SOSC 15200 2 - Classics of Social and Political Thought II - Instructor(s): John Martin

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

Number Enrolled: **15**
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.

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

Comments
I learned a lot about social contract theory and political thinking during the Enlightenment period. I gained skills in analyzing dense intricate political philosophy texts and how to break them down and analyze them. I also gained skills in reconstructing arguments. This all helped me gain a greater understanding of the content.
I learned how to be a better reader, essay writer, and how to better contribute to discussions.
I learned about different ideas about power systems and man's natural state.
I learned how to really make the most out of my readings and how to be through and clear it's my writing.
Readings

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

Comments
Discussion were excellent, they were always incredibly informative and engaging.
The professor was simply a very good professor. He was far superior at facilitating discussion to any other humanities/social sciences instructor I have ever had. You have to try hard and come to class well prepared, but if you do, the class will be very rewarding to your academic experience.
Our discussions were class led but organized by the instructor and it made it very easy for us to reach the big ideas and conclusions from the works we read.
The lectures, essays, and readings were all interesting and helpful
The discussions were great as they challenged me to apply what I learned during the readings.
Reading discussions

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.14	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	57.14%	28.57%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.14	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	57.14%	28.57%
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.	4.14	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	85.71%	14.29%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	71.43%	28.57%
I felt respected in this class.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I feel like the grading procedure of Classics in general was very nebulous, the format of having one letter/another letter makes it unclear as to what the standards should be.
The profesor was great and experienced.

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
He was very passionate and knowledgeable about the material. Comes into class every day excited, which motivates us and enhances discussion. Regarding papers, he grades superfast which is really helpful and provides codes to help us understand his feedback. Finally, he structures participation grading in a more transparent manner than other professors.
He organized discussions in class so that they always followed the ideas in the text in a way that helped us understand them the most clearly. He always made certain that we would get to the most important revelations in the text, and sometimes those were the revelations just most interesting or important to people in the class.
The instructor's ability to facilitate discussion was incredible. He made the class the kind of class that I chose this university for, but had not had yet.
He organized the class very neatly and it helped us progress through the conversation in a way that made concepts easier to understand.
I appreciate a lot how he incorporated point we brought up into the discussion, and framed it around that
The fact that he was clear and had a Seth trajectory for the topic of discussion of each class. He always made sure to integrate all of our ideas in that trajectory.
His willingness to accommodate everyone's comments.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
I think diagraming or using a visual aid in some way to help keep track of some of the complex ideas we go through in the course could be helpful.
Nothing
He rarely put any of his own ideas about the text into the conversation which could be good but it also could have led us to miss out on an important section of the reading.
Nothing really. I thought this class was great
maybe not force the amount of talking one should do in class.
Maybe please don't count how many times pupils speak it leads to people raising their hands for the sake of raising…

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.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	42.86%	28.57%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	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.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.14	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	57.14%	28.57%	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.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	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 |
|---|
| Elaine |
| Elena Schafer was my writing instructor and she was fantastic. She was always very helpful and available to help. |
| Elena Schafer; the workshops were pretty useful. In particular, I particularly liked what we did with making a "checklist" type document to summarize what we discussed and put it in a useful format to use later. |
| Elena Schafee |

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

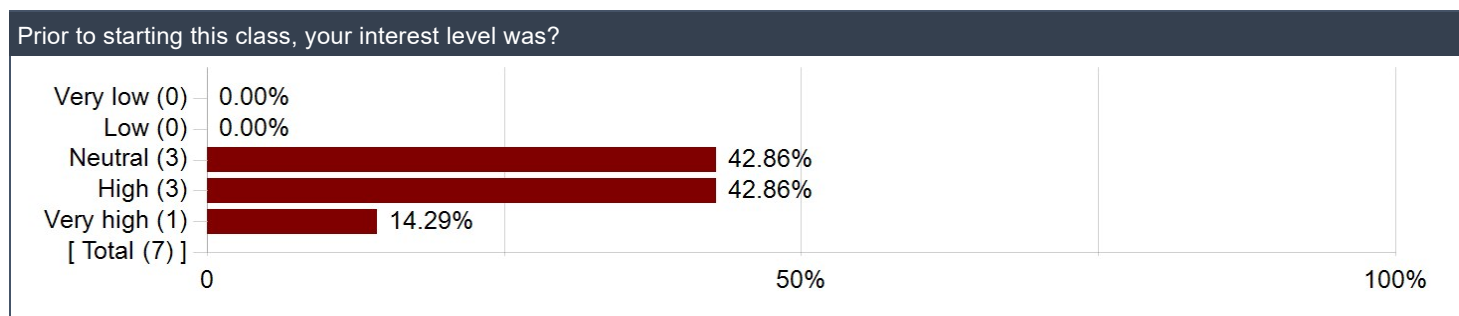|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	3.67	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	0.00%	25.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	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	3.33	3.50	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Is this class a requirement of some sort?
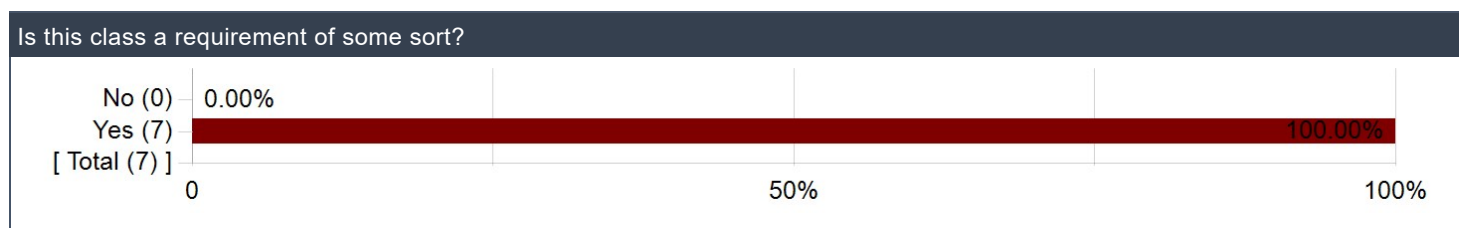
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

