UVic CES Instructor Report 201901 - Bruce Ravelli - INTRO SOCI CONTEMPRY SOCIETY - SOCI 100B - A02 (CRN 22767)

UVic Course Experience Survey - Spring 2019

Project Audience 165
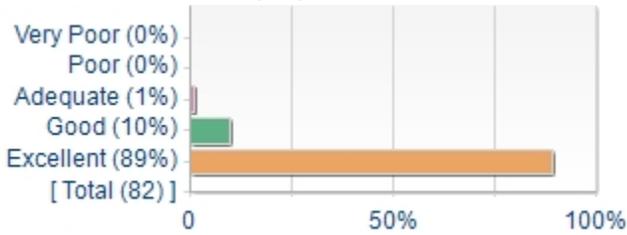Responses Received 82
Response Ratio 50%

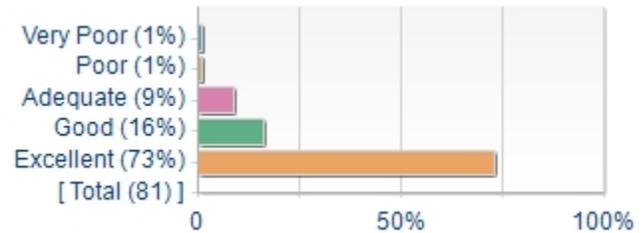| Subject Details	
CRN	22767
VNUMBER	V00107670

Creation Date   Fri, May 03, 2019

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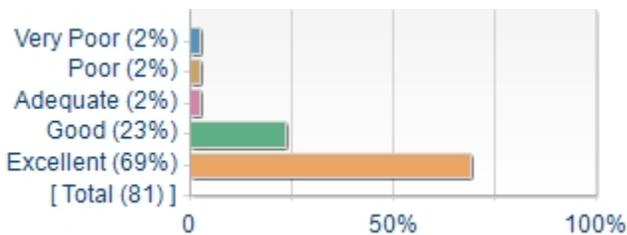
1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions

Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.88
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.36

2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear

Statistics	Value
Response Count	81
Mean	4.58
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.80

3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course

Statistics	Value
Response Count	81
Mean	4.54
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.87

4. The instructor was available to answer your questions or provide extra assistance as required
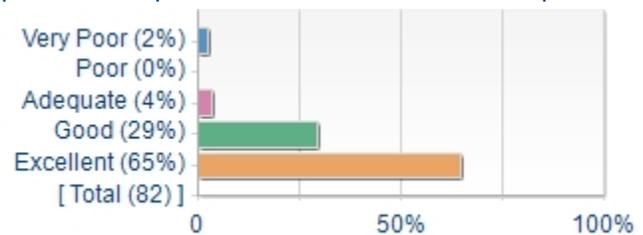
Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.54
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.79

5. The instructor ensured that your assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time
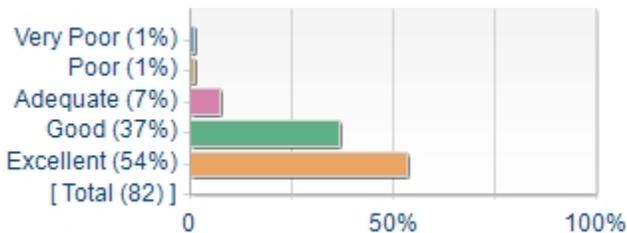
Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.40
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.78

6. The instructor was helpful in providing feedback to you to improve your learning in this course
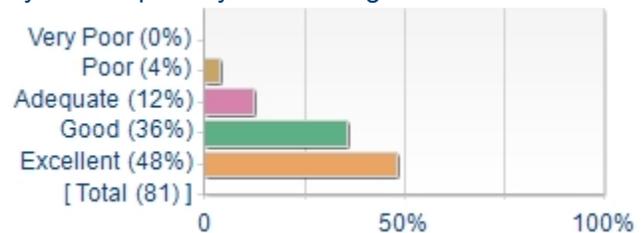
Statistics	Value
Response Count	81
Mean	4.28
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.83

