



**University
of Victoria**

UVic CES Instructor Report 201809 - Bruce Ravelli - INTRO SOCI SOCIAL LIFE - SOCI 100A - A02 (CRN 12902)

UVic Course Experience Survey - Fall 2018

Project Audience 200
Responses Received 118
Response Ratio 59%

Subject Details

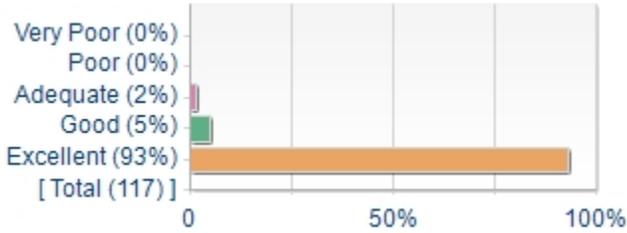
CRN	12902
VNUMBER	V00107670

Creation Date Thu, Dec 20, 2018



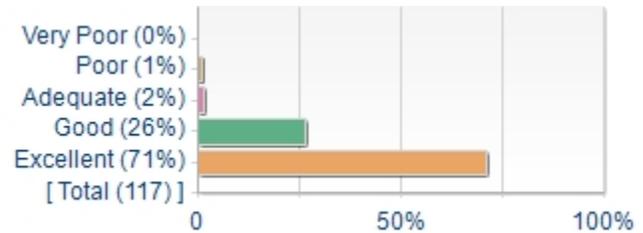
I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions



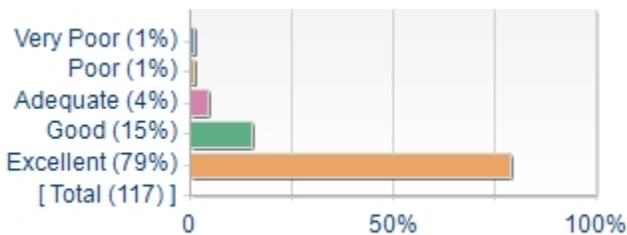
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.91
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.34

2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear



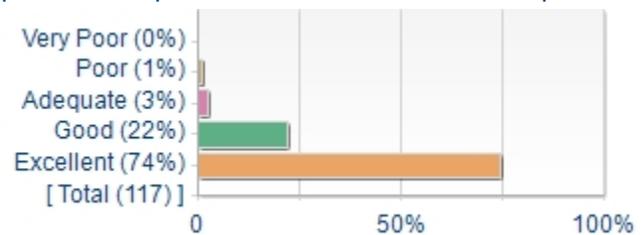
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.68
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.55

3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course



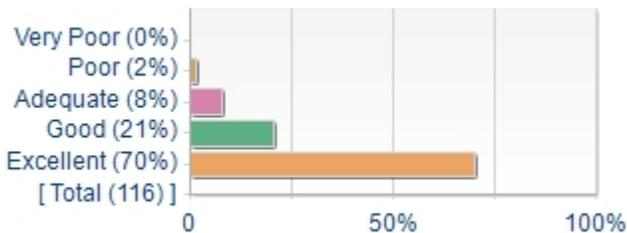
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.70
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.67

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



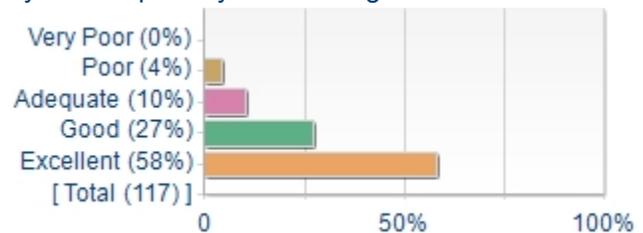
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.70
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.56

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



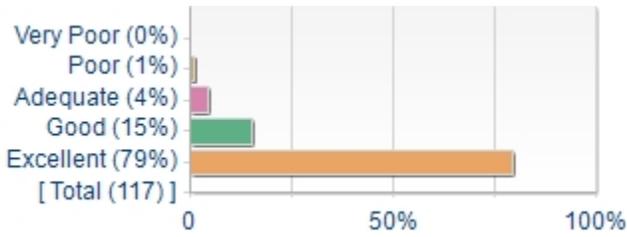
Statistics	Value
Response Count	116
Mean	4.59
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.71

