



**University
of Victoria**

**UVic CES Instructor Report 201801 - Bruce Ravelli - INTRO SOCI
CONTEMPRY SOCIETY - SOCI 100B - A02 (CRN 22733)**

UVic Course Experience Survey - Spring 2018

Project Audience 158
Responses Received 79
Response Ratio 50%

Subject Details

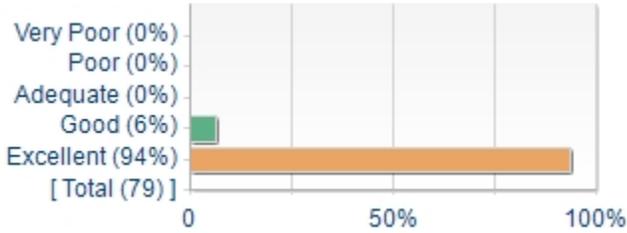
CRN	22733
VNUMBER	V00107670

Creation Date Fri, Apr 27, 2018



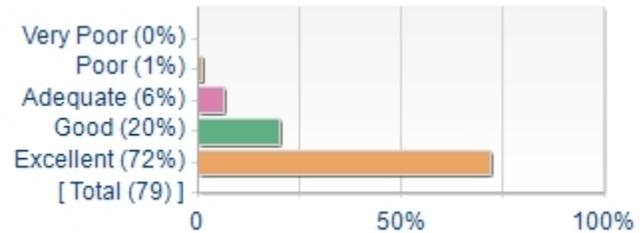
I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions



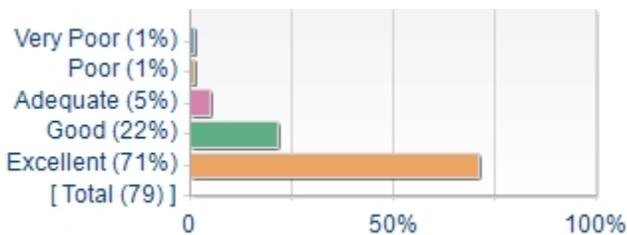
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.94
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.25

2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear



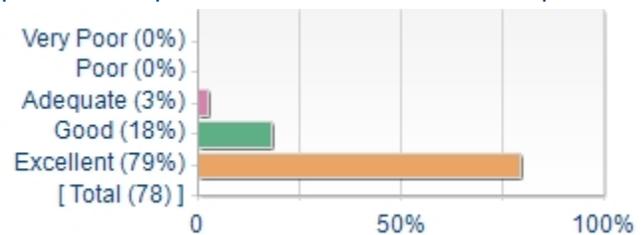
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.63
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.66

3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course



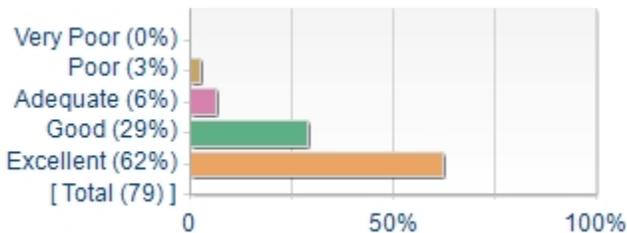
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.59
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.76

4. The instructor was available to answer your questions or provide extra assistance as required



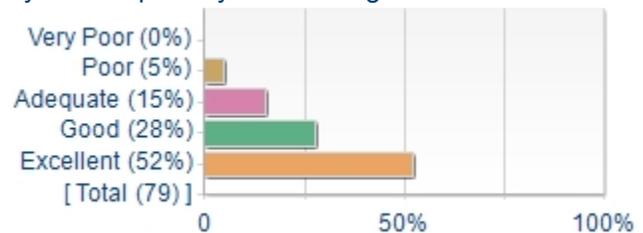
Statistics	Value
Response Count	78
Mean	4.77
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.48

5. The instructor ensured that your assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time



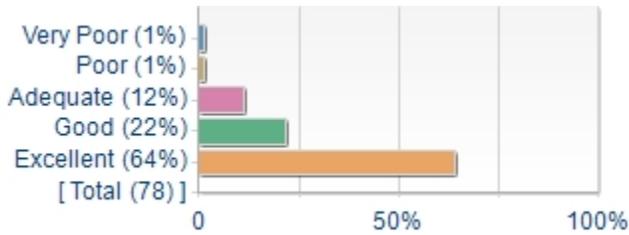
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.51
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.73