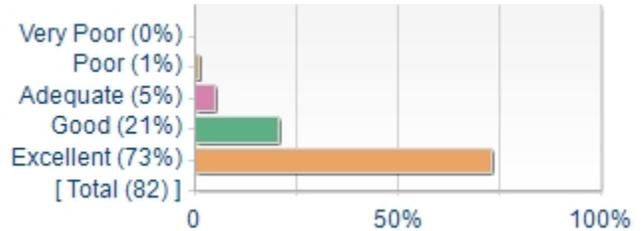**7. The instructor demonstrated respect for students and their ideas**
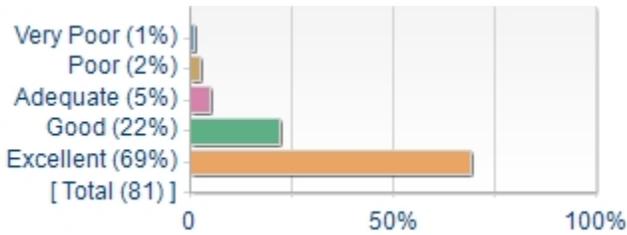
Statistics	Value
Response Count	81
Mean	4.56
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.81

8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this course

Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.66
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.63

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

1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear
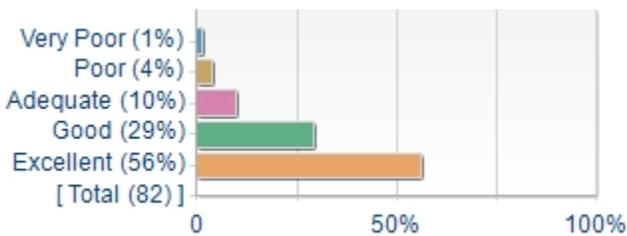
Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.35
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.89

2. The materials provided for learning the course content (e.g. handouts, posted material, lab manuals) were clear
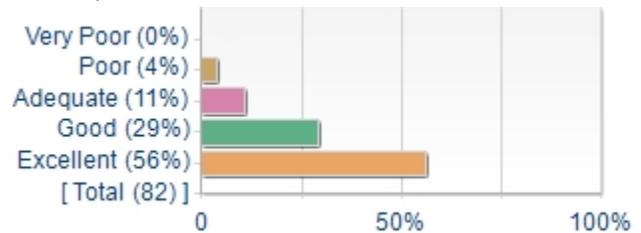
Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.38
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.83

3. The assigned work helped your understanding of the course content
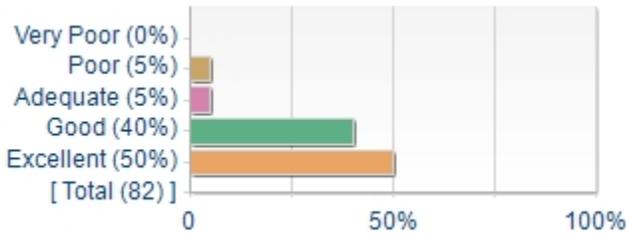
Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.35
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.79

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

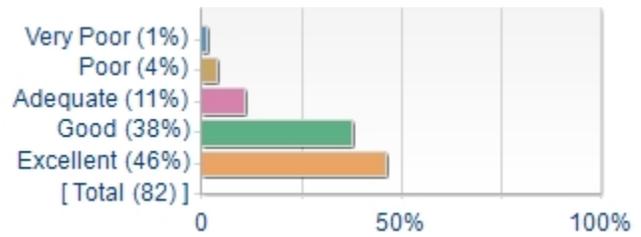| Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.24
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.88

5. The methods of assessment used to evaluate your learning in the course were fair
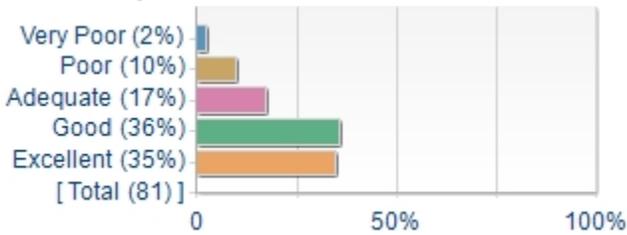
Statistics	Value
Response Count	81
Mean	3.90
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.07

