



**University
of Victoria**

Learning &
Teaching Centre

UVic CES Instructor Report - Bruce Ravelli - INTRO SOCI: CULTURE+SOCIALZTN (CRN 12875)

UVic Course Experience Survey - Fall 2014/Spring 2015

Project Audience 282

Responses Received 157

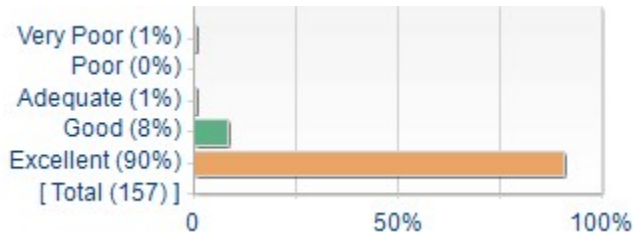
Response Ratio 56%

Creation Date Tue, Dec 23, 2014

Powered by: **BLUE** 

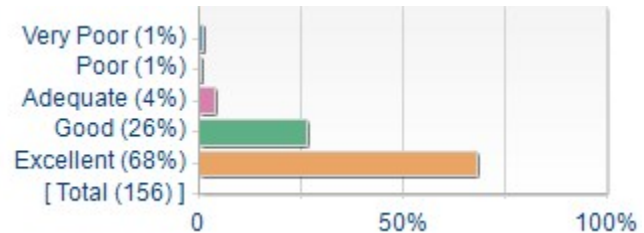
I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions



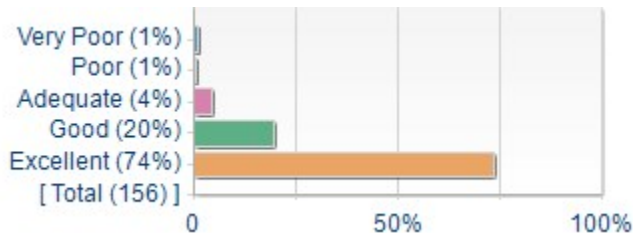
Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.88
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.44

2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear



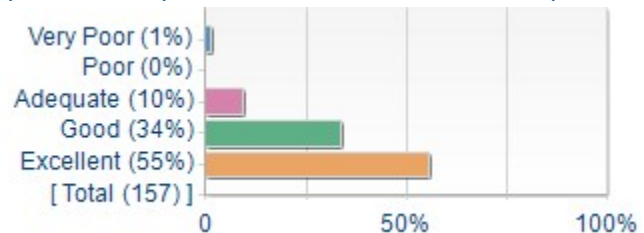
Statistics	Value
Response Count	156
Mean	4.59
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.72

3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course



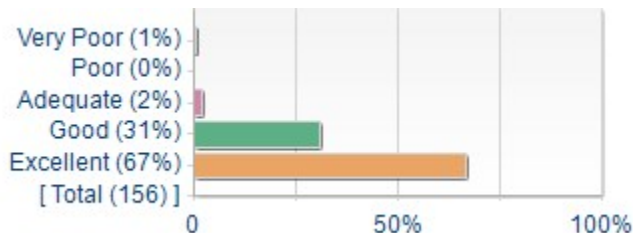
Statistics	Value
Response Count	156
Mean	4.64
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.72

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



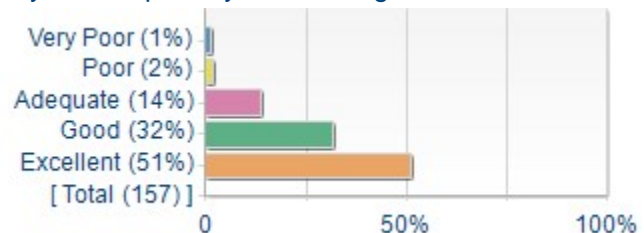
Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.42
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.77

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	156
Mean	4.63
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.59

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

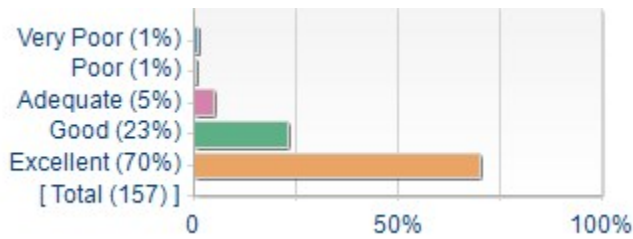


Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.29
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.87

7. The instructor demonstrated respect for

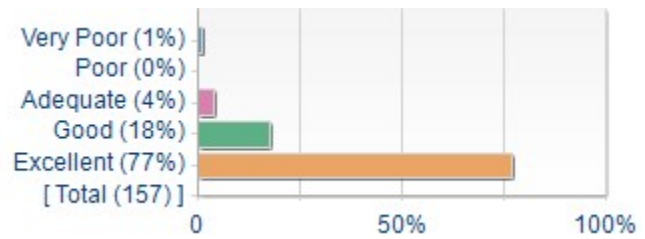
8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this

students and their ideas



Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.60
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.73

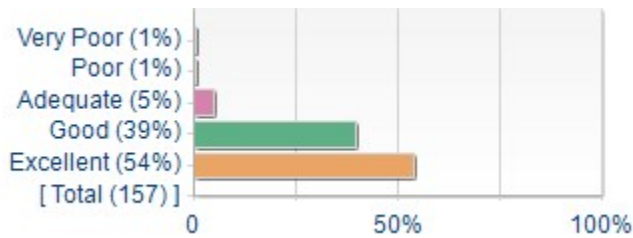
course



Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.69
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.67