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

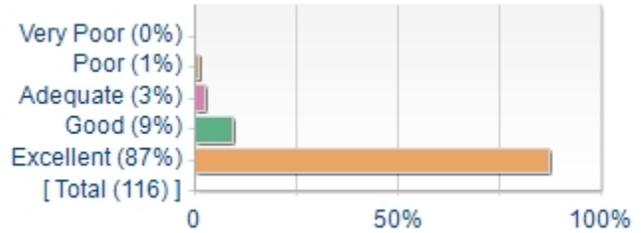


Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.39
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.84

7. The instructor demonstrated respect for students and their ideas 8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this course



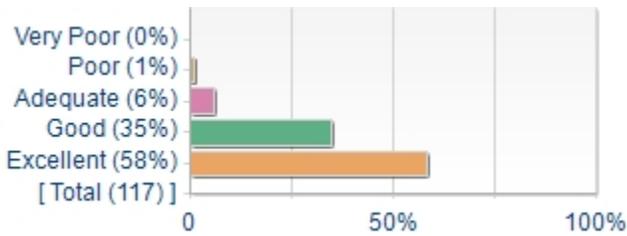
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.74
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.58



Statistics	Value
Response Count	116
Mean	4.83
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

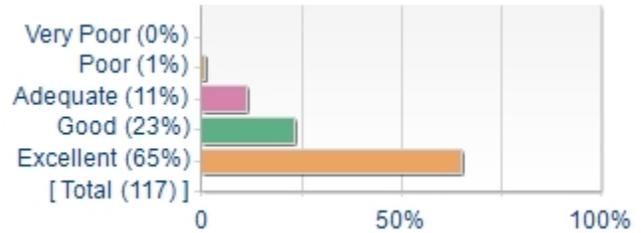
II Course Design - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear



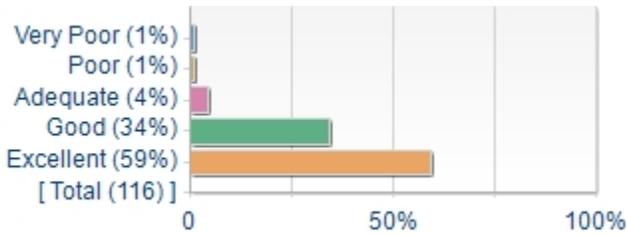
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.50
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.65

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



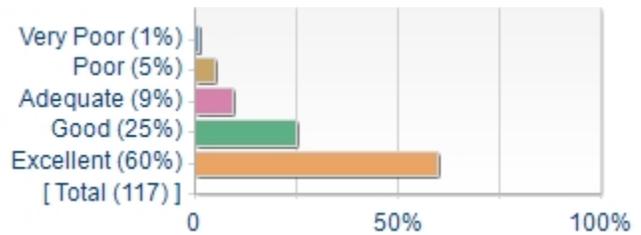
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.52
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.73

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



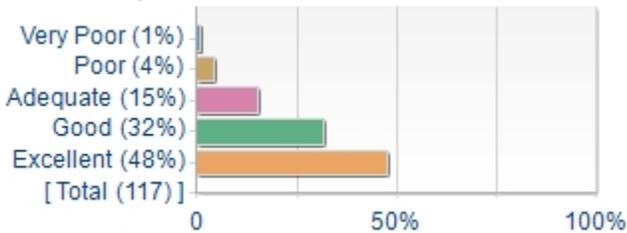
Statistics	Value
Response Count	116
Mean	4.51
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.70

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



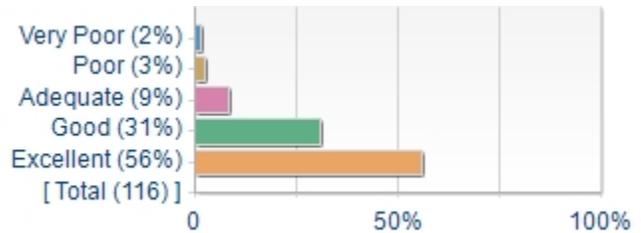
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.38
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.92

