



# SOSC 16100 8 - Global Society I - Instructor(s): Hannah Borenstein

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **10**

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## Report Comments

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

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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
The key ideas of various social thinkers from around the globe and from different time periods
I was certainly exposed to a wide variety of global social theories that related to present-day phenomena like feminism, classism, and racism.
Political philosophy and discourse on human/civilization development
How societies function.
I learned how to read and understand complicated texts about how to run a society, as well as how to express my opinions in discussion and writing.
How to consider multiple global perspectives from different times, and contextualize them in their own environment as well as consider them today – or how they led to the way society is perceived today. I learned how to consider others' experiences with less bias of my own, and how to understand a text as distant as it could feel for me.
The role of human nature, religion, government, etc. on society formation
we read text from global thinkers and learned about how they think society should run and their views on human nature

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

Comments
Class discussions were extremely helpful, and Prof Borenstein outlined the key concepts to really ensure that we understood what each social thinker was trying to say. The weekly reading responses also allowed us to think about the readings ourselves and come to class with a solid understanding of the text.
I loved how honest, organic, and in-depth our discussions always were. It allowed us to explore each text in an open way that didn't feel forced or boring.
In-class discussions about the reading were particularly helpful
Seminars, discussions, small group work
Class mostly consists of reading a text, writing a response and talking about the text in class. Of these, talking about the texts in class is definitely the most helpful as Prof. Borenstein helps guide discussion along well and strikes a good balance between letting us discuss our thoughts and making sure we are reading the texts correctly.
The discussions were great for remembering the details in every text, and ultimately helped draft a comparison table with the key points from each reading that came in super handy at all moments in the course.
The group power point presentations were helpful for understanding the context behind our readings
Discussions in class are really fun
mainly the lectures

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.56	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	88.89%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.44	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	77.78%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.22	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	66.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.44	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	77.78%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.22	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	66.67%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.00	4.50	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	50.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.33	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	66.67%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.44	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	77.78%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
It's not at all political talk – if you're looking for a course that asks for your opinion on matters, or to apply these social theories today, this wouldn't be it. It's much less engaging in that way, but is a great channel to start being globally involved without forcing you to immerse yourself in something you don't fully understand.
I wish the expectations for grading were a bit more transparent, altho the teacher is pretty good and the class is good, i recommend it. Grading is fine.
I wish our reading responses were not actually graded on the content but just submission, or assigned after one class of discussion as I find myself understanding the content so much better after class discussion, and it is a bit of a pressure trying to come up with a high quality response with harder texts knowing that it will be graded especially.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	12.50%	87.50%

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

Comments
Prof Borenstein is extremely aware of the right amount of work to assign per week, which is a skill that many other professors lack. The readings were usually ~40 pages per week, which was manageable and really allowed me to spend more time with each passage of the text and understand the concepts clearly. There was no busy work in this class and every assignment had a clear purpose.
I liked how the instructor did not overwhelm the students with a lot of homework, which was comforting since the readings could be intensive length and reading wise.
She facilitated discussions very well
Prof. Borenstein did a good job keeping discussion interesting while making sure we understood what the thinkers were actually saying.
The way she leads the discussions is very focused, and her feedback on assignments is extremely accurate and helpful.
Having guiding questions for each discussion but also being adaptable to student interests
Our lessons, where she makes us discuss concepts in details.

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

Comments
Nothing!
I think the instructor could have maybe given more clarity about the expectations of weekly reading responses at the start of the course, rather than as everyone progressed.
Nothing
Clearer communication with the students; if she gives any instructions in class it could be a good idea to also post it on an announcement in Canvas or by email. This could help greatly for specifications about which pages to read.
More clarity on how to write the weekly writing responses before the first assignment
I wish we mixed the group ups more in discussions, instead of always talking to the people next to us since it's the same people every time. Would love to learn and discuss with the rest of the class more.