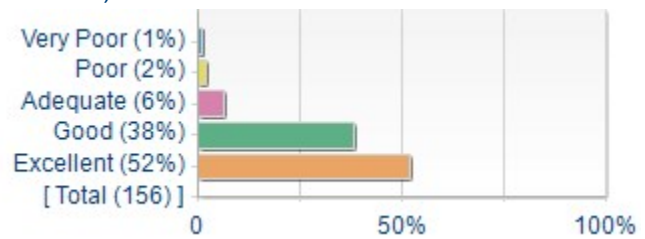
II Course Design - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear



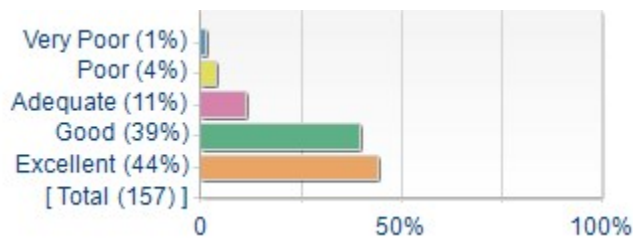
Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.46
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.68

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



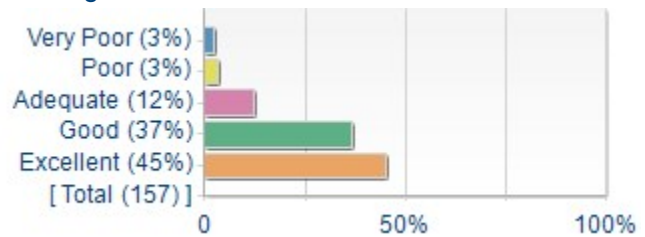
Statistics	Value
Response Count	156
Mean	4.38
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.80

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



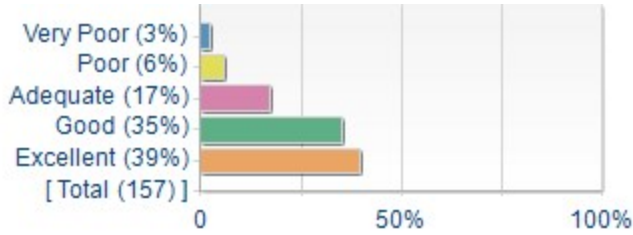
Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.21
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.88

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



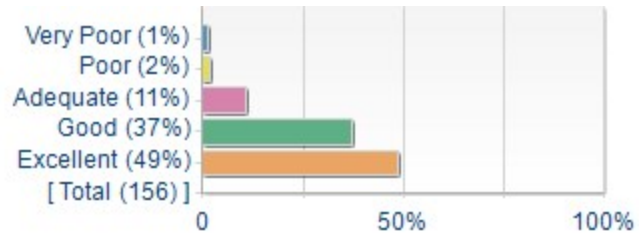
Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.19
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.95

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



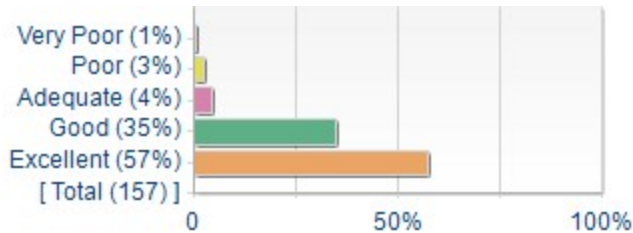
Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.03
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-1.02

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	156
Mean	4.30
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.84

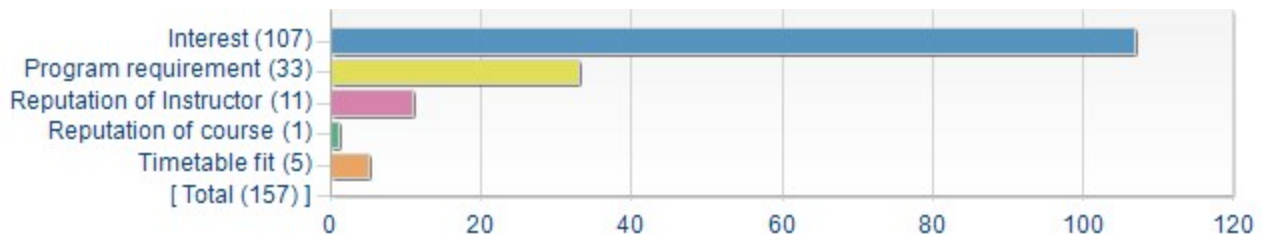
7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience



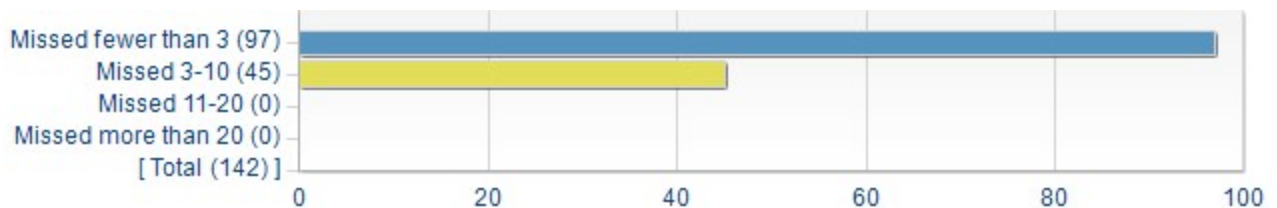
Statistics	Value
Response Count	157
Mean	4.46
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.76