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



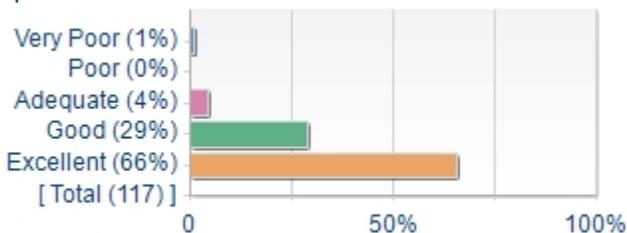
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.21
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.92

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	116
Mean	4.37
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.88

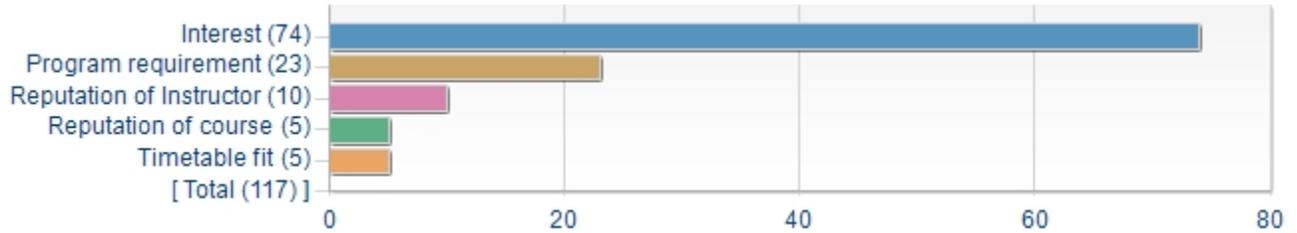
7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience



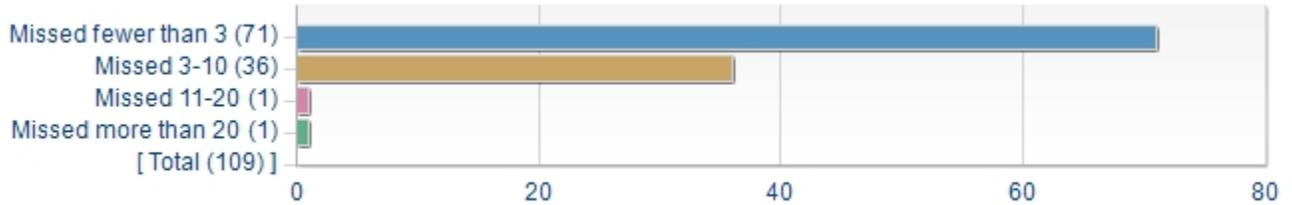
Statistics	Value
Response Count	117
Mean	4.59
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.66

III Statements About The Students:

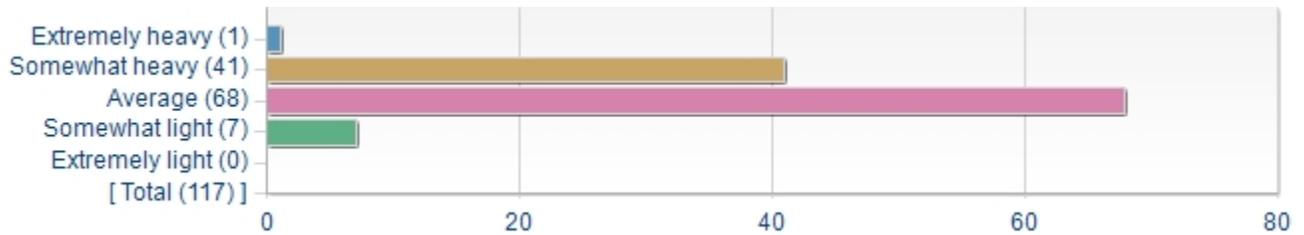
My primary reason for taking the course.



