



SOSC 11600 15 - Power, Identity, Resistance -3 - Instructor(s) Nicole Whalen

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Spring 2021**

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **11**

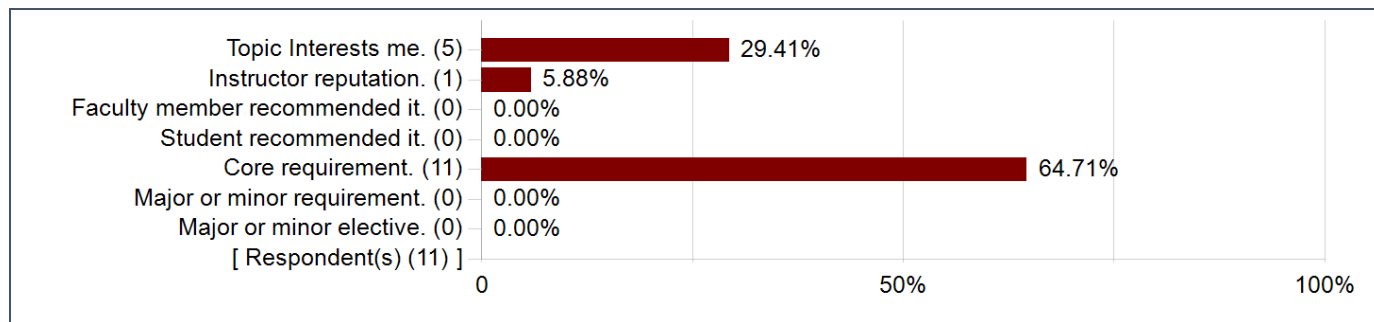
Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

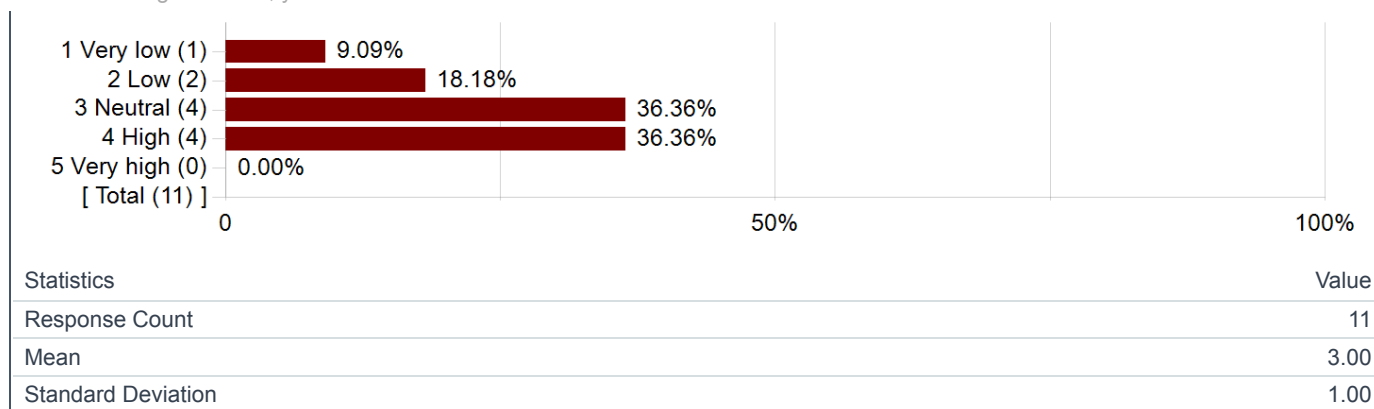
Creation Date: **Monday, June 28, 2021**



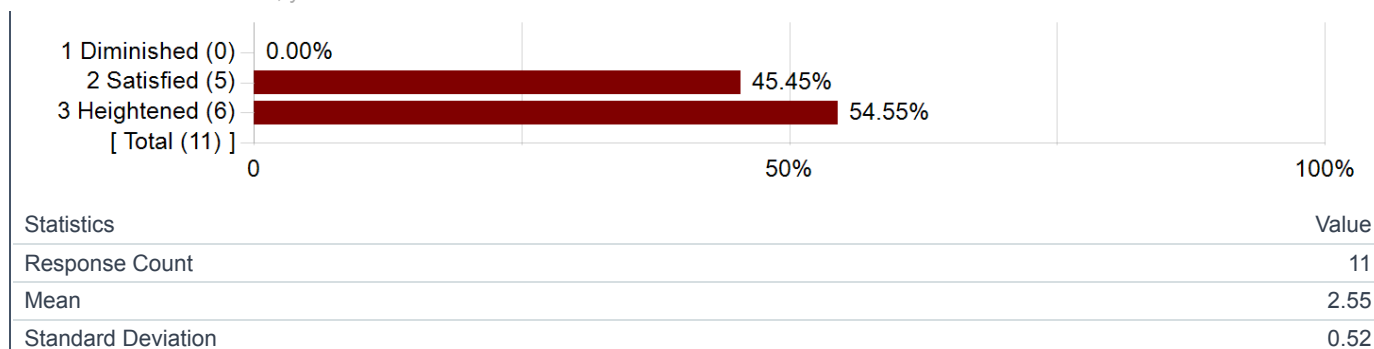
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?