6. The instructor was helpful in providing feedback to you to improve your learning in this course

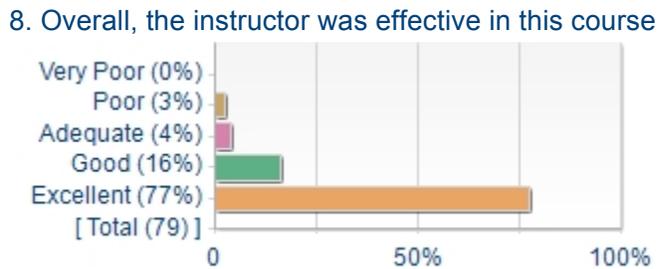


Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.27
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.90

7. The instructor demonstrated respect for students and their ideas



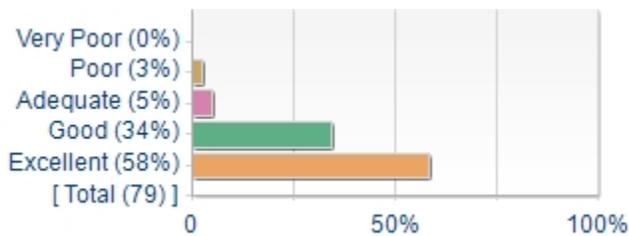
Statistics	Value
Response Count	78
Mean	4.46
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.85



Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.68
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.67

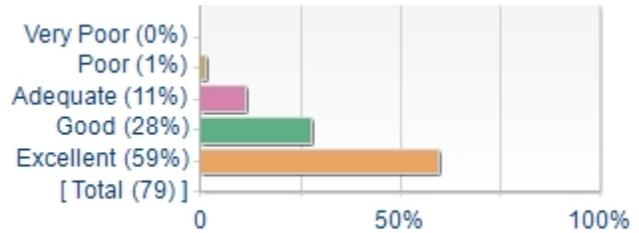
II Course Design - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear



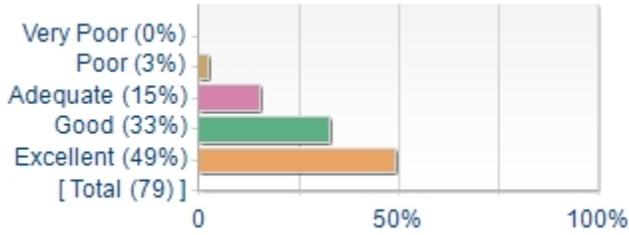
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.48
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.71

2. The materials provided for learning the course content (e.g. handouts, posted material, lab manuals) were clear



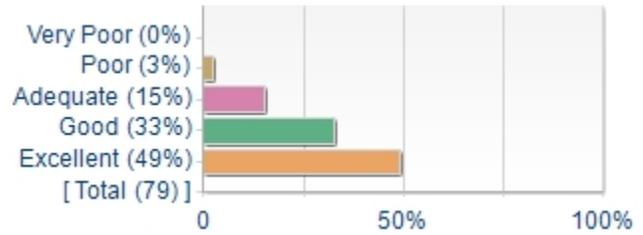
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.46
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.75

3. The assigned work helped your understanding of the course content



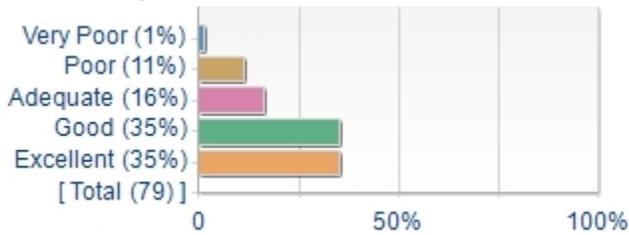
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.29
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.82

4. The course provided opportunities for you to become engaged with the course material, for example through class discussions, group work, student presentations, on-line chat, or experiential learning



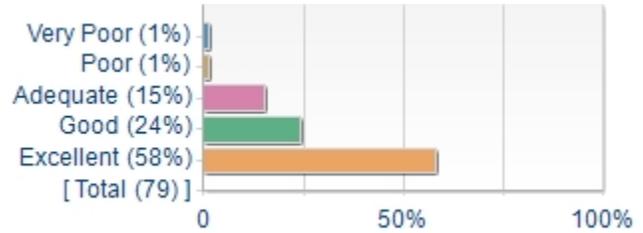
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.29
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.82

