



**UVic CES Instructor Report 201509 - Bruce Ravelli - INTRO SOCI:  
CULTURE+SOCIALZTN - SOCI 100A - A01 (CRN 12940)**

**UVic Course Experience Survey - Fall 2015**

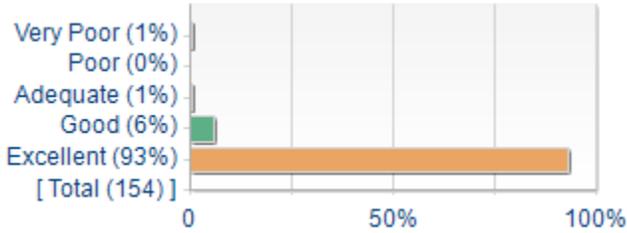
Project Audience 257  
Responses Received 154  
Response Ratio 60%

**Creation Date** Tue, Jan 05, 2016



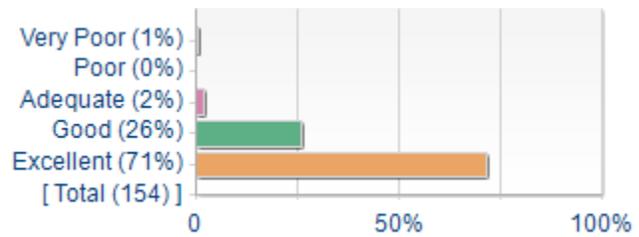
## I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions



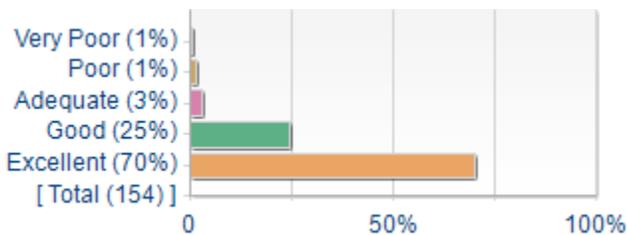
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.90
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.42

2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear



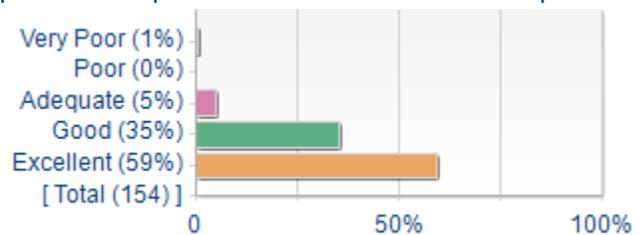
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.68
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.58

3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course



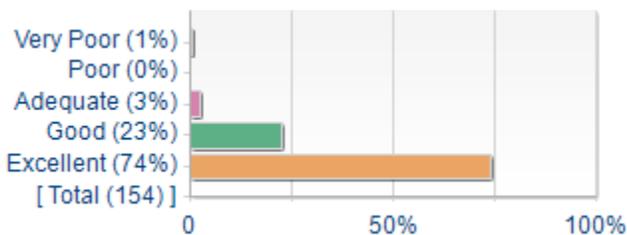
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.62
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.68

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



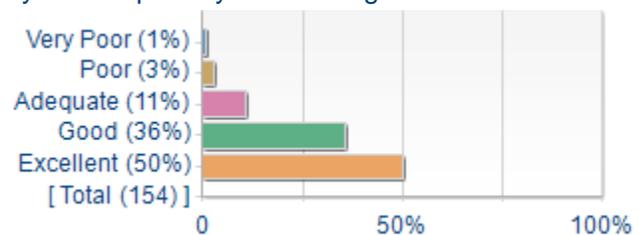
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.52
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.66

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.69
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.59

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

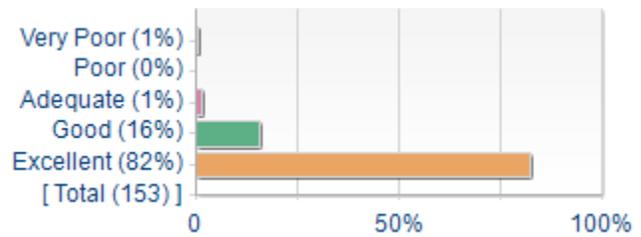
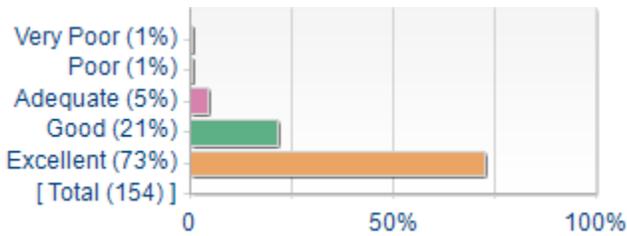


Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.32
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	+/-0.82

7. The instructor demonstrated respect for students

8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this course

and their ideas

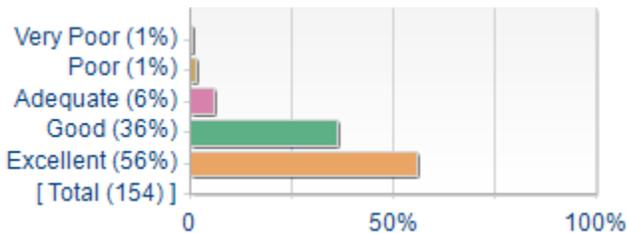


Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.65
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.66

