

**UVic CES Instructor Report - Bruce Ravelli - INTRO SOCI:INSTUTNS+SCL
CHNG - SOCI 100B - A01 (CRN 22740)**

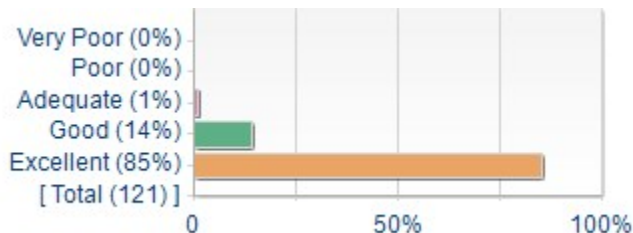
UVic Course Experience Survey - Fall 2014/Spring 2015

Project Audience 232
Responses Received 121
Response Ratio 52%

Creation Date Thu, Apr 23, 2015

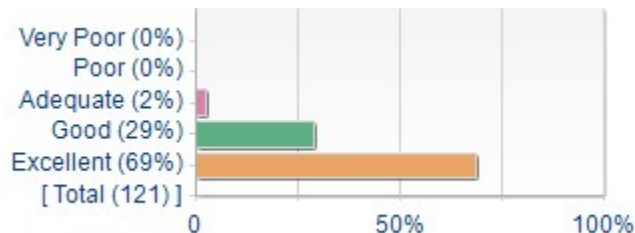
I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions



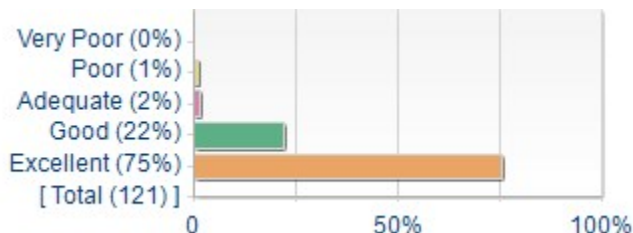
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.84
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.39

2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear



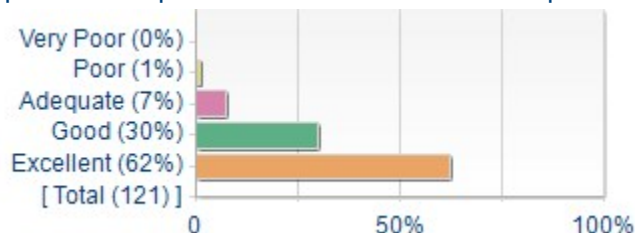
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.66
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.53

3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course



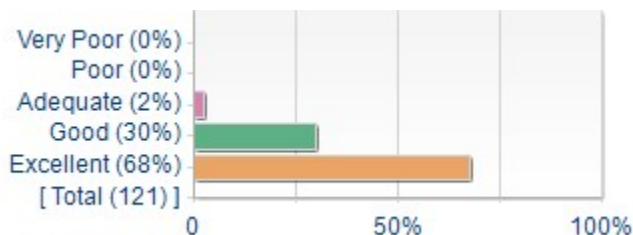
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.72
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.54

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



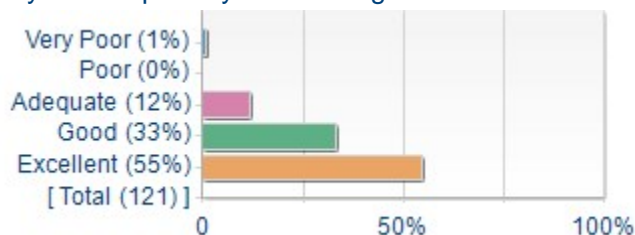
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.53
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.67

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.65
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.53

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

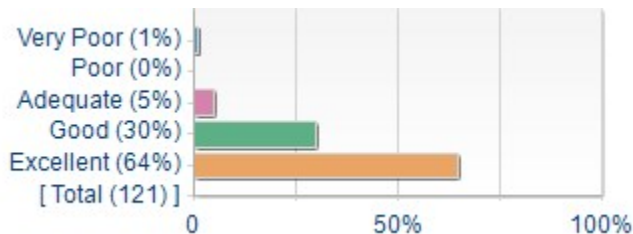


Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.40
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.76