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

Comments
I learned more about critically approaching celebrated authors
topics included imperialism, racism, sexism, antisemitism.
I learned about political economy, systems of power, and how they interact.
I learned how to think about and analyze the systems of power that govern us. This included understanding different political, economic, and social systems.
Lots of important thinkers (Marx, Locke, Rousseau, Smith, de Beauvoir etc)
equality and why different groups are marginalized
The liberal political tradition, alternative economic structures, critiques and defenses of capitalism through a variety of lenses
I think I learned how to write a decent social science style paper. Along with that, I feel more enriched after reading about capitalism, social contract theory, feminism, etc.
I feel like I got a good foundation in classical political theory. I also think my writing skills improved, and I definitely became more confident participating in class.
I learned a lot about political and economic philosophies, as well as various evaluations of society and how we should structure it. I also greatly improved my writing skills.

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

Comments
taught me how to think critically and construct arguments.
Discussions and readings were most helpful
Discussions were where most of my learning happened. I would be able to dig one step deeper during papers.
classes were very helpful
discussion was very helpful
Live class discussions were helpful and group work offered a nice break from lecture and opportunity to discuss more deeply
Discussions really helped because Professor Whalen was good at echoing what we read in a manner that was enlightening, and helped correct misconceptions in the read if there were any. Small discussion groups were also helpful for close discussions with our classmates, and it was insightful to see how they interpreted the same reading.
The in-class discussions were always very helpful, and I think the discussion posts were a good way to consolidate our thoughts about the reading.
Class was mainly discussion, which helped us understand the more difficult aspects of the text and develop ideas about them.

The Instructor(s) . . .

	Mean	Median	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses
Provided a syllabus that allowed you to plan your learning and study time effectively.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	10
Explained clearly the course objectives and expectations.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	80.00%	10
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	70.00%	10
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%	9
Overall, the instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%	9

What aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Prof Whalen is very engaging and keeps the class focused on the text more than other Power professors I've had this year. She creates an incredibly welcoming environment which is difficult to achieve on zoom. Great professor.
Professor Whalen is likely the best instructor I've ever had. I didn't take PIR I or II with her and I really wish I had. She encourages everyone to ask important questions about the text while also providing guidance which deeply enhanced my understanding of each author's argument. She also noted which sections of the reading were most essential, which was helpful once the readings got longer (100+ pages). Her ability to connect to and relate with students created a welcoming environment which encouraged dialogue among all students. Her own thoughts were honest and compelling.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Great balance of stepping in to guide discussion while letting the students do most of the talking -Created a very comfortable class environment -Was able to explain really complicated topics in more simple terms while not losing nuance -Really helpful when discussing paper ideas 1 on 1
Professor Whalen led a great class that balanced well her instruction on the texts and student discussion. Despite being on Zoom, there was lots of participation and I feel like class both really helped enthusiasm for and understanding of the texts.
Prof was really good at explaining concepts and creating an environment where we all felt comfortable speaking even if we weren't the best speakers. she helped us parse through the readings and gave us guidance on our essays to become better writers
Prof. Whalen always seemed very prepared for class. She was also very willing to make adjustments to her teaching style or the syllabus to meet student needs. She clearly knew the material very well, especially the second-quarter content, and she was able to provide contemporary context for a lot of the things we were learning.
Definitely her willingness to go over any spots of confusion. It helped me understand some difficult reading that I would have been intimidated to ask about otherwise.
Professor Whalen did a great job leading discussions— I think she contributed just the right amount, guiding the conversation without interrupting students' comments. She was also always helpful outside of class, frequently meeting with me to discuss my essay theses. Overall she did a great job and definitely shaped the great experience I had in PIR!
Professor Whalen was very good at explaining the more difficult concepts, and putting them in the larger context of the work.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
n/a
I wish she would have had more of the Zoom student hours. They were great.
Nothing
Nothing, as good as it could have ever been remotely.
Prof was a little biased during class and we could see her political leanings very clearly. i get that this quarter was very personal but some neutrality would have been appreciated, also modifying the syllabus would have been nice, the readings were very long and since it was prof first time she wasn't sure what she could cut out but haveign so much reading made it hard to do any of it well, but i recognize that as a first year teacher this is near impossible but maybe moving foward
N/A
She already changed the presentation format in a way that is more flexible, so I would just say to keep it the way it was in the spring quarter.
I think towards the end of spring quarter we stopped meeting in small groups as often, which was often due to the presentations. I would have maybe liked to keep up these small group meetings more consistently as I found them to be very helpful for my understanding of the material.
Very occasionally the discussion could stall on a particular topic, and the instructor could do a little more to move on to a new part of the reading.