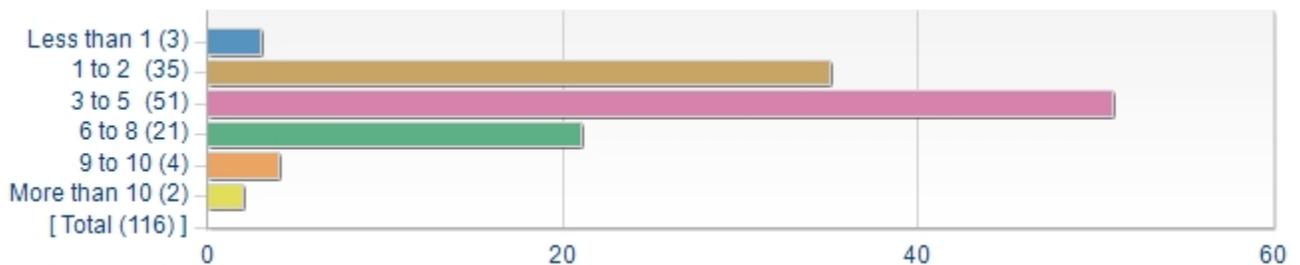
The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend



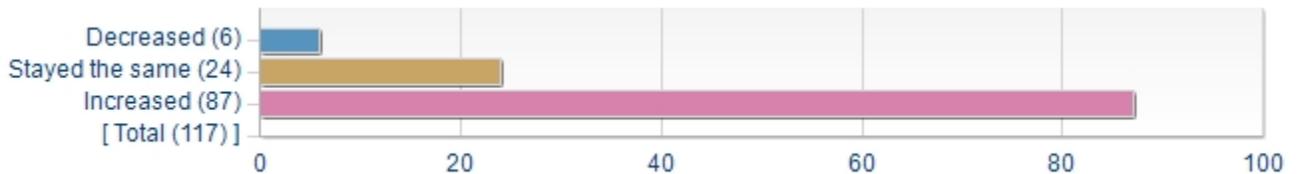
Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was



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
Great at keeping the class engaged, very good at giving examples of what we are learning and relating it to us as university students
He's an amazing story teller. I'd love take a class from him about public speaking!
He was very helpful during office hours.
He's extremely knowledgeable and passionate about the subject
Very engaging, amazing teacher!
lectures were always interesting and entertaining
Bruce engages the class and makes the material more interesting with his enthusiasm. His definitions and explanations are very clear and helpful. Great prof!
He was passionate about the material and did a good job explaining the concepts (good examples)
the strengths that Bruce demonstrated that helped me in this course is his clear explanations on specific course material. He provided clear example of each concept and his exams covered most of the material learned throughout the chapters. The online quizzes that we do are very helpful because they help me to understand the connects further by testing them after I finish reading.
He made all of his lectures very engaging and did a great job of relating theory to modern day concepts.
Clear definitions of concepts
Good speaker
Clear instructions and expectations for exams/assignments. Interesting lectures with videos/stories to keep students engaged.
Good lectures
By providing good examples and engaging the class with interesting topics he kept my attention during every lecture. Best prof I've had so far at university.
He explains concepts very clearly and does a really good job of engaging the class. I also really appreciate his responses to students who answer questions in class or who contribute to the "class conversation", He acknowledges what people say—regardless of whether its right or wrong, and he responds to them thoroughly and respectfully. Although I don't speak often in class, I feel safe and comfortable to do so.
He is so engaging and clearly loves what he is teaching, shows us how it relates to our everyday lives.
Interesting, good stories, relevant examples
very engaging, easy to listen to. included stories to help students better understand concepts.
Ravelli makes all concepts interesting and engaging. I enjoy coming to class and because of this, I feel extremely motivated to do well on my assignment and exams. He uses examples and stories to further his concepts which is fundamental in how I have learned so far this semester. Very strong instructing abilities.
Passionate about the material, extremely available and responsive to student inquiries
He felt personal and made it fun
I liked the use of online textbooks and online quizzes as it was an easy 20% that ensured that I did my readings
Good at lecturing— very engaging— made me more interested in what he was saying/the course material
he made the concepts easy to understand by bringing in interesting and relative examples along with allowing us to ask questions frequently
engagement with audience, using real examples into the course work
He was always very prepared and interested in the material that he was teaching. He was approachable and friendly,

Comments

and made an effort to understand students.

