SOSC 11400 12 - Power, Identity, Resistance I - Instructor(s): Benjamin Lessing, Isaac Hand

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

Number Enrolled: **14**
Number of Responses: **8**

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
Reading old English texts + Writing in a concise but deliberate style
The beginning of modern political thought, principle ideas to government formation
I learned how to write about political philosophy. Prior to this class, I didn't really have the necessary skills to discuss these political texts. However, now I feel like I can engage with these texts more effectively. I also think I just generally learned a lot about politics thanks to the texts we read in class.
Major thinkers in political theory
I learned how to construct arguments and read/understand dense political theory.

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

Comments
The essay assignments challenge you not only to closely link with texts, but to integrate your own ideas whilst not departing from the text itself.
Class discussions were usually engaging, and the amount of reading was not as bad as I was expecting it to be. Not too many writing assignments, and weekly discussion posts are more interesting than people just posting for credit since there isn't a word requirement. The writing assignments are unprompted so there's a learning curve to figuring out how you're going to structure your paper, but I feel like that's a valuable skill to learn for writing, academic or otherwise.
I learned the most from readings, although class discussions were just as helpful
The discussions were rather good in my opinion. They were well–led and engaged with the class effectively. I learned a lot by being forced to explain what I got out of the text and listening to my classmates opinions. I thought the assignments were fair. I was sort of unsure as to what the essays wanted out of me and thus didn't get as much out of the assignments as I could've.
Good lectutu res

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	3.57	4.00	0.00%	28.57%	0.00%	57.14%	14.29%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	2.43	2.00	14.29%	57.14%	0.00%	28.57%	0.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.86	4.00	14.29%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	42.86%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	57.14%	28.57%
My work was evaluated fairly.	3.29	3.00	14.29%	0.00%	42.86%	28.57%	14.29%
I felt respected in this class.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	71.43%	28.57%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	42.86%	42.86%

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	14.29%	85.71%

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

Comments
The emphasis on explaining everything clearly and to the point, so that there is better grasp of the text and less ambiguity
Ben often had very pointed questions to help us get to a certain understanding of what the author was saying, which led to engaging discussions in class and helped me understand the texts. We also did group work fairly often, which I think helped all of us improve our ability to interact with the texts without a professor railroading the discussions or only certain people participating.
Facilitating class discussions and offering historical background to enhance authors' arguments
The way my instructors ran discussions was effective. I enjoyed the discussions and felt like I learned a lot from them. Both professors were able to engage the class and posit ideas about the text effectively.
Dr. Lessing – great teacher, less systematic Dr. hand – more systematic and covered material covered, helpful for writing essays and general understandin g
Discussions helped me understand the texts better.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Be clearer on the style of writing, the expectation of assignments, etc
Focus less on smaller, individual readings towards the end of the quarter and more on longer texts to be read in parts
I feel like the essay assignment was a bit unclear, it wasn't particularly clear to me that no opinion should be involved. Also, the grading system was not made clear at the outset, which made me think I was not successful in the class for a bit.
Starting on time and getting to the assigned reading g
Having 2 instructors was a little confusing, because the feedback wasn't always perfectly aligned. Otherwise, I enjoyed their two teaching styles.
Be nicer and open–minded (not every answer has to be the exact word or phrase that you had in mind) ... tell us about how you like essays to be written before assigning the first essay (give us your sheet of rules before–hand)

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	3.71	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	57.14%	14.29%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.80	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	14.29%	28.57%	28.57%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	42.86%	42.86%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	3.57	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	42.86%	14.29%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	3.86	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	28.57%	28.57%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	3.71	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	57.14%	14.29%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.14	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	57.14%	28.57%	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.

