



# SOSC 24900 2, HMRT 10100 2 - Human Rights in World Civilizations I - Instructor(s): Ben Laurence

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **7**

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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
There are various ways in which human rights violations or challenges have shown up throughout various historical occurrences. I also learned how to challenge some things we may consider inherent/unquestionable when that may not always be the case.
We learned about human rights discussions post-WWII, throughout the civil rights movement, and also globally in Cambodia, the Congo, and other places, and then we also jumped back in time to discuss slave emancipation and declarations of independence of various countries.
We learned about the original conceptions of human rights as a framework as well as how that framework applies to broad topics such as testimony or declarations. We learned how to critically analyse texts and combine arguments from different times and contexts into one coherent argument through our papers.
This course was well done on many levels. First, the Professor Ben Laurence did an excellent job facilitating conversations in class and giving feedback on paper writing while making the prompts and possibilities interesting and engaging.

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

Comments
Readings and discussions contributed the most to my learning. Essays also challenged me to form my own understanding of the various readings and topic we covered.
In-class discussions were very useful and I got a lot of new ideas to think about related to the text. I also liked the pre-reading videos we had in the beginning of the course to place our readings in historical context and understand them better. The reading assignments were reasonable in length and most of them were pretty interesting and relevant to our discussions.
Discussions were good Professor Laurence did a great job of building off of our ideas and also letting us lead the discussion through having discussion leaders for each class. The material was interesting and varied from testimony to film. Finally the papers helped to solidify the theories and motivate us to develop our own arguments.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Really loved the class. Super interesting readings, great nuanced discussions, really looking forward to next quarter.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	16.67%	83.33%
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
The professor was very eager to talk about our readings and give us historical context related to them and I really enjoyed that. He also facilitated discussion well, rephrasing questions and breaking things down to guide the conversation. There weren't a lot of times where the room was silent or nobody had any response to contribute, which is good. I also got useful feedback on both of my essay assignments.
Professor Laurence did a great job of facilitating discussion by both building on what we said and also allowing time for us to take charge of the discussion through having conversations with each other and useful disagreements. He was also always available to talk about paper topics and ideas in office hours. Finally, Professor Laurence did a good job of keeping the discussion organised and making the material seem related and always building towards the big themes of the class.
He was great at both instructing to groups and individuals
Really helpful discussions that cut to the juicy points of the text.

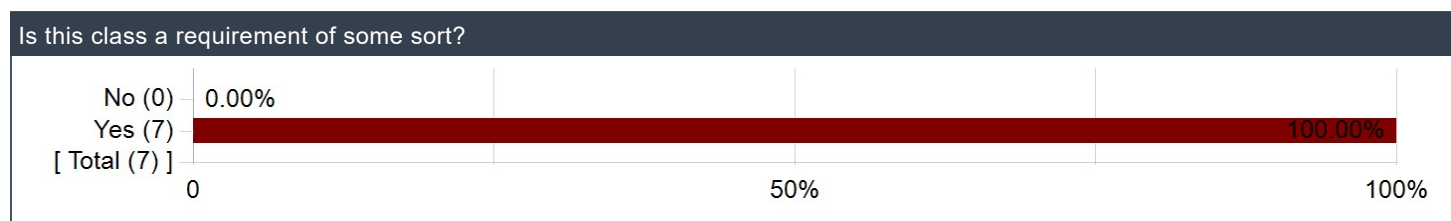
## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
I would have liked for the pre-reading videos to have been kept up throughout the duration of the course.
N/A

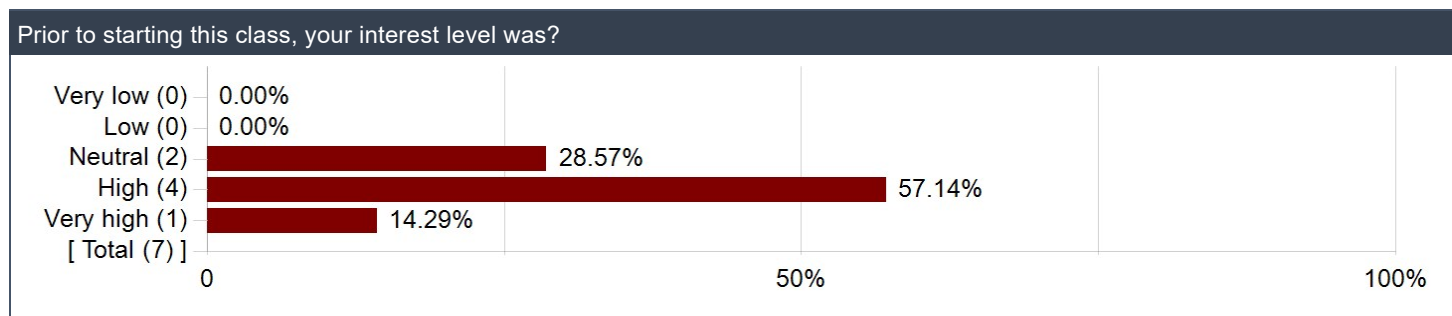
## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
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.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.17	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	50.00%	33.33%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	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.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	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%

