

# College Course Evaluations

## SOSC 13300: Social Sciences Inquiry - 3

### Section 3 - Spring 2017

**Instructor(s):** Perez, Lauren

**Number Enrolled:** 19

**Number of Responses:** 14

### Evaluation Comments

#### What were the instructor's strengths? Weaknesses?

- Perez is honestly such a cool professor. She is super helpful and accessible during office hours and is very communicative about grades, papers, etc.
- Strength: Available outside of class. Taught us how to write an effective research paper. Also taught us what aspects to consider when presenting results. Weakness: None
- Professor Perez was very knowledgeable regarding the content of the class and often brought in examples from her own research and shared her research with us, which was really interesting because we were able to see what a professional paper was like. She was always pretty organized in lecture and was always sure to learn all of our names and make the class a more intimate learning environment. She also found some really interesting required reading and, when she had to miss a day of class to go to a conference, made a really creative assignment which involved listening to podcasts and reading accompanying articles. For a class which delves heavily into statistics but does not have a statistics prerequisite, Professor Perez would casually mention a method which was necessary for our research that I we had not reviewed this quarter, and that would be confusing and daunting. We may have covered it last quarter, but we also had a decent amount of students who had not been in her classes in the winter or autumn quarters.
- Professor Perez is very accessible, fair, and knowledgeable. Sometimes class discussions were not very energetic, but that isn't necessarily a reflection on her.
- Clear, straightforward expectations, solid instructor, very helpful. One of the better SSI professors
- Prof. Perez was able to incorporate examples and lessons from her own experience doing research, which was great!
- Professor Perez is really great - she presents the material in a really clear way and was very helpful towards us for the final project.
- Professor is very helpful outside of class and with issues with the stats software that we use. Sometimes I think she should switch up the class schedules so we aren't just listening to each other talk about the reads we half did.

#### What were the teaching assistant's or writing intern's strengths? Weaknesses?

- N/A
- NA
- N/A

#### What, if anything, what would you change about this course and why?

- None
- THIS CLASS HAS NO STATISTICS PREREQUISITE BUT IS 80% STATISTICS. THAT IS CRAZY. We were given a crash course in statistical analysis winter quarter but honestly it was really hard and overwhelming for someone who hadn't taken statistics yet. Especially because this quarter culminated in having to do a comprehensive research analysis paper which we had to present to the class, this was very stressful. I learned a lot from this course, but there should definitely be a disclaimer which explains how heavily the class deals with statistical topics. I took this sequence because it said we read research papers and learned about psych experiments, and this seemed entirely misleading. I don't regret taking the class but a more robust description should be made for future students.
- More interesting readings
- Perhaps structure more checkpoints for the final research paper besides the research design
- spread some of the stats stuff from winter quarter into this one and fall quarter. I feel like most of the learning in the course is concentrated into winter quarter

#### Is there any topic in this course that you wished you had had previous background in?

- None
- STATISTICS
- Not really! Having learned stata from last quarter was good
- Maybe more statistical knowledge, but it wasn't a huge problem
- Stata during winter quarter

#### Which texts were most useful?

- We did not have a specific text.

- No textbooks (which was nice) so most of the pdf readings were pretty useful.
- N/a
- N/A

**Which least?**

- N/A
- NA
- N/a
- N/A
- Most of the readings on writing research papers were not very useful

**How productive was class discussion?**

- The class discussions helped better understand key aspects to consider in a research paper.
- Pretty productive. This quarter, most of discussion was driven by the reading and when that petered we would transition to talking about general research and analysis strategies which we took away from the readings. It was a very organized way of applying the strategies from reading to real life.
- , Not really much discussion, more the professor would ask questions and people would eventually respond
- Relatively productive, especially during presentations.
- Not very productive, but it wasn't boring
- I think the readings/discussions became a little repetitive and were not super useful.