5. The methods of assessment used to evaluate your learning in the course were fair



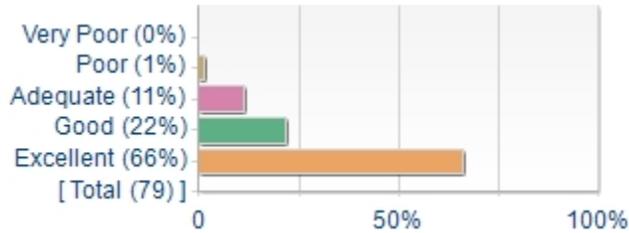
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	3.92
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.05

6. The course provided relevant skills and information (e.g. to other courses, your future career, or other contexts)



Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.37
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.88

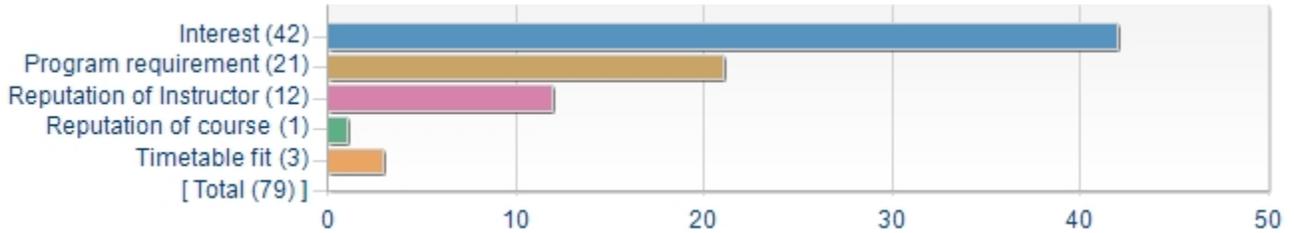
7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience



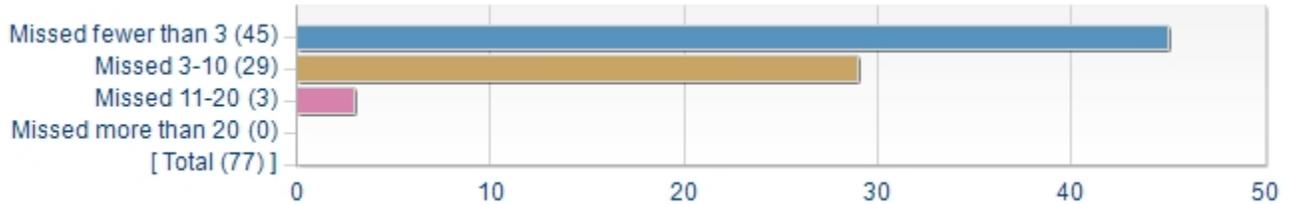
Statistics	Value
Response Count	79
Mean	4.52
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.75

III Statements About The Students:

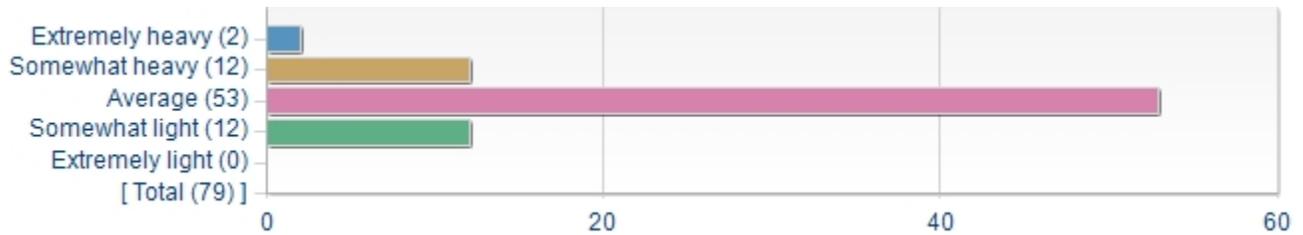
My primary reason for taking the course.