7. The instructor demonstrated respect for

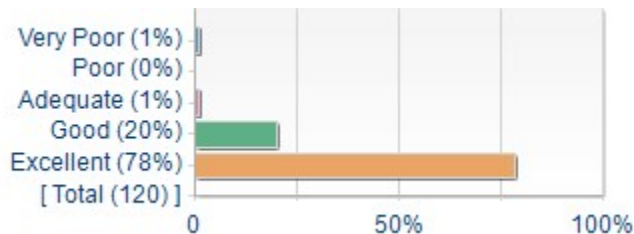
8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this

students and their ideas



Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.57
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.67

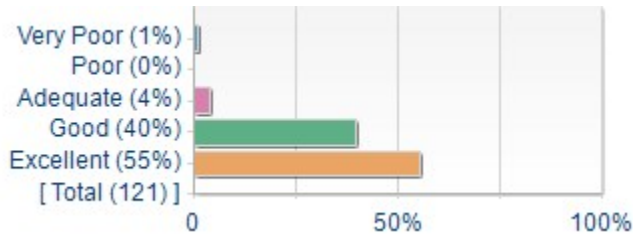
course



Statistics	Value
Response Count	120
Mean	4.75
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.55

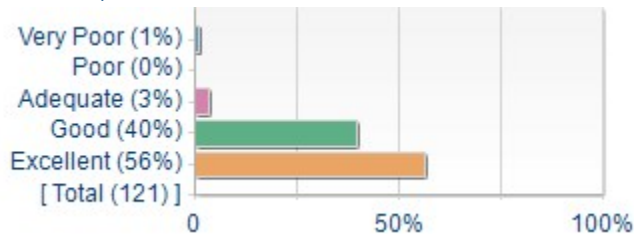
II Course Design - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear



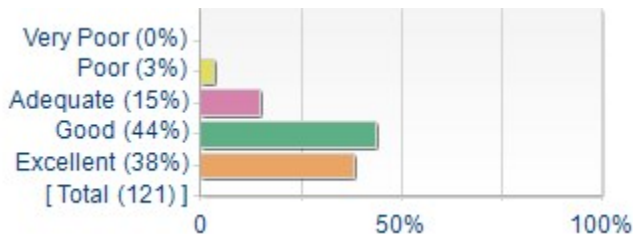
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.49
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.66

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



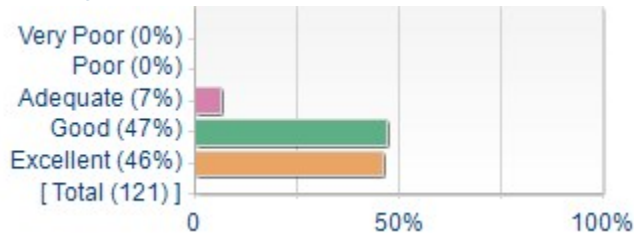
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.50
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.65

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



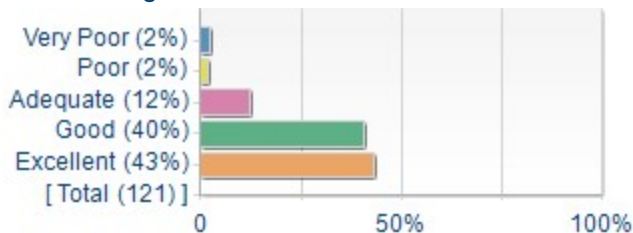
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.17
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.80

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



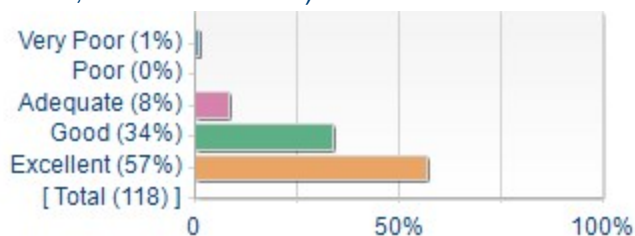
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.40
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.61