Statistics	Value
Response Count	153
Mean	4.79
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.52

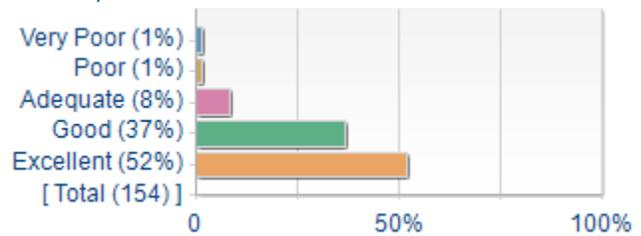
## II Course Design - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear



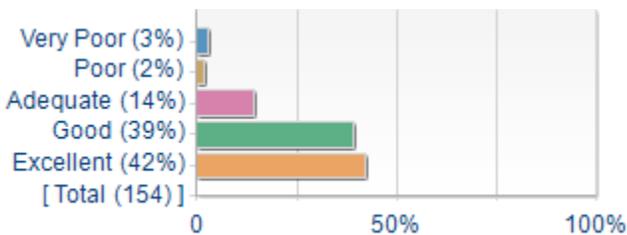
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.45
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.72

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



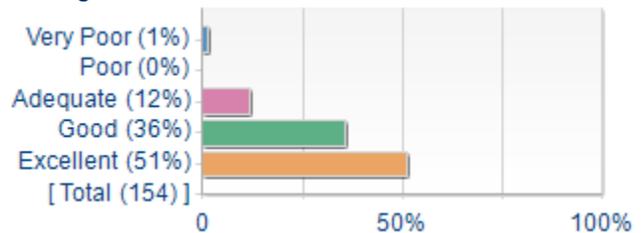
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.37
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.80

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



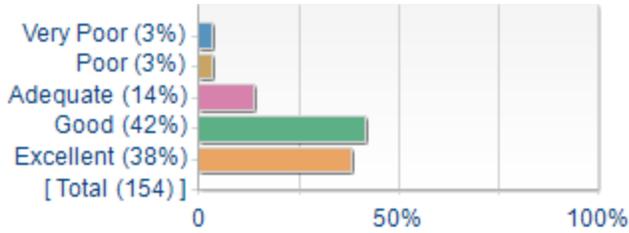
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.16
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.93

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



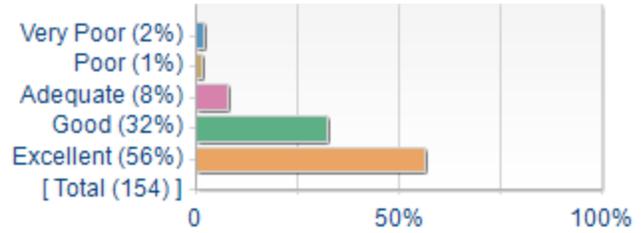
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.36
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.79

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



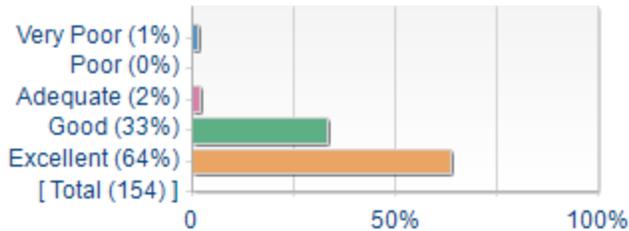
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.08
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.97

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.40
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.84

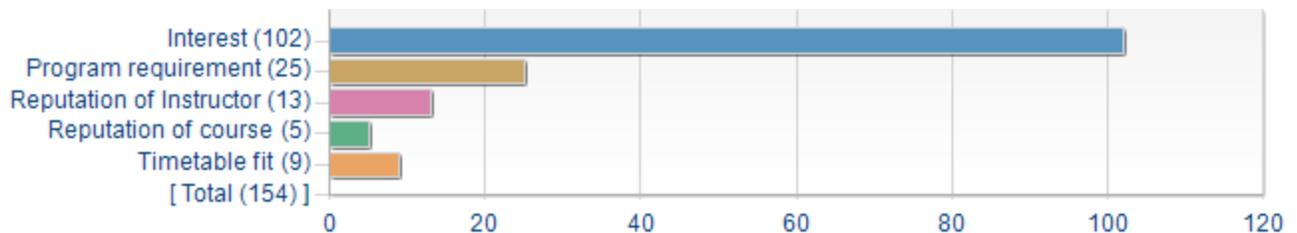
7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience



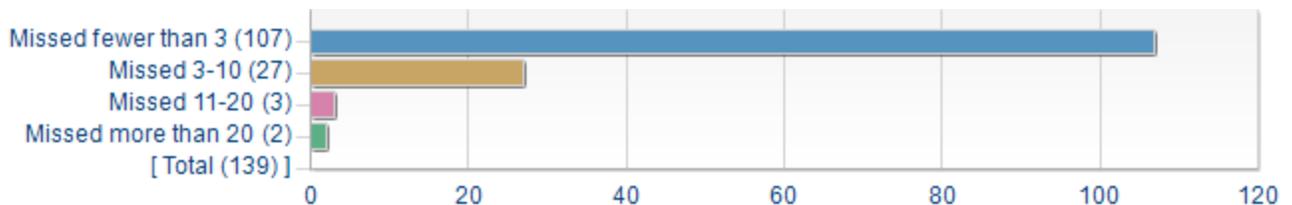
Statistics	Value
Response Count	154
Mean	4.58
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.66

### III Statements About The Students:

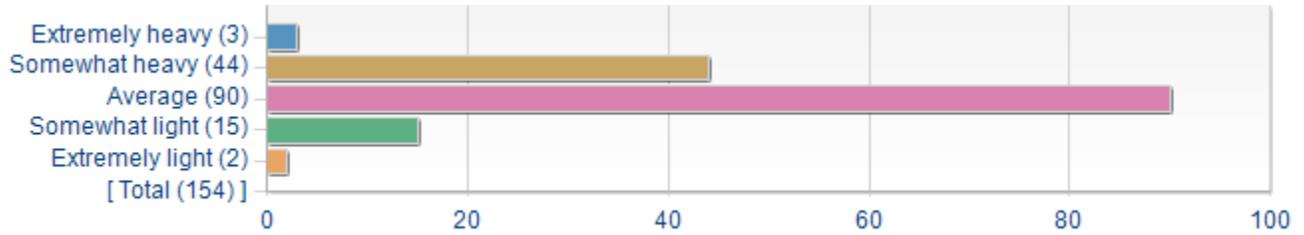
My primary reason for taking the course.



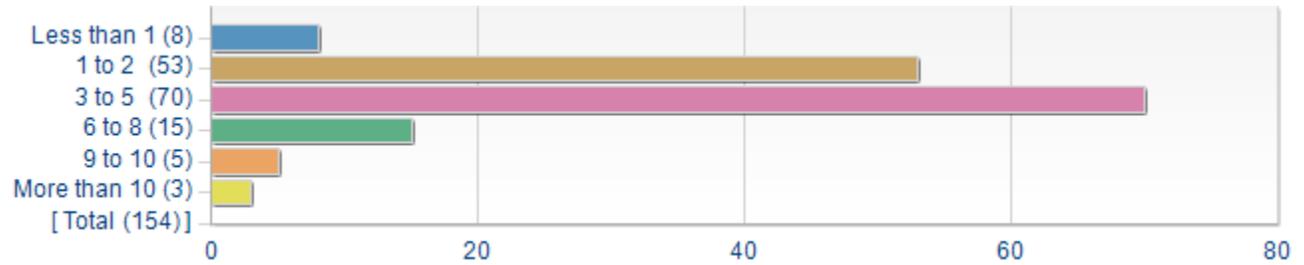
The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend



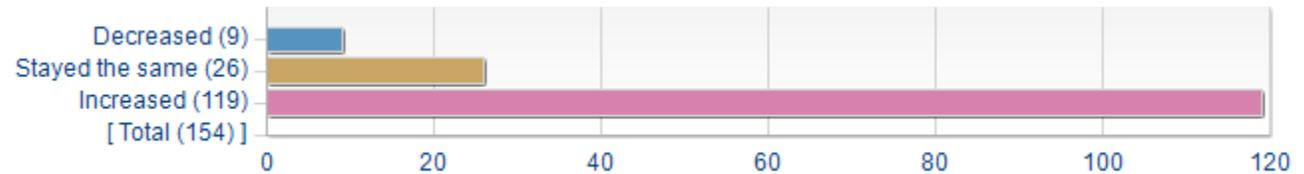
**Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was**



**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?

Comment
Amazing lecturer, keeps students engaged, loved the lectures
Really good instructor. Obviously passionate about what he is teaching which helps students stay engaged. All around great prof.
His lectures are amazing. Keeps everyone interested. The notes are extremely helpful and the tests are fair. Very possible to get a good grade in the course if you put in some effort. You get the feeling that he actually wants his students to receive good grades in his course unlike other profs
Great job holding my attention and making me look at topics in a different perspective
Genuine interest in his students and in their experience of his course. Went above and beyond when preparing students for exams with a tutorial devoted to exam prep, an MP3 of expectations, a rubric and thorough class notes
He is extremely passionate about what he teaches and actively involves the class in discussions. He is the only class of 200+ people where I have seen this work so effecticly. I like that the lectures and notes are online, because if you miss a class or want to review for a midterm, you are able to easily review the class. He offers lots of opportunity to talk to him and is willing to help you improve your work. He is aware that he is talking about potentially touchy subjects but he is receptive and encourages criticism and is always tasteful.
Bruce is the best professor in the world. He is funny, has interesting examples that make you think, videos that help you engage with the class.
Very enthusiastic, worked to make the course interesting. Providing tutorials is also very helpful.
he always managed to keep things very interesting. His use of humour was great in increasing understanding of topics.
He is a very engaging and interesting lecturer! Ravelli.ca is so helpful and provides great resources
Bruce did a fantastic job of teaching very complicated sociological concepts. I especially liked his use of stories/examples, as I felt they increased my understanding of sociology. Lectures were a blast to attend and I didn't miss a single one as a result.
His lectures were always interesting and he always allowed students to voice their opinion.
He was enthusiastic & it was obvious that he loves what he does
He is very enthusiastic and always respects people's ideas, even if they conflict with his own
Lots of knowledge about the topic, made things interesting for me.
Did a very good job at making the subject matter interesting and in engaging the class. Really enjoyed it.
He made every lecture interesting and fun.
Bruce is the best! I love how enthusiastic he is about the material because it makes me enthusiastic! I haven't missed a class because coming to them is honestly a highlight in my week. I guess his biggest strength besides actually being able to teach the material in different ways a perspectives is he makes it interesting and worth learning! Again I absolutely love this class, the material and his teaching!
His classes are engaging and make you want to learn.
The use of examples and detailed explanation of concepts to further my understanding was super beneficial
He makes the class super interesting with real life stories/ examples to apply to the concepts, its a really enjoyable class. Really good at keeping students engaged
He really made the course engaging and interesting. The concepts were clear and lots of examples were made for us to understand.
Bruce is fantastic at explaining the different concepts and he made each lecture very interesting.
Bruce is organized, helpful, kind, produced a positive work environment where I was always engaged in class and looked forward to each topic