**How has this course contributed to your education?**

- This course allowed me to practice the skills that were developed in later quarters on a larger project. Also, this course improved my ability to choose an appropriate topic for research in social sciences.
- Helped me develop as a researcher.
- I now have a real interest in research and am pursuing this as a quasi-profession. If I had not taken this course I would not have gained the experience and interest to complete my own research and seek out and attain summer research positions. This class was an insane crash course in research which nearly destroyed me, but at least something positive came out of the experience.
- I'm better at stat and data work than I was before and I'll never read a newspaper article the same way again
- It has helped me interpret social science research papers and even how to write my own which was very helpful
- Helped me understand stata and how to write research papers

**Why did you take this course?**

Core requirement	14 / 100%
Instructor Reputation	1 / 7%
Faculty member recommended it	0 / 0%
Concentration Requirement	0 / 0%
Meets at a convenient time	2 / 14%
A student recommended it	0 / 0%
Topic interests me	2 / 14%
Concentration elective	0 / 0%

**In summary, I had a strong desire to take this course**

Strongly Agree	2 / 14%
Agree	3 / 21%

Neutral	6 / 43%
Disagree	0 / 0%
Strongly Disagree	0 / 0%

**How many hours per week did you spend on this course?**

Low Answer	3
Average Answer	5.1
High Answer	10

**What proportion of classes did you attend?**

All	12 / 86%
75%	2 / 14%
50%	0 / 0%
25%	0 / 0%
None	0 / 0%

**Were the time demands of this course reasonable?**

Yes	13 / 93%
No	0 / 0%

**The Instructor**

	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Organized the course clearly.	0%	0%	0%	0%	36%	57%
Presented clear lectures.	0%	0%	0%	7%	36%	50%
Held my attention and made this course interesting.	0%	0%	7%	29%	29%	29%
Stimulated and facilitated questions and discussions.	0%	0%	7%	7%	21%	57%
Responded well to student questions.	0%	0%	0%	0%	21%	71%
Was available outside of class.	0%	0%	0%	7%	7%	79%
Was helpful during office hours.	14%	0%	0%	7%	7%	64%
Motivated independent thinking.	0%	0%	7%	0%	43%	43%

**The Readings**

	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
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Fulfilled the objective of the course.	0%	0%	0%	14%	<b>50%</b>	29%
Were reasonable in number.	0%	0%	0%	0%	43%	<b>50%</b>
Were appropriately difficult.	0%	0%	0%	14%	<b>36%</b>	<b>36%</b>

#### Approximately how much of the reading did you do?

	<b>N/A</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>100%</b>
	0%	7%	0%	0%	<b>43%</b>	14%

#### The Assignments

	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
How helpful were the lectures and discussions in preparing for exams and completing assignments?	0%	0%	14%	7%	<b>50%</b>	21%
How appropriately were the requirements of the course proportioned to course goals?	0%	0%	7%	0%	<b>43%</b>	<b>43%</b>
How well did the requirements contribute to the goals of the course?	0%	0%	0%	7%	<b>50%</b>	36%
How timely and useful was feedback on assignments and exams?	0%	0%	7%	14%	21%	<b>50%</b>
How fairly were the assignments graded?	0%	0%	0%	0%	43%	<b>50%</b>

#### Overall

	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
This course met my expectations.	0%	0%	7%	0%	21%	<b>64%</b>
This course provided me with new insight and knowledge.	0%	0%	0%	0%	43%	<b>50%</b>
This course provided me with useful skills.	0%	0%	0%	7%	14%	<b>71%</b>
The content of this course was presented at an appropriate level.	0%	0%	7%	7%	14%	<b>64%</b>
I put my best effort into this course.	0%	0%	14%	0%	14%	<b>64%</b>
The class had a high level of morale/enthusiasm.	0%	0%	7%	21%	<b>36%</b>	29%

#### The Teaching Assistant(s)

	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
Were available outside of class.	<b>86%</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%
Were helpful with assignments.	<b>86%</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%

## Discussion Sections, Problem Sessions, Writing Tutorials

	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
Were well coordinated with this course and contributed to it.	<b>86%</b>	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%
Provided well-designed materials.	<b>86%</b>	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%