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



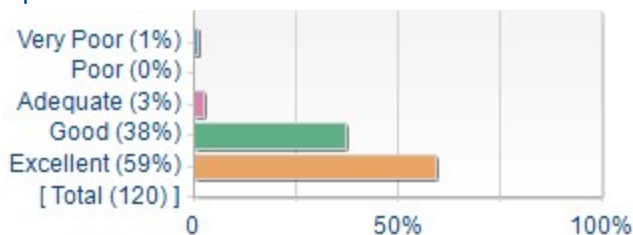
Statistics	Value
Response Count	121
Mean	4.20
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.90

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	118
Mean	4.46
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.72

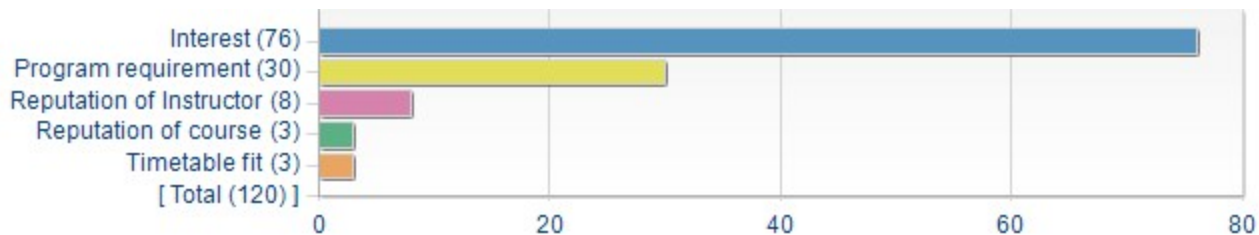
7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience



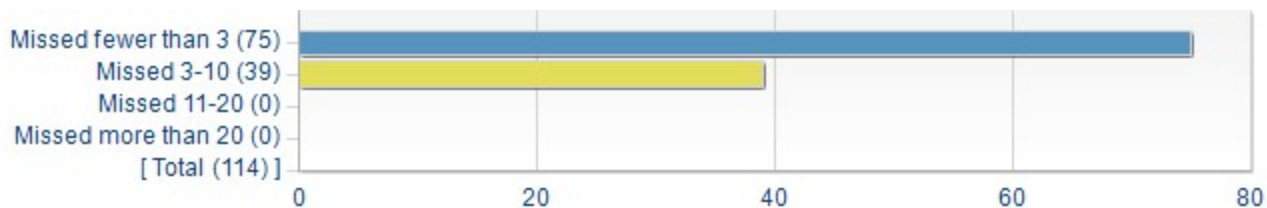
Statistics	Value
Response Count	120
Mean	4.54
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.63

III Statements About The Students:

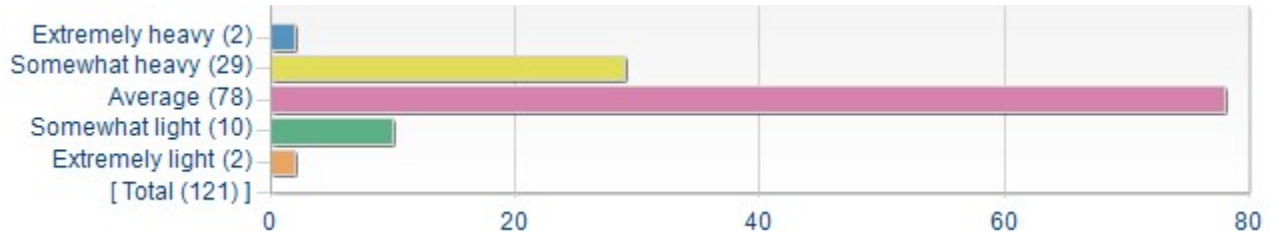
My primary reason for taking the course.