III Statements About The Students:

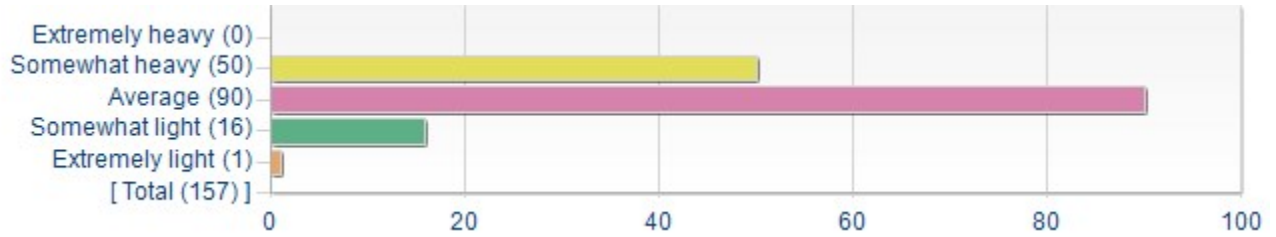
My primary reason for taking the course.



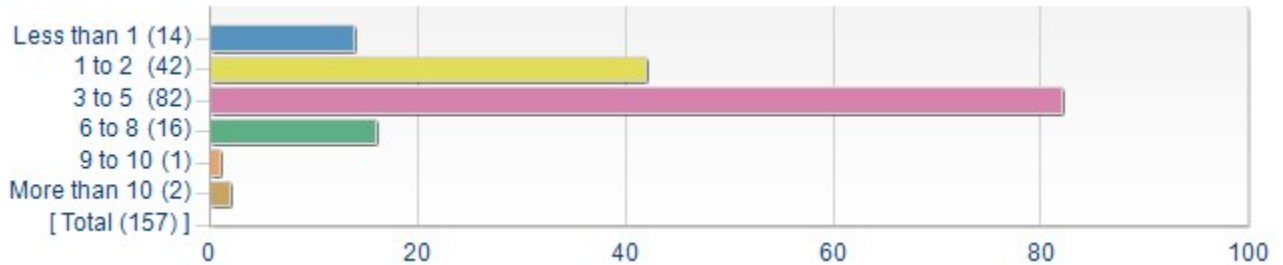
The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend



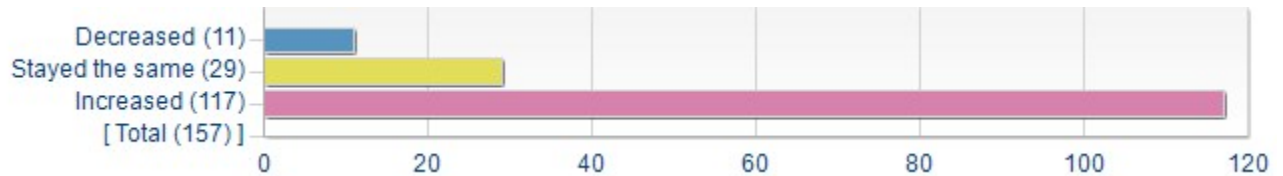
Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was



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:

Which aspects of **Bruce Ravelli** teaching have you found to be the most useful to you so far this term? Please give examples.

Comment
the stories he tells, which always relate back to the course, are interesting and easy to remember. he posts the lectures and the lecture notes, so that you can refer back to them as the semester goes on. this makes it easier when preparing for the exams.
Great stories in lectures.
He's interactive and uses a variety of sources in the course material (ie. videos) which help better explain the concepts
I found Bruce's examples for each topic that he talked about to be very interesting and helpful, especially his stories. Though so students might not like the amount of them, I find them really entertaining and also it makes the topics more relatable to our lives. We're not just learning about a subject that we don't see as applying to us. Bruce really makes sure that we think about the course content and how it relates to our lives
The lectures were always fabulous and interesting. I love the fact Bruce records all his lectures and promptly posts them. He engages students and makes you think and ask questions further. He will question students on their reasoning for their answer but does so respectfully and in a manner that just makes you consider all aspects.
Course website clearly lays out all the requirements of the course and due dates. Made it very easy to organize time and ensure everything was completed on time. MP3's of lectures posted everyday were very helpful in keeping up with lectures upon having to miss one.
He is a very interested teacher and that makes me more interested in his course.
Stories! I loved the stories used to explain the concepts in a relatable (and usually humorous) way!
Bruce is very clear in what he is saying. Because he is so passionate about sociology it makes me much more intrigued and interested in what we are learning. he gives examples that further help with my understanding. Bruce is has very good at public speaking, which also helps the class learn because he makes it not boring. His exams are difficult but fair because he gives you all the information needed so he expects you to be well rounded in the subject.
He's a good speaker. The test questions are put online and you have a lot of time to prepare for them so would be pretty difficult to do bad on them, I didn't get a grade below a B+ in this course. The only excuse for bad marks is pure laziness, he is essentially giving away university credit. In addition to this just by completing online questions you have 15% guaranteed marks. Lectures were interesting.
His lectures are extremely engaging and interesting. Very hard not to be interested in this course. He provided all information needed to be successful in the course.
Bruce was very descriptive and makes a lecture of 300+ people fun. He tells a lot of stories but they are interesting and relevant to the concepts.
His lectures are always incredibly interesting and engaging, and he uses real-life examples and stories to explain the content which is helpful for understanding.
Ravelli is possibly the best prof I've had so far at Uvic! He does a great job of giving us clearly presented information and poses many questions to the class to keep us engaged. As well, he always answers all questions to the best of his ability and always begins and ends the class right on time, going over everything he had planned. The course grading rubric is a little tough when it comes to midterms, however this is reasonable as it is after all a university course.
Great lectures and extremely engaging. He makes the material so much more interesting to learn. He keeps trying to improve the course for a better experience for us.
Relevant interesting videos and good real life examples
Good teacher!
Bruce Ravelli is very easy to relate to and his teaching is very straightforward and entertaining. For example, when teaching a concept he will give funny examples or stories to make it easier to understand.
His passion for the subject and his stories to help teach the concepts.

