



SOSC 11400 6 - Power, Identity, Resistance I - Instructor(s): Laura Martin

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **15**

Report Comments

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

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
Overall I learned how to critically explore the overarching themes and aspects of classic texts.
Knowledge about the origins of western philosophies and political schools of thought
The social contract and how early political thought was organized and argued.
I learned more about political ideologies.
Expanded on previously vague idea of foundations of government and the natural individual in relation to society. The ideas of Rousseau and Wollstonecraft were especially enjoyable and engaged with questions that I have had about the present state of society, social relations, etc. This was my first introduction to argument reconstruction and other ways to build arguments on top of each other, which positively challenged my essay writing.
We reviewed political power theories in the past and analyzed arguments from several thinkers.
Understanding the social contract from the point of view of Locke, Hobbes, and Rousseau.
Writing better papers
The most important thing that I learned in this course is the understanding of societal power structures, the complexities of identity formation, and strategies for resistance against systemic inequalities. Through critical analysis, we learned to have awareness of social injustices, enhance research and analytical skills, and promote empathetic perspectives crucial for addressing societal challenges.

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

Comments
The class sessions themselves helped to further my understanding of the main ideas of the texts we read.
Discussions had most people participating and encouraged me to think about arguments
Discussions and reading were the only means for learning.
The discussions helped me get my points across.
Class discussions were especially stimulating and helped solidify my understanding by applying it to modern examples, that at times seemed quite distant without critical thought.
The lectures were basically discussions where we discussed the reading, assignments were discussion posts and essays to analyze ideas presented in the readings.
The readings were challenging but I walked away with a much better understanding of them after class.
Seminars were the best and areas where I most learned
Lectures provided theoretical frameworks and historical context on power dynamics and resistance movements. Discussions encouraged critical thinking by engaging with diverse perspectives and real-world examples, fostering a deeper understanding of complex social issues.

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.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
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.	4.36	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	35.71%	50.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	71.43%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.29	4.50	0.00%	7.14%	7.14%	35.71%	50.00%
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.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	35.71%	57.14%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
N/A

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	7.14%	92.86%
Anyone interested in the topic	7.14%	92.86%

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

Comments
How they would thoroughly discuss and explain the main definitions of the text that helped to fully understand the text.
Instructor asked the right questions to start discussions
Her background synopses of the authors or books that we were reading. Having context for the text helped to put things in perspective.
They facilitated the conversation.
Professor Martin's willingness to think through and consider the text with us was refreshing and extremely helpful. I never felt like there was a clear 'right' answer or way of approaching critical evaluations. Additionally, Professor Martin did not shut down any comments and really taught with students, instead of at students. She allowed student's understanding and interests to lead the discussion, as opposed to a rigid lesson plan, which I felt contributed to my genuine interest in the topics, as opposed to just being engaged with the discussion because it is a class.
She facilitated the in class discussion well, and provided feedback if asked.
Professor Martin was really good at explaining what the authors were arguing and getting us to think about those ideas more critically.
Her ability to interject when people were going off on a tangent
Dr. Martin was great, I'm super happy to have taken this class with her! It's clear she's genuinely interested in engaging with our ideas, and she was amazing at facilitating discussions—she would engage with and respond to our ideas charitably without letting the discussions get too off track. She always knew how to push the conversation forward in an interesting way and pushed us to understand the readings better in the process. Would highly, highly recommend taking a class with her!
The teacher allowed the students to do most of the speaking in class.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing
Nothing, I'm sure plenty of work has gone into these socs courses already
Discussions could have been more organized and more controlled.
They can help those that don't speak up much participate more.
I think some of the course expectations could be a bit clearer, because with such broad subjects it is sometimes hard to determine how to succeed.
Perhaps a bit more feedback on general assignments would be helpful.
I appreciated when she sent us questions to focus on during the reading so we knew what to look for.
provide more reasoning to the grading
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.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	50.00%	21.43%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	64.29%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	7.14%	0.00%	35.71%	57.14%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	57.14%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	57.14%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	21.43%	71.43%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	35.71%	57.14%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	64.29%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	57.14%	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
Elena Martin was the writing instructor and we didn't do much but the one exercise we did was sort of helpful.
TA/Writing Intern Elena Schafer's writing seminar was very helpful in identify how to structure our reconstruction before delving into the argumentation, the 'flesh' of the essay. It helped me move from simply summarizing the text to understanding what was actually being said and portraying that in my essay, paving the way for a more successful critical evaluation of the author's points.
Elena Schafer

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	3.75	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	25.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.75	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	25.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.33	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%	25.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	3.67	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	0.00%	25.00%
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	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	25.00%	25.00%	0.00%

