SOSC 18600 3 - Democracy: Equality, Liberty, and the Dilemmas of Self-Government III - Instructor(s) - Andrew Brandel

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

Number Enrolled: **19**
Number of Responses: **7**

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, July 11, 2024**

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

Comments
essay
I learned that democracy is more than a form of government in which the people vote; it has a rich history the expands beyond the rule v ruled dynamic. Reading Hannah Arendt's The Origins of Totalitarianism was a valuable experience, as I learned a lot about a theory that provides guidance for defending democracy.
A lot more modern sociology theory and attempts to explain political and sociological phenomena in recent times. Populism, the double movement, Ardent...
I think I gained a great deal of practical real world knowledge about democracy and how to recognize evolving democratic ideas
Contemporary democratic politics, populism, imperialism.

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

Comments
Assigned readings with corresponding discussion posts followed by in–class discussion/lecture led by professor Brandel
lectures
The lectures helped to make sense of even the densest of readings and provided a space throw out ideas and debate key topics or issues with concern to democracy.
The class discussions were very, very helpful. Professor Brandel is probably the best professor I have had at the this school, both in terms of his knowledge and how fun he makes class. The jokes and classroom environment were really good across all three quarters, making class both intellectually helpful and a lot of fun.
Class time was extremely helpful for discussing the ideas mentioned in the readings
Discussions were always informative and additive.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	71.43%	28.57%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
I felt respected in this class.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Excellent instructor! Extremely understanding of students (very lenient with extensions, should you need any) while also providing detailed feedback on papers. Always available outside of class to meet.
N/a

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	14.29%	85.71%

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

Comments
In–class discussions. Additionally, Professor Brandel was extremely understanding of various student's circumstances and worked well to create a flexible schedule when necessary. Super nice prof who actually wants you to write about what interests you in the class and will help you formulate a path to do so.
availability
At the beginning of each class, the professor would give context to the reading and then we'd spend the rest of the class walking through the reading. This two step approach to our classes was super helpful.
Professor Brandel is an amazing professor. The way he ran class was very helpful and very fun.
The more low pressure environment of the class.
I think the facilitation of students ideas was the most helpful

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing, Professor Brandel had a great lecture style that walked the class through the reading and allowed for student interjection to create discussion. Moreover, he also had a running calendly to sign up for office hours if you wanted to discuss anything which he made ample time for.
na
I think that having some context or key things to be looking for before doing the reading assignment would've been helpful.
I can't really think of anything.
N/A
No comments
More engaging discussion topics

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	42.86%	14.29%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	57.14%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	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
Emma Adler

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%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	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 class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	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	3.00	3.00	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
N/a

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

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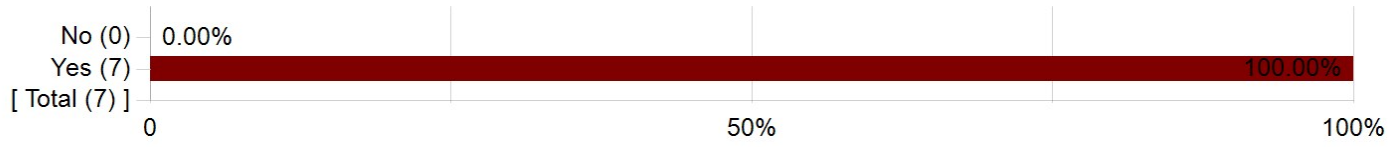

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

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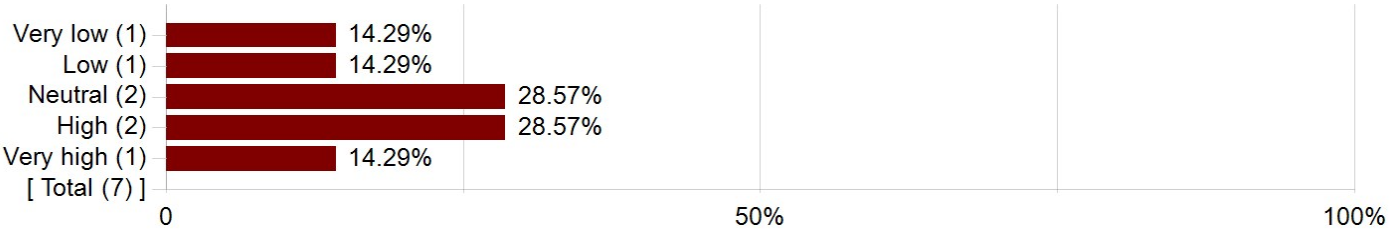