The way he taught us really inspired me and I am happy to be having him as my instructor for next term as well. His slides were really clear and he would post everything we do in class online with no problem at all. Also, it was really helpful that the book we used was written by him, so I comprehended information easier

Very engaging and dynamic lectures, kept things interesting, was very clear in introductory explanations

He was always very engaging, I felt like I left every single lecture feeling like I had learned something amazing and insightful. He challenged every student to open their minds to seeing a world of possibilities which I absolutely loved and made the course content interesting by introducing contemporary examples that we could relate to.

The examples he used which helped me get a better understanding about the concepts

Bruce's teaching skills are beyond expectations. He was able to make sure that the student's understood the slides before moving on to the next content.

Bruce is honestly the Tony Robbins of sociology. He gets so pumped up about it, and has the most interesting stories, every lecture is awesome. Honestly the best lecturer I've had at uvic (and I'm 3rd year)

Mr. Ravioli was very passionate about the topics which aided in teaching making the concepts clearer.

Funny concepts explanations

Super engaging prof. wanted to come to lectures because I was interested.

Very good at explaining concepts and sparking students' interest for sociology

amazing lecturer, I am always engaged during the lecture. He can explain things very well, and makes it very clear what is important to know, and is very funny.

He has a very interesting and clear lecture style.

He explained key terms and used insightful and interesting anecdotes to enhance the concept and experience.

Clear explanations, entertaining.

Very engaging, good discussions and explained answers clearly

– very engaging

– used class examples and interacted with students

– used power points for important notes

I love Bruce's teaching. He is engaging and hilarious, I can't stress enough how he made this class focused, engaged and entertaining all at the same time. This man is an amazing teacher, and I really love his course.

Dynamic and engaging lectures. Clear explanation of concepts with clear and current examples.

Good speaker was able to capture attention easily and keep me interested.

His lectures and materials were engaging.

We had an abundance of learning resources and the lectures were very engaging.

Very engaging lecturer and passionate

He used interesting examples that really made you think about the material and see it from a real world perspective.

Very interesting and informative lectures

He was very captivating.

His lectures were very detail oriented. He knows his material.

He is well informed about the material of the course, he does a great job with his class and engaging with students

Explained concepts thoroughly with detail and clear examples

Passionate teacher

He is an amazing storyteller, and he connected concepts from the text to real life instances, which significantly increased my understanding of the course material.

He is easy to understand and very knowledgeable on the course. Because of this, he was always able to answer any question to the best of his ability while still trying his best. Overall, he has made sociology a very interesting course for me and I look forward to taking any future courses with him.

Bruce's lectures were extremely entertaining and provided one of a kind insight into the course material that is hard to

Comments
find with typical profs.
confidence in his teaching making me want to learn more.
Clear and concise explanations
Bruce was an excellent instructor. His explanations were clear and concise and he gave good examples of everything in class as well as great sources for outside of class.
Passion, Knowledge, humour
Very good at involving everyone and making the classes interesting and worth while.
Bruce is an amazing teacher, so many of my previous professors knew the subject they were teaching but failed to transfer that knowledge in a way that I understood. Bruce's use of fun stories and relevant topics made this class one of the best I have ever taken. Bruce was also amazing at clearly explaining the text book knowledge required for this course. I also always appreciated Bruce's humor along with the fact that he was fair but still obviously cared about his students and their needs.
Writing essays
He was evidently interested and passionate about the material!
He would ask us if we had questions and was good at explaining concepts
His presentation sliils are pretty impressive and increased my inerests in the course and my major.
Engaged students to look beyond the black and white to see the gray in the sociological imagination which made me want to continue learning sociology.
His ability to lecture and tell stories throughout his lectures.
he answered my questions after class, uploaded class audio on his website, provide sample questions for midterms and final
Bruce's stories made content easy to understand and fun to learn. Best prof I have ever had!
Engaging, knowledgeable, punctual, helpful instruction, clear goals
Very well prepared for students' questions, gave plenty of real-life examples to help understanding
–Had clear power points about the material. –Has a good, well organized textbook that has quizzes that responds well with the material
Very engaging, provided multiple examples of concepts, approachable, put theories in contemporary context, was aware of his priviledge and constantly reminded us of our own. Tbh id freakin die for Bruce. 10/10 im gonna switch my major
Great lecturer
His lectures were very interesting to listen and go to. I liked the way he told stories to help us learn more effectively. He has a very good way of speaking and explaining concepts. He clearly knows what he is talking about. I loved the Pearson tests, they are an easy way to get marks.
very expert in explaining concepts would answer all questions in depth
Bruce demonstrates amazing passion for Sociology and a clear desire for his students to learn sociology. His usage of metaphors and scenarios really allows students to grasp the meaning of concepts and connect them to contemporary society.
He records his lectures and posts the slides.
I love Bruce! He's so funny and personable. He absolutely knows what he's talking about and I love that he wrote and knows the textbook so well.
He is very passionate and well educated about what he is teaching. He is very engaging and you don't want to miss a lecture.
Bruce was one of my most favourite profs, he was so passionate and it just made everyone want to learn! His slides and lectures were always very clear and I always had the option to listen to them online. He was an amazing prof and uvic is lucky to have him.
bruce is amazing he is the best
He knew exactly what to talk about

