



SOSC 12400 16 - Self, Culture, and Society I - Instructor(s) - Omar Kutty

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

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **14**

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, January 31, 2025**

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

Comments
The course was excellent in terms of gaining knowledge, acquiring an ability to read and analyze books, and enhancing writing skills.
The literature of Marx, Smith, Fromm, Weber.
The different perspectives of mainly Adam Smith, Karl Marx, Max Weber and Erich Fromm
I learned a lot about economic theory and how different theorists conceptualized the world. Dr. Kutty did a great job of making topics which I was not interested in quite interesting. I learned much more than I could put in this text prompt.
political economy and theories. how to understand relatively more dense material discussing economies
I learned how to evaluate the arguments from the assigned readings critically and reflect on how those arguments affect my life.
marx's critiques of capitalism, protestant work ethic and ascetic rationality, psychosocial theories on the rise of authoritarianism
Economic concepts, how social evolves
Quickly understanding what the most important parts of texts are
social theory
The history and thoughts behind different social systems are explored through various lenses of great thinkers.
Insights about the Marxism and Capitalism. And the ability to read frequently.

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

Comments
Professor Omar's discussion in class helped us get a better understand of the topics and books we read before class.
Lectures were insightful. Readings were good too.
discussions
Dr. Kutty is a very compelling lecturer and the discussions he helped facilitate were very interesting. On one hand I wish there were more round table discussions, but on the other hand I really liked the discussions between Dr. Kutty and the other students of my class. Specifically, the group of exchange students from Cairo brought a ton to the class.
discussions were very enlightening. it was great getting to hear what everyone's interpretations were
The readings were interesting, and the assigned pages were done with care.
In terms of assignments, we had two papers in total for this course. I'm unsure as to whether this was enough practice to develop familiarity with writing, but it definitely decreased stress, and allowed students the opportunity to do paper rewrites without having to write multiple papers at the same time. Discussions helped build familiarity with the material, as Professor Kutty guided us through difficult topics.
Discussions
Discussions were great. The professor starts class with a few ideas he wants us to discuss on the board and while the conversation flows, we talk about all of them. It is really helpful to have an idea of what the end goal is and what he is looking to emphasize.
lectures taught what we read
The lectures opened the door from me to have a good command over the materials.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	21.43%	64.29%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	50.00%	42.86%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.79	3.50	0.00%	7.14%	42.86%	14.29%	35.71%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.21	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	21.43%	35.71%	42.86%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.93	4.00	0.00%	7.14%	21.43%	42.86%	28.57%
My work was evaluated fairly.	3.93	4.00	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	28.57%	35.71%
I felt respected in this class.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	21.43%	71.43%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	50.00%	42.86%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I don't really understand the title for this course. I really wish it more clearly articulated its purpose. For example, I wish the different quarters were named things like Economic Theory, Social Theory, or something else. To the question below about who I would recommend the course for, if the course were advertised as economics, then I would recommend it.
i really enjoyed this quarter and genuinely feel like i learned a lot of things i was not previously exposed to
Great course.
I did not expect this course to be heavy on economic theory, but the first parts of the quarter definitely were
Mr. Kutty is great. He is very respectful and open to everyone sharing their thoughts, but then contributes with his conclusions about the text which are always useful. He is very open to questions and just a great teacher in general! highly recommend.
The readings are too much, we can slow down a little bit.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	7.14%	92.86%
Anyone interested in the topic	21.43%	78.57%

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

Comments
The discussions in class and his explanation of ideas.
Lectures
discussions
Dr. Kutty just lectured in a very compelling way. His questions and thoughtful responses to students were very nice.
he would write down the agenda for each class and then allow us to talk about our thoughts first before going into talking about what the authors are actually saying
Assigning readings with content that is most applicable to the course.
Professor Kutty's guidance during discussions contributed most to my learning, as his direction emphasized which topics were more core to the readings being discussed
Discussions and office hours
He provided messages on canvas before every class which aided in understanding the text more fully, specifically what it was that he was looking for in our understanding. Mr. Kutty also starts class with key concepts he wants to touch upon which is great to have as a guideline during discussion.
explaining what we read bc it was complex
The conversations we had about each book.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Slow down the pace when it comes to the reading load. – Shed more light on the writing side in the class not just the reading part. – Devote a part of each lecture to talk about writing skills.
Be more elaborate in his explanations of the different concepts
I'm not sure what specifically he could do.
more comparison of different authors in class
N/A
Maybe articulate changes in the syllabus and assigned readings earlier in advance.
Professor Kutty could post his office hours for booking further in advance, as that would help us have time to plan and schedule accordingly
Maybe more specific feedback for previous paper
Nothing
shorter readings with more time to discuss
Devote a time in the class to learn us to write a decent Sosc paper