His lectures were extremely entertaining as well as informative.

He is a great lecturer.

Bruce made the course information interesting and kept me captivated, as I genuinely looked forward to going to lectures and was interested in the content

Very well prepared and a great presenter

Bruce is an incredible lecturer, I don't think I've seen another professor put in the work to prepare students as he does. He was also very good at conducting discussions in a way that everyone's voices were heard.

The energy and enthusiasm Bruce brought to class everyday was very motivating. He clearly explained course concepts in a way that was relevant and relatable for the class. And it was refreshing to have an instructor who recognizes the flaws in the "system" as I do.

Was extremely passionate and very clear, inspired you to learn

He was very personal and was able to describe the content very well.

Clear and concise explanations and examples.

Passion for the subject helped keep our interest in what he was saying

His lectures were very impressive and engaging, definitely more so than any other class I have taken so far.

His powerpoints were clear, and mp3s useful. He made connections to things that he used as examples that helped a lot

Always super prepared, students are always engaged and present to class, regardless of the fact that he posts the power points as well as the recorded lectures. Bruce is very good at explaining and our class discussions are amazing. He is hands down my favourite prof

Very clear explanation of course concepts and explained them in different ways to help us better understand.

passion

His lectures are amazing and interesting, as well as he provides lots of help with his mp3 and slides he posts online

He was obviously passionate about the subject, extremely well prepared for lectures. Offered opportunities in and out of class in order to clarify course material. Excellent class.

Passion about the material that encouraged me to work hard and held my interest

Everything , he's an amazing teacher who made this course very enjoyable and his course material was very thought provoking

Knew his stuff!

He is very engaging which makes it fun.

Very good speaker.

Very engaging and makes you look forward to coming to lecture; very well prepared.

He is engaging, informative and makes learning about the concepts very interesting.

Confident and powerful public speaker, engaging with class not just instructing

Good speaker, prepared, good at connecting course concepts to real life.

- very engaging
- relatable to University students
- very informative

He was always super excited about what we were learning and prepared for class

Would relate to recent events and things, bring humour to the class as well as provide interesting topics

Had good full class discussions, he really knows and is passionate in what he is talking about, and gives good description and examples.

Clear voice , good pace of teaching and excellent material

Great lectures that were engaging.

Very interesting to listen to

He has very good and engaging analogies and stories that help students understand and want to learn the content.

He keeps the lectures very interesting by adding lots of videos and class discussions. He has very interesting views on

the world around us and shares them with us and has interesting videos that makes me question things as they are.

Classes were interesting and I learned a lot, did not have trouble paying attention in class!

He is passionate about the topics and does a great jobs explaining them in a relevant and relatable way.

He was interesting

Extremely knowledgeable and engaging. I'm in first year and this is my favourite class.

He gave great lectures which made the class more interesting and made me listen more intently

Very good examples and explanations of the topics

Such an interesting class, one of the few classes I have taken that I looked forward to coming to class. This course has changed my life as I now see things completely differently and thats all thanks to Bruce. He is an incredibly intelligent person and he knows the material inside and out. No matter what we talked about, he could always find a way to make you question your own opinion. I loved this class, I would recommend it to anyone.

-talking and lecture pace was nice and slow

-Bruce is very welcoming to students, and helpful with emails or office hours

-he tells great stories and is funny :)

Very good lectures and getting students involved in them. Passionate about what he teaches.

He used witty examples to provide insight into the concepts he was teaching. This helped me to remember the concepts. He also had office hours that I attended when I was struggling with a concept.

enthusiastic about the material, his lectures are interesting and compelling

Bruce is a superb lecturer, and this is probably the reason why the class is full all through the year. He is hilarious and his stories are probably my favourite thing. I also appreciate the tutorial hours and our TAs time for personal help.

He is a good lecturer.

i liked having the MP3's and slides posted online. He spoke clearly and gave examples for everything.

