UVic CES Instructor Report 201701 - Bruce Ravelli - INTRO SOCI: CULTURE+SOCIALZTN - SOCI 100A - A01 (CRN 22781)

UVic Course Experience Survey - Spring 2017
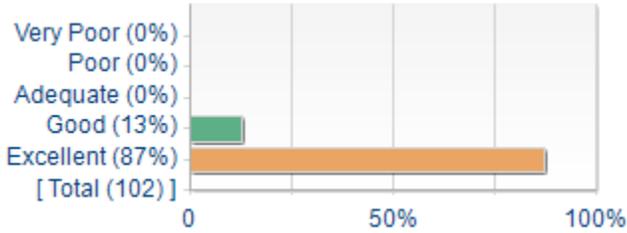
Project Audience 204
Responses Received 102
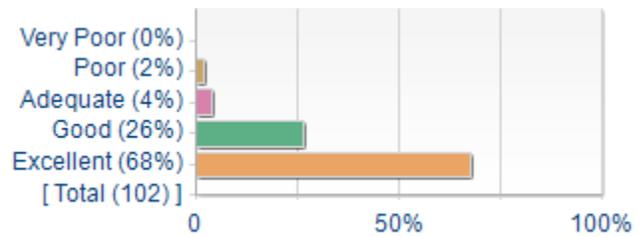Response Ratio 50%

Creation Date Sun, Apr 30, 2017

I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:
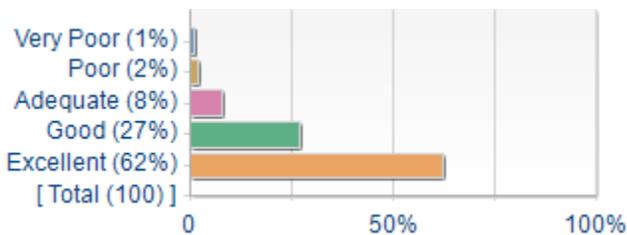
1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions

Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.87
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.34

2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear

Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.60
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.66

3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course

Statistics	Value
Response Count	100
Mean	4.47
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.81

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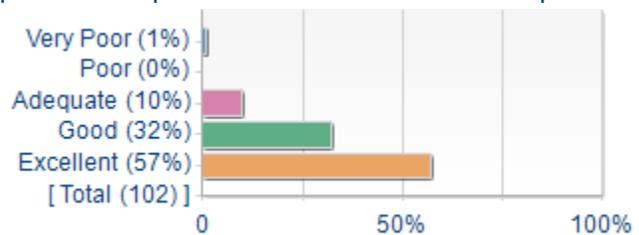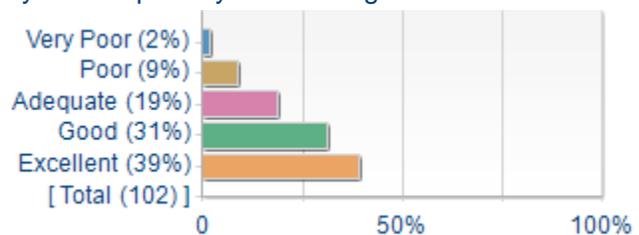

Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.44
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.75

5. The instructor ensured that your assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time
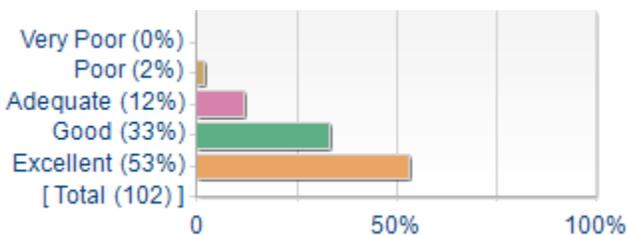
Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.37
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.77