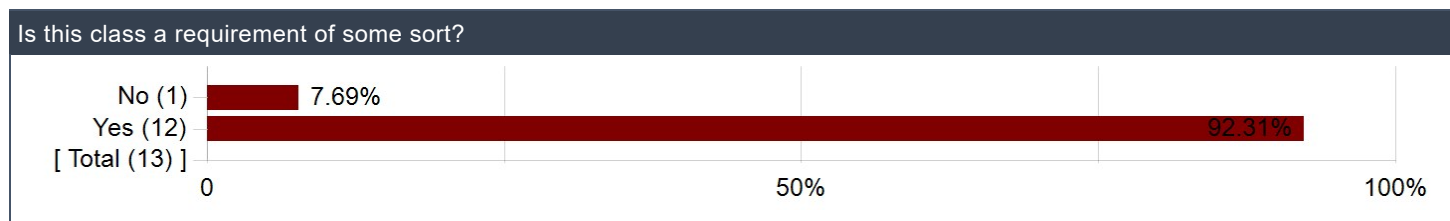
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.38	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	30.77%	53.85%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	46.15%	46.15%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	46.15%	46.15%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	53.85%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.46	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	35.71%	50.00%	7.14%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.43	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	53.85%	0.00%

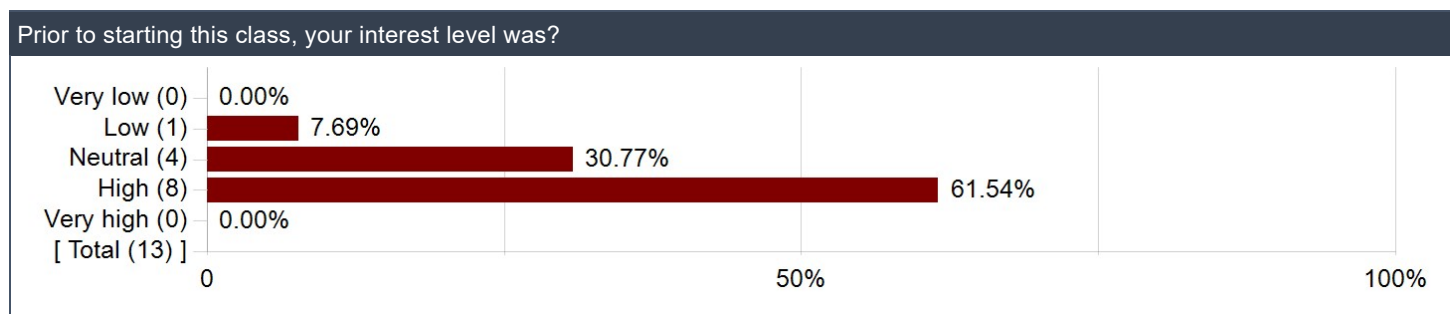
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Writing Seminars	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

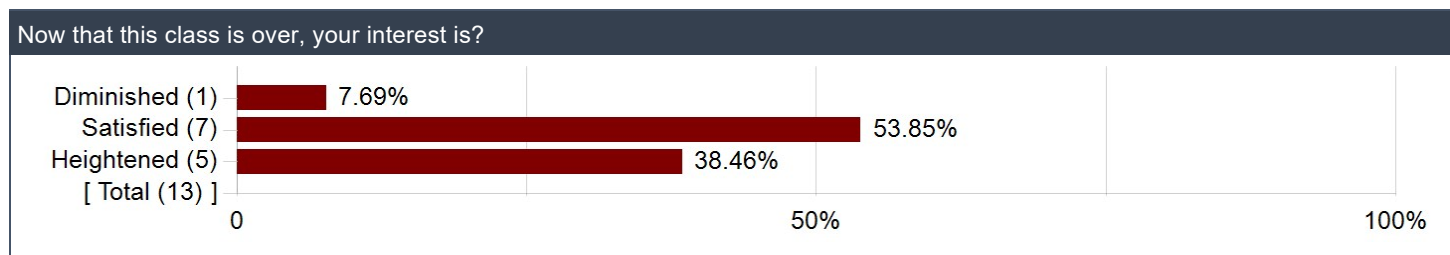
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