Very enthusiastic and charismatic

Bruce's enthusiasm in the course made the content stick and encouraged me to learn.

He made this subject interesting. I didn't know if I would be interested in sociology at all and now this is what I want to major in. He really inspired me to make a change in society and to aspire for a job that actually will make a difference

Really good connections to the class demographic. Sense of understanding our generation and explained concepts in ways that we could relate. I looked forward to his lectures every week. Also the mp3s and slides helped keep up and go back to material.

Really interesting lectures

He was always prepared and offered many extra help sessions if we needed it. He is there for is students

He was incredibly passionate about the material, which made learning easier. He was also very approachable during his office hours, and it was clear he wants his students to succeed.

Bruce was a very engaging professor who always made class interesting and made his students want to come to class.

He is a captivating speaker that enlightened me greatly.

He always had an example that explained the material in a way we could understand.

Interest of sociology

Strong knowledge of material, enthusiastic, ability to apply terms & concepts to help us understand

Very approachable.

Described the concepts in the course well and made lectures interesting to attend.

Good speaker , intresting stories

He was so engaging, and passionate about what he was teaching which made it easy to follow along and learn. He is the reason I decided I want to be a sociology major.

Made Soci very interesting.

He is passionate about the topic and it is apparent that he is a good person. As well, he explained topics very clearly and ensured that there were several resources for us to get the information from.

He engaged the class and was very funny and because of this everyone was more engaged and interested in what we

were learning. I also really enjoyed the way he would turn off the notes and just talk to us about the concepts we were learning, and he would tell a story or something that made the material relate to us on a personal level. This felt more like just a conversation and it was very cool

All of his lectures were fantastic, he's captivating and made even dull topics, interesting.

His teaching methods were very story based, so the concepts were immediately applied to real life scenarios. He took lots and lots of questions and answered them quite well. He almost always seemed genuinely interested in what students had to say when he asked the class a question and facilitated good class discussions.

He explained everything VERY clearly with good examples.

He was a very strong public speaker and I liked when he turned off the power points to go more in depth with concepts and he used multiple media to deliver his messages to the class.

He used a lot of outside examples and video to better explain certain concepts we've learned.

Because of Bruce Ravelli sociology has changed my view on life and how we relate to one another

Gave lots of opportunities for discussion.

He was incredibly engaging and fostered discussion to further concepts

Passion and excellent discussion skills

Very enthusiastic and told great stories that kept me engaged in class.

Making the class very interesting to learn

Very passionate and kind. Accommodating of students and helped us feel comfortable.

Brought relevant information from pop culture to class, to make things interesting and relate well to the students. I like how we had discussion in lecture despite the large 200+ lecture hall.

his lectures were well prepared, interesting and organized, making information easy to understand

He was an excellent speaker and engaged his class extremely well

Very good communication and enthusiasm! He loves talking about what he teaches

Having TA's

Engaging and interesting

His lectures were interesting and engaging. He managed to make sociological concepts which easily could have been dry feel applicable and relevant.

He relates to his students on every level and provides multiple examples that help us to understand all the concepts and materials given.

Helpful, obvious knowledge and interest in material, and fair

Very captivating in lectures.

Charismatic and had a great way of explaining things

His passion and general knowledge motivates us. Also his greatest strength is his ability to challenge the thought of the majority (common ideology).

Amazing prof. Made the content interesting and relatable. Made you want to be in class.

An excellent speaker, Bruce Ravelli's humour and comprehension of the material made him exceptionally effective in helping me learn

Bruce is a fantastic instructor, he motivated me to learn and inspired me to want to minor in sociology.

He was very knowledgeable about the material and used examples that kept me interested throughout the entire lecture. He was also very helpful and accommodating during his office hours.

Kept the lectures very lively, offered lots of office hours, provided help to students when needed.

Creates a very engaging learning environment despite the class being in a huge lecture hall, something very unique for intro courses. Encourages students to think beyond what is presented and share their ideas. Presents the course in a very accessible and interesting way and is good at relating stuff to students.

My favourite teacher this semester, Bruce really helped me find sociology super interesting and I'm considering making it my major because of his class

Bruce was always prepared for class. He also explained each concept in great detail, as well as, encouraged class questions and discussions. The class questions and discussions really helped build on the concepts, as well as, it

gave you more ideas to what the other students were thinking. Bruce also had a lot of good ideas that were presented in tutorials through the assignments. I also really liked the idea behind PeerScholar, although Bruce does not like it, I hope it sticks around for second semester because it gives students a chance to build on the concepts in a new way, as well as, see what their classmates have to say. One last thing, I find it really helpful that Bruce puts the mp3's of the lectures and the exam information on his website, as well as, all the notes and handouts.

Bruce is awesome, his interest in the course material and understanding of the concepts always make his classes very enjoyable to go. He motivates his students to learn by making the class interesting and providing real life experiences to explain concepts. He provides so many resources to his students, and is always available to provide help. Definitely one of my favourite prof's in my four years at UVic.

His lectures are amazing, therefore I WANT to go to every single lecture and am excited for it. He puts so much effort and emphasis on the content we learn, which makes it interesting and able to follow.