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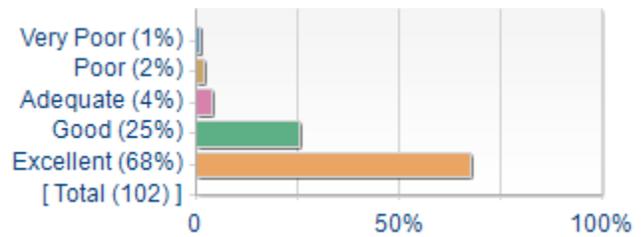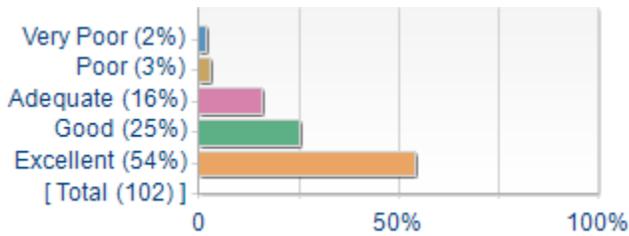

Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	3.97
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-1.06

7. The instructor demonstrated respect for students

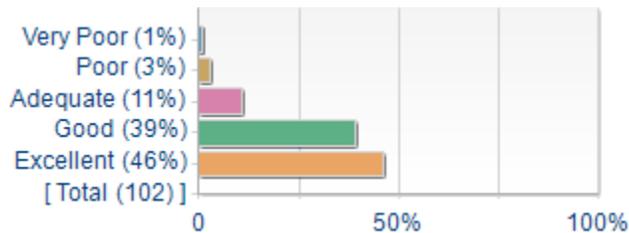### 8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this course

and their ideas

Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.26
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.96

Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.57
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.75

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

1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear

Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.26
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.84

2. The materials provided for learning the course content (e.g. handouts, posted material, lab manuals) were clear
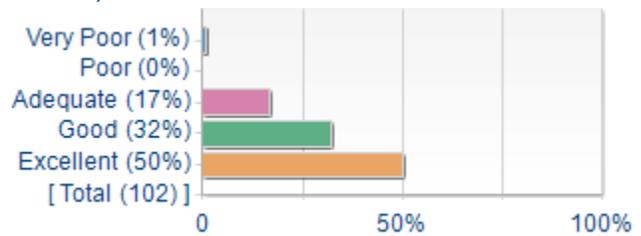
Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.30
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	+/-0.82

3. The assigned work helped your understanding of the course content
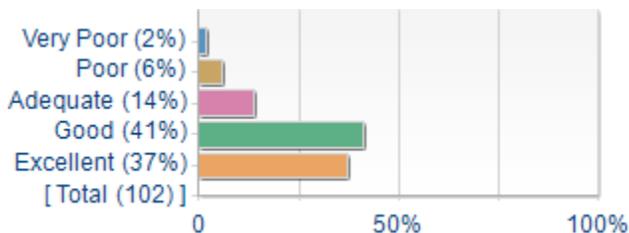
Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.06
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.96

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
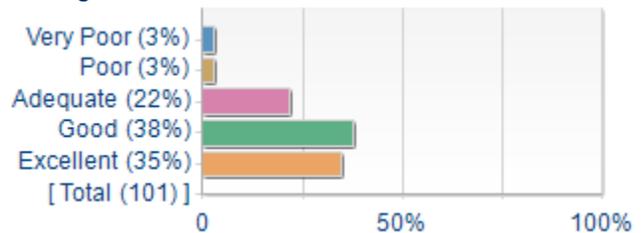
Statistics	Value
Response Count	101
Mean	3.98
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.98

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

Very Poor (7%)
Poor (5%)
Adequate (24%)
Good (39%)
Excellent (25%)
[Total (102)]
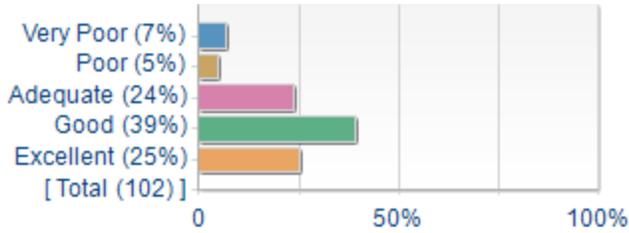
Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	3.72
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-1.11