Comments
Passionate and humorous
good explanations, made material very interesting, good textbook, good material, good assignments, best course/ instructor i've had
Incredible teacher. I love his teaching style. Very understanding and his enthusiasm for the topic makes me excited to learn about the material at hand.
I took SOCI 100B before I took this class (100A) mainly because of Bruce and how I genuinely enjoy listening to him teach. This semester was relatively the same, he's very engaging and I love the stories that he tells. I think that I missed more classes in 100A than I did in 100B because 100B topics were much more interesting to me than 100A and his lectures are recorded. My missing class has nothing to do with teaching style however.
Passion, interesting
Very personable and supportive of his students. Encouraged us to visit his office hours. Responded to emails in a timely manner. Recorded lectures, posted lecture slides, didn't use course spaces for anything but grades because course spaces sucks. Provided very easy to do readings through his textbook on Pearson. Pearson can be a pain, but the design of the chapter assignments was effective in helping students learn the content, language/terms, etc.
Funny, keeps class engaged
Makes lectures very engaging.
Very engaging and interesting prof. I wanted to attend every class so I would get to hear his lectures, he keeps them very fun and insanely informative. He changed my view on life.
Bruce is engaging, approachable, enthusiastic and knowledgeable. Honestly, I'd die for him and this course. 11/10
Great speaker
Bruce Ravelli was extremely approachable and made lectures extremely interesting. His stories and videos only increased my interest in sociology. He was extremely helpful when asked for help, especially during midterms. He also replies to emails within a matter of hours which is extremely helpful. He obviously cares about getting his students invested in sociology.
he is an excellent lecturer
real life examples
Good lecturer. Helpful during office hours.
Extremely engaging lectures that perfectly weave into the concepts he was discussing. Fantastic storyteller and thought provoking speaker. Offered fantastic overview of midterms and final exam online.
Bruce is an engaging lecturer. He commands the attention of most everybody in the class with relateable, contemporary examples.
Bruce is extremely engaging and a strong speaker. He takes control of the room and makes it so you don't want to take your eyes off of him.
Had really good examples that help you understand sociological concepts

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

Comments
I really loved the media unit, I wish it had been earlier so I could've done my paper on it!
The slides were sometimes text heavy which may it difficult to find the main points
Bruce has helped me learn effectively and there is nothing else the needs to be done
i have no recommendations about how he could improve, he is by far my best prof.
Speaking a bit more loudly – more communication with between Bruce and the TA.
He did awesome.
Could have had more feedback on our midterms.
posting notes daily.