Textbook provides very simple and clear definitions and explanations of concepts.

His use of telling stories related to the topic we are learning.

Wonderful teacher!

his stories!

I found it super interesting! Bruce made this class so interesting that it was one of the main reasons I woke up in the morning to come to school! Didn't miss one class this semester for Bruce's class. It's a challenging course because it makes you think about society at a whole new level! It challenged me to go beyond what I used to think, feeling, and doing in life. The exams have been challenging because it really makes us go through the concepts in depth, but I like this approach because it allows us to understand this course more.

The TA was the most helpful part of the course experience, he was a quick marker, clear on what he wanted, fair and explained difficult concepts easily.

He is an extremely passionate and engaging professor who I look forward to having again next semester for Sociology 100B. He shares stories that are always applicable and entertaining, and makes this one of my favorite courses. I had very little understanding of sociology before this course, but he has sparked an interest that I will likely follow into a minor or perhaps even a major. His slides are sometimes heavy on the words, but the way he presents them means it's never boring or overloading.

Bruce is definitely the most engaging instructor I've had in my entire school career. I never missed a single lecture, as they were highly engaging and interesting. Even when learning about topics I am relatively uninterested in, I am still highly engaged. He is excellent at using examples to explain concepts, as they are often humorous, interesting, and effective at getting his point across. He is effective at teaching theories in an unbiased manner. Even when teaching theories that he beforehand or afterwards claims to be strongly opposed to (i.e. evolutionary psychology), he is very convincing and effective at teaching them. After taking this class, I am strongly considering minoring in sociology, at the least.

He is very informative and entertaining. I never feel sleepy in his class. He gives the midterm review weeks ahead that give us enough time to study.

I love all the stories that were related to the topic.

The way he tells stories, very interesting.

He's an extremely engaging lecturer. I love attending them. He's awesome.

I found his website, MP3 recordings, powerpoint slides, and explanations of material in lectures really useful to my learning in this course.

Very clear! Keeps lessons interesting and relevant to everyday life.

Through examples and stories that are relatable

Bruce's lectures are very interesting, engaging, and he has an excellent way of getting information across to students.

The use of examples and videos to explain concepts and providing MP3 recordings of lectures for studying and providing possible exam questions in advance

His stories and examples almost always help when trying to explain a theory or concept. He is very clear in all of his lectures about what you need to know and very good and clear explanations of the material.

simplicity, outgoing and down to earth, the prof exhibits understanding on each level, lowering and raising his methods of teaching to each and every standard, great stories!

his stories help understand the concepts he is talking about. very enthusiastic about his field. best teacher

very good public speaker

He provides excellent analogies in his teaching for you to better understand the concepts.

His teaching was on point. Spectacular.

He's very clear in his lectures and is very good at relaying what information is important. I also found it very helpful that he posts mp3's of all his lectures online.

I liked his very clear powerpoint slides and the fact that he made it obvious what we were supposed to remember for the exam. He did not make it a guessing game and that was fair. I also enjoyed his personal stories that related the material to everyday life, as sociology should do.

Bruce was extremely enthusiastic about all of the course content. His ability to teach through stories made all content accessible and inspired me to pursue sociology further.

Excellent real-world applications and examples of theory, even if the theory itself is dense and complicated. He has an engaging way of teaching that inspires, motivates and entertains.

His great stories and how he offered us a different route to understanding the course material. His definitions were precise and crystal, and examples helped me understand the material even more. Loved the outline for midterms, though there is a lot of studying needed, I believe the concepts I have learned so far have increased my interest in learning and definitely wanting to pursue a minor in Sociology as well.

I LOVE THIS COURSE! Bruce changed my whole outlook on university. I am excited to come to every class not knowing what to expect. He teaches things in such a clear and effective way I walk into those exams feeling nothing but complete confidence. I understand the material and never want those classes to end because it is so interesting and I am engaged fully each class. He gets the class involved and asks questions to everyone that really makes you re-evaluate your life and your decisions.

His stories are always great! They help me to remember definitions and topics better than just slide shows of notes.

His stories are great and the lectures are the most interesting than all my other classes.

Animated teacher! keeps the class interested. Uses stories!

Bruce is fantastically charismatic and a very engaging teacher, but perhaps a bit intimidating to approach. Ironically, he does not seem very receptive to student opinions which do not match his own. This makes class discussions fairly non-engaging because Bruce will always have the last word.

Bruce Ravelli tells wonderful stories that relate to the course material. His class is very engaging and is never dull; he can make even the dry parts of the course so entertaining and interesting. He provides MP3s of the classes online which is useful.

Charismatic and good stories

Dr. Ravelli does put all of his power points online and returns assignments quickly.

