Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

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

Comments
I learned about various authors, Adam Smith, Karl Marx, Max Weber, etc..
The class explored a lot of interesting aspects of Capitalism.
Cyclical nature of society; division of labor, free markets/labor; Marxist thought; Calvinist roots; anarchist communism; attitude towards time in a capitalist society
Reading dense texts and interpreting the author's purpose.
That there are always valid points to arguments, you just need to look for them.
Primitive accumulation, division of labour, free–labour, exchange–value vs use–value, different ideas about capitalist society ibn khaldun, marx, smith, weber, kropotkin, ep thompson.

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

Comments
Readings were complicated but class was helpful to clarify the arguments being made. The discussion posts were also helpful because we got to share our thoughts, and read what other people had to say before each class. So beyond reading there is some level of understanding to walk into the discussion with. As for the in class discussion, the professor is brilliant and explains ideas very well. However, I do wish there was a little more room for class discussion and collaborative learning. There were some opportunities for small discussion which I do appreciate.
Discussion and class notes were very helpful to come to a clear understanding of what the author means by his writings.
Lectures prompted lengthy discussions regarding the assigned readings prior to class; weekly posts encouraged us to engage more deeply with the material and read others' viewpoints
Class time was a blend between lecture and discussion.
Discussion was great.
Class time is mostly lecture; I wish we'd had more discussion time, but my section was at 330–5 and very quiet so she I think she might've leaned lecture more than normal. Her lectures are very helpful for understanding key topics and breaking down the readings. There's 6 two or three paragraph discussion posts, 1 per author (2 for marx), so the timing for those is flexible. Writing and reading those is helpful for understanding the readings. The midterm essay is just an extension of a discussion post. The final was about 2000 words and not too difficult.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.67	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	33.33%	16.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%	16.67%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I think the main thing is that I wish this class had more time for discussion amongst the students. We watched a lot of videos and read in class, and a lot of the lecturing came from the professor. What she has to say was excellent, however there wasn't a lot of time for us to discuss the readings amongst each other and what we thought about it. Though I know that the concepts in this course are really hard, so a lot of lecturing is required to actually get the idea.
No grades/feedback was given for assignments, so it was impossible to know how you were doing until maybe the midterm essay; could reduce number of readings to focus more on Marx, Smith, Weber, and Khaldun
It was a really interesting course! Really helps give you words to describe aspects of economy and to understand the world.

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?

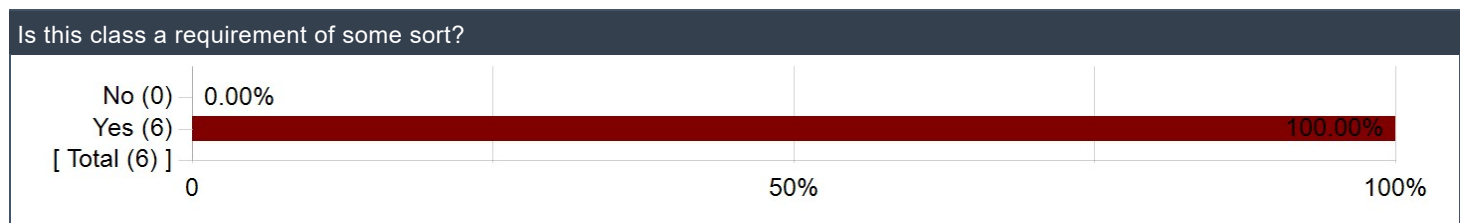| Comments |
| --- |
| She was very thoughtful with everything she said. She was clear, passionate, and articulate with what she was discussing. She answered questions well and thoroughly. She shared real life examples and media to help us see real world examples of ideas presented in the text which was helpful. She did a really good job of breaking down large, complicated arguments and helped us understand it in a real world context. |
| Class time was key to my learning and understanding as the readings were sometimes puzzling, and class discussions helped guide my understanding. |
| Office hours were very useful; class discussions were insightful; in–class videos were interesting and relevant |
| I liked watching documentaries where we had to analyze and identify concepts we have read in those films. |
| The explanations given to the class. Discussion was great but having the concepts broken down and simplified by someone who knew them well was great. |
| Her lectures are really helpful for understanding the reading. |