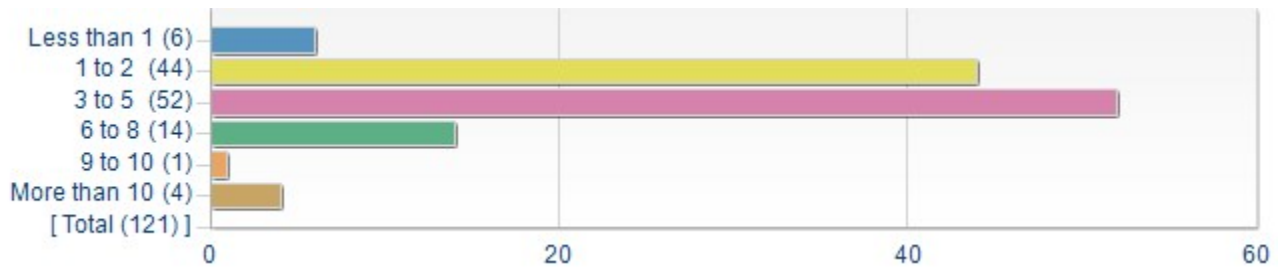
The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend



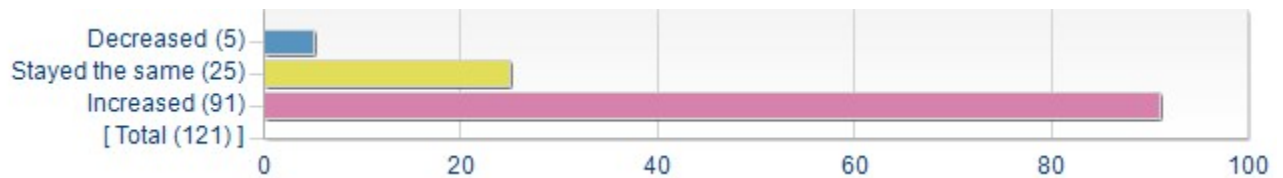
Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was



The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:



As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:



IIV Student Comments:

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

Comment
His enthusiasm.
Great Lecturer
Bruce was able to really grasp my attention during lectures which helped me to really absorb and learn material
Really great professor
love everything about Bruce and the way he teaches. His devils-advocate approach is great and causes you to question and open your mind. While involving good discussions, personal stories, and relevant examples.
Everything
He seems so engaged in the material. When he is teaching I don't feel like he is lecturing, I feel like he is having a conversation with us. he is so passionate and eloquent. He also has very good responses to students and respects everyones ideas and opinions.
Humour, useful and insightful real life examples and stories of concepts, passion in his field and students.
Bruce has great public speaking abilities and always makes lectures interesting and well executed. The structure of this class was very efficient in enabling students to learn to their best abilities. Being a fourth year student I prefer the way in which exams are set up opposed to multiple choice exams like most other first year classes. I found the essay method allows for students to elaborate and tell the TA what they know about the topics opposed to memorizing 150 pages of textbook pages.
Bruce provided an engaging learning environment that made me excited to attend his lectures.
recordings, very enthusiastic, great speaker
-interesting -engaging -approachable
He was an engaging lecture speaker, with clear assignments, and justified marking
He was so smart, funny, and an overall charismatic guy, I loved hearing his lectures.
He has an extremely motivational way of speaking. He is funny and a moving talker that keeps you interested all class.
Engaging lectures with examples (through storytelling) that illustrated topics very clearly.
He is extremely engaging with the material he taught us
Bruce is a captivating lecturer, knows how to provide context so that concepts are easily understood to a deep level. Commands respect, open to class input and discussion yet keeps us on topic.
Extremely good story-teller. Entertainment value of lectures made it easy to learn.
I am pretty sure there could not be a better way to teach Intro Soc than Bruce's way
interesting lecturer, amazes me how he thinks of some things in such different ways
clear demonstration of knowledge and passion in the subject. used very relateable examples that increased understanding of the subject.
Bruce was able to make the content and lectures interesting by using references from his life, as well as creative examples.
amazing instructor providing stories that pertained to material.
He is a charismatic and engaging public speaker
SO AWESOME Engages the class in discussion, engages your emotions, is full of personality Coming from the monotonous drone of science profs Bruce was the most enjoyable prof to listen to

He is a great lecturer who is very engaging and wants people to learn

He was engaged with the class and was able to explain concepts effectively. He was enthusiastic and had a good sense of humor about sociology.