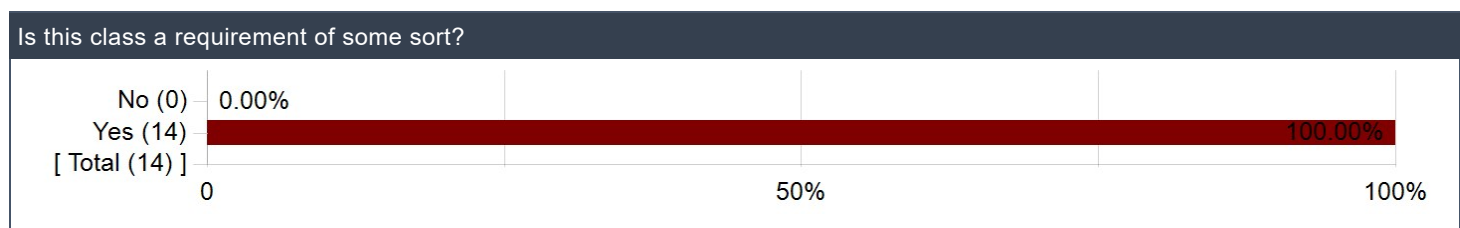
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.00	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	37.50%	37.50%	0.00%

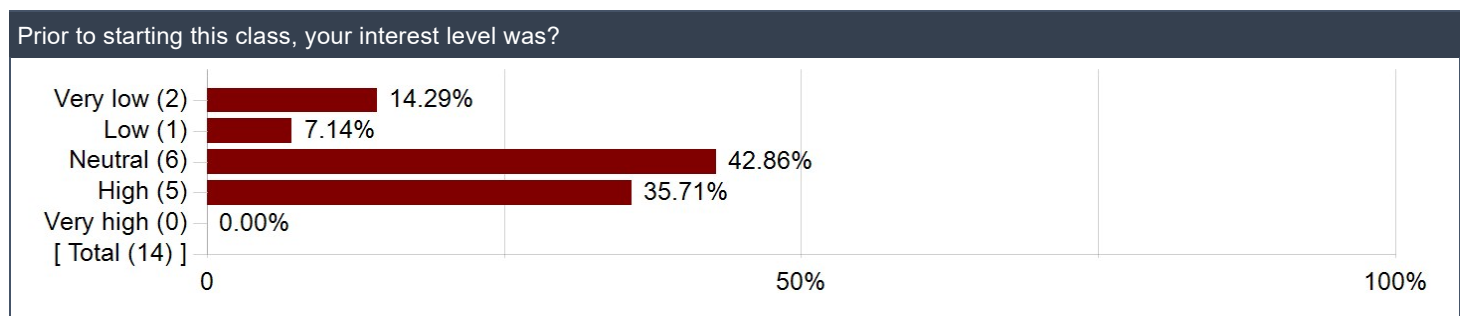
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
N/A

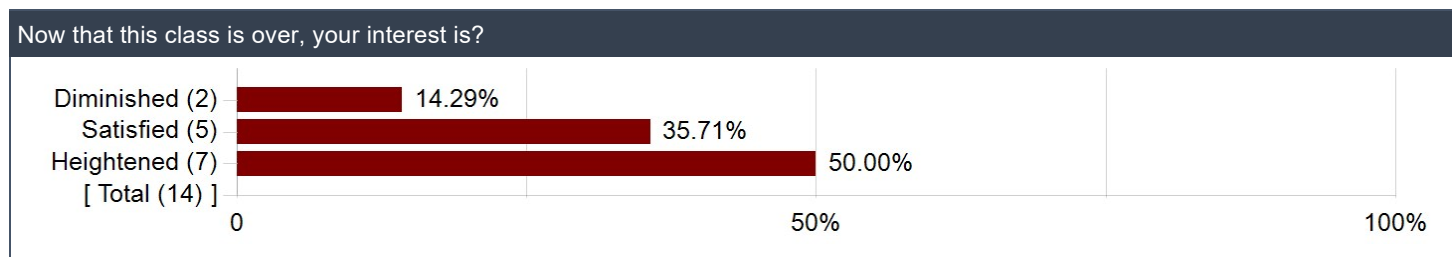
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