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

Very Poor (2%)
Poor (2%)
Adequate (18%)
Good (38%)
Excellent (40%)
[Total (102)]
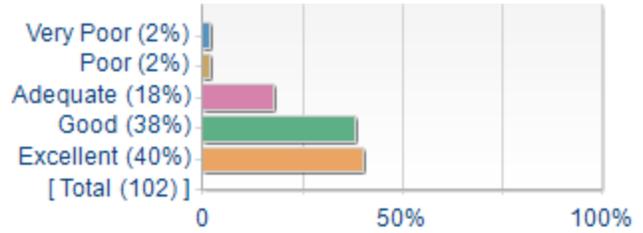
Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.13
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.91

7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience

Very Poor (1%)
Poor (5%)
Adequate (7%)
Good (39%)
Excellent (48%)
[Total (102)]
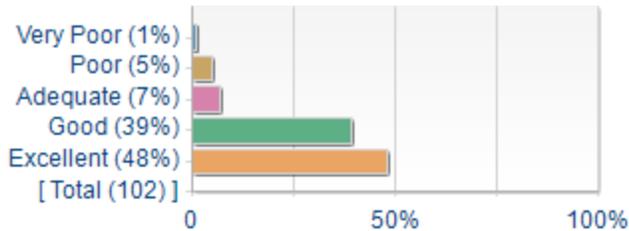
Statistics	Value
Response Count	102
Mean	4.28
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.87

III Statements About The Students:

My primary reason for taking the course.

Interest (59)
Program requirement (20)
Reputation of Instructor (12)
Reputation of course (6)
Timetable fit (5)
[Total (102)]
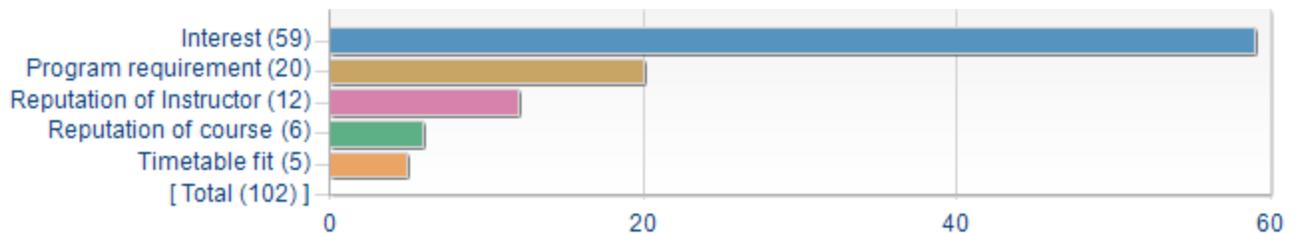
The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend

Missed fewer than 3 (49)
Missed 3-10 (40)
Missed 11-20 (7)
Missed more than 20 (1)
[Total (97)]
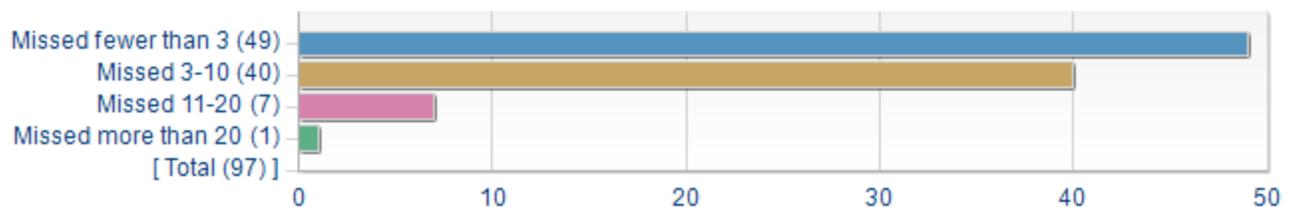
Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was