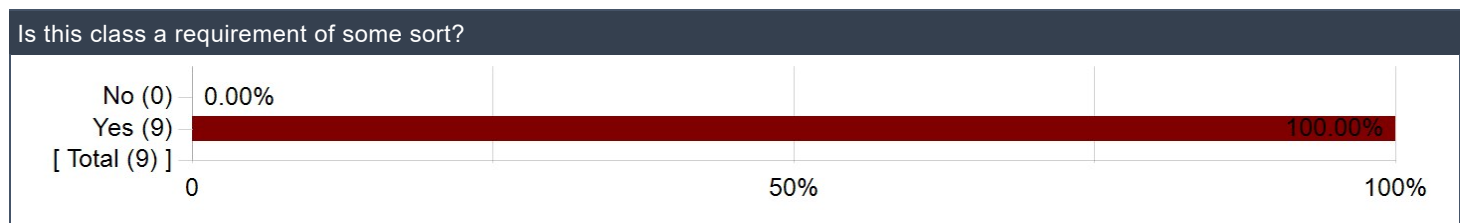
## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.88	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	87.50%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.88	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	87.50%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	75.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.88	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	87.50%	0.00%

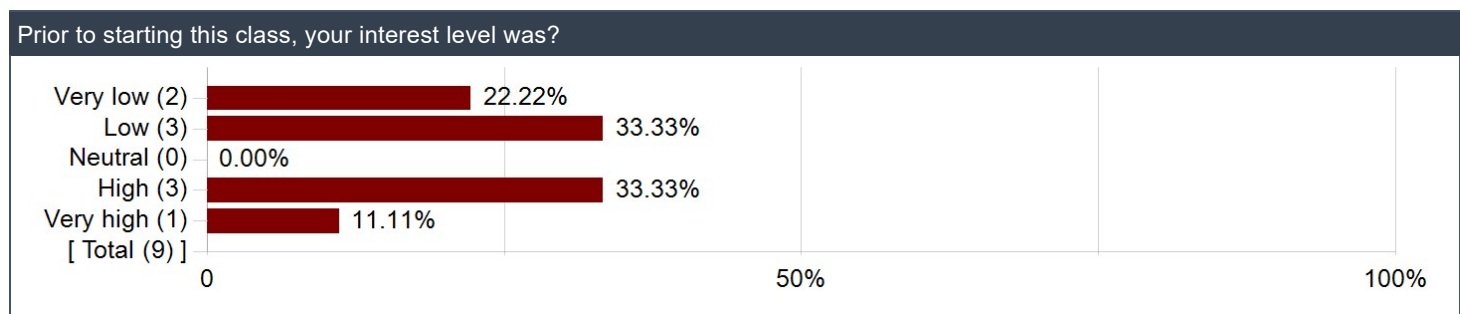
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

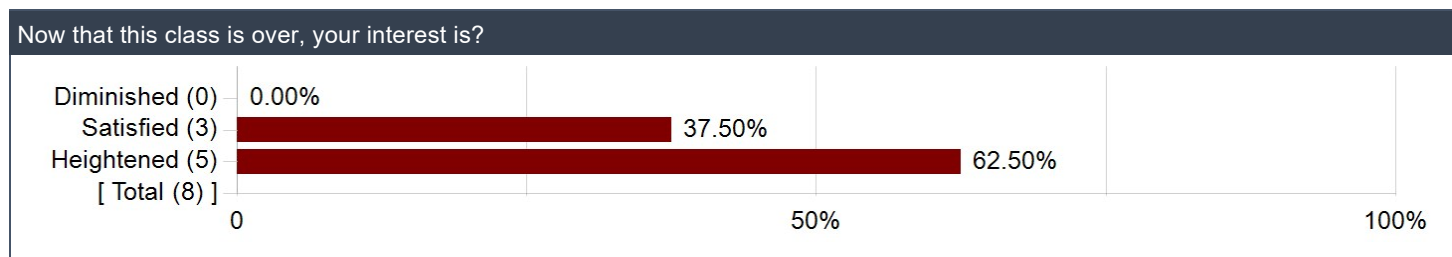
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



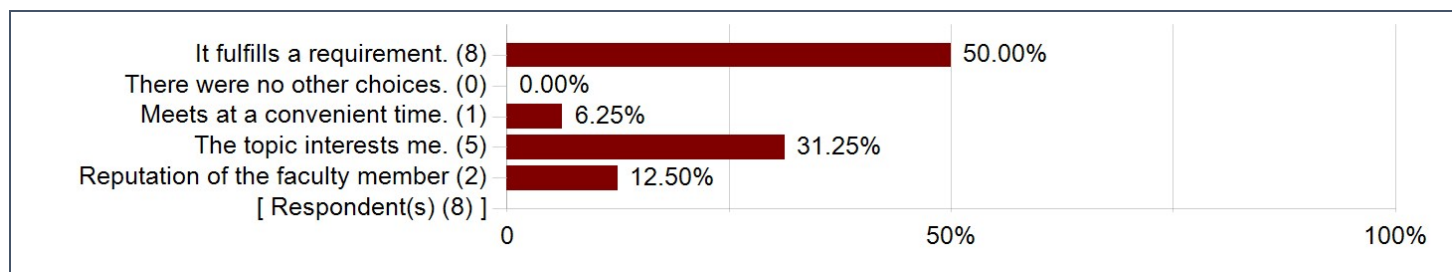
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