Remote Course Questions

How effective were the different modes of remote teaching in this course?

	Mean	Median	N/A	Very Ineffective	Ineffective	Neutral	Effective	Very Effective	Total Responses
Synchronous Lectures	4.71	5.00	22.22%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	55.56%	9
Asynchronous (prerecorded) Lectures	N/A	N/A	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9
Large Discussions (everyone in the class)	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%	10
Small Discussions (zoom breakout rooms)	4.40	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	40.00%	10
Short Quizzes	N/A	N/A	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9
Laboratories	N/A	N/A	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9
Timed Exams	N/A	N/A	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9
Written Work (take home exams, papers, problem sets, etc.)	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	50.00%	10
Scheduled Faculty Office Hours	4.29	4.00	22.22%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	33.33%	9
Scheduled TA Office Hours	N/A	N/A	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9

Please elaborate on the above.

Comments
A good balance between the occasional breakout room discussion and larger group discussions. Zoom managed well.
Essays really helped me flush out ideas and meeting with prof was helpful to do that
I think personally that small discussions and large discussions were the most helpful to me. I can't speak much on office hours because I didn't really attend, but I do know our professor made herself very available.
The class sessions were our main form of instruction, and they were definitely helpful and a good way to go over the reading. I also liked the discussion posts as a way to process the reading before class.
Discussions were largely effective in helping me understand/examine the material, and office hours were extremely useful for asking more specific questions for papers or other assignments.

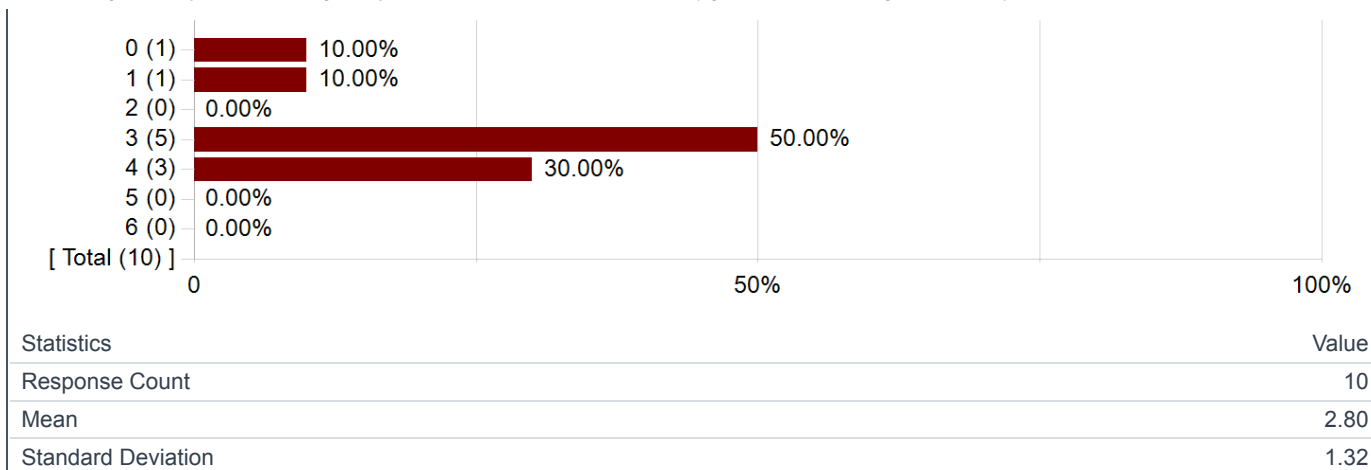
Did the instructor make adjustments to the course mid-quarter? If so, please comment on the effectiveness of those adjustments.