Extremely heavy (4)
Somewhat heavy (28)
Average (59)
Somewhat light (10)
Extremely light (1)
[Total (102)]
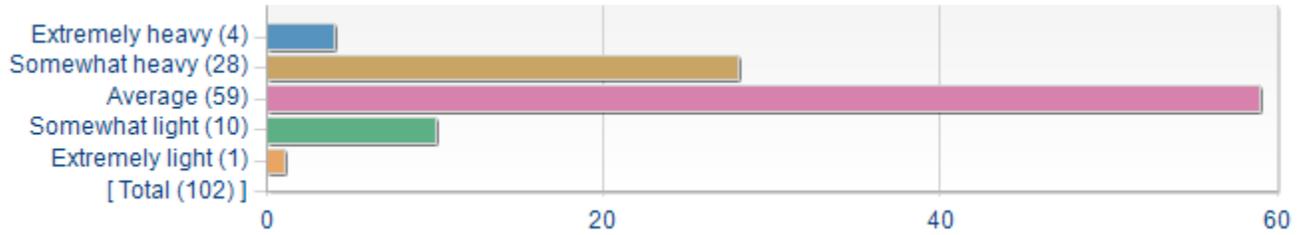
The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:

Less than 1 (7)
1 to 2 (35)
3 to 5 (41)
6 to 8 (15)
9 to 10 (2)
More than 10 (2)
[Total (102)]
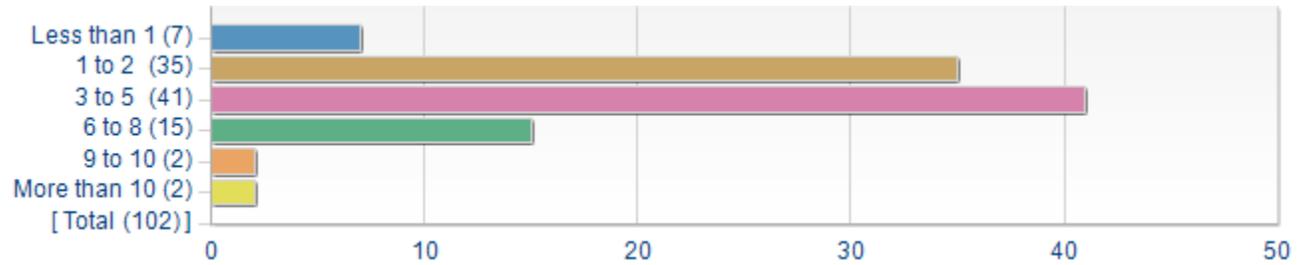
As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:

Decreased (10)
Stayed the same (25)
Increased (67)
[Total (102)]
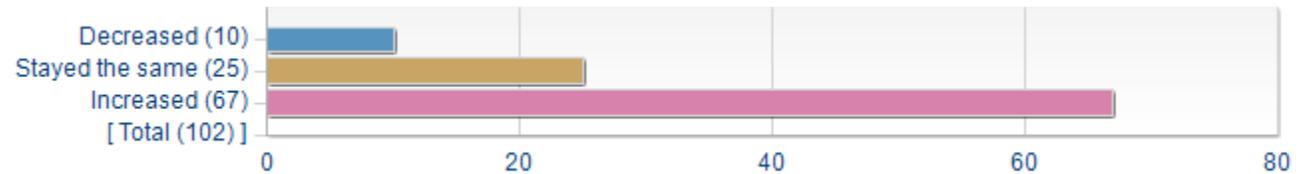
IIV Student Comments:

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

Comment
Knew the material. Was engaging. Good class discussion.
Very passionate about sociology and wanted students to learn it and apply it to real life. Very easy to understand, gave lots of examples
Absolutely changed my life. Pure passion and empathy went into each lecture, made me change my major. Ravelli is always prepared for lectures and can beautifully link stories and concepts to material.
Super great lecturer! Very interesting, respects peoples' opinions while also challenging them to look at situations from different perspectives. Really enjoyed his lectures!
Bruce was not helpful at all when it came to learning in this course. I had gone to him before a class to ask him a question regarding feedback on one of my exams and he simply told me that I needed to talk to him during his office hours. when I went to see him in his office hours he told me that since he does none of the marking he could not help me. Frustrated. I went to talk to my TA several times and she was not able to help me at all. I only got feedback on the positive things I did but with a barely passing grade I received no information on how I could improve the next time. I am incredibly disappointed in this professor and will not be taking any more of his classes.
Bruce Ravelli was extremely enthusiastic about the material and teaching. It made his lectures interesting to listen to.
Amazing lecturer, really motivates his students and increases their interest to explore more on the topics discussed in class as well as ones that are not
His ability to critique and support his arguments with evidence and stories
Made the class personal
Asks the class if there are any questions about the material. Exam rubric is broken down and explained. Shows videos during class and tries to make material relevant. Provides slides and MP3 of lectures. Explains concepts well and gives good examples to reinforce concepts. Allows for discussions in class.
very interesting examples of the content we studied made the concepts easier to understand and interesting to learn
great teaching knowledge, and stories.
I love that he records and then posts his lectures on time, as someone that is always struggling to pay attention and get notes it made understanding the course material a lot easier. In addition, if I missed the class I didn't feel that I was missing anything because I can always go back and re-listen.
-he made all of the material very interesting. -Liked that he put his lectures and powerpoints online. -liked that he gave the test questions prior to the exam -overall great class
Presentations were good
Good lecturer.
Bruce had provided personal experiences to larger or complicated context which allowed me to relate and understand the material more. The recordings of the lecture were remarkably effective in my learner.
I really enjoyed listening to Bruce's lectures, he was very engaging with the class and it was helpful to have those open conversations
He was very engaged in the material he taught the students and demonstrated it in ways that were fairly easy to understand.
Bruce is an excellent lecturer that brings energy and passion to the classroom every day. Bruce used excellent examples and explained concepts clearly.
Very clear in explaining concepts, held very engaging lectures.

Sound understanding of content with emotional attachment and engaging lecture.

Extremely engaging, very knowledgable, the most approachable/ supportive professor I've had in my 3 years at Uvic. Very easy to talk to, relatable, great public speaker, very motivating

Promoted independent thinking

I really liked the way Bruce spoke and presented each topic. It was like coming to a Ted talk every day. He made everything super interesting

Gave really good real life examples that made concepts more clear, accessible, and easy to understand.

Genuine interest in material, interesting personal anecdotes

He demonstrated strong and experienced knowledge on the subject matter we were dealing with. He was always well prepared and he made class interesting compared to other profs I have had so far at uvic.

He was engaging, and humors which made it easy to follow and listen to instructions. He always arrived with a positive attitude which made it easier to want to come to an early-ish class. Further, he was keen to have class discussions, which I found made concepts easier to understand.

Good lecturer.

Interesting lecture

He was very interested in the material and the examples he showed made it easier to understand what we were learning.

How to see things through other perspectives and come from a place of understanding when confronted with difficult situations.

Bruce is an amazing lecturer. I look forward to coming to class for his lectures.

Always prepared for class and had very interesting ways of presenting material. Great speaker.

He is a good speaker

Bruce was always extremely prepared for class, and was always extremely energetic - coming prepared with great stories and anecdotes to facilitate class learning. Very clear with class expectations and is always easy to talk to.

Clarity on explanation & very enjoyable classes

I like how Bruce incorporated stories into course material, they were very captivating and gave me a better understanding of the topic which it was being used to describe.

Bruce is good with his humour and teaching skills that make me felt engaged with the class. The course material and slides are sufficient to understand the concepts. His records of lectures that are frequently uploaded upon the website is extremely helpful as well.

Bruce is an amazing lecturer. All of his lectures are very thought provoking and interesting.

He was very prepared in all of his lectures, slides and material. He was very engaging and presented students with lots of relevant stories.

very good lecturer! very knowledgeable and passionate about material

Bruce is very charismatic and thorough. His lecture style is engaging and he is very clear when explaining concepts.

clear explanation

-He is a very good speaker and I always find myself listening very intently during his lectures and time goes by very fast because of that.
-Very engaging
-Always well prepared

- great lecture speaker

His use of examples and story telling

Best lectures I have ever been to. Uses personal stories and great examples to explain concepts and keeps the class interesting.

He was very engaging. He tells stories and asks questions constantly in class. Class discussions are lead by him with leading questions that really make us think.

Bruce was an amazing story teller and always provided great and relevant stories to his examples. He taught every concept as if he believed in it to the fullest extent which made learning very enjoyable because he was so passionate about what he was teaching. One of the best professors I've had.