His passion for the course was transferable through his lectures. His examples and shared personal experiences helped engagement in the course as well.

Well prepared and a good lecturer. Applied concepts to examples that the class could relate to.

Awesome professor, makes the class enjoyable and fun!

Bruce tells amazing stories that always clearly tie back to the course material. Every lecture is interesting and engaging and I find that I look forward to them. Even though the examinations are very challenging, I find because of them I understand the material on a much deeper level than I do for any of my other courses.

The stories he tells are awesome, keep me very interested! Also so great how much class participation he gets going! Honestly the best teacher I have ever had.

Seems so love what he does. He is funny and engaging and tells stories. Very enthusiastic about the course material.

Best professor I have ever had in regards to engaging and clear lectures. Would recommend.

Always such a good teacher each class. he explains things so well and i always look forward to what we are going to be learning about each day. he is very good at getting the class involved and work off their ideas and opinions

Excellent attention to student input; made each student feel intelligent with their in-class participation. Great use of humor during lecture. Was able to teach the material in a way that inspired students to learn, rather than memorize.

Bruce Ravelli is an excellent teacher who is clearly fascinated by his subject and is very good at engaging the students. He tells us stories that help make certain concepts a lot easier to understand which is very helpful.

The stories are excellent - both engaging and helpful to explain the concepts.

He made lectures very interesting and strongly encouraged discussion from the class. Also the class was set up in a way which helped learning, for example the smaller discussions in the tutorials.

He is a great story teller which helps you better understand the course material.

His knowledge and how great he is a professor. Never held back on the truth and always had something interesting to say. Overall a really great professor

well thought out explanations and class discussions

Fantastic instructor, very clear and made the course extremely interesting
Best prof I've had

Great class engagement, sparked interest and inspired class involvement.

Liked how he put up MP3s of his lectures.

Very knowledgeable and taught more than just out of the textbook.

encouraged discussion

Bruce is a very engaging professor. He cares a great deal about the subject matter, which is reflected in his teaching. Through tutorial assignments and lectures, the concepts were solidified.

humour, connectedness with students in lecture (ie. interacting and bantering)

Very engaging, prepared, demonstrated and taught the concepts well.

Very interested prof. His interest in the course made it exciting and easier to learn. He is the best prof that I have had.

Connects with the class and very enthusiastic about the course material, his teaching made me interested in the course. I actually wanted to attend the lectures.

He made the concepts clear and used examples to help us understand the material.

Bruce provided good lecture notes and taping his lectures was helpful.

engaged the students during the lecture. giving us the questions ahead of time so we can study them and offering office hours to come and discuss them with him

Bruce has the best stories and they helped me learn t about a certain concept

Very charismatic and a strong speaker; lectures were engaging and he made it very easy to focus.

Was very engaging in class, was excellent at explaining concepts through examples and ideas, and also got the

class involved in discussions. Had a genuine passion for teaching this course and a great deal of respect for students.

This theatricality really made the lectures more engaging and enjoyable. My friends and I wanted to come to class! He was always approachable before and after class, and he always invited students to come to his office hours- I felt bad because I always had work during them, but will definitely go before the final since the hours are different.

Bruce was incredibly clear with the expectations of this course from day 1, which was extremely appreciated and helpful throughout the course

All content was uploaded to the website, which I used on a bi-weekly basis to catch up on lecture material, see added videos, and refer to the course description and expectations

He very clearly laid out what was going to be on every exam and gave lots of time to prepare

Bruce Ravelli is an amazingly dynamic instructor who motivates students to learn and makes a relatively difficult class enjoyable.

Deep understanding of the material and uses modern phenomenons to apply them.