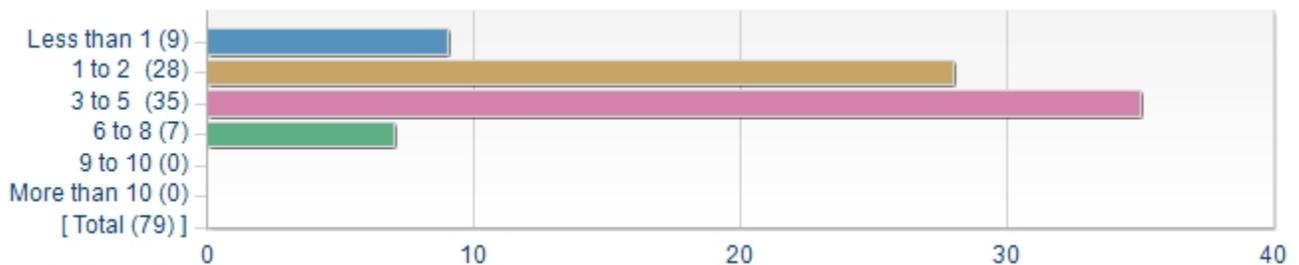
The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend



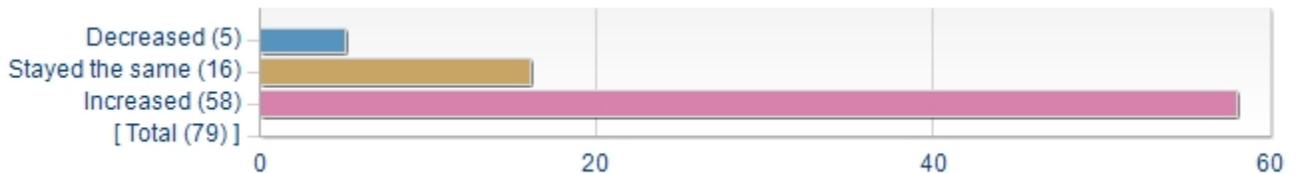
Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was



The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:



As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:



IIV Student Comments:

What strengths did your instructor (Bruce Ravelli) demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?

Comments
Bruce's charisma and ability to hold my attention helped me learn.
Makes the material very interesting in lectures, very engaging
overall good course. Loved Bruce
Very engaging lectures.
he is very engaging
always has the class super engaged and interested in the material. He teaches the course in a very entertaining way.
He good at explaining and making explanations clear, he is thoughtful and is interesting in his lectures. I like when he gives real life examples
Story telling, engaging with the class, facilitating class discussions, personal connections to the material
great, engaging and fun lectures
Bruce is a awesome instructor, all his explanation is fun and easy to understand.
bruce is an amazing public speaker. he is extremely knowledgable in his field, and provides insightful examples about every concept that ensure that the class is able to connect and understand the material. though he has a massive stage presence that can be intimidating to some, he is an extremely down to earth guy that is always willing to meet for assistance and to talk through material that may be challenging.
Very well prepared for lectures, engaging, interesting, attentive, organized
He is very engaging
He is cool a dude. He is very inspirational
He is clearly very interested in and engaged with the course material which makes coming to the class a lot easier and more fun. I appreciate the stories he tells, they help give context and real life examples of the tings we are learning and break up all of the new terminology and theories we learn.
Bruce is a very engaging professor. I think he does a great job of teaching the concepts and you can tell that his passion for sociology is extremely high.
He was always very prepared and makes learning material fun and entertaining! Loved this course
He made the material fun to learn and he looked at things from a perspective that I never would have seen other wise.
Story telling and enthusiasm
Clear lectures and engaging lectures
He explained the concepts very effectively, always integrated real life situations to help better understand concepts.
Bruce's lectures are very engaging, the videos and examples he uses to reinforce the concepts he is teaching are relevant, interesting and powerful, and overall his lectures are a pleasure to attend.
Thorough examples that really clarified concepts
He is very detailed with his explanations
Very interesting material presented in a an informative and engaging way. My favourite course. Awesome lectures.
He provided really good examples and explained the concepts in a way that made sense to everyone in the classroom. Outlined well was were the expectations for test and assignments.
Very clear expectations and great speaker
Explained the subject well
He was very enthusiastic about the material he is teaching. He gives examples so that we can understand the concepts more.
He teaches the content in a very clear and interesting way and inspires his students. He is very open minded to