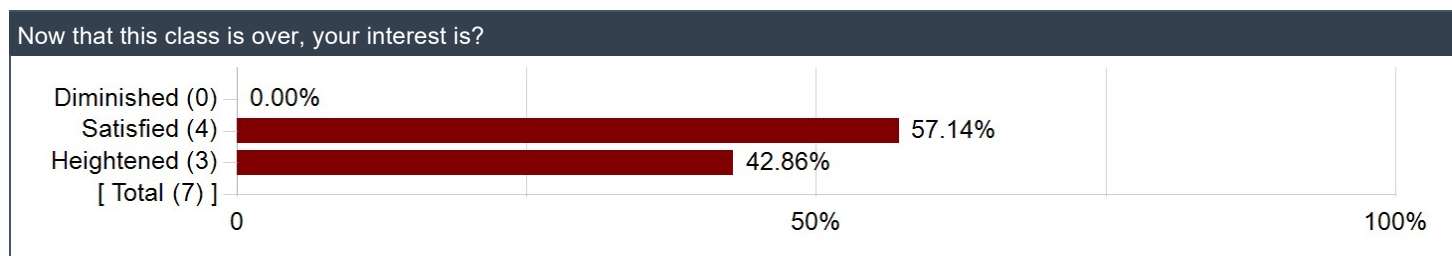
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



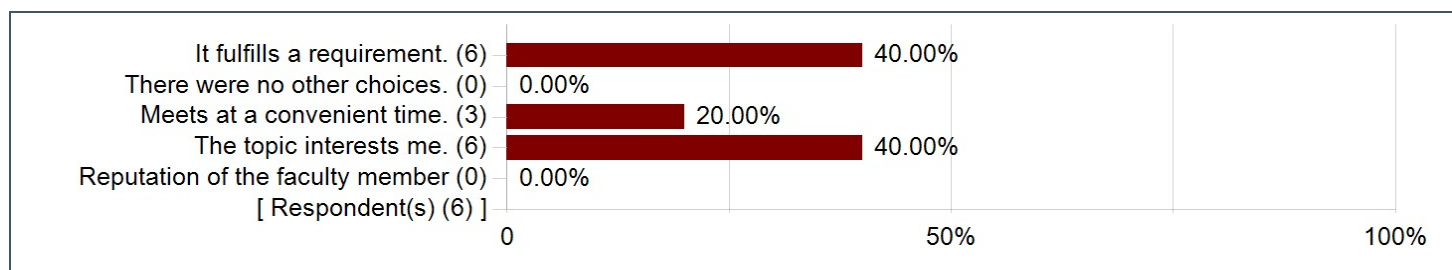
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



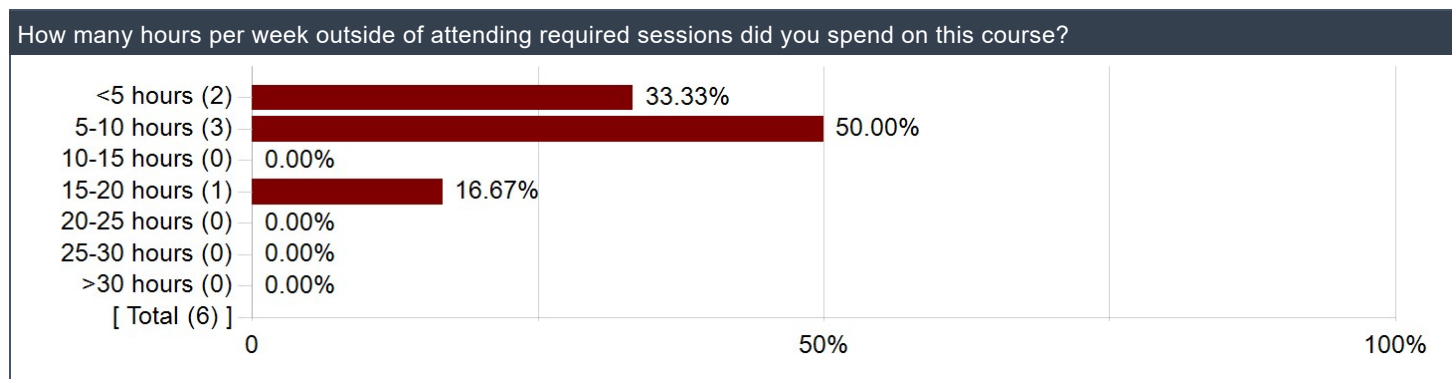
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



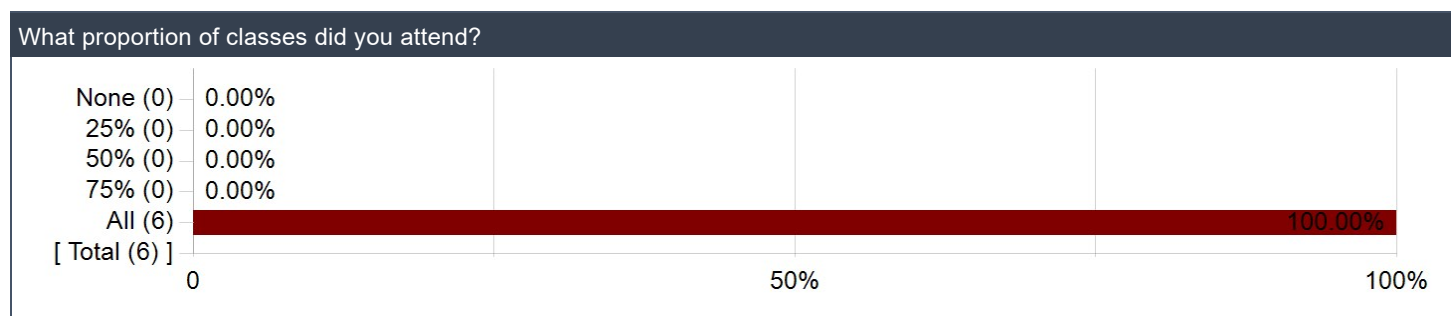
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## 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
It was not a difficult class though some readings were challenging; however, discussions were helpful to clarify things that may have been unclear
I have no experience in the field of human rights or even social science apart from the SOSC and HUME requirements I took before. I found it easy to contribute to the discussion and come up with useful ideas.
The class was a good level with mixed readings and clear essay prompts if you go to office hours