



HIST 13600 4 - America in World Civilization II - Instructor(s): James Vaughn

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

Number Enrolled: **21**

Number of Responses: **12**

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, March 28, 2024**

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

Comments
American history.
the history of America (focusing on slavery and buildup to the civil war) during the 19th century
19th century American history. How to analyze primary sources in depth, and how to use primary sources to learn about different developments in American history.
General American History from the ratification of the Constitution through the Gilded Age. There was particular focus on internal tensions within democracy and the role of individual rights within these tensions.
American history from 1800–1870s
The history of the 20th century in America, from Jefferson to the Gilded Age.
Major themes of change in America in the 1800s; politics, slavery, civil war, reconstruction
I learned how to properly contextualize the evidence in my essay to the corresponding historical timeline. I also worked on the structure of my essay and how to develop a sharp, concise thesis.
History of the United States and its impact of the modern US
Professor Vaughn is awesome. So engaging and helps you learn. Awesome professor

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

Comments
lectures were engaging and essays had clear expectations
Lectures were insightful and helpful in providing overall context for the primary sources.
Lectures were extremely well–run and helpful. I genuinely enjoyed all the reading assignments in this class.
Our discussion was basically a lecture on context for the readings for 60% of the class time which definitely helped when it came to writing essays and understanding why certain texts were written
Primary sources, synthesized through writing three essays, gave me a new perspective on 20th–century US. It's helpful to read these famous texts to decipher what they *really* say.
Discussions/lectures were wonderful. Prof. Vaughn had really detailed, thorough presentations about each topic, and was really great at leading discussions. We did have a bit of a time problem – we often spent too long talking about one source and so sometimes we didn't really have time to explore all of the readings we did.
Group discussions and Professor Vaughn's presentations on the topics were very insightful.
Lectures, discussions, and essays all contributed to a holistic understanding of US history
Lectures were exciting and I learned a lot

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	41.67%	41.67%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
It was difficult to keep up with readings since the reading list changed nearly every week.
American Civ II should be reorganized. There are too many disparate readings for each class period, which makes the discussion unfocused and prevents us from going in depth on any one topic (besides the Civil War, which is appropriately covered)
I wish there was a bit less reading. Though it was interesting, there was really a TON.
Thank you so much Professor Vaughn!

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
His slideshows.
Professor Vaughn cares a lot about his students and made sure we felt confident with the material
The instructor's lectures were helpful.
Professor Vaughn is a great lecturer and helps facilitate interesting seminar discussion.
Class lectures
Lecturing on context
Lectures are very useful for both synthesizing information and revealing new insights into the texts/era. Discussions are heavily facilitated to point us in a meaningful direction.
Lectures/slides, and discussions were both great. I really learned a lot from class time.
He had a lot of knowledge on the topic and was always eager to incorporate different primary sources into the conversation.
Lectures and Discussions

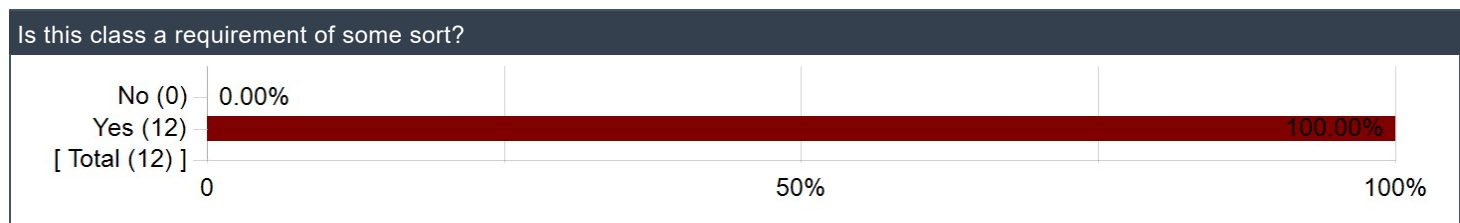
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
He often repeats content across lectures. That ought to be minimized going forward.
we fell behind on the reading frequently which made class discussions feel rushed occasionally
Decrease the amount of reading required for each session, to dig deeper into the importance of the most important readings.
Not his fault but there were too many readings so we fell behind
While Prof. Vaughn is a great lecturer, I felt that discussion would sometimes take a backseat to his lectures. The lectures would also sometimes be repetitive and almost always forced us to go over class time. However, it was lowkey not his fault because we had an extreme amount of readings to do which was out of his control. There definitely needs to be a better balance though
Less repetition would be good for allowing us to leave on time
N/A
N/A

