Colorado State University

Fall 2022, Political Science 69267 POLS624-Lecture Section 1

Instructor: Weitzel, Daniel (Primary)



There were: 5 possible respondents.

	Question Text	N	Agree	Not Agree	IDK			
1	Abide by the CSU Principles of Community	4	100% (4)	0% (0)	0% (0)			
			None	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100 %
2	Time allocated to discussion	4	0% (0)	25% (1)	0% (0)	50% (2)	0% (0)	25% (1)
3	Time allocated to online	4	0% (0)	50% (2)	50% (2)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)
4	Time allocated to projects	4	0% (0)	25% (1)	0% (0)	50% (2)	25% (1)	0% (0)
5	Time allocated to homework	4	0% (0)	25% (1)	25% (1)	25% (1)	25% (1)	0% (0)
6	Time allocated to activities/labs	4	25% (1)	50% (2)	25% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)
7	Time allocated to lectures	4	0% (0)	25% (1)	50% (2)	0% (0)	25% (1)	0% (0)
			Impact	No Impact				
8	Lectures	4	100% (4)	0% (0)				
9	Discussions	4	100% (4)	0% (0)				
10	Assignments	4	100% (4)	0% (0)				
11	Activities	4	100% (4)	0% (0)				
12	Labs	4	50% (2)	50% (2)				
13	Instructor	4	100% (4)	0% (0)				
14	Classmates	4	100% (4)	0% (0)				
			Not Stated	Low	Reason- able	High	V High	
					able	_		
15	Classmates/peer expectations for student to contribute	4	0% (0)	0% (0)	75% (3)	25% (1)	0% (0)	
15		4	0% (0) Not Enough	0% (0) Reasonable		25% (1) Over- whelming	0% (0)	
15 17		4	Not	Reason-	75% (3) Chall-	Over-	0% (0)	
	contribute		Not Enough	Reason- able	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
	contribute		Not Enough 0% (0)	Reason- able 100% (4) Not	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17	Course workload	4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength	Reason- able 100% (4) Not Strength	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17	Course workload Inclusive environment	4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4)	Reason- able 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0)	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17 19 20	Course workload Inclusive environment Clarity of expectations and grading	4 4 4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4) 100% (4)	Reason- able 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0) 0% (0)	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17 19 20 21	Course workload Inclusive environment Clarity of expectations and grading Timing of Feedback	4 4 4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4) 100% (4) 75% (3)	Reason- able 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0) 0% (0) 25% (1)	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17 19 20 21 22	Course workload Inclusive environment Clarity of expectations and grading Timing of Feedback Challenge of the course	4 4 4 4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4) 100% (4) 75% (3) 100% (4)	Reason- able 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0) 0% (0) 25% (1) 0% (0)	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17 19 20 21 22 23	Course workload Inclusive environment Clarity of expectations and grading Timing of Feedback Challenge of the course Accessibility and usefulness of materials	4 4 4 4 4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4) 100% (4) 75% (3) 100% (4) 100% (4)	Reason- able 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0) 0% (0) 25% (1) 0% (0) 0% (0)	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17 19 20 21 22 23 24	Course workload Inclusive environment Clarity of expectations and grading Timing of Feedback Challenge of the course Accessibility and usefulness of materials Instructor Communication	4 4 4 4 4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4)	Reason-able 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0) 0% (0) 25% (1) 0% (0) 0% (0) 0% (0)	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17 19 20 21 22 23 24	Course workload Inclusive environment Clarity of expectations and grading Timing of Feedback Challenge of the course Accessibility and usefulness of materials Instructor Communication	4 4 4 4 4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4)	Reason-able 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0) 25% (1) 0% (0) 0% (0) 0% (0) 0% (0) Do not	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	
17 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Course workload Inclusive environment Clarity of expectations and grading Timing of Feedback Challenge of the course Accessibility and usefulness of materials Instructor Communication Support from Instructor	4 4 4 4 4	Not Enough 0% (0) Strength 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4) 100% (4) Enhance	Reasonable 100% (4) Not Strength 0% (0) 25% (1) 0% (0) 0% (0) 0% (0) Do not Enhance	75% (3) Challenging	Over- whelming	0% (0)	

29	Challenge of the course	4	0% (0)	100% (4)				
30	Accessibility and usefulness of materials	4	25% (1)	75% (3)				
31	Instructor Communication	4	0% (0)	100% (4)				
32	Support from Instructor	4	0% (0)	100% (4)				
			No	Yes				
34	Student wishes to sign name to comments	4	50% (2)	50% (2)				
			Not Stated	Low	Reason- able	High	V High	
36	Instructor's expectations	4	0% (0)	0% (0)	75% (3)	25% (1)	0% (0)	
			None	Incon- sistent	Not Enough	Enough	Too Much	
38	Instructor feedback	4	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	100% (4)	0% (0)	
			Too Late	Timely	Incon- sistent			
40	Instructor feedback timely	4	0% (0)	100% (4)	0% (0)			