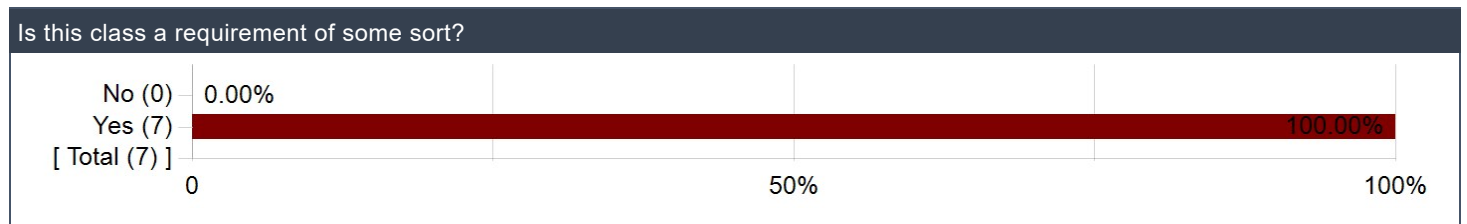| Comments |
| --- |
| Mia was really helpful with writing and providing assistance on assignments. |
| Isaac Hand + Mia Hand |

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

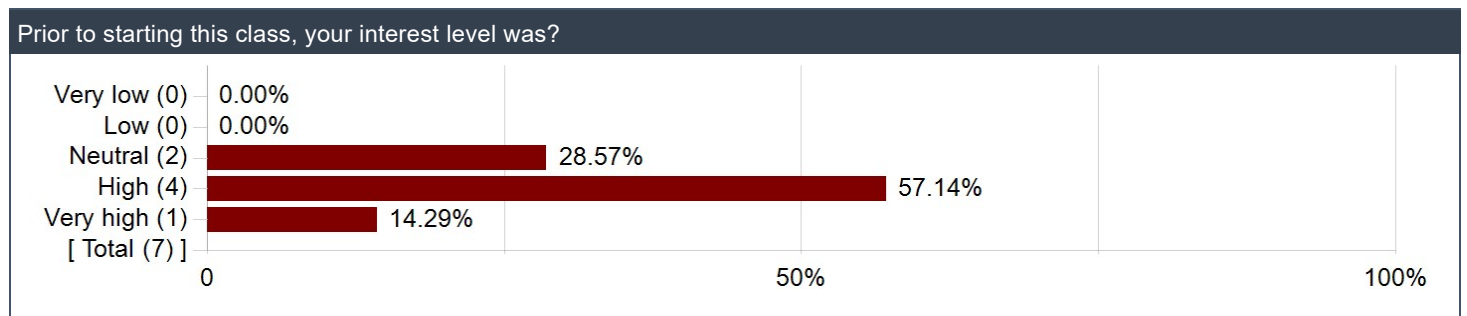|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	3.50	3.50	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.50	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	3.00	3.00	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	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.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	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	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	80.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	3.00	3.00	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	20.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

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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 (2)	28.57%
High (4)	57.14%
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 (1)	14.29%
Satisfied (1)	14.29%
Heightened (5)	71.43%
[Total (7)]	