His lectures, and the examples and stories he would talk about for every concept we learned really helped me to fully understand the concepts being taught. Also, he helped us be very prepared for the midterms and exams as well as the assignments.

Amazing lecturer; was really great at explaining concepts. I had no clue about some concepts that were brought up and was surprised that by the end of the lecture I could usually understand what was talked about in class.

He clearly loves what he does and is very passionate.

Another understanding of concepts that seemed regular

He had a positive learning guidance and made sure that we got enough time to work on our homework outside of class.

Made every lecture a great and insightful discussion.

The passion of the material covered and the discussion after certain subjects where he purposefully questioned everything with a critical mind.

Great lectures with engaging questions that made us want to talk about the class after class. He really made sure to relate the material to us and took the most interesting route.

Very clear explanations and was able to make me more interested in the course

Great guy loved his stories and the way he teaches

He is an excellent instructor who delivers wonderful lectures. He is passionate and kind to students, very helpful and dedicated

Making lectures interesting, motivating me as a student to actually attend them, as well as not just reading off of slides, but rather going in depth and actually explaining concepts.

Bruce was prepared for each class, and showed an interest and passion in what he was teaching, which made it more helpful and interesting to learn.

He was very passionate about what he's talking about and you could tell in how he stressed the issues.

Used very good and relatable examples to help us understand concepts.

He is a captivating lecturer

Passionate about subject, provided interesting material with an engaging teaching style. Good in-class discussion.

Great lecturer, was very passionate on the topics that were discussed. He was also well prepared, and motivating in his interest in sociology.

very engaging, interesting material

excellent public speaking and class discussions!!

Story telling was strong. Engaging lectures. Good examples of concepts. Good research. Support for speaking up in class. Offered a welcoming environment.

He is an amazing lecturer with fantastic stories. He is also very enthusiastic.

Bruce's main strength was his ability to grab your interest in order to motivate you to do well on your assignments.

Clear and use of comedy in some sense

His genuine interest and open point of view. He's really open minded which was somehow surprising on a middle-ages, white guy.

He is passionate about sociology and delivers is speech extremely effectively, using engaging videos and material to support theories.

Teaching style was effective to draw in the students.

He is very prepared and provides many examples. He relates material to our lives which makes it easier to understand.

He knows exactly what he's talking about, great instructor and a brilliant man. Very good at teaching it to students in a way that makes sense.

Explained concepts and offered discussions

great story teller. class was fun to attend

He gave amazing lectures that kept everyone very interested in attending class to learn more.

Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor (Bruce Ravelli) could have

helped you learn more effectively.

Comment
N/A
Can't think of any
Sometimes the stories are just a bit long... Most of the time they are interesting and contribute to the course, but sometimes they lose my interest and by the end don't contribute to learning.
Bruce can actually provide information to us on how to improve instead of referring us to TA's whom know nothing. He should have to do more than regurgitate the same powerpoint slides that he uses year after year. I paid too much for this class to receive this brutal teaching.
Have factual based lesions. Be less of a social justice warrior. Do reasurch before making claims - its embarrassing to listen to someone make wild claims that are not fully developed. Take an economics course before commenting on economics, ect.
Tell or explain concepts so that more students can relate or understand
None
More discussions during class. More examples that relate material to daily life.
more feedback on assignments... it was often unclear what was expected, and what expectations were not met
Make the second midterm worth less and make the assingments worth more.
The tests should contain all/ most content we learn or it is irrelevant to learn about it
Nothing
By always asking questions to students
Grading was inexplicably poor. The difference in marking between the first and second midterm exams was bizarre. One of the most demotivating classes I've ever taken.
Maybe have the marking a little bit easier
I really wanted Bruce to be more clear about what is needed to receive an A+ in this course. The instructions, in my opinion were unclear, as one must cite the text book and the lecture, but must not regurgitate the material, but rather transcend it. I think telling students that the only way to achieve an A+ is through transcending the material is a bit unclear as one cannot be taught how to "transcend" anything. I think maybe it would be more clear to explain what transcending the material means to him, which would provide more clear expectations for the students.
n/a
Not everyone in 100 level courses are 17-18 year olds, and material tended to be catered to that age range rather than an overall understanding of the concepts. Aged examples confused me somewhat.
.
N/A
Just keep doing what he's doing
- make the labs more relevant to the concepts we are learning in class - grading criteria for midterms and assignments was strict and hard to achieve
More feedback on exams and papers would be helpful in improving my writing skills.
Sometimes when we are focusing on one topic - he will divert with a separate argument, and when somebody in the class tries to counter that argument, he will revert back to the slides and almost dismiss the students opinion.
Bruce could have helped me learn more effectively by trying to make the topics which were not so interesting, be taught from a different approach. Possibly more videos to help explain topics that are confusing or not as interesting as others.
Suggests some ideas that could help me develop further than the lectures (which is what he expects to see on midterms and final). This is because I don't really quite clear with what he wants to see to get that A.
The grading criteria for the assignments and midterms are very strict. I felt sometimes that the grading was too harsh and the assignments and midterms should have been explained more in order to grade at this level.
Spend more time in lectures addressing midterm questions as opposed to leaving it solely to the TA's.
could have made it more clear how content analysis & literary review applied to the course/ been more clear about