-His lectures are so good. Always so insight and interesting.  
-It made me think of ways in a new light

His genuine interest in the subject and care for his students was incredibly motivating.

Could tell Bruce was interested in what he was teaching. Was always topics that were interesting and relevant creating an interest to learn from the course.

He had a vast amount of knowledge on the topic and made the class more enjoyable through the examples, stories and videos shown in class to help us students have a better understanding of the concepts.

Bruce did an amazing job in keeping the class interested at all times. His material in teaching the course was always laid out in a simple matter making it much easier to grasp course concepts. The way he teaches is excellent and I would recommend this course to anyone because of him!

funny, easy to follow along and easily accessible course materials.

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

#### Comment

Put into the syllabus the expectations of the class and what happens if a student has an issue, as there is an increasing number of complaints being sent.

I really like peer scholar!!! Maybe give more detailed instructions on how to edit peers work. Otherwise it's great!

I have none. He taught very well.

I think he did a good job, especially given the amount of material in the course.

None

I think everything he's doing is great

Could have maybe talked a bit more about the assignments in class.

I really don't know I love the class and you have office hours to help when I have any questions!

More notes on exam topics

None!

He is doing every thing right but tutorial assignments are strenuous as there is already enough work in the course and they don't teach anything

Be clearer on what concept he is describing when giving certain examples

Give more feedback on how to improve on essay-based tests as well as tutorial essays.

Keep doing what you're doing!

Provide more access to specifically talk to you and ask you questions not just t.a's

He could have assigned readings in the text.

Given/provided outlines of theories and concepts.

He could maybe have specifically gave us more pointers for peer scholar assignments

Be clear about how to do well on the first midterm- just adding examples wasn't enough, they had to be very specific

Having there be a bit less on the powerpoints so that we have to write our own stuff down

Nothing the instructor could have done, but my TA could have been better....

No suggestions, he did a very good job

more involvement with the ta

If there were more tests or someway to gauge which areas I need help on, more feedback. Keep the grades posted on coursespaces

Not Applicable, Bruce is the best.

I honestly cannot think of anything I was lacking on Bruce's part. This is the vest course structure I've ever been in.

no tutorial assignments but keep peer scholar

Examples of a good tutorial assignment one. I was confused as to what was required.

He did everything very well I wouldn't change anything.

Maybe office hours on more days.

Don't always justify what you say because someone doesn't like it. There's multiple times in the course where I felt uneasy about a subject but Bruce presented the topic how it should be presented which I am thankful for.

Sometimes the course concepts are explained in a confusing way. He could've elaborated more on the concepts in easy to understand wording and had clearer connections between concepts and examples.

- more time spent on Exam topics ... I felt I had to learn a lot of that on my own

I wish there were more information on certain vocabulary or all the information was available in the text. Instead I felt some vocab lacked proper understanding

Have our tutorial assignment help us with the course more, relate more to the course.

Nothing this is the best taught lecture I've had so far

Have easier questions but not give them to us before tests so we only study stuff that helps with those questions

I think he did a great job, I should have gone to talk to him personally.

Everything is perfect

Perhaps Bruce could have provide more detail as to what exactly he wanted for the written components for the midterms.

None

Less trivial information on the slides. For example the personal history of a sociologist

-felt like I did everything that was asked and more on assignments and tests, and was told that my answers were good or strong, then kept getting grades between a C+ to B- which I do not consider as a 'good or strong' grade. Therefore, marking was discouraging. I understand that all the expectations were told to us, so maybe we were expected to all write in the exact same sentence structure? Not sure

There is nothing I can think of

more specifics on requirements (for exams) to get an A

Bruce is sometimes condescending, and although he claims and tries to be absolutely inclusive, he uses ridicule to subtly get his personal ideas across during examples. I do not have any specific suggestions how to improve this however, no one is perfect and I appreciate that sometimes Bruce admits his biases.

sometimes the example went on too long so i couldnt follow what concept he was explaining.

Be more specific on what you expect from assignments and exams

A lot of assignments that all require a lot of work in order to get a good grade. Extremely difficult to get good grades by simply studying. Studying not enough to get a good grade for this course. Makes it difficult for people who need to put in more effort to connect with the material.

Maybe a quiz or two?

More TA hora

I think his teaching style was already very effective

-

Test more of the terms rather than 4 per unit/midterm

N/a

have a better system than the mp3, maybe wear a mic and record from that.

I hope if he could post note on the online before the class, it would be helpful.

Nothing, he was amazing

.

I sometimes felt that he was condescending to the class and made generalizations about the way that we live our lives. As well, I feel as though he acted somewhat unprofessionally on the 2nd midterm. For the most part, the exam went very well, but towards the end (specifically in the last five minutes) I had difficulty focusing. When people were leaving, they were somewhat loud and Professor Ravelli didn't discourage them. Also, students were even passing their midterms to him directly over my head, since he was standing right by where I was sitting. As well, he was speaking loudly about things unrelated to the exam before the allotted time was up. While these issues may seem marginal to some, for students like me it makes it extremely challenging to focus on finishing my exam. I do feel as though my performance did suffer because of this. I suggest that he does everything that he can to encourage other students to be respectful and quiet when they finish their exam (if the time is not up) and that he doesn't talk more than he has to. I have found it immensely helpful in my other classes when the professors have prohibited students from leaving in the last five minutes. Perhaps, he could consider adopting this policy? I am sure that I am not the only student who feels this way, and I think that making such changes would be incredibly beneficial for students in the future.