Engaging lectures: he shows a great interest and knowledge of the material, which adds value to the lectures for students.

I found Bruce very excited to teach sociology. He explained concepts in an intriguing way and it kept me interested.

He is enthusiastic about all of the course material. Encourages questions and relates concepts through stories.

The stories are great for illustrating concepts; a particularly resonant one was the soldiers in boot camp/fox holes/clean crisp white sheets one from early lectures. Excellent engagement with the class, instigating discussion. Videos are very helpful as a learning aid. Posting mp3s of the lecture and course slides is a life saver come exam time!

His examples.

Engaging with students and is not a lecture hall where you just take notes and move onto the next class.

His stories are excellent. They are interesting, but also help me to understand the topics. He plays videos occasionally which is a nice change from lectures and keeps me focused on the class. He finds a good balance between lectures, notes, stories and videos. Before and after exams he asks the class if we have any questions, hoping to prepare everybody. He also posts the exam essay questions weeks in advance giving everyone enough time to study between other classes and homework.

Bruce Ravelli has a nice teaching method, using real life situations that have happened to him personally or today to help us students connect the course material to have a better understanding about it. For example the car stolen story he told us about.

I have found Bruce to be very interested within his own work making the content he explained more exciting to hear. Examples of this would be his stories. He ties them in very well to the content in which we are learning and develops his ideas throughout the basis of the story.

Bruce cares and that matters a lot.

His charisma has led to an enhanced ability to focus on the material, lectures were summarized in PowerPoint and mp3s are provided so that instead of focusing on getting the core material down in lecture, students are available to really think about the concepts. Through these methods, as well as the personalization that is the tutorial sessions, his teaching methods are exceptional.

Dr. Ravelli is a man who commands the presence of his students while teaching the lectures. He is teaching students 100% accountability, and if an individual is able to see passed the charisma, one can see his passion for the subject he teaches - in his aura, for real!

I was entertained and amused, while he would share something funny and then 3 seconds later say, "Quiet!", His personality and how his website are set up to help the student move forward are great assisting materials. We were

not only given weekly online tests for the text material, but we were also provided with MP3 of the lectures and the slide notes as well.

-amusing stories
-thorough in explanations

Bruce used many examples that made me understand the course more deeply.

Dr. Ravelli is an excellent storyteller and explains the concepts in great detail.

He always grasped my attention during every lecture, he was a fantastic prof.

He was super clear and made sure we understood the concepts

Incredibly organized lectures made the course easy to follow as well as easy to understand, despite many concepts being complex. Plus, he's got great stories that tie in well to understanding concepts, which makes a tired class inevitably engaged every time.

Telling stories help for me to learn the concepts we cover in class. The videos and powerpoints are also useful for me.

Bruce's stories are fantastic! They helped me understand the concepts much better. Not only was Bruce's lecture material was interesting but his videos and stories made it even better.

I really liked his stories, which helped to solidify the general knowledge we were expected to learn. I also really appreciated the recorded lectures for the few classes that I missed.

very clear expectations for midterms and assignments.

Very engaging and interesting lectures

Amazing teacher, funny, interactive, passionate about what he teaches, approachable, great stories that give real life examples to the topics

Bruce was very engaging in his lectures, and it encouraged me to listen more intently and become more interested in sociology. Also, all the material on his site is very helpful to have accessible.

Very interactive and promotes class discussion

His stories to help students understand concepts kept me interested. He obviously enjoys teaching and it shows. I look forward to coming to class.

Engaging, interesting, applied everything to the "right now"

He is a great speaker - has great stories to describe concepts and really influences/inspires you. He knows what kinds of questions to ask to get you to really think about the concepts in a real world sense. He demonstrates respect for student's ideas - even if a student has a concept wrong, he doesn't make you feel bad about it. He turns it into a learning experience instead. He also makes sure to always ask if students have questions or need clarification on certain topics.

I found that Bruce's passion and clarity of explaining topics was excellent. I have become very interested in learning about Sociology and would love to continue to explore it in my later years at university. He related the topics to the real world and I appreciated that, as it really helped me be engaged in the work.

I have found his stories quite useful to gaining an understanding of the course concepts

He is a lecture God.

He is the best professor I've had so far. His classes are engaging, interesting, and memorable. The midterms and tutorials have helped me learn a lot - it's obvious he put a lot of thought into them to make sure students learn the most and get the most out of them and it definitely paid off.

Bruce is by far the best professor I have ever had. He uses stories in his lectures and they help me a lot on the exams because I am able to remember the stories and then what he was trying to teach. This class was my favorite and it should not be changed. The way it was structured and kinds of exams and papers we had to write were perfect. I very much enjoyed this class!

He is so passionate, honestly the best teacher I've ever had

He is very clear with information

He had a lot of good stories

I thought the way his exam was set up was a really great way to test knowledge and understanding.

He keeps lectures extremely interesting!

His enthusiasm and excellent public speaking skills.

The fact that he gives you so much time to prepare your questions for the exams

word for word powerpoint notes.

His excitement for the course and stories.

His engaging teaching style made class a pleasure to attend

He's a really good teacher. He teaches clearly and knows his stuff

His stories for the theories are great ways to learn

Engaging lectures!

Extremely motivating and interesting to listen to

He is very engaged with the course content and manages to relate to the topics to situations that we would understand by giving examples.

None

Story's and personal examples

I love how he tells stories he makes it fun to learn the material.

Good teacher, tough marking.