Passionate about the subject, engaging in lectures and discussion, always eager to hear student opinions and thoughts, effectively helped us understand concepts.

Engaging, inspiring, motivated, professional, knowledgable, personable

- Knowledgeable, informative, great prof

Wow. Bruce is really good at engaging students. He tells stories that help us understand the content. He is open to questions and it is not like he is talking AT you (like my other classes). He creates a comfortable space where one feels comfortable asking questions and participating in class discussion.

What's so great is that you know when Bruce Ravelli is about to share his classic stories that help enhance our knowledge of the topic because I look around the classroom and everyone is at the edge of the seats, leaned forward, and ready to listen. Ravelli helped me understand the concepts more efficiently by applying it to his personal life, and sharing the stories through dialogue.

Bruce was a very informative professor who made every class interesting

He was extremely engaging, he presented the material with enthusiasm and was able to captivate the class. He connected with his class allowing students to question their own beliefs.

Very engaging, fun, insightful, and passionate about his work and making the best learning experience for the students as possible. Loved attending his lectures.

Very clear on exactly what you needed to do to excell in the course

He is a very good teacher and engages students in his lectures

Bruce is the best professor I have had. His lesson plans are smart and prepared. You can tell every part of the course (material, midterms, tutorial assignments) was well thought out. He makes it so that everything you need to thrive is available to you - and if you take the initiative, do the work and spend time studying you will do really well! You can tell he loves teaching, and it makes a big difference! His class is literally perfection.

Good lecture

Bruce was an amazing instructor. He was very inspiring and made me fall in love with sociology! His stories and descriptions were great.

great lecturer. interesting and clear.

Engaging speaker

He was very engaged in the material well educated and passionate. Bruce was great as a teacher and I would take any class that he offered at a higher level I think he should teach past intro soc

He was very clear in explaining all the material, as well as really knowledgeable in his subject. He always had a solid background of information to help you answer your questions and about his lecture material. He was very engaging with students and always was interested in hearing feedback which made you want to comment and to become involved in class discussions. All professors should be as involved and amazing as Bruce, he truly makes you interested in this subject, and wanting to learn. I love Bruce!!!!!!

Bruce is an excellent professor, with an enthusiastic nature while teaching course material.

Very engaging lectures, made me excited to come to class each day and learn.

Bruce is always prepared. He is very helpful, explains very well and is really passionate about the material. Great prof!

-knew the material well
 -open to student feedback
 -used personal examples

He made good connections and great examples

He makes every lecture feel like a presentation. A very good public speaker.

Passion, fairness. Very motivational, engaging instructor, good at getting his message across and getting his students engaged with the material.

Ravelli is an excellent speaker who has clear comman of all the material, and he shows respect for all of his students in allowing their ideas to be heard and facilitating discussion. I have no complaints

Bruce holds amazing lectures that makes the course material extremely interesting and relevant to everyday life

He's the best lecturer I've had

Super enthusiastic. Very good lecturer. Super kind, and willing to explain things in depth if something is not understood (IN CLASS).

He was very good at giving examples and personal stories that relate to sociology. His lectures were always very interesting and well planned/though out.

Great speaker, engaging, knew content well

Engaging. Lectures are so interesting that I never want to miss a class. Has high expectations but remains fair in evaluation.

He was very engaging in class material and was very clear for what needed to be done.

Ravelli was the best prof I had at uvic. He inspired me to learn more about sociology and I highly regretted everytime I needed to miss a lecture. He was always interesting and motivating.

passionate and engaging

stories, notes, lectures. his class is my favourite to attend. entertaining and engaging every time. best professor i have had.

Please provide specific instructions as to how the instructor could have helped you learn more effectively.

Comment

None.

Instructor could perhaps provide examples of A and A+ exam responses as I find it hard to figure out what he means by going beyond the text.

He was great.

Although I find Bruce an exceptional professor there were some lectures that felt as if they dragged on and the points could have been made in a shorter more efficient way. Some lectures felt as if they were too theatrical and not helpful in learning.

None.

