

SOSC 15300 4 - Classics of Social and Political Thought III - Instructor(s) - William Levine

Project Title: College Course Feedback - Spring 2024

Number Enrolled: 19 Number of Responses: 6

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

I learned a lot about many great thinkers and how they think. I've also learned how to productively question their arguments and find significance in them.

- 1) Writing down your thoughts and working on them over time is more effective than always trying to write the "perfect" answer and not writing anything
- 2) Being able to differentiate the author's time period from yours helps prevent your own biases or judgements from changing your reading of the text

Learned a lot about philosophy, but also just about writing papers in the social sciences and thinking/reading critically about philosophical texts.

The texts covered included works by Tocqueville, Marx, Nietzsche, Bu Bois, Beauvoir, and Davis. The most common themes discussed included race, class, and gender.

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

Comments

Lectures are always phenomenal and enthusiastic.

Professor Levine's discussions on the material certainly gain a much greater understanding of our readings that I could otherwise achieve. Discussions were engaging, and continuously pushed us to learn.

talking through it in classes was very helpful.

Question assignments were useful markers to indicate potential essay topics, or to generally piece together the meaning of each chapter. Discussions led us to question our own judgements and that of the author's to figure out the relevancy of the work, which was especially important given how relatively recent these authors were.

The discussions, led by Professor Levine, were extremely helpful in working through the texts. It really felt like the class was cracking it together and revealing its workings and insights through the professor's direction.

The in–class discussions offered a time to talk about the texts. They were quite helpful in better understanding the topics of the works. The essay was a great way to relay engage with a singe writer and topic.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments

The reading were much too long.

N/A

I really loved it! One of my favorite course sequences I've taken so far.

Overall, this is an amazing course, and I would highly recommend taking this course with Professor Levine.

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

Lectures

How Professor Levine facilitated discussion to allow us to ask our own questions or give our own ideas, while furthermore having elements where he presented information or interpretations as well.

They were open to hearing different ideas and points of view and let the class lead.

The professor's feedback to our inquiries and essay were essential for grasping the purpose of certain works, especially since they were more familiar with them and thus knew the influence of their respective eras.

Professor Levine is a fantastic teacher, he created a very comfortable and engaging classroom environment. He led discussion very deftly, guiding us through the text in such a way that it felt like we came upon the more hidden points of the text very naturally. Classes always felt like they had an arc to them in the way that we untangled the ideas of the readings. I was always excited to come to this class. Professor Levine also gave very personalized attention to the academic progress of each of his students. He was incredibly supportive and really seemed passionate about teaching us, and his love for philosophy really infected me. One of the best teachers I've ever had.

By far the background information nd guided discussions were the best aspects of the instructors teaching.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments

Nothing, I couldn't be happier with this SOSC class.

Shorter readings

N/A

Nothing could have really been modified.

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.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%	16.67%
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.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	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.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	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

Justin was great and attentive. He really helped me re-evaluate how I write papers.

Justin Smolin; they provided useful criticism on essay structure and taught us potential essay strategies. No modifications on mind. Justin Smolin

The TA/CA or Intern...

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

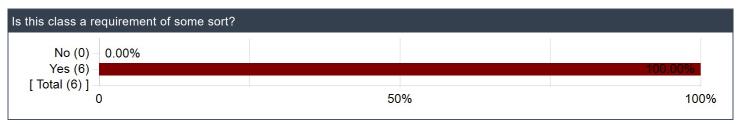
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.40	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	40.00%	0.00%

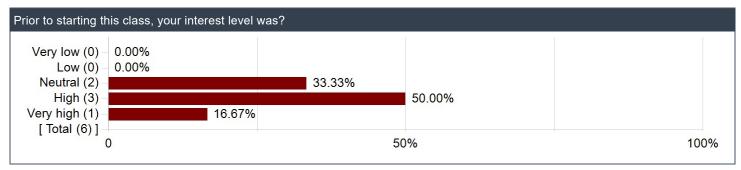
Other course elements not mentioned above:



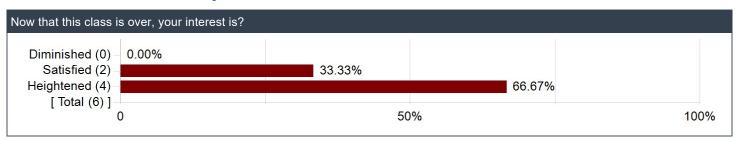
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



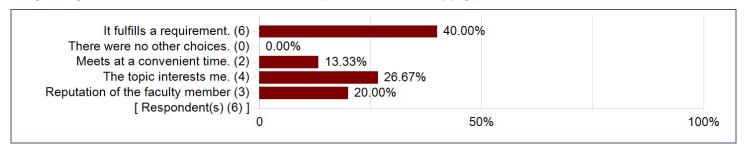
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



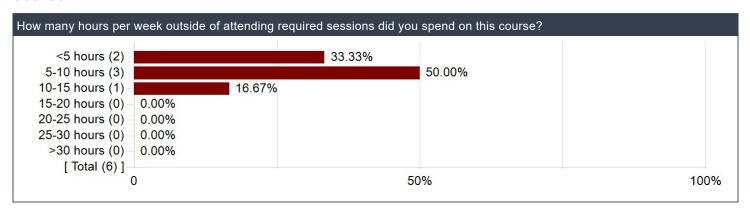
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



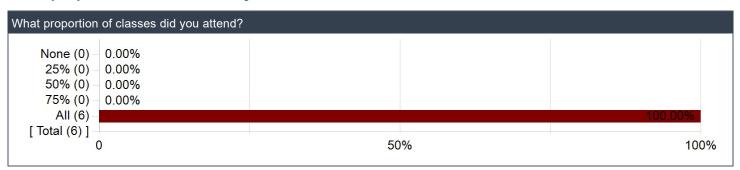
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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 challenging because I hadn't read these types of texts before but it was still doable

This was the third course in a sequence, so it was familiar and overall, not too difficult. However, writing a 7–9 page essay was a new challenge, though still manageable.

Challenging, but in a satisfying way.

Having taken the previous two courses in the sequence with Professor Levine, he did a great job of building off of the material form the previous courses.