He was very enthusiastic and very interested in everything he taught. By doing this it made me very interested in class

Interaction; Bruce actively engages the class, asking questions, looking for student input etc. It brings interest and relatability to the course material.

In-class examples

He is a good lecturer, and knows that material well. However, I found his demeanour to be rather flaky and inflated, like he felt like he was a celebrity up on stage and we all should worship his teaching grounds.

His personal stories and excellent analogies and ways of relating course material.

He is very humorous and captivating as a lecturer, increasing my interest to what he is teaching.

Bruce is an exceptional lecturer. His class is the only class that I leave and continue to explore the topics covered in class that day. My friends and I will debate and discuss the topics because they are so relevant and presented in such an enthusiastic, dynamic manner. Great integration of stories, personal experience and thought-provoking questions. The exam style accurately tests knowledge however there is a discrepancy in grades depending on who our TA is. MySocLab is totally useless but is a nice automatic 15%. Overall, Bruce is killing it.

He's a very engaging professor and draws the interest of his students.

EXCELLENT!!! He was my favorite class and my favorite teacher

He used stories to keep the class engaged, however the stories were still very effective in teaching and explaining concepts.

His stories helped me understand and remember concepts

he connects with students during lectures, and he is not just giving us information, he explains things in ways that intrigue you and make it interesting.

Bruce was extremely enthusiastic and you could clearly see that he was passionate about the subjects that he talked about. He is extremely good at lecturing and giving clear examples.

He is an amazing speaker. He gets his students engaged and excited about the course material that may be somewhat bland otherwise. He uses stories to relate the concepts and it helps us grasp them.

Powerpoints contain most information necessary for examinations

His lecture style and his enthusiasm.

- Very informative
- Makes classes interesting and humorous
- Great lecturer, makes students WANT to go to class
- Explains concepts clearly
- Effectively outlines what he expects
- Able to connect with students on a personal level
- When telling stories always, he never gets off topic really, he always finds a way to tie it back to the information being taught
- Records every lecture - so that's helpful if you miss class.

- Overall, great prof. can't wait to take soc100b next semester. and Bruce is furthermore the reason why I have chosen to pursue sociology.

Dr. Ravelli is an amazing professor. His lecture notes are clear and concise, but his lectures themselves provide so much more insight into the material, making it fun and accessible. He presents the concepts in a variety of ways, from lecture notes, to personal stories, to videos, all of which are relevant and provide additional ways of looking at the material. I love that the exam questions are given out in advance, as it is not the kind of exam that one can simply memorize an answer to, but it allows for directed preparation and for questions to be asked regarding concept clarity.

His explanations and descriptions of topics and concepts are explained in a way that makes them easy to understand.

very clear, uses good personal examples

his in depth explanations and stories

His storytelling in lectures really aided in teaching the concepts; he was very good at clarifying concepts when asked and thorough in explanations. His powerpoint notes are clear, and he doesn't just teach directly from the textbook but elaborates well on the material and uses supplementary videos, etc. to teach concepts. Great professor!

Love the essay style tests. I liked how Bruce set up the research paper into 3 separate assignments with very clear outlines. I like that we have the essay questions prior to the test.

He is very helpful during office hours. Bruce is also very respectful and helps you engage in the material. His lectures are the most interesting I have attended so far, and I have thoroughly enjoyed his class.

very helpful

took time to explain things

good at answering all questions

very clear in his explanations

very clear in his lectures

Has anything hindered your learning in this course? If yes, please explain and suggest what might be done differently.

Comment

The tutorials were not very helpful, because not all the leaders were super comfortable with the class.

TA was not good. Poor explanations, did not appear to know what he was doing

no

I found that this course lead me to the conclusion that the field of sociology is and to quote Bruce "Is complete and utter bullshit". I found it astonishing that individuals could work for years on concepts that lack any scientific merit whatsoever and actually reject biological concepts that have been proven with actual science. I would recommend Bruce needs to take an introductory Biology class in order to learn about some of the concepts he proceeds to mock in class. For instance Kamikaze sperm is an actual concept with some biological basis and Bruce proceeded to make a mockery out of the field of research, turning it into a joke. I found parts of this course to be deeply, deeply offensive to me.

No.

Tutorials. My specific tutorial leader was often disorganized but I heard from other students their tutorial leaders were better. Information we were told that the tutorial leaders would cover was often not covered.

Nothing that Bruce did hindered my learning in this course. Sociology just isn't my strongest subject.

The focus on white male theorists was annoying, alongside some of Bruce's sexist comments in class. I didn't pay to hear the reinforcement of the gender binary and sexist notions of men and women's sex drives. This put me off the course and of Bruce.

No

n/a

The professor significantly hindered my progress in the course: his lectures were vague and unspecific (a five minute lecture and a six line blurb on Marx's alienation, which is an important sociological concept, does not actually help students understand anything). He "example only" lecture style does not actually teach enough content, and when asked to further explain, he uses only other examples. He is also unapproachable and comes of as egotistical, so there is no point in asking him for help. Because he wrote the textbook, both the lectures and the

textbook contain the same examples, so when asked to draw from both to study for exams, there is not nearly enough material to draw from and Wikipedia appears to be a better source. I was asked to define Post-Structuralism on the midterm, and then was told I was not detailed enough even though I had verbatim wrote the textbook definition, which was no more than two lines. I would recommend that he be forced to teach from another textbook, so that students are given the chance to study from another source which supplements lecture adequately. I would also recommend that his midterm/exam structure be re-evaluated, and that the grading scheme be more precisely laid out for both TA's and students. "I can't teach an A" is not a good enough answer when asked what an A looks like. Students shouldn't have to ask repeatedly.