-Less ambiguity in what is required for an A

he would often say for exams to go above and beyond, but it would have been helpful if we knew more context as to how to achieve that

Showing videos and engaging in skits and having guest speakers are good ways of teaching the students in different ways that keep the material interesting.

Very effective as-is, in my opinion!

none

It must be equally as frustrating for you, if not more so, to have your lecture constantly interrupted, than it is for us when a classmate decides that their barrage of minimally-relevant comments are more important than our professor's lecture. I thank you for addressing the issue when it escalated, though I wonder if perhaps we might have been able to gracefully avoid the outbursts earlier on.

No suggestions.

I think Bruce should limit the time certain students get to ask questions and voice their opinions. After all, we are all in the same boat so why should one student get 5 minutes out of 50 each and every lecture to show how knowledgeable they are.

i did learn effectively

n/a

The professor would rather spend multiple classes talking about his own life, trying to embarrass students, and gloat about how much money he has than provide an effective learning experience. Moreover, he presents his opinions as absolute fact and completely negates any room for critical engagement with controversial topics. If I took this class in my first year most likely would have been so soured by the experience that I would have seriously considered the cessation of my academic pursuits.

Eliminate MySocLab and integrate iClickers into lecture, would be more beneficial

More of your stories! There awesome

When there are those students in class who just keep badgering the teacher and don't let up on their opinion when it is clearly wrong, to work on not just letting them waste class time. I Took the class to listen to Ravelli teach because he's such an incredible prof, not to listen to some first year who is insistent they are right argue with everything he says.

Provided examples of an A paper. I felt as though I preformed really well, giving original examples and only achieved a B.

Maybe we could have done a bit more group work so that we physically got to experience some of the social things we are learning about.

He is a solid educator. I wouldn't change anything

No further suggestions needed for Bruce. Is already doing an above average job

being more clear when exaggerating, sometimes could be misinterpreted as a different meaning than what was intended.

None.

Despite being a fantastic lecturer, and providing time to meet with students, he is a little set in his ways and unwilling to see the flaws that exist within the tools he uses to teach the material. Yet, despite this, I found his class very well taught.

Make the outlines of the exams more clear during class

No suggestions, he is an amazing professor.

Exams being specifically relevant to course content instead of things we didn't learn in class.

nothing, everything is accessible especially if you do not come to class

The TA's are unfair in the way they mark exams and assignments.

Perhaps provide transcripts of the videos to students that are testable because sometimes you missed one part of a statement because you were frantically writing down the key point that had occurred right before.

I do not find fair that for 15 percent of your grade you absolutely need to spend at least 90 dollars for those 15 percent.

There needs to be better TA training

Perhaps by spending more time on some of the more complex/broad sociological concepts.

Talked through all of the questions for the midterm.

nothing

Was good.

more tutorial help

We was great.

Nothing!

n/a

Don't change a thing Bruce; best professor I've had at UVic.

Presenting notes in a more clean manner. It was hard to get all of the information down in class because the bulkiness of the information hurt my eyes

Nothing. I love the course. And he did a wonderful job.
I found the course very effective
I can't think of anything that Bruce could have done differently.
when he pretended to be be 19 year old Coney
None
More engaging lab activities