6. The course provided relevant skills and information (e.g. to other courses, your future career, or other contexts)
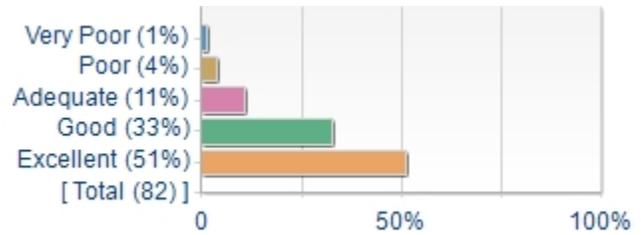
Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.29
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.90

7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience
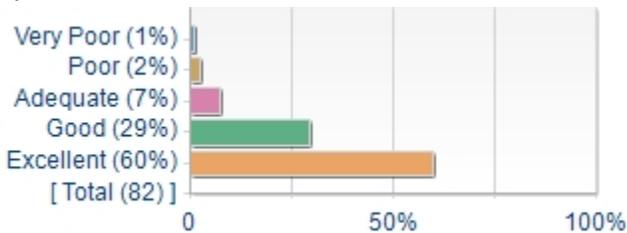
Statistics	Value
Response Count	82
Mean	4.44
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.83

III Statements About The Students:

My primary reason for taking the course.

Interest (38)
Program requirement (23)
Reputation of Instructor (20)
Reputation of course (0)
Timetable fit (1)
[Total (82)]
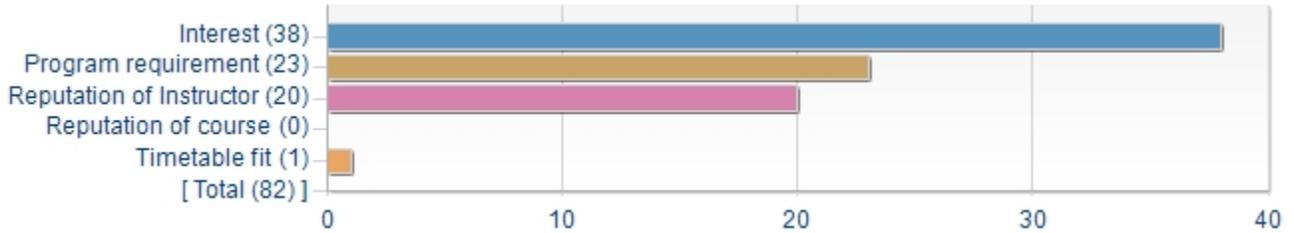
The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend

Missed fewer than 3 (40)
Missed 3-10 (31)
Missed 11-20 (4)
Missed more than 20 (3)
[Total (78)]
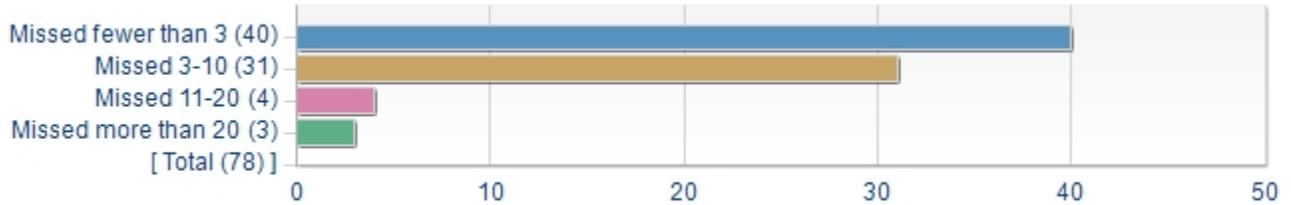
Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was