Very little actually hindered my learning in this course. Sometimes, the videos he showed in class I felt were not overly applicable but that is my only complaint. If they were eliminated and replaced with more relevant course content, that could be better. The midterms are difficult, but with adequate studying they are doable.

No, not really.

Nothing hindered my learning, in fact I think I learned more in this class than I did for my other classes.

No.

Exams are very difficult and marked unfairly with a very low pre-set average.

His tests are kind of ridiculous. Very difficult.

The tutorials were helpful, however different TA's were inconsistent in their criteria for assignments, making it confusing for students and unfair.

No.

No.

nope

none.

Nope.

tough midterms due to the lack of definitive guidelines however they were fair.

No.

Updating the lecture notes online, and more information and specifics about the midterms.

at first I would get frustrated at some things that were said and I would want to defend my answers and my thoughts toward it but I have definitely grown to be a more open person since the first class. I am open to new ways of seeing things and new ways of people's beliefs.

No

The bell curve, to me at least, seems very out of date. If you're going to use this to grade students, at least explain why. I have never heard of any other courses using this grading method. It's understandable due to the different marking, but not good at all.

Nope

The textbook was unclear, the tutorials seemed to lack direction and there was little content covered in lectures.

My TA, ***** was very unhelpful when it came to exam preparation and explanations of our main assignments.

no

The quizzes on MySocLab don't line up with the lecture content. They were in sync at first, but by the end of the course they were several weeks removed. Led to a disjointed learning experience, and became more difficult to link concepts together.

no

I think a good definition of what sociology is and does would have been helpful at the start of the term. I have looked it up, but am not sure I headed in the right direction.

The tutorial sessions do nothing to help in my course learning, what is being discussed doesn't feel relevant to the material in the course at all.

My only suggestion for this course was due to tutorials. Along with many of the great tutorial leaders, I received one who did not help enrich my learning. As ** could not speak ***** well enough to explain the concepts.

Tutorial sections were extremely awkward, too small. It was kind of strange being the only male in a tutorial with 9 women and a female instructor and discussing BDSM for 50 minutes for instance.

No

-Unclear requirements for midterms.

Remembering 4 full essays was tricky at times, but overall, no complaints.

Not one bit

Hearing other people talk in class.

No because this class was absolutely incredible!

tutorial assignments were a little too long for a first year course

If anything, it was a little difficult to keep up with reading all the chapters, but it was not that bad.

No

I think our midterms and assignments don't really reflect well on what we have learned in the course. Having only essay questions in the midterm is difficult for those who struggle with writing and only allows you to cover a small amount of topics. Adding multiple choice questions or short-answer questions may allow us to demonstrate our learning more effectively. The tutorials and assignments didn't really help my understanding of the course material. I feel like the tutorials were kind of pointless, actually, because sometimes we didn't even talk about topics that pertained to the class material. Also, the marking of the assignments and midterms varied because it really depended on your TA.

No, other than the tutorials that felt a little like a waste of time when not reviewing exams or assignments, I loved the rest of the class.

Nothing had hindered my interest

No.

No, maybe just some difficult concepts that I had a hard time learning. But the teaching was done effectively.

yeah my TA was not the greatest.

Nope!

The amount of constructive feedback was limited and TA marking was inconsistent occasionally.

Nope, no problems at all

the variation of marking due to different TAs

Something that might be done differently in this course is how the TAs mark. I've noticed some unfair advantages that other students received based on their TA. Some mark a lot harder than others which is not fair to those who worked more and yet receive lower marks because they have a different person grading their papers and assignments.

He is a raging socialist that promotes communism, bashes on the US to often. Needs to be more open minded and grade mid terms more fairly

Difficult first year course, not what I expected from an entry level 100 course.

Nothing has hindered my learning

I feel like he kept emphasizing the fact that he would give us enough information to get a B in the class, which I found to be a constant downer.

The horrid tutorials, they are unnecessary and irrelevant to the material we covered in class.

Having osccer has made me miss classes

no.

I could not complete my sociology online labs and I had to email Bruce multiple times to get this issue sorted out.

No

Lack of communication between the instructor and my TA. TA was unclear himself on many aspects of the course.

No.

Nothing. I loved this course!

No

no

no

For the online tests, have the subjects tested after taught in class not beforehand.

I had problems with the TA I was assigned, and that had a major impact on my grade and understanding of the course material. My TA was not good at speaking english, was a very hard marker, and unclear with instruction.

Do you have any other specific suggestions to help future students in this course?

Comment

This is a great course and Bruce is a really nice and funny prof.

Stay on top of the material! Make sure you know the different concepts (differences and similarities) otherwise you won't be able to follow along.

Make sure you have a full understanding of the concepts you are asked to know! do the reading for whatever the class focus is for that day. It will help reinforce the understanding.

how to get the A?

it is best to take at least a week for the tutorial assignments

Just do the work if so there is no way that you cannot pass.

Take advantage of the office hours.

Don't get lost in the large class. Make an effort to make an impression.

Go to your tutorial sections and build a good relationship with your TA leader. Be sure to ask any and all questions you have and be sure to know exactly what is expected from you for assignments and tests. Beyond that, make sure you know the material well and study for tests.