Instructor	Text Responses
	Question: Describe your classmates/peers expectations for you to contribute. Please include specifics. TEF domains - Student Motivation
	It was expected that we come to class each week, having read the readings so that we could meaningfully engage with the material in our discussion/lecture time. We also helped provide constructive feedback for each others final research design project presentations in our "mock conference"
	The expectation among we students was that everyone do the readings in order to come to class with the ability to converse about course content. There was also an expectation that folks be able to give one another constructive feedback vis-a-vis the course work we generated (papers, projects, etc). Im happy to say that both expectations were well-met.
	Dr. Weitzel makes the class environment friendly and encouraging so if I had a question or felt very lost my peers would encourage me and help me understand any concepts. Everyone was always willing to share their understanding of a concept and relate it back to our in class readings or notes which made it very helpful when learning this new material.
	Everyone is expected to contribute on a reasonable level. It is a comfortable discussion atmosphere and no one feels pressured to talk - but often everyone ends up contributing because of this welcoming environment.
	Question: Describe the workload. Please give specific examples. TEF domains - Student Motivation, Feedback and Assessment
	Weekly readings and assignments based on reading material. Research design project over the course of the semester, with each weeks learning material building on this effort. Engaging class discussions and lectures. Professionalization seminars each week, learning from dept. faculty about grad school dos and donts, how to navigate and prepare for the job market (academic, private sector, and jobs in government), and how to participate in conferences - I found this particularly useful. Final research design project presentation - mock conference style - This was a fun and interactive way to put all our efforts from the semester into action and demonstrate how we absorbed the material from the entire course.
	The workload was absolutely reasonable for a graduate-level class. I very much appreciated the way in which the work we did over the year culminated into our final research design project, and how Daniel encouraged us to gear that project towards our ultimate academic aims in grad school on the whole.

I dont believe that at any point I felt overwhelmed with the assignments. I actually wish another class I took was organized like this one. To start off the syllabus was truly one of the best ones I have seen! the detail and expectations are clearly lined out and any questions I had Dr. Weitzel would answer in class as he would give us a recap of what was expected for the following week. This syllabus was divided by weeks with clear instructions and standards which made it easy for me to plan and organize.

There was often weekly assignments and readings, all of which were reasonably assigned. The workload was never too much and always applicable. The readings, however, were sometimes difficult to understand. Professor did a great job explaining them once in class.

Question: If you have any other comments about the learning environment or course, please provide them here

These were acknowledged by Dr. Weitzel as being learning curves for him as well, but just to clarify my survey answers above; Feedback timing on assignments could be a bit more prompt, however, his door was always open during office hours and I would obtain most of my feedback and have questions answered in that space when I visited. I also think a good deal of the more stats based readings were a over my head even having taken a basics stats course in undergrad. I think, as Dr. Weitzel suggested, this course should be taken in conjunction with a stats course, to help bridge the gap on these more difficult readings. Everything would become MUCH clearer though once we engaged in lecture and discussion on the material each week. Lastly, some of the assignment instructions were a bit vague, and while this would tick up a bit of anxiety sometimes, I would just chat with him about them and always feel much better afterwards, and at the end came to appreciate the sort of "open to interpretation" prompt style and more "low-stakes" assignments as they helped me have some freedom with the material and how I engaged with it. Overall it felt as though he really just wanted to see that we were attempting to apply what wed learn and didnt expect us to be a novel genius with each assignment, and that was a refreshing feeling, considering this was my first semester in grad school and I was very nervous going in.

The learning environment was stellar - Daniel is an engaging and enthusiastic instructor who is easily approachable and more than willing, if not eager, to help students learn. The only thing I would say is that it was unclear what the expectations were for some assignments in term of what all they entailed and how to structure the work we submitted. On the other hand, this is more reflective of real-world work environments (offices dont typically hand out rubrics in my experience), and is perhaps a better style in terms of preparing students for professional life after school.

Although we did not receive our grades for our assignments Dr.Weitzel gave use clear feedback within a reasonable amount of time. I actually liked this approach as I had another class where the instructor did not grade or give me feedback within a month. Dr.Weitzels approach in giving feedback instead of grades actually takes off the pressure for a grad student and allows for us to focus more on the project itself.

Excellent learning environment! Everyone felt comfortable speaking and asking questions and I think that is a large testament to the ability of the professor. He was always very kind in his responses, always validated your question and made the answer clear. Class in general was always very fun and interesting.

Question: How could the timing of the feedback be improved? What might that look like? Please be specific in your comments. TEF Domains - Feedback and Assessment

Again, I feel that having office hours was really a great way to have feedback, so maybe just a confirmation that assignments were received and that no news is good news, and if there was something wrong or misunderstood we could just chat about it in OH. He is already addressing this though, for next semester, in how he plans to utilize Canvas more in that respect.

Assignments could have gotten handed back in a more timely fashion. This didnt bother me personally but Im certain that some students, and especially undergrads, might be perturbed by not knowing how they did on an assignment until a good while after its submission.

