

College Course Evaluations

SOSC 11500: Power, Identity, Resistance-2

Section 20 - Winter 2018

Instructor(s): Craze, Joshua; Turner, Kelsye

Number Enrolled: 17

Number of Responses: 11

The Course

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

- I gained more skills in my writing and learned a lot more about the progression of western economic thought.
- Joshua illuminated every single text we read class was always fun and dynamic I would've continued going even if it weren't part of the core. I learned how to read sociology texts, how to think with authors, and how to write papers and put authors in conversation with one another.
- This course opens new way for me to think about the world, and challenges me to think along the author's perspective and then formulate my own opinion
- This course really allows me to see the world from a variety of perspective. This course allows me to suspend me own opinion during the reading and to think along with the authors, and then judge own opinions.
- In Power I learned about what it means to be in a capitalist society, about contradictions in society, individuality, the human condition, and more.
- I've learned a lot about the various perspectives and theories that contribute to my understanding of the world around me.
- I learned how to engage actively with the texts discussed in class. I learned how to write a good argument and express my ideas better.
- i gained perspective and insight
- This class has been my absolute favorite that I have taken at UChicago. I gained the ability to really engage with texts on their own terms. We carefully dissected these fascinating books, paragraph-by-paragraph, and explored their claims and implications. I learned how to ask questions in class that were specific and conducive to further discussion. I vastly improved my writing and my ability to carefully read texts.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussion, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

- Class discussion were always very helpful. The pace was sometimes rather quick for the depth of the material we were covering; however, if not done at this pace we likely would have not been able to discuss most other of the material. Basically, it's a problem with the PIR curriculum and not the teacher.
- Every single aspect of the course contributed to my learning but it was really our discussions when texts came to life. Joshua would teach us by joining in our discussions but he never lectured. He guided our conversations perfectly.

- The seminars contributed to my learning the most, the professor asked us questions that I have not thought about during the reading, and this really helped me understand the reading better
- The seminars contributed the most to my learning. Prof. Craze asks challenging problems and sometimes questions that I might not have thought about during the reading.
- Professor Craze led great discussions that were always dynamic, interesting, and intriguing. The way he conducted class was very conducive to furthering the knowledge of his students. I always looked forward to attending class and discussing the readings.
- The intense in class discussion and the essay prompts have challenged me to think rigorously about what I've read.
- challenged me
- This class was primarily discussion-based. We would read the texts before-hand and then just talk the whole class period. This gave me the opportunity to be engaged with the books and to actually express myself and my opinions.

	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	100%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	0%	0%	0%	0%	27%	82%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	0%	0%	0%	0%	46%	64%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve subsequent work.	0%	0%	0%	0%	27%	82%
My work was evaluated fairly.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%
I felt respected in this class.	0%	0%	0%	0%	27%	82%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%

Additional Comments about this course:

- The very best. I know Joshua is the top power professor I'm sure of it. All his students rave about him he definitely isn't easy, but it is SO worth it.

- This was a fun and engaging class. My motivation to take it was to fulfill the core requirement, but it has become one of my favorite classes. It is very demanding, yet rewarding.

I would recommend this course to:

highly motivated and well-prepared students

Yes	12 / 109%
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No	0 / 0%
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anyone interested in the topic

Yes	11 / 100%
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No	1 / 9%
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The Instructor

Thinking about your time in class, what aspects of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

- I just love Joshua
- Joshua was clearly very knowledgeable of all the texts we were reading, and his insights were very helpful. In addition, he continually sent out extra articles, movies, books, and authors that somehow incorporated or enhanced the texts that we were reading. Having a teacher who seems motivated and interested in what they are teaching, made it easier for me to be motivated to do the reading. Haha
- His passion for the texts
- The discussions in class that he facilitated really brought out the real core of the argument that one would typically miss. Was very engaging and made it really easy to stay focused. Always great to hear his insight in class and outside of class.
- I think Professor Craze does a good job of building our understandings of the text. We don't talk through every part of every reading, but I think it is helpful that we spend a lot of time analyzing the parts of the text we do analyze. Were we to rush through every bit of the reading, I think I would build a surface-level understanding of the whole text. However, I think by analyzing at least the beginning of each reading thoroughly and understanding, I am able to understand the rest of the reading on my own. I think He does a good job telling us what the author is trying to communicate so that we can determine the meaning on our own without having to talk through the whole book. Through this class, I have gotten much better at learning how to read these texts and what to read for.
- Prof. Craze pushed student to suspend our own judgement and to think along with the authors.
- Prof. Craze challenges student to suspend their own judgment and to along with authors for each reading. More importantly, Prof. Craze will challenge student with questions that we might not have considered during the first reading, and will allow students to know that all the texts are not only abstract philosophical ideas but are relatable in real life. Although the texts are sometimes hard to understand, but prof. Craze makes them really fun to read.