Exams are rather hard and he grades very strictly. However, he tells you how to get an A in the class. Just study and attend lectures.

Future students in this course should prepare themselves for a lot of theoretical concepts but will also enjoy the lectures.

study study study the exams are very hard

great course! Dont change anything

Study more than you think you need to for midterms and the final; they are hard but doable if you are prepared. Don't be intimidated by the time limits on these exams, too. 50 minutes seems short but if you focus you won't have a problem. And in general, attend lecture. Ravelli posts his lecture notes and audios online but it's not the same as actually being there; don't get lazy and use it as replacement for attendance!

My only suggestion would be to simply take the course. I know of students that have avoided taking this course because they've heard of the difficult midterms and exam for this class. I personally have struggled a lot with the midterms, but regardless, it's certainly worth it to take this course.

N.A.

No.

Nope.

To be more clear about the second and third tutorial expectations. The tutorial assignment overviews are great, but it would help to have a brief example given for the second and third assignment.

Review the MP3s and lecture slides to study

i love bruce.

come to class!

Become active in the course, and dont stress too much about the tutorial assingments.

Take a course with Ravelli, it'll change your perspective on several aspects of life. He makes you question the important things in life.

Make sure to listen intently in class as the stuff that is said is very applicable to test questions and helps in getting a good mark in this course.

Buy the textbook at a reduced price if you can because it is very expensive and you hardly use it. However it is a must for Ravelli's exams.

Study a lot for midterms! You will love this class

it should be 90 minutes rather an 50 :)

You really need to write out your mid term paragraphs before-hand and try to memorize them. The time limit is very short so you won't have a lot of time to think when writing mid terms.

//

Debates would be an effective learning tool for this course. Consider using them in lectures, or even for tutorial assignments. This will help broaden understanding of concepts by looking at them from different perspectives.

The tests are really tough. Even with all the resources he provides it's very difficult to get an A on the tests, and there is no specific way to achieve an A. This is what makes the course very difficult.

Nope

The course was graded very hard for a first year course. My room mate and I (second and third year students) failed one of the three assignments and I couldn't imagine how difficult it would be for someone fresh out of public school. The midterms only had two questions and the midterm rubrics said that if we did everything correctly, we could get a B/B- and that the "A is in your mind." I thought this was unreasonable considering some questions asked for personal examples and examples from both lecture and text, which I believe should be the only things testable. The expectations were unreasonable for a first year course. I also thought the text book was confusing and I had to constantly look elsewhere for clarification in the course. There was very little content covered in lectures, many classes I didn't even write a full page of notes and would go to my next class to write 10 or more. I feel like this course did not do a fair assessment of how much knowledge students had in the subject and that the prof put in little effort, apart from his lectures, where he would run off topic. It seemed like the prof was more concerned with giving an inspirational speech than teaching the content. I found him to be ignorant in some comments he made to get a laugh from the class. I enjoy the subject, but this class discourages me from taking further sociology courses at UVic.

Do all the quizzes as many times to get 100%

no

Go to all the classes, Bruce makes it worth your while. :)

Show up to both the lectures and tutorials. After the lecture go over your notes and try to make real life connections with it.

None

Having access to the other class MP3 to hear the questions posed and the answers and stories provided.

Study a lot.

Great course and I would recommend to any first year student coming to UVIC

Take this course and go to class- my favourite course and always an amazing lecture

Even though everything is accessible online, go to class. It's much more interesting and absolutely worth the time.

Follow the rubric given for the midterms and exams, that's how you do well in the course. Talk to TAs and go see Bruce if you need help.

TAKE IT!!! Although the midterms and exams were difficult and it is not easy to get an A, the class is still fantastic and worth every second.

Just keep doing exactly what you're doing. this was one of my best classes.

less weight for the final exam.

Study the material well.

Be engaged!

I think different formats of testing will be beneficial and perhaps instead of having 3 assignments, just combine it all into one big paper because I feel like a lot of aspects of the assignment repeated themselves.

Review the topics thoroughly and write out answers to the essay questions for the exams beforehand.

No

Do tutorial assignments way ahead of time.

Go to class, read the textbook and don't leave your studying or assignments to the last minute because then you can learn a lot!

Take Bruce's classes!!!

No, it was really good. My only struggle was my T.A, he did not know what he was doing in the beginning and gave me no feedback on my assignment that would explain or justify why he gave me that mark.

Take the course!

Be prepared for the test.

Take this course

Do not take this course

Do your read ins

Read the textbook as you touch on the related topics in lecture. It helps with comprehension, and building on the content.

I think students would be more motivated in his classes if he didn't constantly express the unlikelihood of our success. I think a more effective learning experience would have entailed his encouragement that we would do well.

Go to class. Just because he posts his lectures online you will learn much more in class and it will be more enjoyable

Give clearer outlines of what is expected for the essay questions

To keep track of when due dates are

n/a

its a great course, bruce is an awesome prof and you learn lots of really interesting things! and his stories are great!

No.

- Attend lectures! very interesting

Attend lectures! It is worth it. Dr. Ravelli has so many wonderful stories that apply the concepts taught in class to real world scenarios, and does so in ways that are entertaining and engaging. Also, many videos are watched and discussed in class that may end up playing a vital role in exam questions or understanding course material that will not want to be missed.

Study hard for the midterms

no

listen to the lecture audio on line before exams

Try and hire TAs who do not have a language barrier, and know how to teach the course material successfully.

take this course its awesome

talk to bruce if you have problems! he's there to help!