I always received feedback within days or would stop by office hours if I needed clarity on a certain question. I do not see how the feedback can be improved as Dr.Weitzel made it easy to reach out (via email, after class, or during office hours)

I enjoyed office hours but didnt realize until the end of the semester that we were supposed to go to them in order to get feedback on assignments. I just assumed the professor would send the assignments back to us with feedback on his own time. Nothing wrong on the part of the professor - just some miscommunication.

Question: Describe the instructors expectations. Please include specifics. TEF Domains - Curriculum/Curricular Alignment

He expected we be professional, but allowed for a very friendly and approachable learning environment. He also expected that we give our best to assignments and to ask questions, should we have them, on any course material or Weitzel assignments. These are extremely reasonable expectations, and I felt he was very approachable and supportive throughout the entire course. Weitzel Completely reasonable expectations for a graduate level course. Although I did state this class was reasonable and doable. I actually pushed myself a lot in this class because I wanted to produce good work for this class. I could tell that he had put a lot of thought into the material, discussions Weitzel and also our feedback! I can say for most of the students in this class we actually wanted to produce the best work possible because we didnt want to let the professor down. Daniels expectations were always very reasonable. Assignments were all laid out at the beginning of the semester so Weitzel you knew what was due when and expectations for these made clear. When something external did come up, he was always willing to accommodate. Question: How could the amount of feedback be improved? What might that look like? Please provide details, tip: it may help to put the amount of feedback in context with how much work you submitted to get that feedback. TEF Domains - Feedback and Assessment See above sections. Weitzel Some students might appreciate more written feedback, but my experience was that if I went and talked with Daniel about any work I was hoping to get his thoughts on it was a more in-depth and more meaningful experience than Weitzel written comments ever could have bee. Being a grad student the professors feedback in this class was very useful as my goal is to further develop the final Weitzel assignment by gathering data. Feedback for each assignment could be improved but overall feedback that was given was great. It was always Weitzel helpful and encouraging. Timing of feedback was just a miscommunication. Question: If you have any other comments about the Instructor, please provide them here This class was the class I looked forward to every week. I learned so much, and took a lot away from every aspect of the course. I thought the professionalization seminars he provided were such a treat, and gained an enormous amount information and know-how from each of the faculty that came to speak with us each week. This also gave us an opportunity to engage with so many faculty members in a meaningful way to see a bit more of their style and personality in a very relaxed environment and that was like gold in this first semester when were trying to learn who everyone is and who we could potentially work with during the course of the grad program. Dr. Weitzel (We all call him Daniel) did an outstanding job of facilitating an inclusive, fun, and relaxed learning environment for us all. I found myself laughing and enjoying lecture SO often and the three hours would fly by each week, where as in my other grad level class, with the same time frame, I would be in literal pain wishing the time would go by faster. This Weitzel class truly refreshed me each week, and helped warm me up to grad school in general. I was nervous coming in, that maybe there was a mistake in my being here. But this class, and Dr. Weitzels teaching style, helped me realize that I have what it takes to be here, and wouldn't be here otherwise. Lastly, the mock conference and freedom to choose how we developed our research design project, with guidance from him of course, made this course so exciting and I felt I was able to learn SO much about what wakes me up in the morning thinking, specifically migrant farm workers in the U.S., primarily from Mexico, and the current legislation that exists and is under utilized, and legislation that is proposed, as well as how we as a country could improve said legislation to promote justice to this vulnerable and essential population. I feel like this alone made me want to work on my project ALL the time and I was saddened when my other work would cut into that time. Nothing but good things to say about this course and professor! Stellar work, Dr. Weitzel!! Thank you! Daniel is a fantastic and knowledgable instructor and his passion for teaching and commitment to his students is clear. As mentioned, the only things I can really see people taking issue with are the timing and length of written Weitzel

feedback as well as uncertainty regarding assignment expectations. On the whole though, the course was a highly

enriching experience and he was a pleasure to learn from.

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Dr.Weitzel I hope can be used as an example for other professors in terms of what students would like to see in the class. For example I am an audio learner I do not have accommodations but currently that is the best method for me to learn. This class had all accessible materials meaning that I could learn with no obstacles. In comparison with another class where the professor told me to figure it out which wasnt nice considering the library does not have access to these articles and books. A second point I would like to mention is that this class really rewarded students for doing the work and putting the time into the project/ assignments. I could really tell the difference of those wanting to learn and those not really caring. This class and its assignments are all worth the time and effort if a student is willing to do the work. Lastly, I appreciated how Dr.Weitzel made us all feel smart even if we were asking simple questions. At times when other students or I would forget a concept he was always helpful and understanding. This made my anxiety go away of asking questions.

Instructor was wonderful and perfectly suited for this class. It was clear he is extremely knowledgeable about what he is teaching, and he was also able to explain these topics in a way that was easily understandable. I think this is a

Weitzel

he is teaching, and he was also able to explain these topics in a way that was easily understandable. I think this is a rare trait - I find many professors that are this knowledgeable about a subject have a hard time communicating information to students in a way that is still understandable. Daniel was excellent at this - it really made every class fun as well. I genuinely looked forward to attending every class.

Question: You chose to sign this evaluation, Please type your name in the box below.

LeAnna Warren