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

Comment
Exam layout could be improved or changed. Providing more specific instruction on how to obtain an 'A' standing would be appreciated.
Exams could be made a bit simpler
Great course. Tutorials are very helpful, same with quizzes, MP3's, and questions given before midterms for study purposes.
With the way they have it set up, its as effective as possible
Make sure that all TA's are consistent with marking as I have noticed many discrepancies among their marking. This makes it harder for students to work with one another especially when preparing for exams, because what may be an A to one TA appeared to be B material to another.
None.
the assignments from 100A to 100B did not change, it would have been more interesting and engaging to be doing a different assignment
Not go so fast over the slides in lecture.
n/a
none
Replace the MySocLab quizzes with something like PeerScholar, currently they are a waste of resources, easy marks or no.
No suggestions.
I think a look at the benefits of gender should be included. It is a social construct that causes a lot of harm but it is the way society is organized and there are good reasons as well as very bad reasons for gender roles.
i liked the 3 hour class last semester better because its harder to continue on one topic on different days
grading standards for a first year class were pretty high, but other than that it was a good course. Provided lots of information and a great overview of sociology for students who are not majors or familiar with the subject.
This course could be improved mainly by the elimination of this attitude of the instructor in which he seems to desire to trick students and put up so many barriers to make grades unobtainable. For instance,at one point he made an honest mistake and mis-taught a section of the course material which undoubtably led to mass confusion when midterms approached. However, instead of owning up to this the professor decided in what I can only interpret as an act of spitefulness chose this question to be the one on which we would write on. As fourth year maintaing a high-GPA and i can say with full honesty that this is the worst class and worst professor that i have ever encountered across two universities.
Make assignments and test marking more general with respect to expectations, instead of what your specific TA wants to hear, then you can discuss the assignments and test expectations with students who aren't in your tutorial only, and brainstorm/study together
Expectations are too high for introductory sociology. The level of sociological perspective required is very high considering most students have very little sociological experience.
Don't have any suggestions, it is an amazing course!
On the second midterm I thought I was going to do better on the 100B exam than the 100A exam, based on my understanding of the questions asked. I ended up doing better on the 100A exam. This demonstrates in inconsistency of grading papers with numerous people. Maybe it is a better idea to have each paper marked twice, by two different TAs.

Did not like the marking at all, found it very unfair that the bar was raised each time. Perhaps you could "raise the bar" regarding the given examples. But there is on logical way to "raise the bar" when testing students if they understand the material by "repeating it back to you".

Labs are unnecessary.

Maybe we could have done a bit more group work so that we physically got to experience some of the social things we are learning about.

No further suggestions

None.

change the assignment

You have very high expectations for the exam

I feel like, as far as studying went, I only prepared for the specific questions that were asked in advance for the midterms. This course did not require me to learn all the material covered in the course (that is, not in as much detail as I am used to being a part of the Science faculty).

No way for improvement, I wish he taught second, third and fourth year courses so I could continue taking his classes.

I enjoyed this class.

Do not like quizzes on SocLab, website isn't that good.

The tutorials could be more engaging and more structured. Sometimes it felt like the questions asked in Tutorials were really open ended and when we met in groups to discuss in class, other students were reluctant to speak their thoughts.

Loved this course in every way. Never once looked at the clock waiting for it to be over - was captivated every second.

this course could be improved by making sure that all the tutorial leaders are marking equally and giving their students the same amount of instruction.

MySocLab was not particularly useful as far as a learning tool went. (But I heard that it's being removed anyway.)

The first tutorial assignment's criteria is so brief that it is hard to tell what I was suppose to do. Even my TA wasn't sure.

Given more weeks to study,

All material is not related. Look at other aspect of the society that are not "normal"

keep up the good work.

less chapter to go through so we can focus more on each topic

The only issue i had was with the tutorial leaders and how they all have different opinions on what they want in your paper so you have to go directly to your tutorial leader to do well on your paper

more individual help

Nothing! Super good!

I want Bruce to teach other courses other than intro to soc so that I can take more of his classes!

The only problem I had with the course was the 2nd midterm. 50 minutes to write 2 essay is definitely a challenge, even an extra 5 to 10 minutes would make it a little less stressful for students. However, given the amount of lecture time per week, the time to write the essay is pretty well maxed out. A possibility would be to make the lectures a bit longer, or have a designated exam time and location other than the regular time and place of class.

-reduce the number of tutorial sessions throughout the term

Maybe have students engage in the community somehow

Could be improved my making the online soci lab actually contribute towards the course. By engaging the students more within the course.

A different marking system for tutorial assignments as the marking is not the same throughout the TAs which makes it difficult to know what is expected of you.

MySocLab is kind of useless, in my opinion. Maybe using another method would be more effective in the learning process.

None. The course is awesome.

Maybe change mysoclab to a more interacting task each week so that students could engage in the material more.

None

n/a