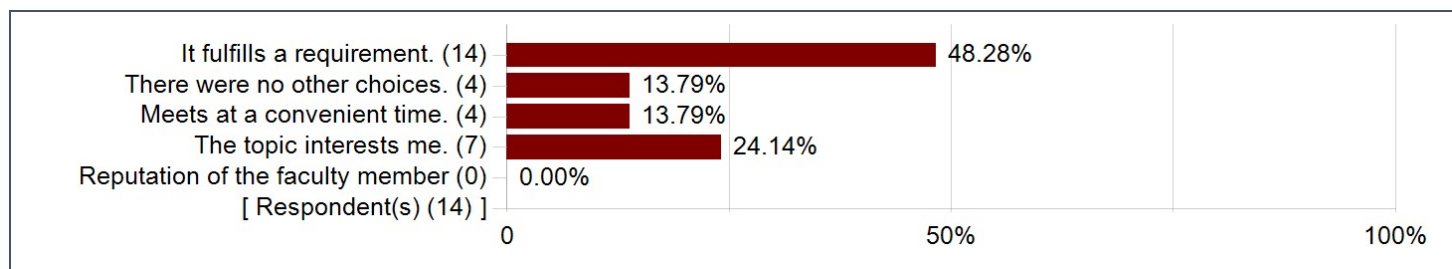
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



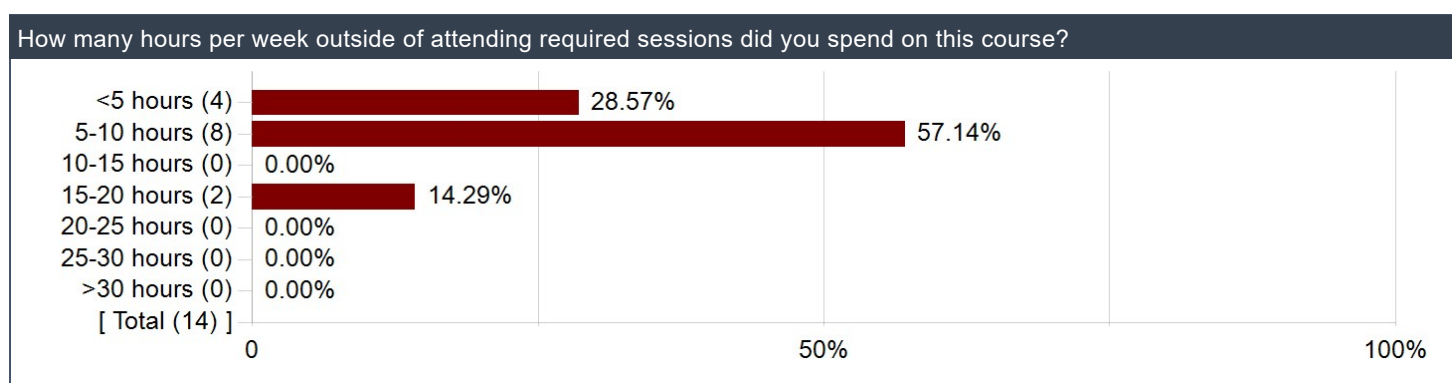
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



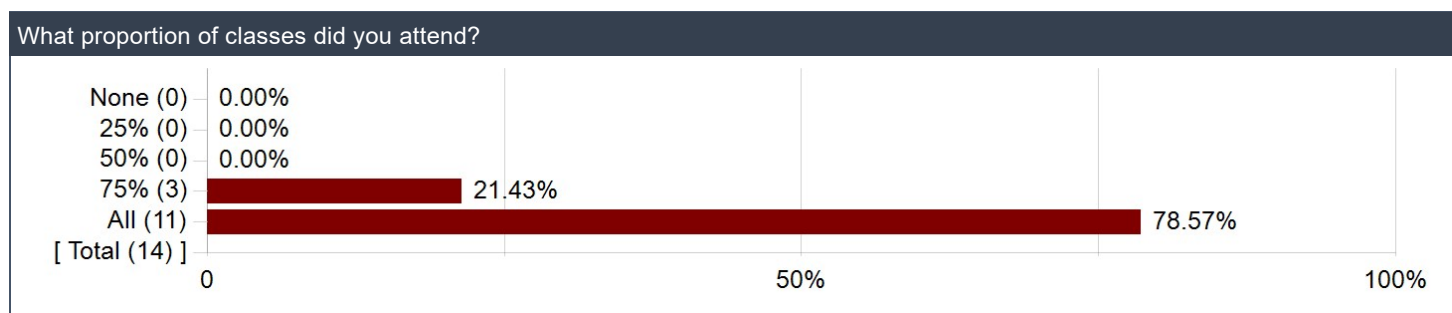
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Anyone with attended basic school should have no issue with taking this class.
Appropriate difficulty. Probably not the hardest SOSC.
It's SOSC so background doesn't make too much of a difference.
I had taken one brief dedicated social science course prior to this and found the level of difficulty to be manageable. Independent understanding from dense texts were sometimes challenging, but always addressed or clarified in some way by class discussions.
Seems like the standard difficulty level for a core class
The readings were challenging and long but if you put in the effort it paid off.
course was moderately difficult, I had taken hume before so it was manageable.