Comments
students opinions too.
I really appreciated how animated Bruce Ravelli was in explaining the course material. He made it interesting and it was easy to engage. He brought up a lot of really thought-provoking topics.
Lectures were very engaging
Knowledgeable
Bruce is always extremely prepared for class and they always run smoothly. Bruce is very passionate about everything he teaches his students and is inspiring. He listens to his students' opinions and provides good feedback.
-good speaker, very engaging prof -made it easy to listen and focus in class -I liked that the lectures were recorded and his notes were very clear
He provided interesting and funny examples that keeps the class engaged and he shows the class videos regarding our lesson that are interesting and relevant to today. He is a very good speaker and he is funny and engaging
Passion for the subject and an engaging style of teaching.
-Bruce had great anecdotes which linked to the lectures. -Bruce is very considerate of students and their ideas.
Bruce is an AMAZING instructor and all around human being! I absolutely loved this course! It ended up being my favourite class this semester (unintentionally). Before this class I was not excited to learn about Sociology, but now, at the end of one semester of Sociology I have come out with a growing passion and interest in Sociology. Bruce is passionate and enthusiastic in all of his lectures. He captures students in ways, that many other professors can not. He hardly has any slide notes, but when he does he posts them, and he also posts his recording of ALL of his lectures and sidetones about exams or assignments. He provides LITERALLY all the tools students need for success!
Personally, I found the recordings the MOST helpful, I listened to them up to three times, sometimes. But they helped me think about things, and I think it's something all teachers should consider. I have a "learning disability" and find it very difficult to take notes and listen in class at the same time, so I just don't take notes in class, so having the recordings to go back to after and take notes was what helped me out so much! Also with having a learning disorder feel like I usually have to work 2-4 times harder than some people (as it seems), however, Bruce encouraged me and made me want to work extra, extra hard, which gave me great results in the end. I feel like I did not just receive a grade from this class, but gained life skills and insights! :) Honestly, I have to say it has been one of the best classes I have taken. I can't wait to take more sociology classes:)
Engaged, interesting examples, humorous.
Best prof ive ever had. He is so amazing. SO funny., SO nice.
Very engaging lectures
excellent storytelling. good stage presence.
Very charismatic and good storyteller
A real interest in the subject and care that his students were not only understanding but thinking deeply on the subject he taught
Communication
Bruce is honestly the most amazing prof i think ill have here at uvic. His ability to lecture so incredibly is so engaging and interesting.
Really able to engage the class. Interesting instructor.
Clear explanations of concepts and openness to discussion with students
He made the subjects relatable and fun to learn about.
Clear in his explanations of theories etc
Relatable examples.
Strong and dynamic presentation style Willingness to engage with students
Great lecturer Really trying to improve students experience.

Comments
Bruce is really interesting, entertaining and kind. He really seems to know what he's talking about.
Bruce is an excellent prof. He gives interesting content with relevance to everyday life.
He is passionate about what he is teaching and encourages engaging and important discussion.
Excellent story teller, which helped with otherwise difficult concepts.
Dr. Ravelli is one of the most engaging lecturers I've had the privilege of learning from at UVic. He is clear with concepts and makes even the most boring of topics interesting (and funny). I appreciate how much work Dr. Ravelli clearly puts into his lectures.
stories and good examples
Engaging, clear and effective
Ravelli is the king of kings, zero exaggeration my GOD this man is my hero. I wish that he taught courses in Soci above the 100 level so I could have him in the future.
Passionate about sociology. Engaged, wants to inspire. compassionate, understanding, conscientious and sensitive with students in regards to materials capacity to instil strong emotions.
Wants students to succeed. Uses humour to pick students spirits up after heavy topics.
Always available to make appointments for students. Helpful. Empathetic
Clear, concise in his expectations and offers assistance and extra explanation if students require it
Very intersectional and inclusive mentality. Makes the classroom feel safe which is astounding as it is a very large class. Very inclusive
Respectful of all students ideas even if they are irrelevant to his topic or are misinterpreted thoughts. He takes the time to explain.
His online anonymous feedback option is amazing, he is very passionate about ensuring all students flourish
He is engaging and loves what he teaches. He talks back to the class and gets on stage and does skits.
he is really engaging.
He can keep my attention for a long time he is almost like a performer but of sociology.
Bruce was very knowledgeable in what he was talking about, and knew the line of what he didn't know and what he did know. He kept that respectful boundary of not discussing topics he had no knowledge on, which is respectful to those are are impacted by said topics. Bruce was always really kind to his students, and always had a smile on his face when he walked into the room. Bruce kept you engaged with fun stories that always had an educational undertone to them, and the stories helped explore and explain the topic at hand. Bruce is very clear that you need to go above the course material to get an A, and if you attend tutorials, attaining an A on exams and assignments is possible.
His public speaking skills were exceptional and always kept me engaged. He knew the material so well that it made it easy to understand. I felt like I didn't need to study much because he explained the concepts in class so well.
Passionate and motivating for the most part. Good mix of theory and examples/personal stories that made the class enjoyable to attend.
Bruce is a very good teacher, he has a dynamic style of teaching. He promotes a lot of in class discussion, and teaching concepts in a story-telling sort of way that I appreciate.

Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor (Bruce Ravelli) could have helped you learn more effectively.

Comments
Bruce shows little respect for his student's opinions, and offer outdated ideas on topics that he should educate himself more on before trying to teach a class such as body-image, mental health, LGBTQ+, and sexual abuse. The questions that he asked on the midterms often required personal examples on topics that many would consider triggering.
N/A
I'm not sure he could have done any better.
post the skies faster
unsure. He's pretty great.
I don't know
not sure

Comments
N/A
this semester was a bit different, since bruce changed the type of written assignments for the first time. due to this change, there were no examples of what the assignment should look like, which posed as a bit of a challenge. although I did well on the assignment, a lot of it was just an educated guess so maybe some examples or a clearer instruction sheet would have been a tad more helpful.
N/A
Less bias towards certain topics
He provided great explains or the theories taught in class.
For me I don't think there is anything more he could do to make the course better, I really enjoy his class!
I think it would be extremely beneficial for Bruce to bring in more guest lecturers. I think it would be more engaging, and at times more appropriate, for people of the minoritized groups he's speaking about to come forward and speak to their own experience.
N/A
N/A
the midterm and final questions provide an opportunity for students to expand their thinking on concepts and further our insight into many topics and issues. I also found the tutorials to be very helpful—granted that the TA has an influence on this.
Slow down the notes. No one wants to have to get the notes online after and it's frustrating when you change slides too quickly
The exam questions are only representative of specific topics and not the entire class. Although, I feel that I get a deep understanding of the material regarding the questions, I feel that there should be something representative of all class material to make sure that I am not just learning the required questions.
n/a
Bruce could have possibly spent more time on preparing us for the exams and class assignments.
?
nothing to improve in!
Possibly a little more in depth in certain topics, maybe not over-simplifying certain things. I found positivism and anti-positivism was too over-simplified in it's meaning. Could make it a little deeper and less superficial in certain topics.
He provided everything I needed in order to succeed
None, very good
I believe that Bruce knows what he is doing and has a lot of experience teaching his class.
– Almost no critiques for bruce besides the fact that he didn't outline how to get an A
It may have been a little bit better to have a bit more clear instructions on choosing the topic for our tutorial assignments. The instructions were clear, but picking a research question was a little difficult as I wasn't sure quite what we were expected to do.
Some of the grading rubrics were vague, clearer more defined grading rubric could be helpful.
–The course assignments and exams were a bit too difficult; given that each answer was extremely specific as to what is required to achieve an A (but this expectation was articulated in class).
Continue to rock your lectures & stories :)
N/A
Hes perfect.
sometimes I felt as though the students' opinions could have been respected more.
Be open for a more variety of views on subjects, seems very defensive about topics
I feel like there were many less than effective TAs so it would be good to test them out more thoroughly fore assigning them to the students.
Nothing he's amazing
keep it going

Comments
Bruce is perfect.
More stories that make the subject relatable to our lives.
Feedback on how to do better on the exams would be helpful.
Do research to update inaccurate definitions and content. Employ greater nuance in explanations. Decolonize course content. Make clear when explaining theories that they are one of many theories, rather than fact. Create clearer grading rubric with specific expectations, in order to reduce large margin of subjectivity in grading.
Just feels like Bruce is teaching theories as if they are truth.
Bruce actually makes learning the material quite easy.
Prof does not take other opinions in class very well, especially for a sociologist, he could try to understand a bit more. Sometimes his stories or examples are too complex or long and the meaning is lost.
Much of the material in this course is changing constantly, particularly that around gender. When asked questions about this, I felt you didn't give adequate responses. Perhaps preparing a deeper explanation of some of the "up in the air" concepts for students who aren't included in these discussions outside of the classroom.
Prompted more group discussions between peers rather than solely through him
Talk just a tad more about the tutorial assignments in class as people don't really go to tutorials let's be realistic here guys.
Best professor I have ever had. (I am 3rd year) No change is required.
His engagement with the class helped me learn a lot!
I would have liked to have class discussions sometimes to engage with other students
Sometimes, Bruce was quick to interrupt a student, so perhaps letting a student finish a question or a statement before asking questions about their point or discussing back. I know it left a few students feeling not listened to (even if their opinions were a little ... weird).
None.
Arrogant and patronizing at times (certainly not always) weakened learning experience at times. "Right, say yes." Decreases opportunity for discussion. Having an instructors own textbook required for a class is brutal. At least have a current edition in the library...

Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.

Comments
This course could be improved through the provision of trigger warnings, and an updated midterm strategy.
N/A
Move a little slower through the slides
Make the exams more diverse, not everyone shows how they learned through an essay. For a class about how people have socially constructed expectations the class sure has them.
easier midterms
It is unfortunate that there are so many TA's who mark on different levels. for example, my marks from 100A were far better than 100B and I have honestly been working even harder than I did in 100A. I think the Was having different expectations really influences the class.
Don't know
N/A
this class was my favourite of the semester, I don't believe there is really anything to do to improve it!
N/A
no idea
the level of work the except from us is insane for a first level class

Comments
more clear advice on how to be successful for the exams, and it would also be very helpful to get our assignment marks back before the final exam.
More consistency in TA marking of midterms and assignments
perhaps more time to prepare the final questions with the TA, the last tutorial felt a bit rushed.
The highest grade that you can get for reaching all given requirements on an exam should be an "A" not a "B". I feel hopeless when I know that the best that I can do is get a "B".
The TA's mark very differently which can be frustrating. I wish I had had a different one who was potentially more lenient.
The exam format was not something that helped prove my understanding of the course. I think I speak for everyone when I say that the two essays in 50 minutes left everyone a bit stressed and I was on both occasions felt the grade was not a true reflection of my course knowledge at all.
?
No tutorials unless they give information about the exam and midterms
I think the exams allowed people to engage with the topics discussed in class but the expectations were hard to meet at times because I felt like the format of the exams was that "I must read your mind". I had to get to know exactly what the TA's were looking for, which I feel is somewhat restrictive to the learning process.
N/A
None, good
I think it would be helpful to have assigned readings and more encouragement to read the textbook more thoroughly. I think this would make students more engaged in the readings and would help in preparation of the midterms.
–Going over the Tutorial assignment (lit review) in class a bit more would have been helpful!
Can't think of anything! Really great course, I looked forward to coming to the lectures
–The second midterm (conducted in March) was a bit pointless to me; there could have been just the one midterm.
Make tutorials mandatory, they are super helpful!
N/A
better rubrics and clearer informations for papers
I love this course! Thanks, Bruce!
Its a great course set up perfectly.
The assignments could have more to do directly with the course
The exam and midterm style is sort of unfair to people who do not do well with written exams, or who do not do well in exams in general. If multiple choice questions were part of the exam then people would be able to do better.
A group project might be a good idea for this course.
Assign an instructor who experiences some marginalization, as perspective is important in intro sociology courses about gender, race, sexuality, etc.
Integrate intersectional, anti–oppressive approach to prevent alienation of marginalized students.
Have a more specific grading rubric, make expectations clearer.
Assign greater variety of readings.
The course is great how it is.
The TA's were not consistent with each other nor were consistent with what was expected from Bruce. I think that they should all try to expect the same things and try to match their grading so some aren't at a disadvantage just because of their TA.
Your grading is ludacrisly difficult, and it leaves students feeling they have no ability to succeed. Further, and more specifically, you tell us "teach" the concepts on exams, yet punish us for not giving enough detail. Ie. Summary/teaching the material isn't enough detail. The time and space allotted are insufficient for most students to both explain and explore two (of four) concepts to the level you expect.
The only critique I have for this course is that I feel like the expectations were very, very high for a course that most

Comments

people take in their first year of sociology. I put in a lot of work and received a much lower mark than I am used to in the midterms. Although, this is not a direct reflection of Dr. Ravelli's doing because TAs marked our papers and tests; maybe my particular TA was just holding the high expectations.

Clone Ravelli.

Less free topics in the tutorials that go along with the course – perhaps free topics can instead be used as work time, where students can come and work on their assignments and ask the tutorial teacher things while they work there.

None.

Tests were hard to complete on time.

My Instructor gave time in class to complete this survey.

Options	Count	Percentage
Yes	62	81%
No	15	19%
Does not apply (online course, field course, etc.)	0	0%