- Professor Craze is a great professor who led insightful and fascinating discussions. He encourages students to engage with each other in discussion and to further their writing abilities. He cares deeply about his students success and is always willing to hold office hours. I have always looked forward to the readings and going to class to discuss them. Professor Craze also gave great feedback on papers. I have learned many things from Professor Craze.
- The instructor's emphasis on close reading has really helped me better understand the texts. The connections he drew between the different texts we've read also illuminate many points in the texts.
- Joshua Craze is the best SOSC professor at UChicago. He enables you to explore hidden worlds in the text being discussed. He cares a lot about the students and their improvement.
- active discussion
- This professor is incredible. He is one of the most eloquent people that I've ever met. He allows us to express our opinions about the texts and respects our arguments. He builds upon our ideas and pushes us to think further. His discussions were very helpful and allowed us the opportunity to learn about critically dissecting difficult books. The comments on our essays were thorough.

What could she/he modify to help you learn more?

- Nothing I can think of. In my opinion the issue with this course is that you are reading massively complex texts in a period of time that doesn't do them justice. This is a problem with the PIR curriculum, and you will have it no matter whomst your teacher is.
- Nothing
- Keep doing what he is going.
- Nothing, the seminars were smooth and really challenged students to think
- None. It's a perfect class.
- less work
- I think shorter reading assignments could have helped, so that we would be able to have the amount of time necessary to discuss these texts inn the desired level of detail. However, I understand that these requirements might not be able to change.

	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Organized the course clearly.	0%	0%	0%	0%	36%	73%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	82%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%
Challenged you to learn.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%

Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%
Motivated you to think independently.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming environment.	0%	0%	0%	0%	27%	82%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	91%

The Teaching Assistant, Course Assistant, Intern

Did this class include instruction by a TA, CA or Intern?

Yes	10 / 91%
No	1 / 9%

What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning?

- She was great! I just forget her name
- give important feedbacks
- Give important feedback on writing
- Kelsye was a great writing TA who gave very helpful feedback on assignments.
- interesting
- The TA did not teach in our class, but provided very helpful comments on our papers. Her commentary was thorough and provided us with a solid foundation to improve our writings in the future.

What could she/he modify to help you learn more?

- N/a
- none, very good

- None. She was awesome.
- The TA could be more vocal during class and should participate in the discussions.
- slow the pace
- I would love to have her participate in the class discussions. She probably wanted us to really engage with the texts without interfering, but I would like to hear her perspectives too.

The TA/CA or Intern...

	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	27%	0%	0%	18%	18%	36%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	18%	0%	0%	0%	36%	46%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	27%	0%	0%	9%	9%	55%
Challenged you to learn.	27%	0%	0%	9%	27%	36%
Helped you succeed in the class.	27%	0%	0%	9%	18%	46%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	27%	0%	0%	9%	9%	55%
Overall, the TA/CA made a significant contribution to your learning.	18%	0%	0%	9%	27%	46%

Additional feedback to the TA/CA/Intern:

- very good

Additional Course Elements

Did this course include special design elements (labs, field trips, extra sessions, writing seminars)?

Yes

2 / 18%

No	10 / 91%
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How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	NA	No Gains	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain
Laboratory Experience	73%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Field Trips	73%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Library Sessions	73%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Review sessions	64%	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%
Writing Seminars	64%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%

Other course elements not mentioned above:

- ☐ none
- ☐ The class had some additional films that were very fascinating. However, the most important extra sessions were the weekly office hours that extended on our regular class times. This allowed for further discussions and questions that allowed for great gain.

Student Information

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

Yes	12 / 109%
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No	0 / 0%
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Prior to starting the class, my interest level was?

Very Low	0 / 0%
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Low	1 / 9%
Neutral	4 / 36%
High	6 / 55%
Very High	1 / 9%

Now that the course is over, my interest is?

Diminished	1 / 9%
Satisfied	1 / 9%
Heightened	10 / 91%

Why, primarily, did you take this course over others?

It fulfills a requirement	9 / 82%
There were no other choices	0 / 0%
Meets at a convenient time	3 / 27%
The topic interests me	7 / 64%
Reputation of the faculty member	6 / 55%

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

< 5 Hours	0 / 0%
5-10 Hours	7 / 64%

> 10 Hours

5 / 46%

What proportion of classes did you attend?

None	0 / 0%
25%	0 / 0%
50%	0 / 0%
75%	0 / 0%
All	12 / 109%

Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Very Easy	0 / 0%
Easy	0 / 0%
Average	1 / 9%
Very Difficult	3 / 27%
Very Difficult	3 / 27%