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

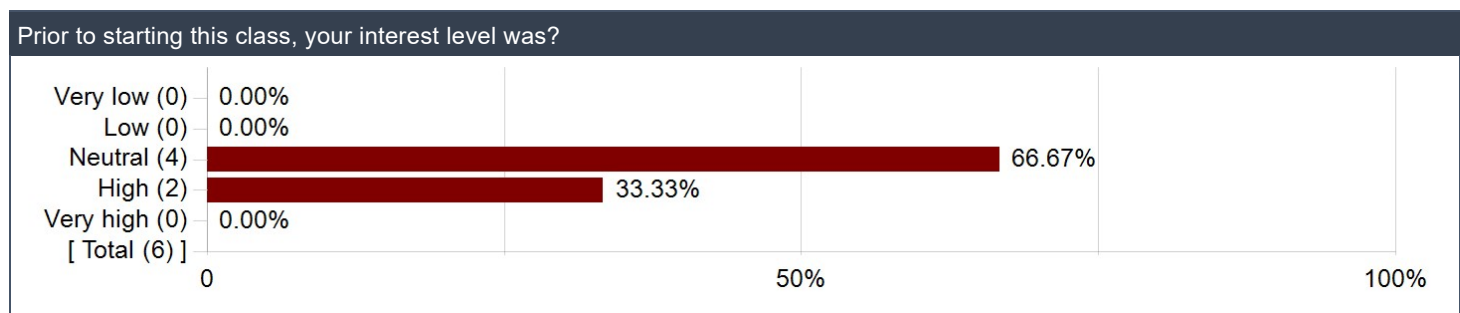| Comments |
| --- |
| I would say I wish we spent more time discussing texts as a class. There is a lot of lecturing time, and not much whole class discussion time. Most of the learning came from her as an instructor, and not much from each other in the class. I think if we had a little bit more room to fail and discuss, it would be really helpful. |
| Provide past papers from students containing a range of all grades (or at least an A) to make standards clearer |
| I wish we spent more time talking about the expectations for writing papers and how to write a good paper. SOSC papers are quite different from other papers I had to write so I would have appreciated more writing workshop time. |
| More facilitated discussion would be helpful, our discussions would die pretty quickly and she'd go back to talking for like the rest of class instead of trying to get us started again. When we did have good discussions they were very helpful. |

The Instructor . . .

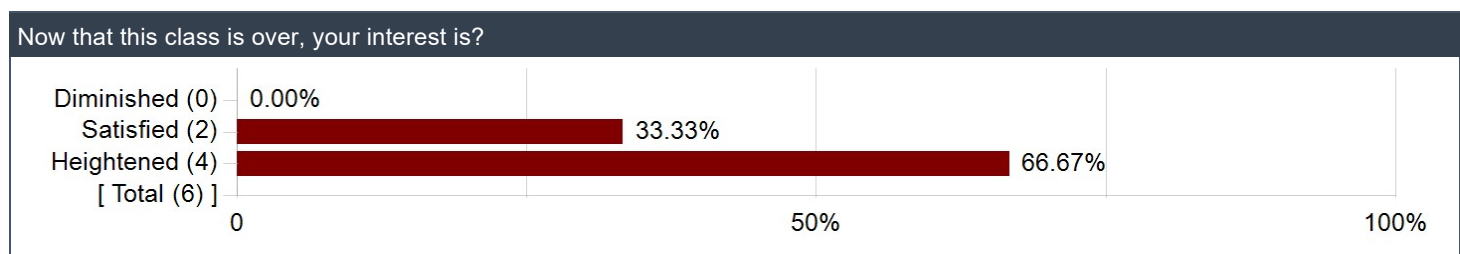|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.17	4.50	0.00%	16.67%	0.00%	33.33%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.33	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	50.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.17	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	83.33%	16.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

No (0)	0.00%
Yes (6)	100.00%
[Total (6)]	

(Axis: 0 — 50% — 100%)

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Very low (0)	0.00%
Low (0)	0.00%
Neutral (4)	66.67%
High (2)	33.33%
Very high (0)	0.00%
[Total (6)]	

(Axis: 0 — 50% — 100%)

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Diminished (0)	0.00%
Satisfied (2)	33.33%
Heightened (4)	66.67%
[Total (6)]	

(Axis: 0 — 50% — 100%)

Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
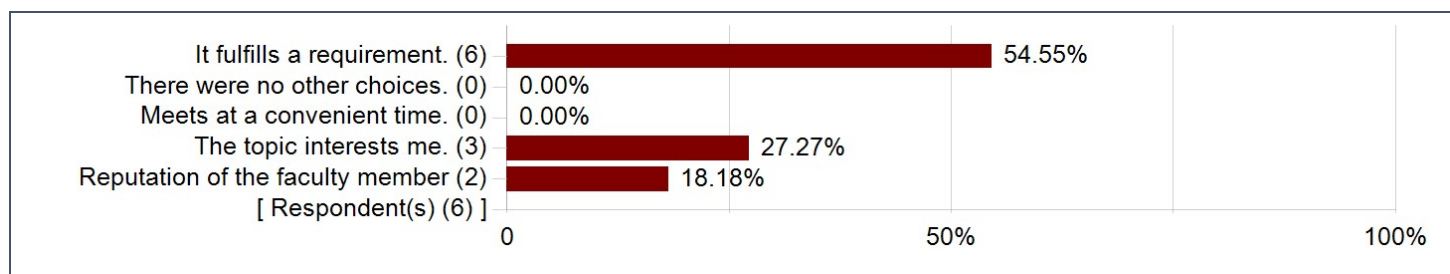
It fulfills a requirement. (6)	54.55%
There were no other choices. (0)	0.00%
Meets at a convenient time. (0)	0.00%
The topic interests me. (3)	27.27%
Reputation of the faculty member (2)	18.18%
[Respondent(s) (6)]	