Comments
We switched to student presentations second quarter and continued through to third quarter. These were super helpful and they stimulated some really interesting conversation.
Yes, in certain grading. I do know she increased the weight of participation over time. I personally didn't really participate that much because I get anxious talking, but I understand why she did it. I did feel a certain pressure to talk more in class, but I'm not sure that what I said was meaningful because I just wanted to get some words in.
No, not that I can think of.
NA

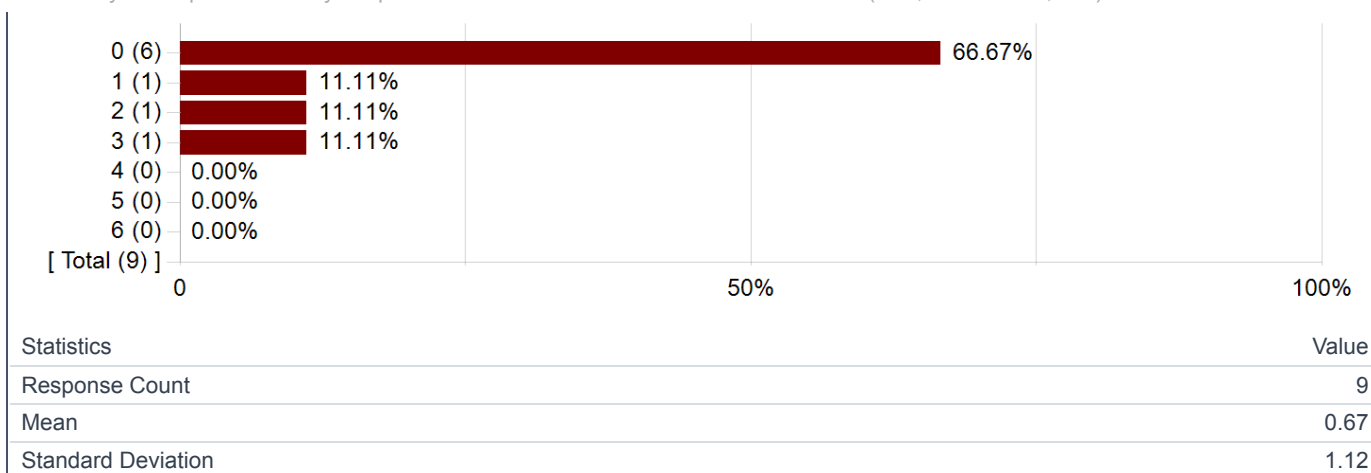
Please describe any element of this course, including specific actions by the instructor, that improved your remote learning experience.

Comments
-She was really good at creating a welcoming environment over zoom which is quite rare.
I enjoyed that she posted questions for small group discussions beforehand. Since there is so much reading to get through, it helped that we were given certain chapters to focus on, and then come back together for larger discussion.
Professor Whalen did a great job being available to students outside of class, which I found to be helpful when working on essays. I also found her to be very understanding about occasional late work which was helpful given that the year was fairly chaotic.

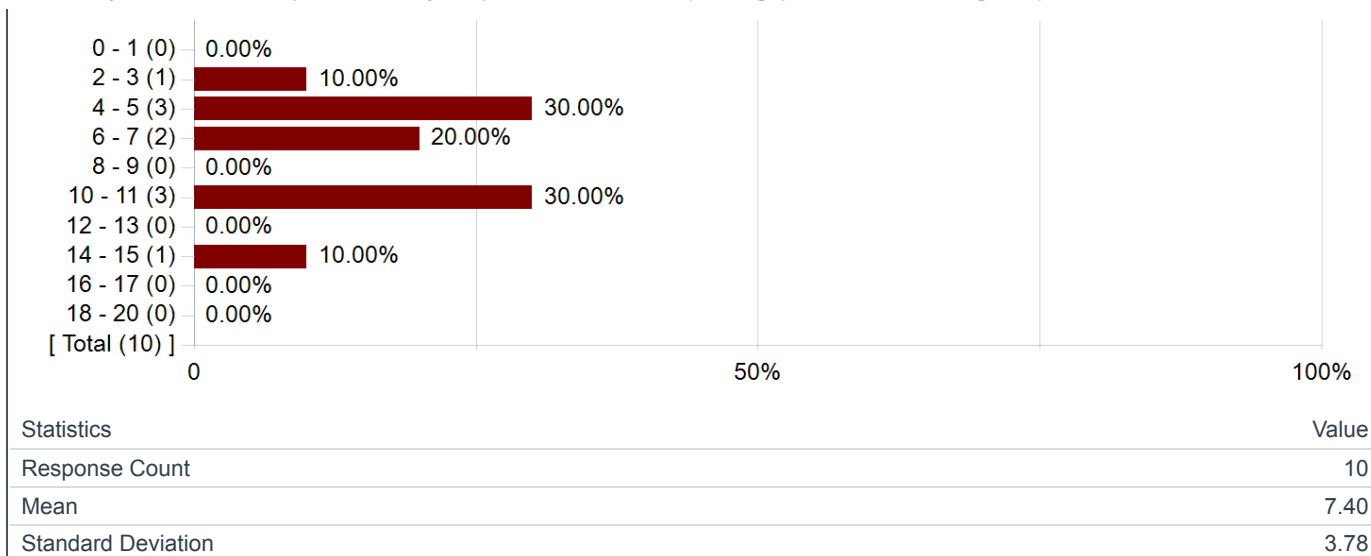
How many hours per week did you spend in lectures for this course (synchronous or asynchronous)?