Extremely heavy (1)
Somewhat heavy (10)
Average (53)
Somewhat light (17)
Extremely light (1)
[Total (82)]
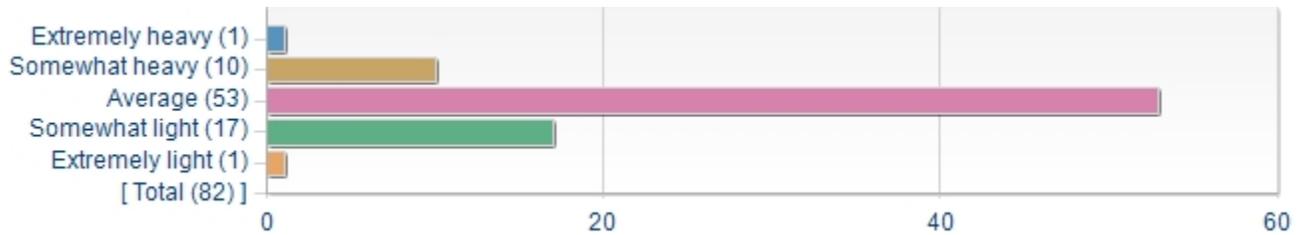
The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:

Less than 1 (2)
1 to 2 (31)
3 to 5 (42)
6 to 8 (3)
9 to 10 (3)
More than 10 (1)
[Total (82)]
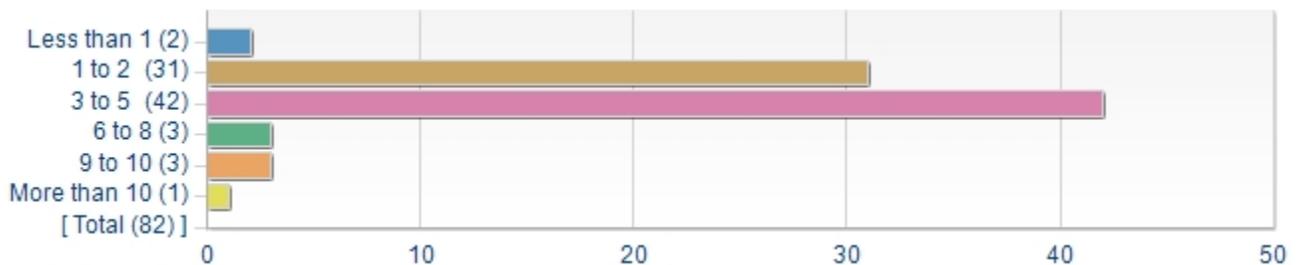
As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:

Decreased (12)
Stayed the same (17)
Increased (53)
[Total (82)]
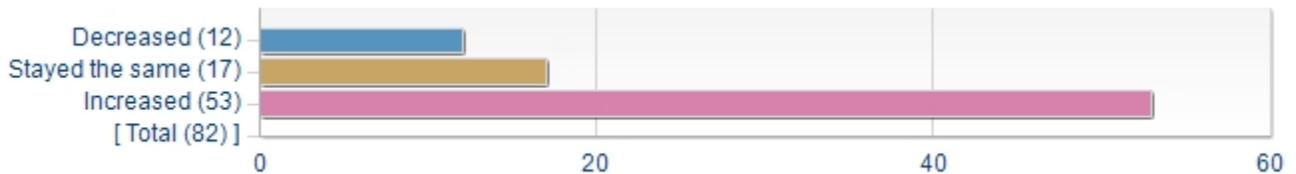
IIV Student Comments:

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

Comments
Very pationate about the topic, personable teaching styles and respected all views
Professor Ravelli is a brilliant teacher, engaging speaker, and an exceptionally kind person. His tests, although challenging, are perfect for a course that is based on the application of the sociological imagination. I owe him many thanks for helping me to discover a subject area that is massively interesting to me.
bruce is a great instructor. Always prepared for class, engaging, and fun to listen to.
Engaging
– provided excellent explanations of concepts –engaged his students
His explanations are relevant and easy to understand
He came prepared with slides and engaged with lecture material during lectures fairly actively.
Bruce was super un–bias in his teachings, it allowed students to come up with their own opinions on social issues. This was very refreshing since this is a very left–wing campus.
engaging attitude
Very captivating and wonderful lecturer
Great teacher and is good at explaining concepts.
His stories and interest were relevant. Great to see him in class. His reputation stood strong.
Really organized and very interesting
Clear explanation of topics and spoke with a passion that made me want to learn.
He was the best instructor ive ever had and was able to explain everything in great detail but still making it easy to understand
Bruce is one of the best lecturers I've had at university. He is knowledgeable, a strong talker, and very funny.
Overall outlook to society and the world through a sociologist perspective.
– phenomenal public speaker – intriguing personal examples
Effective examples for concepts, relative videos shown in class to boost understanding
Good lecturer, very engaging, variety of examples for each concept, allowed student opinons/questions/critiques on concepts
Very passionate and overall knowledgeable about sociology
Provided alternative assessments for textbook exams
Extremely well versed in the material, very enthusiastic about Sociology, gets students interested, engaged, excited. Gives very clear notes on material, very clear instruction on expectations from students on midterms.
Good lectures, as a visual learner I found it helpful to watch educational videos. Also, revel is a really helpful way to learn and do quizzes.
His humour and clarity when explaining concepts was excellent.
engaged students in discussion, even though it was a large class size. made the class a comfortable and interesting environment.
passionate, invested in the course, good and funny stories
he was able to bring sociological concepts to real world scenarios and it helped me learn the material
Absolutely amazing professional, very inspirational and motivation opened up my mind and gave me the ability to think outside the box more about the world

Comments

Bruce is a very engaging professor. Even though his lectures are quite large he takes the time to call on students and use them as examples for his teachings which provides a clear understanding and makes the example stick in your head more than just reading off of a lecture slide for the entire time.

very infromative and intersting lectures

very knowledgeable, good speaker, engaging

Ravelli is one of the only professors I have that has had actual teaching training. This is obvious in the way that he is always prepared, explains concepts extremely clearly, and is an overall personable person.

Engaging.

Bruce Ravelli made lectures extremely interesting with stories and videos and interesting material, which motivated me to do well in this course and helped me learn. He was also very helpful when I had questions and was easy to contact.

–Always prepared
–Provided great explanations of material, additionally through the use of tutorials

Very good attitude that reflected onto the students and made for a very positive overall class experience. The recordings of the lectures are always super helpful and the choices that he offers in terms of alternative ways of testing our knowledge should we choose to

He is well spoken and explains concepts in a way that is clear and easy to follow, as well as presenting information in a fun and engaging manner.

Bruce is very charismatic and knowledgeable; Bruce is always able to engage students and inspire meaningful conversation and critical thinking

Showed passion for the material in his engagement with the students in lectures. Made the students, in turn, care more about the material.

He commands a class room much better then other professors, I felt I needed to be in class, not because of participation, but because his time is valuable to my education.

motivating, interesting, concise, clear, contemporary examples, presence, confident

He was very articulate in lectures, and helped me to engage in course materila

Very interesting and captivating lecturer that kept information interesting and the class exciting

Extremely engaging in class and willing to entertain and expand on student discussions. Made material relatable to current events

Was very interesting and had stories which made material more relevant and interesting to learn about

Fun lectures to see and be a part of

Great speaker and lectures, listens to students well and recpectfully

He made me question things and broaden my thinking.

Extremely engaging lecture structure, introduces new but relevant concepts and explains in detail for everyone to thoroughly understand

He was super organized and made the class very enjoyable and fun to attend. I like how he brings in personal stories, uses videos and other resources to spark our attention. He's super enthusiastic about what he teaches us and always knows the answers

Great ability to teach material, and use effective examples to engage class and teach the content

His outfits are always on point!!!

And also he has vast amounts of knowledge concerning all topics covered in class

Bruce is an excellent lecturer, and is very clearly passionate about the topics and teaching them.

He interacts with students during the lecture very well, also provides very relevant and relatable examples to theories

Strong and engaging lecturer. Keeps the course material theoretically grounded and currently relevant.