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

<5 hours (0)	0.00%
5-10 hours (5)	83.33%
10-15 hours (1)	16.67%
15-20 hours (0)	0.00%
20-25 hours (0)	0.00%
25-30 hours (0)	0.00%
>30 hours (0)	0.00%
[Total (6)]	

What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

None (0)	0.00%
25% (0)	0.00%
50% (0)	0.00%
75% (0)	0.00%
All (6)	100.00%
[Total (6)]	
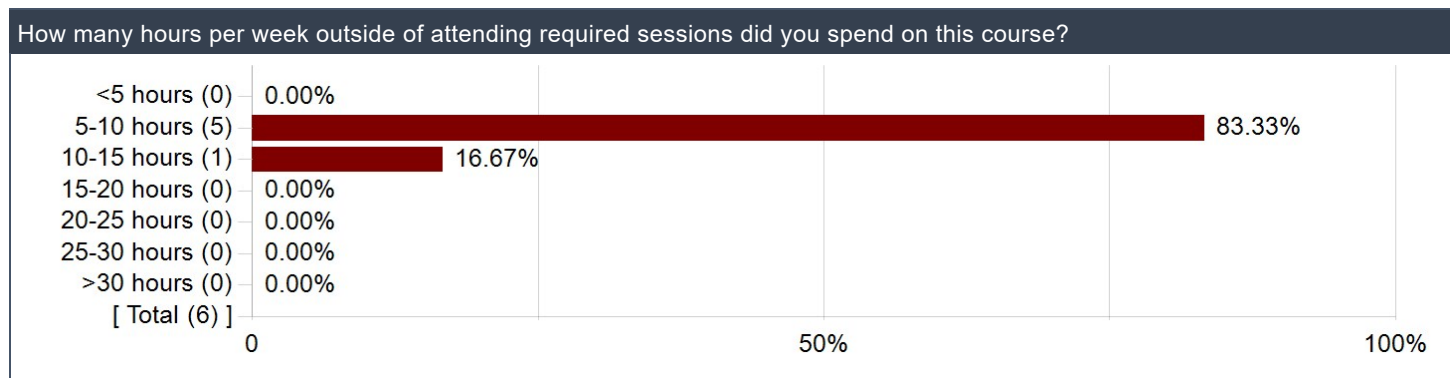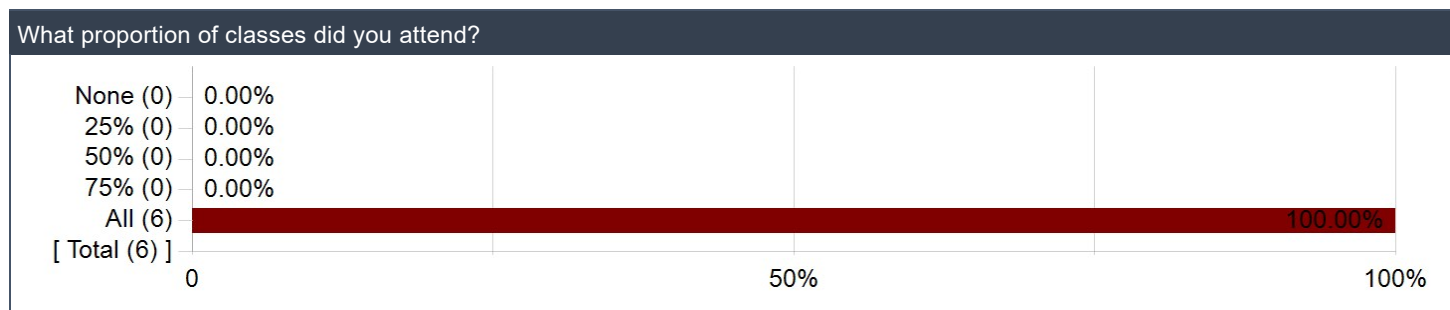
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments

I think the course is very challenging and presents a lot of complex ideas, but even with no background I think the course and the professor did an excellent job of making it accessible and interesting for anyone.

Quite difficult to adjust to the sophistication/abstractness of ideas from the readings, but got better over time, especially since most if not all students were on the same/similar page of understanding; write clearly and concisely, apply relevant concepts from the authors, do the assignments, go to office hours (if need extra help), and an A should be fairly reasonable

A lot of the readings are difficult to understand, so it requires a lot of time and analysis to understand.

Difficult but not impossible. The class works best when students participate and there is discussion that Prof. Mireshghi can work off of. Readings can be dense but as long as you have attempted them, the arguments will be explained in class.

The readings are pretty difficult to understand, but since examples are everywhere around us the central concepts aren't really that hard to grasp.