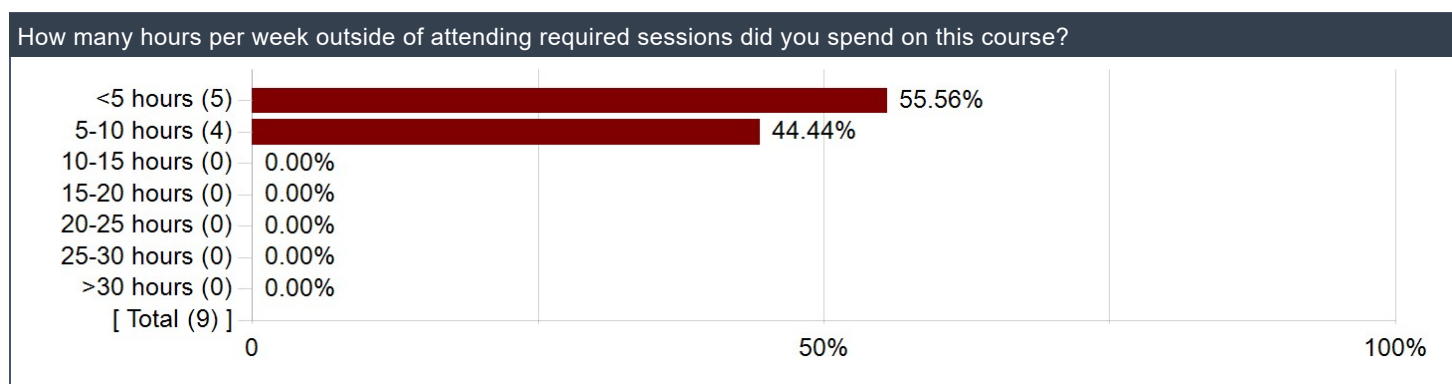
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



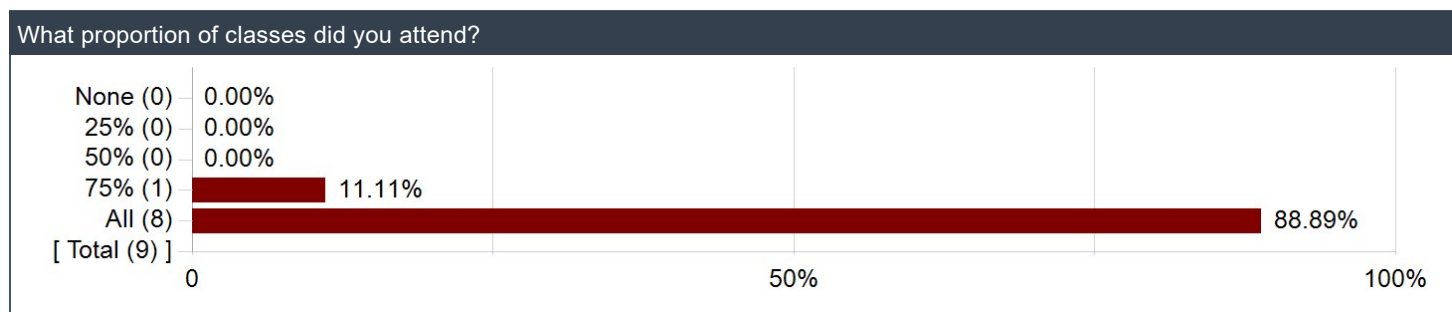
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## 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 a difficult course if you pay attention in class and really try to understand the readings!
Not difficult, but must be committed to doing all the readings and coming to class with a degree of understanding.
No background needed
easy A
Coming in as a first year, there was definitely a decently high standard for writing, which you have to do every week. But apart from a few readings (read: Hobbes makes me want to cry) the ideas are comprehensible and I had enough time to do all the work even while taking four classes and my Humanities course at the same time.
It's really accessible for anyone! Most people in my class are majors in topics unrelated to social studies but we're still very engaged in the class.
Very engaging class and manageable to all students regardless of previous social science backgrounds or lack thereof
acceptable, with barely any history/philosophy/ english lit background, although I do think there is slight disadvantage in comparison to people who has a heavy humanities background.