Punctuality, integrity

Engaging lectures, passionate about his material

Confidence, relatability, and passion

Comments
Bruce is an excellent lecturer and did an amazing job of sparking intrigue and curiosity.
Through this examples, videos, and stories related to the topic we were learning about.
Good examples that make it easier to conceptualize the concepts and material
Bruce is vary passionate about what he tea he's and it shines through in his work. He is very engaged and committed which keeps his students engaged and learn better.
Very engaging, very clear lectures
Engages interest
Very engaging instructor that clearly is passionate about the subject and therefore teaches it very well.

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

Comments
I miss the research paper this semester. If it was possible to make it an option much like the oral exams, that would be super exciting and great practice for those of us who actually really enjoy doing research.
Be more clear on what your mid–term and exam questions are on. Have TA's help the students more!!!! we don't all know what we are supposed to do.
Be more clear on what he is looking for in the midterm answers. Demonstrate what an A and a B grade looks like on a long answer question
No suggestions
N/a
The evaluations of 2 essays per midterm is quite a narrow way of evaluating student understanding of material. He could expand to in–tutorial discussion, mini–projects, etc to go beyond this.
Post the slides prior to starting the material.
n/a
more concrete examples of concepts
n/a
The exams could be more reliable in expectations. Why be set up for less or failure.
More examples that relate to current Canadian societal events as some of my classmates didn't believe that some topics covered in class were a problem here.
Nothing to do with Bruce but possibly the tutorials could focus more on the course material instead of other random sociology stuff
He helped me learn very well, I can't think of any improvements.
Devote more time to course material, less time to student opinions. Large portions of classes were spent on student–based tangents of limited relevance. Discussion is valuable, but should be saved for tutorial not lecture. I'm paying to listen to Bruce's wisdom, not 8 vegans talk about their catcalling experiences.
Providing examples that would actually make sense to people in a first year sociology course as opposed to people who have their masters. As well if he didn't brag about how hard this course was going to be to pass it would have made it much more enjoyable and helped me motivate myself. When you go into every midterm thinking you're probably going to fail anyway it's really hard to stay motivated.
N/A!
More open to students opinions.
Nothing to improve? (For me, at least.)
more review for midterms and final exam
be more open to different examples and reasoning
None

Comments
N/A
be more accepting of everyones ideas, sometimes rude when people share their ideas
There is truly nothing more he could do, his course is set up for your success if you do the work.
Use less stories to explain concepts.
n/a
I do not currently have any suggestions, but, I also never went to office hours.
Bruce's teaching was excellent :)
The perspectives of the material are very liberal (not necessarily a bad thing), but he could show more of the opposite side with the more conservative perspective (e.g. differing definitions of misgendering).
TA's "free topics" should be constructed around aspects that we can use for exams. It would help a lot.
nothing, he's the bomb
Maybe given more real world examples in class
I don't think there was much more he could have done.
n/a
NA
I don't know.
n/a
I felt as though class discussions were sometimes boring and random bunny trails that didn't necessarily have anything to do with the topic at hand.
nothing, brucey boi did everything right
Making sure points are very clearly presented, as the material can be difficult to understand so additional organization of concepts/definitions would be appreciated.
Literally no one could've enriched my learning more
N/A
Did not effectively explain the more abstract concepts at times; more concise explanations would benefit this curriculum
Teach all the midterm question material IN class
I would have learned more by writing an essay somewhere in the course, if I take a similar class I will opt to do that.
Kept the slides on a bit longer
n/a
He was good all around and always available to help.
Done more to prep for the exams
Not including exam questions on material that was not discussed in class.

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

Comments
the TA's need to provide help for the students. It's very difficult for a student to understand a concept when the teachers aren't allowed to help us. Provide the TA's with more notes and more information to do with mid–terms and exams. Students find it hard to come up with concepts and theories all on their own.
Make the final a multiple choice exam based on the chapter questions. Make the final a multiple choice exam based on the chapter questions. Make the final a multiple choice exam based on the chapter questions. This is essential to reduce a lot of the subjectivity of this course.
No suggestions
Better organized tutorial discussions. A system that makes everyone talk and not just a few people.