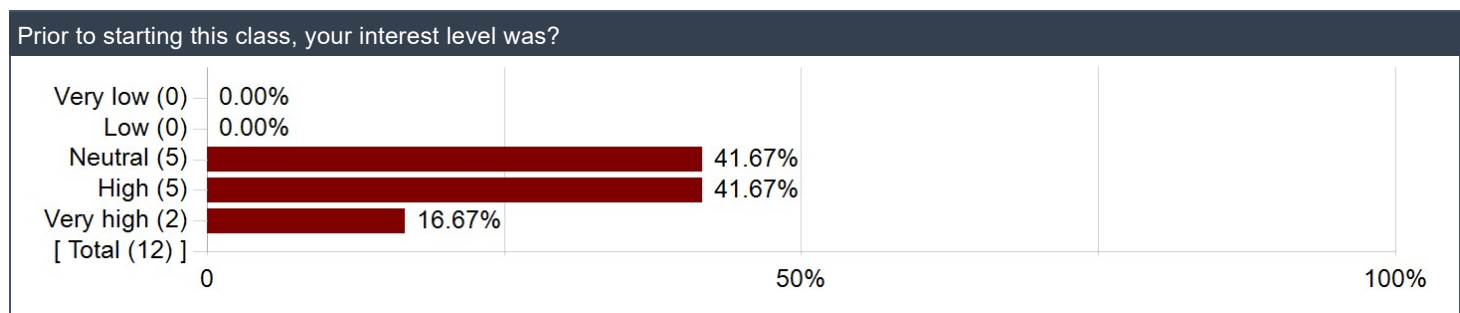
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	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.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%

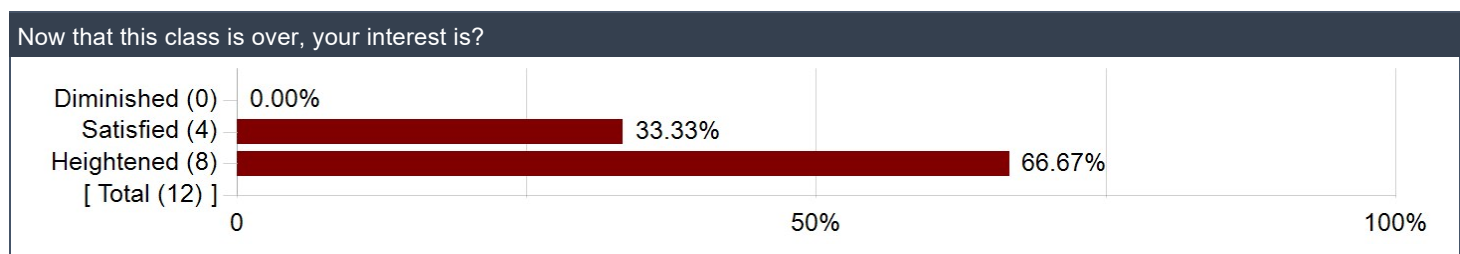
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



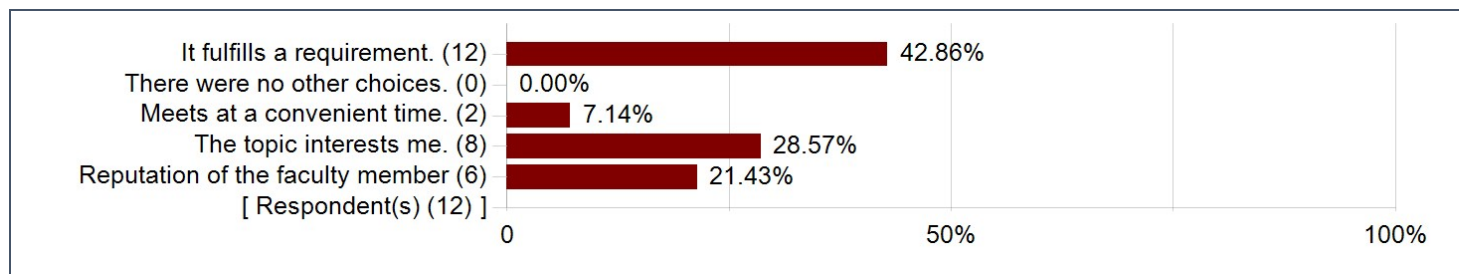
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