Comments
I think the best way to learn these sometimes hard concepts, is through applying it to examples or stories, so I would recommend smaller examples along with his bigger ones.
Maybe talk more to TAs about their expectations of midterms etc. because they often told us things contradicting Bruce's instructions
everything is good
made the notes given in class readily available
None at this time
I honestly have no suggestions for this course, I thought it was amazing and will be taking the next one in the session because I loved it so much.
The tutorial was boring
He made sure that all the notes are posted up on his site just in case we missed notes. Also, I love how he posts mp3's of him explaining key points and what to remember for the exams.
For a first year course I think he marks too hard. I did really well but felt bad because the class average on exams was always pretty low. I think it's a bit ironic that given the course material (Marx, conflict theory etc) he has such high grading expectations.
I find your teaching amazing and I learnt topics with ease.
Maybe learn concepts due that week in quizzes in the lectures BEFORE the quiz
I love Bruce, he's awesome!
Maybe clarifying what chapters some of the concepts were from.
Cheating hearts lecture was one-sided and unacademic.
The TAs can be a bit subjective in their grading, I'm not sure how to fix it but it is difficult when you're trying to study with friends in different tutorials
– at the beginning of the course, he kept stressing how hard the tests were and really demotivated me and made me worry even tho they turned out fine
Just keep being as engaging and entertaining as you are, it really makes this class worth attending and worth studying for.
Move a little bit slower at times
Gave many examples that related to course content.
Update his own understanding of concepts, especially to do with gender and sexuality.
None
I felt like how he taught allowed me to learn effectively! the stories used as examples really helped keep concepts in my brain.
Provide up to date examples for the tutorial assignment.
He could go slower on the notes.
Giving feedback and understanding the needs of some students
He's an outstanding, engaging professor, basically no room for improvement.
I feel he did everything he could to prepare me for major assignments and tests.
giving detailed and very good examples
Been more aware of each TA's expectations and how they may differ
n/a
Be effective
Everything was great
When it comes to exams, I feel his support is not maybe enough because he usually says I need to review the material though I visited him after reviewing the text and audio and not getting ideas of it.
More clarity between what the prof expects and what the TA expects.
maybe focus more on the class instead of telling stories

Comments
NA
– Maybe could have flipped through powerpoints a little slower but I could see his reasoning as to why he did this. maybe button up your dress shirt sleeves? it just bugs me a little when they're flapping all over the place.
I hated my TA because they marked so hard. I would've preferred to be marked by Bruce. I feel like I have not gotten anywhere near the grades I deserve with this course all because of my TA. I put in so much effort with studying for the midterms and doing everything I can to know the material just to receive a horrible grade like 55%. My TA has actually told our class that we would most likely fail the midterms because they know we don't have what they are going to be looking for writing-wise. To help me learn more effectively or improve my grade I think Bruce should be the one marking. It really depends on who your TA is to receive a good or a bad mark.
Overall the lectures were fantastic and I wouldn't change a thing.
Unfortunately my schedule doesn't always line up with office hours to get any extra help, but he is very good about making appointments.
He could have slowed down in lecture a bit, some notes were hard to write down, but all the students had access to his lecture recordings so it was not an issue.
dont change
None
N/A
don't change anything
I wish he would grade our tests rather than the TAs. The class is only difficult because on the tests you must write to what your TA wants, not necessarily just know and imply the material.
None
N/A, his method of teaching was extremely affective
Perhaps go into more detail and explain why sociologists think the way they do, rather than just saying how they think and end the statement.
N/A
None. He was available all office hours and very easy to talk to.
Honestly, I've got nothing just maybe button those shirtsleeves up once an a while.
None
N/A
probably put more things that we need to know on powerpoint
Sometimes I feel that some of his lecture content on internet/social media/smartphones were not relatable because it seemed to been explained from the perspective of someone who doesn't understand it as well as a younger person! Sorry if that seemed harsh!
If someone does not think the same way as Bruce, their ideas and thoughts are often shot down without an adequate explanation. He cites that they don't understand the sociology and moves on.
If he was also a TA.
More feedback on midterms

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

Comments
Very well done
Having more time to write the midterms
This course cannot be improved
I have no recommendations
Different style of testing