I don't have any suggestions

He does absolutely everything to prepare us for exams and helps us understand material.

If the concepts could be explained using more than his imaginary example, even by a second imaginary example, it would be easier to understand the concept. It would be interesting to link the concepts to real life instances more regularly, and by that I mean news worthy happenings, not little quirky things like purity balls.

He could have given more examples for some things the class did not understand as well.

The first assignment description was slightly vague so maybe explaining how to set it up more would be better.

My only suggestion for him would be to change the rubric for how the exams are marked

Can't think of any

I'm not quite sure

Bruce did a great job in lectures. I wish the tutorials were more structured however. I like how he left it up to the TAs to instruct and plan, but I feel like my TA was not providing as much support and help as other students. I felt like my education was not as strong in this class as other students who had TAs that prepared great outlines for the tests and assignments. In short, more structured tutorials would help me learn more effectively.

Maybe providing more in class material

I really enjoyed it when we had the opportunity to have class discussions. More of those would be nice but I understand that it's hard to fit in all the curriculum material.

N/A.

None

nothing needs to be changed.

This is an outstanding course that has been taught flawlessly. Amazing and motivating work Bruce.

One of the best teachers I have ever had, I think that his teaching style is excellent as is.

I have none.

more structured notes would be beneficial, with like headers and topics throughout etc

Peer scholar is a good idea as a concept, but it didn't really work as it relies on student participation too much

I believe that Bruce is doing everything that he can to provide a ton of information to students in order for them to succeed.

I have no suggestions.

Nothing really.

I honestly don't know

Really liked the idea of peerscholar, particularly better than the first assignment, found that I was learning/ applying myself more in peerscholar assignments.

I felt he was overall very effective, no suggestions.

N/A

you're doing good :)

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

Comment
I liked the idea of peer scholar and genuinely put effort into it, but I feel like most people didn't care and that resulted in it being pretty ineffective.
Vetting the TA's more, this is not the first TA for a soc 100 course I have taken that was overall disappointing and had no passion for teaching his lab.
Not a fan of peer scholar, perhaps more written work to be handed in to TA's instead
Not a big fan of peer scholar
Perhaps if we had more peer scholar assignments, or things like them, throughout the semester. Also Bruce needs to be slightly more educated in gender and sexual orientation. Even though it is not his area of expertise, he teaches an intro course which involves this subject, so a little research on the subject could help improve the learning of the class
The tutorial assignments are far too much work for what they are worth
Be more clear of how to 'get the A'.
Maybe have some small quizzes on terminology throughout the semester, to aid being able to remember them.
I just wanted to note here that I really enjoyed the peerscholar assignments. I felt they were more interactive and thought provoking than online work in my other classes. As for how the course could be improved, the only thing I can think of is the midterm exams. I really liked the use of essay questions on the midterm, but I felt that 50 minutes was not enough time to develop my ideas in an essay. On both midterms I felt my grade suffered because I didn't have enough time to show all of my knowledge about the questions.
Less theory would be nice!
Perhaps make the assignments more structured and and specific
Tutorial assignments 1 & 2 are very confusing and the expectations are hard to understand, I didn't find the project to deepen my understanding.
I think it's really important that this course continues to have tutorials - they really help solidify what we've learned in the lecture and help to prepare for midterms
Less papers.
I love it how it is!
No improvements
Assignments could be made more clear. Exams should not be marked by different ta's as they all have different expectations on grading.
None!
No tutorial assignments. However KEEP THE TUTORIALS THEY ARE NECESSARY.
Nothing. This course was excellent.
I think the Peer Scholar should be weighted less and maybe add other participation activities.
More background and instructions on tutorial assignment
The midterm duration or length could be altered to make sure everyone can complete it comfortably.
More interesting material in tutorials
Nothing I would change.
Form active discussion groups outside of class and tutorials
N/A it's already great!
Tutorial assignments are not that useful
-
the ta's marked very unfairly as some students were told that their ta marked up to 10% higher or lower than other ta's.

More low graded assignments to help us know which subjects we need to practice.

IF BRUCE is the prof, he might offer an even more engaging class without showing power points in class, as his lecture style is so engaging to begin with. But really, make this class mandatory instead of Engl 135... It's so good.

Once again, I enjoy and learn from this course more than any other I'm currently taking. Every resource is provided and expectations are completely reasonable.

I wish the midterm that I got higher in was worth 20%. It would be nice if whichever midterm you did better on was the one that was weighted for more.

No suggestions.

Have tutorials structured differently. Only went over assignment requirements a week before due, not very helpful, too late

Modifying the exam style.

More available TA hours

Take away peer scholar

The assignment instructions for the tutorial 1 need to be more clear. The one page limit on the exam questions could be extended to include everything he is asking of us in order to get an A.

n/a

Maybe quizzes (multiple choice) to know if you understand the material properly before all the midterms and assignments so you know you're on the right page

More TA classes

Different office hours

None

Assignments have due dates that if late, take marks away instead of an automatic 0

I'm not sure, I like how everything is posted online to go back to while studying.