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

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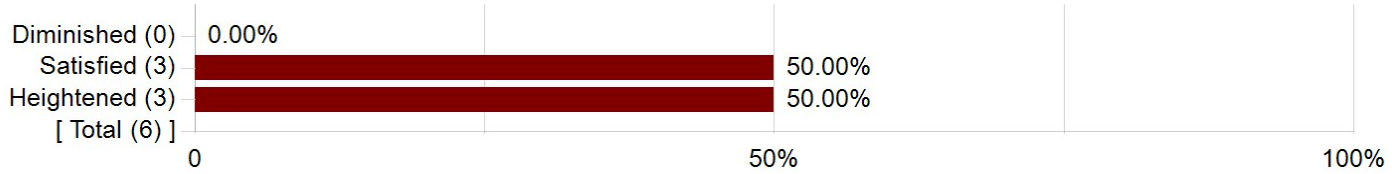
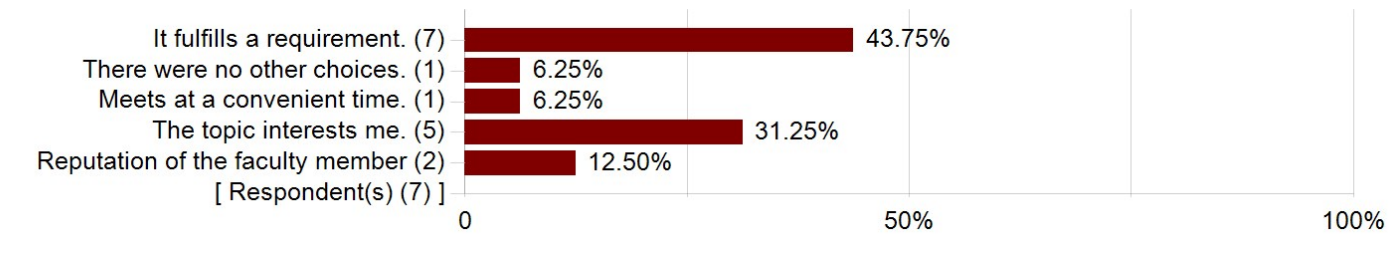


Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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

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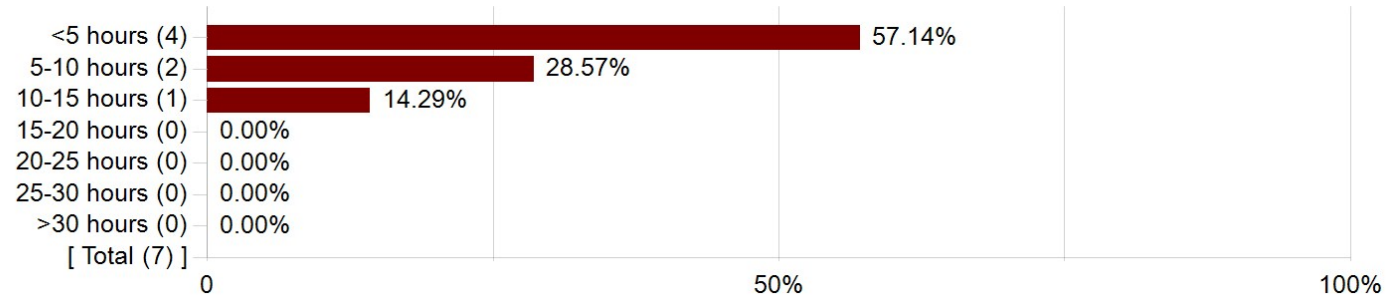

What proportion of classes did you attend?

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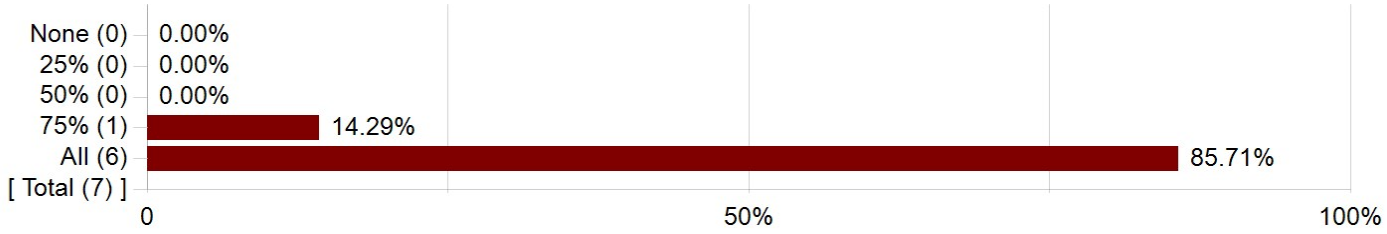

Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Professor Brandel makes the material very easy to comprehend no matter the exposure you've had to historical/contemporary events
It's the third class in the sequence so it's about the same as the previous quarters, if not easier since the texts were written less than 200 years ago and are also about more modern, relatable events.
Not too difficult, especially if you get the extra credit by attending a lecture.
Perfect amount of difficulty
not too difficult