0 — 50% — 100%
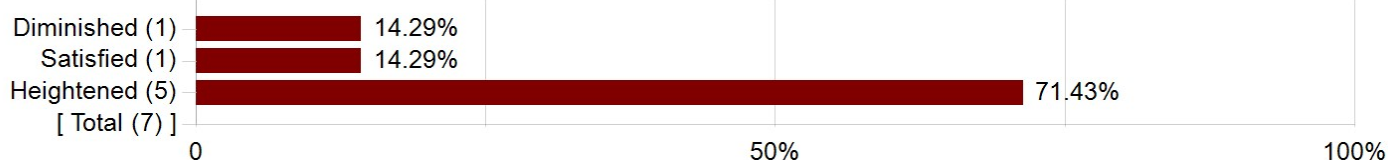
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
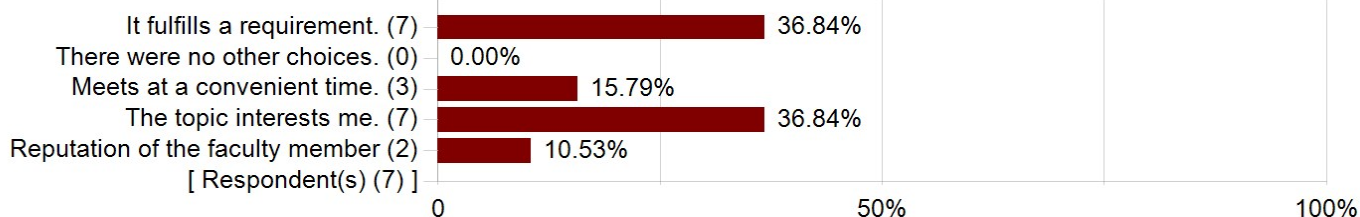
|	
It fulfills a requirement. (7)	36.84%
There were no other choices. (0)	0.00%
Meets at a convenient time. (3)	15.79%
The topic interests me. (7)	36.84%
Reputation of the faculty member (2)	10.53%
[Respondent(s) (7)]	

0 — 50% — 100%

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

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<5 hours (1)	14.29%
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 (1)	14.29%
[Total (7)]	

0 — 50% — 100%
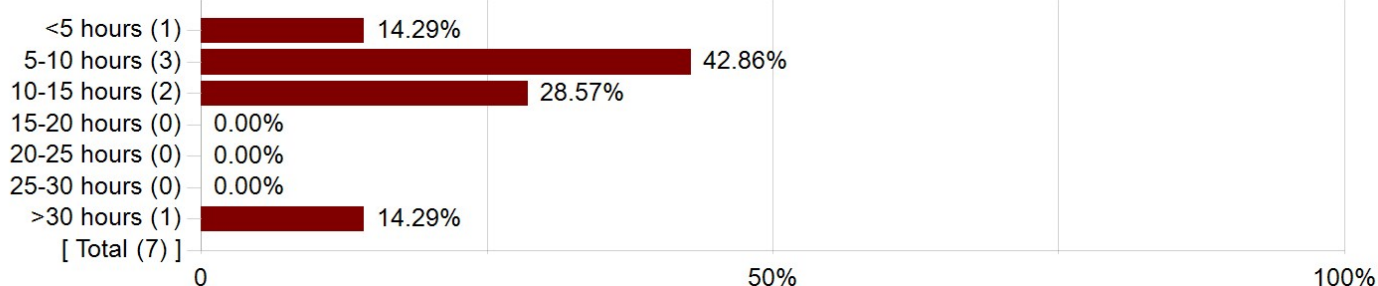
What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

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%
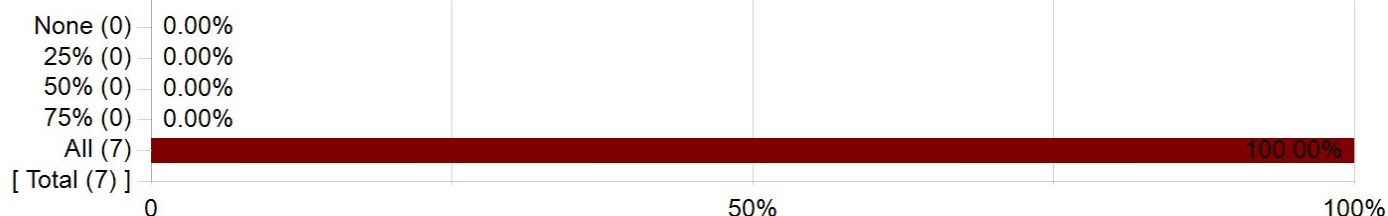
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
This course was a challenge because it expected a level and style of writing that I was not accustomed to
Some of the texts were difficult to read and understand but I felt like our class discussions helped a lot, so the writing style didn't feel like too much of a barrier to understanding the ideas of the text.
I'd say it wasn't particularly difficult.
Lots of work – especially Week 5–10