Comments

n/a

More than one page per question to write the exams

n/a

I felt uncomfortable speaking up in class but maybe that's my own issue.

more focused tutorials to help with actual course material

Hard to say, very effective course.

The option to opt out and do the oral test even after doing a test

– lower expectations for the answers on exams.
– find a way to bring up the average from a 61%. Either no one works hard enough, or the marking is incredibly tough. Find a balance.

Great course, I miss the tutorial assignment though.

Making the marking process more clear and consistent. I believe you shouldn't leave an exam completely unable to guess what mark you would recieve. The marking is inconsistent and sneaky and blindsides almost every student. The other sociology 100B is much more realistic as to what first year students are able to achieve.

Unfortunately the grading done by Kimi was very questionable. It did not at all reflect my knowledge on the subject and it is (very) inconsistent with how I have been graded in my last three years at UVic. This made for a frustrating experience regarding grades.

Bringing back the TA assignment that was given in 100A

The TA's are a bit confusing on what specifically they would like on the midterm questions.

It's all good, for an introductory course.

better TA's

Unsure

the TA marking varies quite a lot and certain TA's would go against the teachings of Bruce and so it was hard to know whether a certain answer would be graded fairly based on what bruce was looking for versus what the TA was looking for.

differnt testing format, maybe a combination of multiple choice and written rather than just written, more time allocated for midterms as a lot is expected in minimal time

more time for testing (a lot to write in 50 min) and different ways of testing maybe m/c as well

I have no suggestions, it is set up extremely well and is very supportive and engaging

n/a

Certain questions on the quizzes are either drawn from information not presented or touched on in the textbook, or present no or multiple correct answers. A second look–through is what I would advise.

Having taken 100A last semester, I can say that there are notable discrepancies in how TAs grade exams. This can sometimes be discouraging and disengaging. I went from a TA in my first semester who was open to giving students 100% if they wrote an essay that covered everything that was asked for, to a TA in this semester that clearly said to me she would not give above what translated to an 80% in the course. My TA for this semester also gave no written feedback on my first midterm exam, which makes it very difficult to improve. I think that more could be done to ensure consistency between TAs.

I do not feel that there is too much in which this course can be improved since the material is practical in considering relevant global issues.

Refer to above.

nothing

It was a great course, little improvement is needed.

T

I think it's pretty good

n/a

NA

Comments
I don't know.
n/a
From 100A to 100B I had a different TA and found that my first was much more clear about expectations when it came to the exams and letting us know what concepts to prioritize in our answers. This term my TA, although approachable and helpful, was not as straight forward with us about their expectations. This inconsistency was frustrating when I studied the same way as last term and formatted my answers similarly and yet saw almost 20% drop in my grades.
The TA Zoe Yunker explicitly said that she would not answer any questions or email outside of her office hours because, and this is a direct quote, "the university doesn't pay me to do that". Secondly the marking rubric was extremely difficult and nobody achieved a perfect 100% on either of the mid terms. Apart from that the course was very well taught and the instructions and requirements for the course were thorough and accurate to demonstrate what a student needs in order to be successful
nothing freaking love this class
Ensuring the TAs are consistent with the amount of assistance/information they give students; in 100A, my TA provided very little assistance and made it seem impossible to go "above and beyond". However, in 100B, using all of the same tactics to prep for the midterms, I was marked perhaps too easily.
It's perfect
The revel text book could be made easier to use, better search functions.
Please, give physical copies of the text, and stop using the REVEL system. Coursespaces quizzes are a much better system with submission receipts etc.
Have more time to write midterms.
Add and essay?
This course is great.
n/a
Readings are sometimes very desperate from lecture.
The exams are graded very tough and most students do not do as well because of this
Nothing really.

My Instructor gave time in class to complete this survey.

Options	Count	Percentage
Yes	69	86%
No	10	13%
Does not apply (online course, field course, etc.)	1	1%