expectations and suggested topics/methods

I think there could be a pre-exam multiple choice quiz so that enables us to remember concepts.

less assignment

More mid term prep on questions or better definition practise

I think the grading system for the tests was a little unfair, we were only given one page for our response which I think limits the students ability to form a really good response. Yes, some students are able to get a sufficient response in one page, but I think penalizing people for going past one page and just not allowing for people to write more to get their point across is not fair.

Don't waste so much time on long examples in lecture, and stick to teaching us what we actually need to succeed in your course. Having a horribly low class average is not something you should be showing off about. I understand that you think first year students don't know anything about anything, so please try to start instructing your TAs to grade on an appropriate level.

N/a

I wish he could make the tas provide us with examples of what there marking style. His policies are very difficult to deal with and needs to be more lenient on the way we can approach our professors and tutorial assistants.

More feedback on assignments. I need to know where I'm going wrong.

Maybe more feedback on the assignments and midterms, I know there is a time crunch but I also have a time crunch and I can't afford to come in for office hours all the time.

He was great, nothing really to be fixed

more stories and examples of things

He's already being great

N/A

Potentially being slightly more objective.

Nothing

more specific guidelines for papers, more feedback on midterms

Put the lecture slides up before class.

Bruce uses a lot of broad generalizations about our generation. I think he underestimates our knowledge in social issues. He tends to favor telling heterosexual stories and jokes when many may not relate to that. Also a lot of white guy theories and not enough women/gender queen theorists represented

He sometimes comes of as a little opinionated which leads to it being awkward to answer questions at times.

Bruce could have helped myself learn more efficiently by being more flexible with meeting for questions

I think he was extremely strict on the midterms and assignments. It is like he's trying to make a point on how difficult sociology is to understand. You shouldn't risk to fail when you actually make an effort.

Class debates would of been nice to give people an opportunity to disagree with each other and show our knowledge of certain topics.

More office hours or more flexible times to see him.

Provide more comments on exams and assignments

no comment

No more ways, he was great.

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

Comment
N/A
Content analysis/ literature review should be worth more than or equal to the midterms.
Papers could be worth a bit more so that Midterm 2 and the Final aren't weighted so heavily.
having a different professor who takes the time to help his students opposed to bragging about the fact that the majority of his class will fail.

This course seemes extremely subjective. I find it ironic that Donald trump was belittled so many times in the lectures, but the instructor had something in common with trump; there was no evidence to back up any of the claims made in this class. It was frustrating to learn about things or be told "this is how this works" without being shown any solid evidence. It became extremely aggravating to constantly listen to white shaming, and statements about the corporate devil. Seemed like this course was based much off of opionions more than fact which lead to it becoming a joke. These opinions that i speak of were forced upon us, and it seemed like you had to buy into it to get a decent mark in the class. Sociology could be a great course is it was fact based instead of a social justice warrior club. Many of the statements in class were not correct, and it seems as if this whole class with based purely off of opinion and a little bit of history.