No (0)	0.00%
Yes (7)	100.00%
[Total (7)]	

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 (3)	42.86%
High (3)	42.86%
Very high (1)	14.29%
[Total (7)]	

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Diminished (0)	0.00%
Satisfied (2)	28.57%
Heightened (5)	71.43%
[Total (7)]	
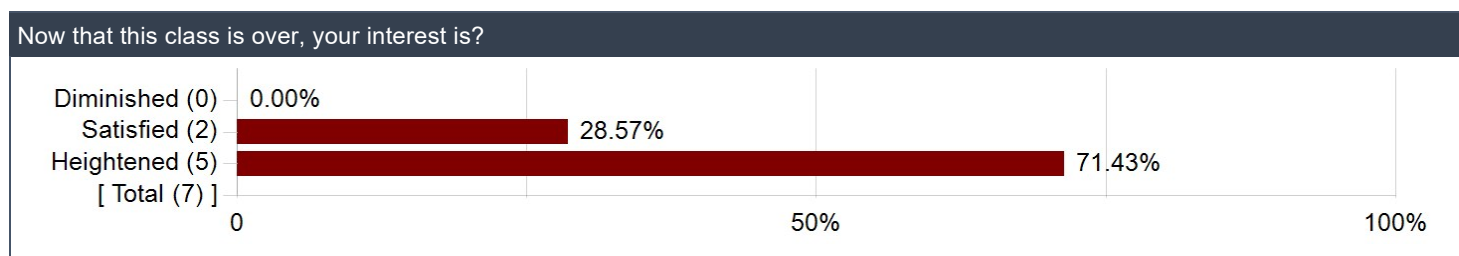
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
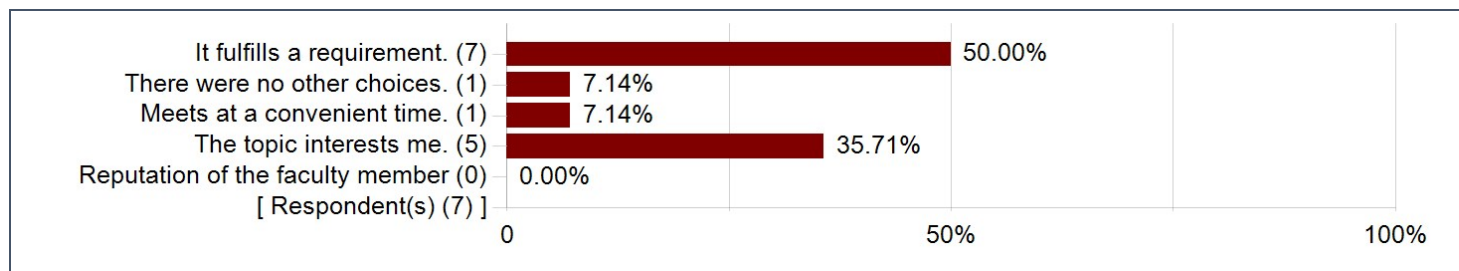
It fulfills a requirement. (7)	50.00%
There were no other choices. (1)	7.14%
Meets at a convenient time. (1)	7.14%
The topic interests me. (5)	35.71%
Reputation of the faculty member (0)	0.00%
[Respondent(s) (7)]	

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?