Comments
This course could be improved by giving all the TAs the same outlines as so how to mark our tutorial assignments. The outline at times was confusing.
I think there should be more specific instructions about what is expected in exams and in the essay
I think it's all so great!
I really have no suggestions for how it could be improved, he is an exceptional instructor and has set up the course beautifully
Incorporate more general neutral speech and examples
Same as above
T.A.s vary in marking and expectation which is kind of unfair
make sure T.A's are well prepared
The amount of time given for the tests was not adequate.
I think it would be helpful if tutorials were more discussion-based; I felt that this course was the one I would have benefitted from discussion most but there weren't a lot of opportunities for dialogue
The only suggestion I would have is to maybe alter the tutorial assignment... felt a little unnecessary in my opinion.
Nothing. Bruce handles his work very well. I congratulate him! Thanks Bruce for a good first semester.
All topics are interesting and engaging.
i have none
Extra time during midterms?
Further readings to enhance understanding and interest.
Bruce oversimplified the material and did not acknowledge the deeper complexities of certain topics.
– Watch for TA subjectivity or bias
– students seem to have very irregular grades (some super high some super low) – even tho we all study together
Just keep rolling out content relative to current events to illustrate how sociology can be applied
Improve the text book in search functionality, and the ability to click links in your comments.
More varied testing methods on the exams. While command of the material is a large part of the exams, writing skill and speed were also factors during the exam. The exams would benefit from more varied styles of questioning and testing (i.e. multiple choice, short answer)
Make the tutorials worthwhile
None
Just more interaction with students would be great! keep up the interactive portion and it has been a wonderful class.
I loved it
I am not sure.
I think the course is really good and does not need improvements, best course i have taken as a first year student.
Very well done
Perhaps more hands on experiences rather than just going through a slideshow every class.
not as many quizzes every wee, it becomes a lot every single week
Make sure all TA's are on the same page in terms of marking
More interactive
n/a
Don't change a thing!
Provide more graph to explain the concepts
The TAs and Bruce vary in expectations, which makes it difficult to know exactly what is expected
I can't think of anything currently.
this course is not as interesting as others, because it requires a lot of writing and reading, somehow it is heavy for a selective course.

Comments
NA
no tutorials.
Ease up on the TA marking. We are a first year sociology class so obviously we don't know yet what a real sociologist knows. The TA's expect too much from the students when all there is is story time every class.
The TA should talk more. Different TA asked for different requirements assignments which made it unfair for marking. The TA marked more on their personal requirements rather than the class requirements.
i dont have any improvements, but just wanted to say that the revel textbook was extramarital useful with the audio
The midterm and exam structure was a challenge for me since I am a slow writer. Fifty minutes to do the midterm in class was not an adequate time frame to truly test my knowledge and has nothing to do with how well I know the course content. Furthermore, many students were frustrated over the difference in marking expectations between the tutorial leaders. I'm not sure how to improve this, but our mark should not be dependent on the 'luck of the draw' with our tutorial leader.
More preparation for exams
Having the tutorial every week rather than only a few times.
I would have liked to be given an example of the tutorial assignment... Although there are some on ravelli it was a different assignment and did not help me very much!
nothing you are doing great
None
N/A
don't change anything
Bruce should grade the tests. Other than that, nothing.
None
N/A it is perfect
Fix the midterms, really did not like the 4 questions and the prof picks 2 format.
TA's for tutorial need to be more on the same page with each other, and with instructor (Dr. Bruce Ravelli).
It would be awesome to see 1 midterm instead of 2. But that could just be because I found the course material hard, not exhausting and they were time-separated a good amount.
Maybe less time for questions at the beginning of class.
Having a big number of different TA's marking exams is not fair, having the same answers as someone in a different lab and getting a lower score isn't great
N/A
I think it is pretty good now
Completely stop using the awful REVEL website. Instead use Coursespace quizzes like some other classes do. I had nothing but issues with REVEL, and I don't find it offers many advantages over just a physical text.
By defining EXACTLY what is required for each exam question and the tutorial assignment, the very notion of sociology is void. We are not displaying passion in what we produce, and time constraints because of other classes make the second option of evaluation (which would express passion) nearly impossible.
Longer lectures

My Instructor gave time in class to complete this survey.

Options	Count	Percentage
Yes	89	77%
No	27	23%
Does not apply (online course, field course, etc.)	0	0%