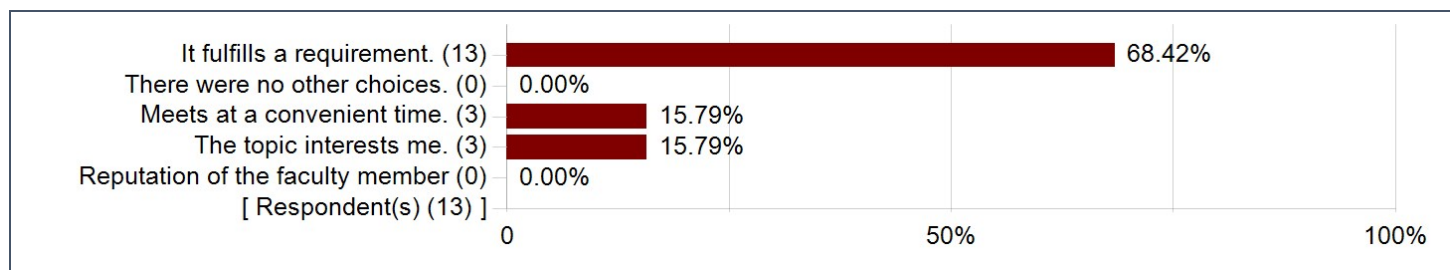
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



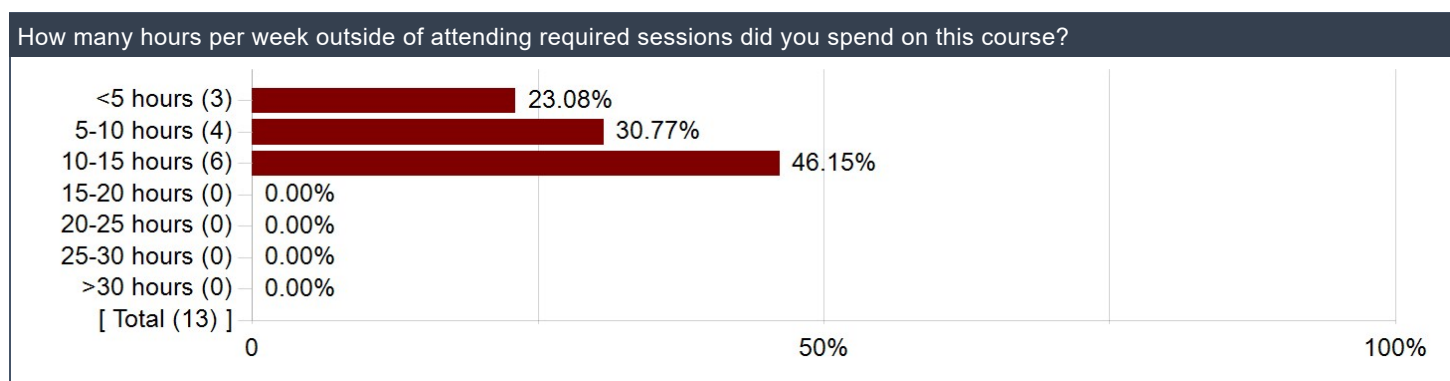
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



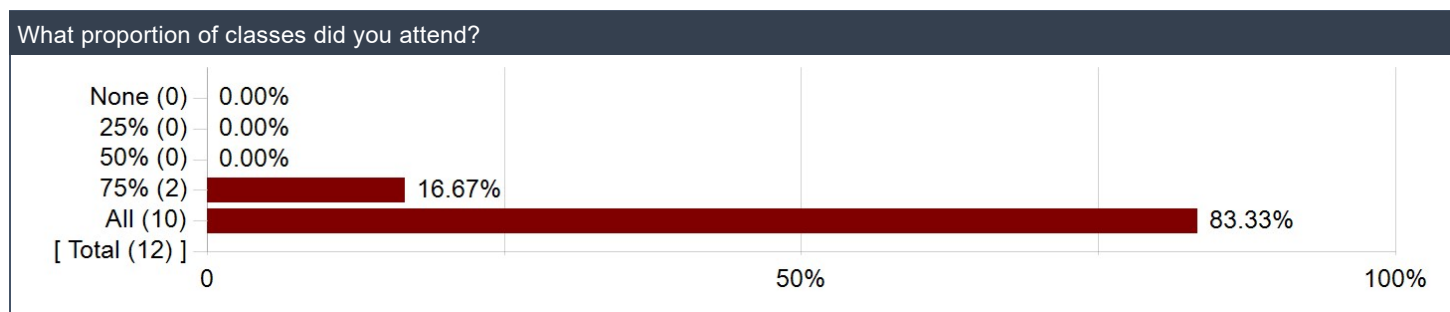
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
pretty difficult if you actually try.
It was an adequately difficult class. From my friends in other SOSC classes, the difficulty seems about average. It was not easy by any imagination but was always achievable.
its difficult because i was not exposed to content like this prior to the class but ive learned a lot
I took this course as a second year, so I had finished hume, and I had a good idea of what level of writing would be expected from us. Professor Kutty was supportive in developing everyone's skills, and explained key topics from readings during discussion; this made the material relatively easier to work through.
I think it's manageable.
this was not a hard course. There was a fair amount of reading but nothing crazy, especially because it was super interesting. We only had 2 essays in the whole quarter which is very manageable.
The writing skills