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     <5 hours (2) |██████████████         28.57%
    5-10 hours (3) |████████████████████        42.86%
   10-15 hours (2) |██████████████         28.57%
   15-20 hours (0) | 0.00%
   20-25 hours (0) | 0.00%
   25-30 hours (0) | 0.00%
     >30 hours (0) | 0.00%
    [ Total (7) ] |
                   0                    50%                  100%
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What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

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      None (0) | 0.00%
       25% (0) | 0.00%
       50% (0) | 0.00%
       75% (0) | 0.00%
       All (7) |███████████████████████████████████████████ 100.00%
    [ Total (7) ] |
                  0                    50%                  100%
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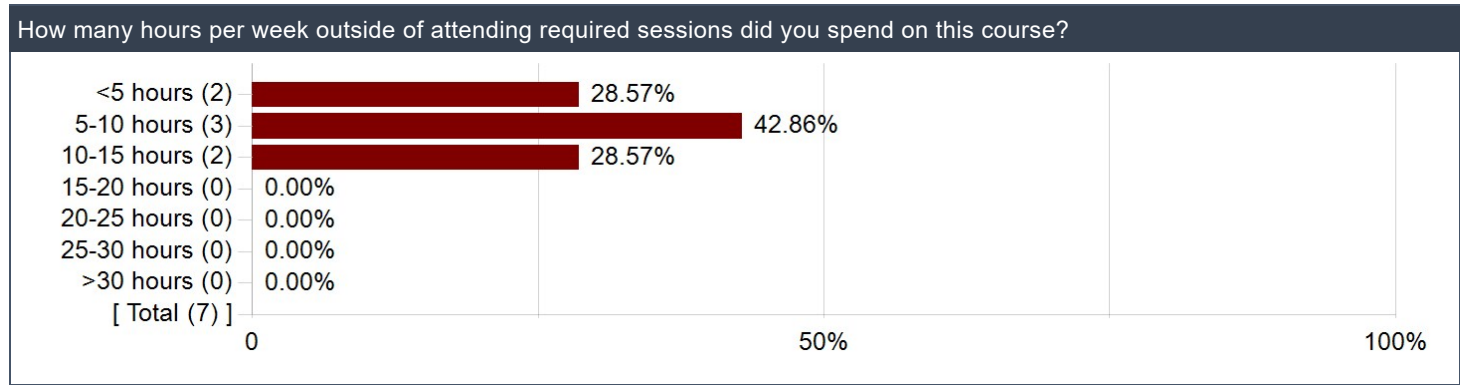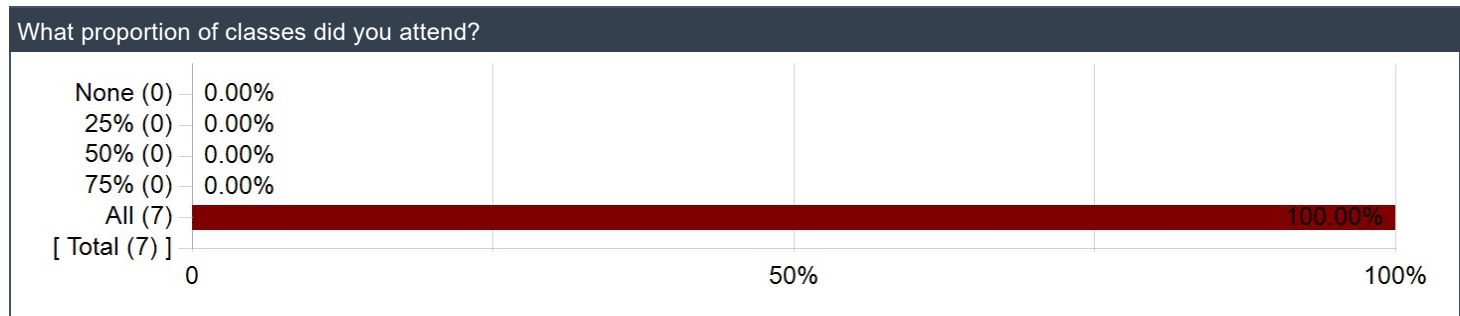
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Classics is difficult, but Prof. Martin is a great professor and his grading is more transparent, especially with participation. Paper grading is tough regardless, A's are obviously not given so the best one can do is a B+/A– or an A–. Don't see why this needs to be a weed–out class
I had a little experience with classes of this level at the university, and this was definitely more challenging, but more academically rewarding. If you are looking for a blow off class, do not take this one, but if you want to learn, I suggest you take this class with this professor as you will be rewarded.
I had never read these texts but the class made it easier to understand.
Manageable most days, except sometimes the reading was heavy, especially while writing an essay for the same class
It was pretty hard especially as I didn't have a great background in the topic.