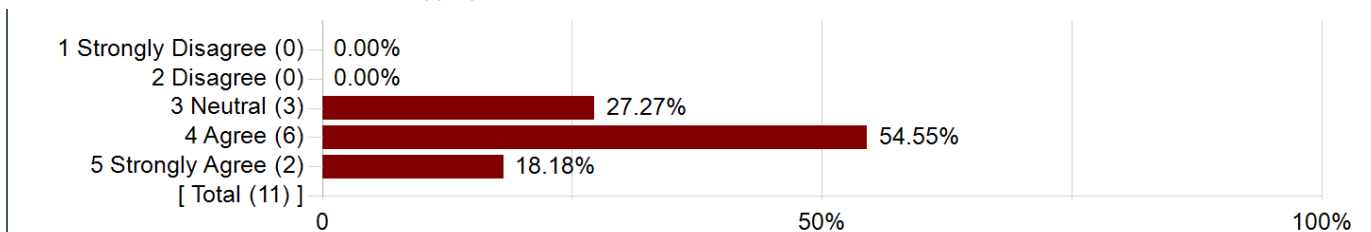
How many hours per week did you spend in other scheduled activities for this course (labs, discussions, etc.)?



How many additional hours per week did you spend on this course (reading, problem sets, writing, etc.)?

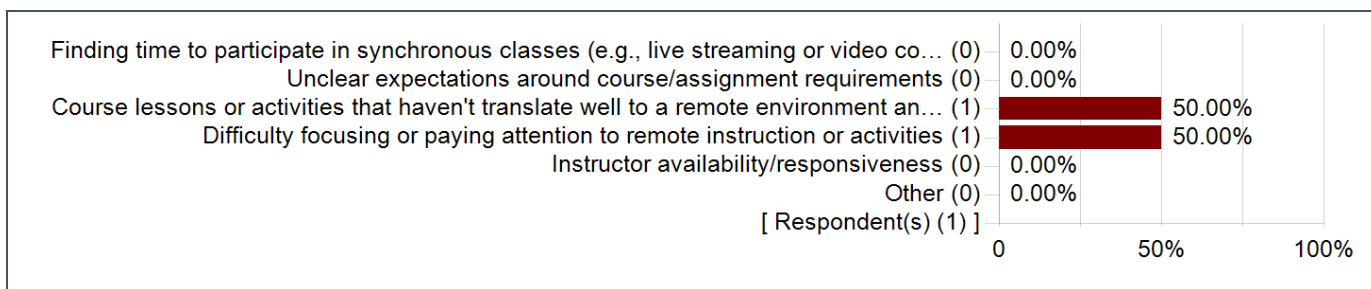


The overall workload of the course was appropriate.



Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.91
Standard Deviation	0.70

Which of the following learning/educational issues continue to be a challenge for you? (check all that apply)



TA/CA/Intern Questions

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
Adam, He was great

Assignments and Participation

	Mean	Median	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses
The assignments in the course were reasonable.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%	9
The assignments and classroom activities served the course objectives.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	63.64%	36.36%	11
Instructor's feedback/comments on your assignments were clear, specific, and helpful.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	27.27%	63.64%	11
Assignments were returned to you in a timely manner.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	10
The class met regularly, on time, and for the entire period.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	10
If the class did not meet at the regularly scheduled time, were the changes and reasons behind them explained clearly.	4.50	4.50	55.56%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	22.22%	9
You were prepared for classes and attended regularly.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%	10