Perhaps have guest lectures

Allow for more discussions about how material relates to daily life.

changing the test format and making the papers worth more tests worth a bit less

nothing

TA hours should not be right after the class

Considering this is literally Sociology 100, an easier or even fair grading style would go a long way for having some enjoyment of this class. I was interested in the course content before taking this class but now I highly doubt I will take another sociology course.

Nothing!

More feed back on exams that specifically state where one lost marks and subsequently where specific improvements could be made

n/a

More tutorial time to discuss concepts with the people who will be marking our papers and exams.

.

N/A

More assignments that are worth less, instead of two big assignment worth a lot

I would like the tutorials to follow a bit closer to what we are learning in class, to really increase my knowledge of the subject and offer more time to discuss difficult theories.

Quizzes or multiple choice sections on exams to ensure more complete understanding of material. Tests are too specific/allow for limited study.

Make the tutorials more engaging. I did not feel excited to go to tutorials, but rather an obligation as I did not want to miss any vital information on the assignments and exams.

I think that doing the assignments in the reverse order, with the literature review first and the content analysis second would make more sense. The literature review helps you to understand the topic you will then perform a content analysis of.

The TA could use all tutorials to talk about assignments, so we could start them earlier.

More stories, more videos.

N/A

Give more time and instruction for students to be successful at the assignments, midterms, and final.

Instead of two big assignments, if there could have been more smaller assignments.

Less weight for the final exam, heavier weight on the tutorial assignments

less assignment, set more time to think about the topics

Some TAs marked harder than others

spreading out the assignments

More material with textbook covered in class

Extending the allowed space to respond to exam questions

I believe the TA grading system is very unfair. My TA is a significantly harder marker than the other ones. I haven't scored higher than a 55% in this class (similarly to other students in my tutorial) while my friends in other tutorials consistently are scoring 75% while I believe we are turning in the same quality of work. I also have found she doesn't explain everything to the fullest extent and sometimes omits important information.

More time for the midterms, because writing 2 essays within 50 minutes doesent allow for much time to look back and

review your answers
I don't know if this was for everyone but for me the worksheet for the tutorial assignments was kindof confusing to read. I had to ask other people if I was following the guidelines.
More condensed
This course has clear material and thought process. However, I believe this class is based on white privileged man and can be looked into the spectrum on how other cultures seem demeaning and needs experiences on point of views from a racial point of view.
Hand out assignments and exams in tutorials, wastes less time in lectures. Lectures provide much more helpful information than tutorials.
I think it's perfect!!!
Perhaps making two more assignments and having them worth a bit less
i think it would be better to have more time in the end of the semester to do more work since towards the end there is no time because everything is kinda being crammed
give more specific outlines to help new students
Perhaps post exam reviews a week in a advance for those who need the extra time
Since this is a first year course maybe slightly lighter on work load. For example shorter assignments.
Nothing
Make the exams be weighted less!
Please please please..... I want to discuss the topics in sociology tutorials, not go over a TA's own personal agenda on what ever they are interested about, I think it really is helpful to talk about soicology and converce with students, i rarely got the chance to do so and im extremely unsatisfied as all my other courses that are social sciences have allowed me to discuss the material covered in class to develop a deeper understanding. Very unsatisfied
only one paper instead of two, more smaller assignments instead of 2 long papers
Group work or some way to build more community. The topics are very heavy and I think a lot of people could benefit from having support from each other.
Better marking efforts. More time for TAs to carefully go through essays and assignments and not mark too soon without looking through it all. Giving more in depth advice on assignments and things to account for.
It would be nice if there were a small quiz or two at the begining. The current layout has everything near the end so you don't know where you stand.
smaller classroom / more discussion
If possible, try to spread out the assignments and midterms a little bit more
- less strict - more group work
N/A
more time on exam questions
Nothing
i think the work load is too heavy for a first year course
I would improve the tutorials and have the topics discussed be all the same. The class itself was great.

My Instructor gave time in class to complete this survey.

Options	Count	Percentage
Yes	89	88%
No	12	12%
Does not apply (online course, field course, etc.)	0	0%