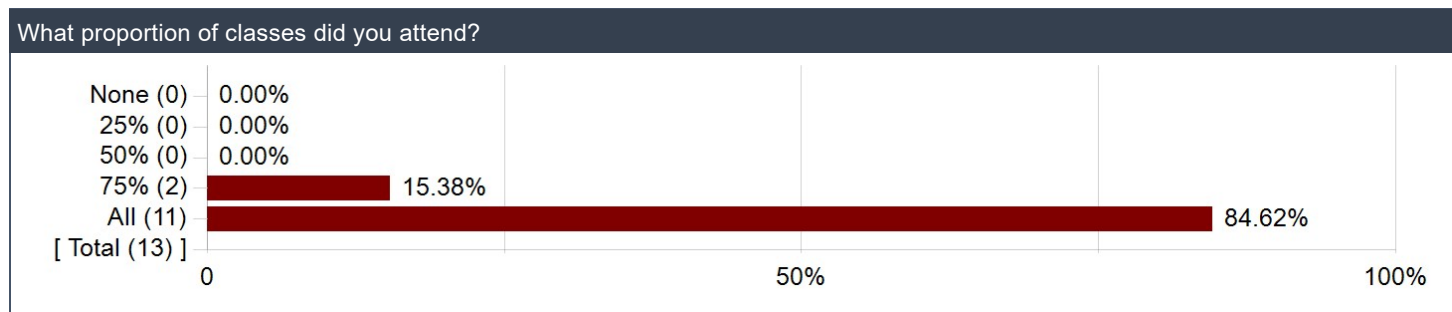
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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 |
|--|
| Appropriately difficult! |
| The readings and associated assignments were about what you'd expect from a core soc course. Definitely an approachable course for someone with limited experience in the area, like me. |
| I felt it was easier to understand than the autumn quarter. |
| fair |
| No prior experience– straightforward course |