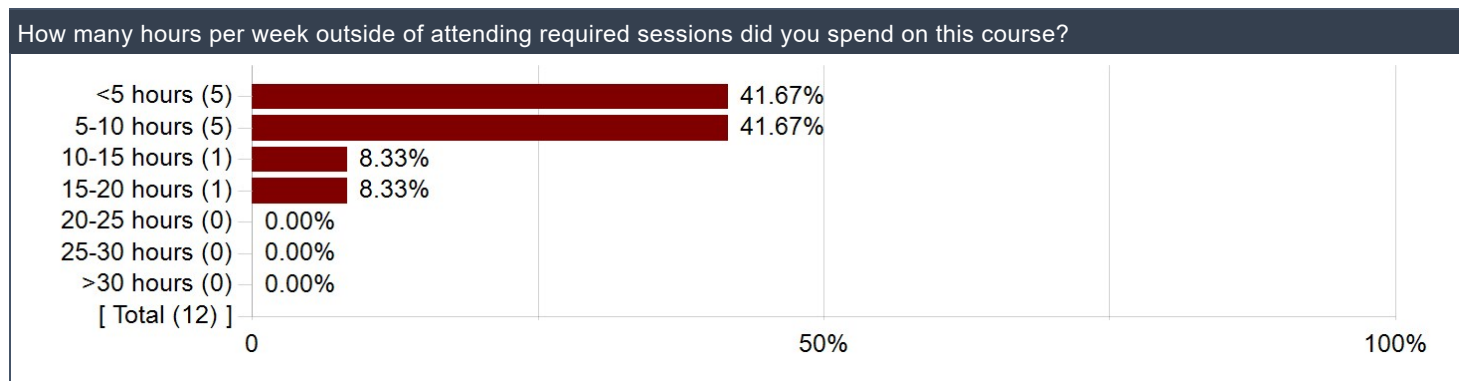
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



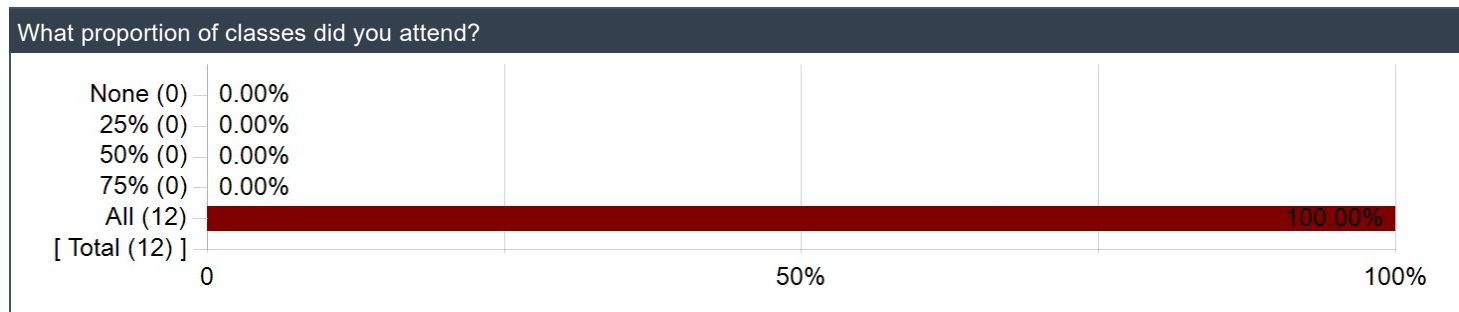
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
reasonable difficulty for civ
Standard difficulty for people with any background in American history.
I personally found things easy to follow as I have an interest in US history, but Prof. Vaughn makes sure to provide context for those that do not have that strong background
More difficult than American Civ I and III
Not super difficult at all, just very time consuming. As someone with no American history knowledge, I was not disadvantaged at all, since all of our papers/discussions revolved around primary sources which we read for class. There are also lots of extra opportunities to learn more – we had optional movie screenings, and the textbook was pretty good.
The course material was definantly dense but very interesting
Pay attention in class and you will be set up for success