Everything in this course is perfect.

Make the tutorial assignments more clear, maybe provide an example one for students to look at.

Perhaps have smaller multiple choice assessment as well as the written work

Stop peer scholar.. It's hard being assessed by peers who don't know what they're talking about

Peer scholar grading is a bit unfair because it is averaged by other students.

hated peer scholar. Really inconvenient, and we had to pay to use it.

-didn't like exam format (prefer MC)

-because of the exam format, the textbook wasn't very useful. I would read maybe a page or two every time we had a midterm to prepare the questions. Because of the exam format, we only need to look at a few concepts in the book. However, I did enjoy not having to do readings all semester!

-from what I heard, Bruce doesn't let TA's do certain things that I thought sounded reasonable (to do with marks), and I don't think it's fair to lower a students mark after they have already been given a grade (maybe keep it the same, and speak with the TA about marking?)

Less theory and more time for the midterms.

Remove peer scholar. Maybe replace it with peer reviewing assignments in tutorials, and online quizzes or something. I did not appreciate the structure of peer scholar, and all the specific deadlines.

More discussion based, seminar

less work. the 3 peerscholars, 2 papers and 3 tests was a but much i thought.

Give better examples on how to get an A on exams

Better TAs

Grading rubrics.

More warning on when the tutorial assignment two is due

More time to write midterms!!

Shorter answer with more questions midterms would be my preference

More examples for tutorial assignments

All the TA's marked extremely differently, some of my exams were similar to other people's yet I received a lower grade. Maybe making sure all TA's are on the same page so the marking is more fair.

Guidelines for the assignments could be clearer

The requirements for what was expected on the tutorial assignment was jumbled and difficult to navigate. It would be good if he reorganized it to be more clear. As well, I think that the course would benefit from not using Peerscholar. I found it very frustrating when I would spend a lot of time constructing my response, only to be graded very subjectively by other students. It was even more frustrating when I put a lot of time and effort into providing helpful feedback only to get grade scores or one word comments on mine. Also, I did not always get five reviewers of mine, which may have skewed my grade a bit.

I would get rid of peer scholar but that is already being done

He could tweak peer scholar, I think it was a great tool but wasn't given enough time to prove it's worth. I learned from the PS assignments.

The tutorial assignment felt a little strenuous and didn't help me learn enough to make the amount of work it was worthwhile.

Not much, overall it was an enjoyable and beneficial course.

KEEP THE TUTORIALS.

It would be helpful if he changed the exam appeal system. Instead of having to go through our TA for an appeal on an exam we should be able to go straight to him.

The essay questions are amazing! Understandably it is difficult to mark handouts, organize, etc. However, it was a challenging and new way of testing! I loved it!

Different exam structure

Planning the schedule for tutorials and midterms more effectively. Most students are not prepared to discuss the questions on the midterms a couple days after the questions are posted.

I don't like how subjective the grading was on the tests. It's still unclear to me how to get an A in the course even though I went in to get help from my TA multiple times. I'm in my 5th year in university and I'm getting better grades in my 4th year courses on writing assignments than the writing assignment and tests in this class. Students should be provided with a detailed rubric on how they are graded so it's clear how to get an A. An A in this class seemed to be "unattainable" even after trying to get help.

I think the course is almost ideal the way it is, I can't think of anything to improve it

The marking in this course was kind of hard, but that's about it.

N/A. It is a WONDERFUL course and a favourite among most of us students!

None

I like it as it is.

If this course could have maybe 2 tutorials per week

It requires more tutorials. One tutorial per week is simply not enough.

Peerscholar took away from the overall awesomeness of the course. It had inconsistent (peer) marking, multiple glitches, and was often very frustrating. I would not recommend it for future classes.

Have some multiple choice or short answer questions on the midterms

Don't use peer scholar next year.

I have none.

I found the 2 essays in 50-minute midterms not the best way to grade for an intro course with such a large scope. Also, having such a small timeframe for 2 essays forces us to just memorize what we're going to say rather than thinking about what we're writing while we're writing it. Unlimited writing space would also be better to effectively get ideas across instead of spending too much time planning or just abruptly ending your essay. Should start PeerScholar assignments earlier so they don't happen at the end of the semester when there's a lot going on. They would be better placed in the beginning to middle of the semester, when not as much is going on and there is less pressure.

I think that everything done in this course has its purpose and it makes for an effective course that allows students to succeed and improve on many skills.

The only thing I would recommend changing would be the tutorial assignments, which I found difficult because the

guidelines were fairly vague.

Tutorial teachers have more flexible office hours, and regarding the first tutorial assignment, maybe provide an example paper.

-even though peer scholar didn't turn out as planned, but I think there should be some small assignments other than the tutorial assignments and test.

It was great already

The course was very intriguing and well done, no suggestions.

I really did enjoy peer scholar it just becomes hard when those marking your work may not attend lectures. Other than that great idea, I really loved the videos and questions attached with them.

I found the class discussions really interesting and eye opening, so perhaps some how integrating group discussions into the lectures or group assignments/tutorial assignments.