Individual Report - Spring 2017 (1171) for POL 101W D100 - Introduction to Politics and Government (Sanjay Jeram)

Student Evaluation of Teaching and Courses (SETC Spring 2017)

Report Comments

This report contains the results of responses from students in the above course to the Institution-Wide, Faculty, Department and Instructor-selected questions.

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Creation Date   Fri, May 26, 2017

INSTRUCTOR REPORT

Response Rate

Raters	Students
Responded	196
Invited	213
Response Ratio	92.0%

Section 1: Instructor Information

Did the instructor design the course?

Options	Count
Yes	0
No	0
In Part (e.g. designed components or selected course materials)	1

Instructor Statement

Comments
This is the first time I've taught 101W, so constructive criticism (and lots of praise) is much appreciated!

Note that this section only displays if you have submitted contextual information, otherwise this section may be empty.

Section 2: Summary of Results - Part 1. Institution-Wide Questions

Please note the following is the scale used for all questions in this report unless indicated otherwise:
Scale used: 1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=No Opinion, 4=Agree, 5=Strongly Agree

Scale used: 1=Very Poor, 2=Poor, 3=Fair, 4=Good, 5=Very Good

	Mean	SD	Resp
Overall, the quality of my learning experience in this course was …	4.19	0.80	196

Scale used: 1=Never, 2=Rarely, 3=About half of the time, 4=Most of the time, 5=All of the time

	Mean	SD	Resp
I attended class...	4.40	0.71	196

Scale used: 1=Very Hard 2=Hard, 3=Medium, 4=Easy, 5=Very Easy

	Mean	SD	Resp
How easy was this course?	3.04	0.59	195

Experience with the instructor

	Mean	SD	Resp
The course instructor explained course concepts clearly.	4.38	0.71	196
The course instructor explained grading criteria clearly.	4.38	0.71	191
The course instructor created a respectful learning environment.	4.68	0.50	189
The course instructor was approachable when students asked for guidance.	4.51	0.71	188

Experience with the course

	Mean	SD	Resp
The different course parts/activities (lectures, labs, tutorials, online forums, discussions, etc.) were connected.	4.18	0.79	196
Course materials (textbook, readings, handouts, assignments, etc.) improved my understanding of the course content.	4.19	0.87	192
The assessments in this course (tests, assignments, essays, etc.) allowed me to demonstrate my understanding of the course content.	4.06	0.85	192
Course activities (lectures, discussions, group work, labs, etc.) were engaging.	3.94	0.97	192

Section 2: Summary of Results - Part 2. Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Please note the following is the scale used for all questions in this report unless indicated otherwise:
Scale used: 1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=No Opinion, 4=Agree, 5=Strongly Agree

	Mean	SD	Resp
When explaining course concepts, the instructor connected the concepts to the major themes of the course.	4.43	0.66	196

	Mean	SD	Resp
The course instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn in the course.	4.34	0.75	195

	Mean	SD	Resp
My experience in this course has motivated me to learn more about the subject.	3.74	1.08	196

	Mean	SD	Resp
We are interested in knowing to what extent courses promote critical thinking. To think critically means to carefully evaluate an idea or hypothesis on the basis of the available evidence, and to try to reach a justifiable conclusion using rational analysis within the context of a specific discipline. My experience in this course has encouraged me to think critically.	3.99	0.84	195

Section 2: Summary of Results - Part 3. Political Science School/Department Questions

Please note the following is the scale used for all questions in this report unless indicated otherwise:
Scale used: 1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=No Opinion, 4=Agree, 5=Strongly Agree

	Mean	SD	Resp
Are you a Political Science:	2.88	0.66	196
Scale used: 1=Major or intended major, 2=Minor or intended minor, 3=None of the above, 4= Do not know			

	Mean	SD	Resp
If you answered "none of the above" in the previous question, do you intend to take another course in Political Science?	2.56	1.18	191
Scale used: 1=No, 2=Not applicable (already a major or a minor), 3=Yes, 4= Do not know			

	Mean	SD	Resp
This course encouraged me to be more politically engaged	3.85	0.96	196

	Mean	SD	Resp
Attending lectures/seminars enhanced my understanding of the subject matter of the course.	4.21	0.92	196

Section 3: Detailed Results - Part 1. Institution-Wide Questions

Notes:

- *"NRP" in the following tables indicates that there is no score value for a response of **Not Applicable***

- *In the comparison table, the information is displayed in the following order: **Mean, Count, Standard Deviation***

Overall, the quality of my learning experience in this course was …

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Very Good	5	78	39.8%
Good	4	85	43.4%
Fair	3	26	13.3%
Poor	2	7	3.6%
Very Poor	1	0	0.0%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	196
Mean	4.19
Standard Deviation	0.80

Comparison of Mean Scores

| Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
Overall, the quality of my learning experience in this course was …	4.13	726	0.94	4.00	6226	0.99	3.94	23277	1.04

Course	4.19
Dept (Political Science)	4.13
Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)	4.00
Institution (SFU)	3.94
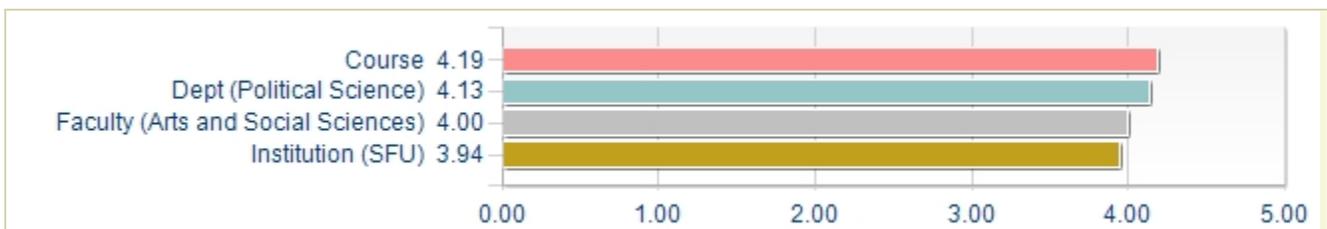
I attended class...

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
All of the time	5	99	50.5%
Most of the time	4	81	41.3%
About half of the time	3	13	6.6%
Rarely	2	2	1.0%
Never	1	1	0.5%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	196
Mean	4.40
Standard Deviation	0.71

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
I attended class...	4.53	718	0.66	4.50	6169	0.72	4.54	23073	0.71

How easy was this course?

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Very Easy	5	1	0.5%
Easy	4	32	16.4%
Medium	3	137	70.3%
Hard	2	23	11.8%
Very Hard	1	2	1.0%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	195
Mean	3.04
Standard Deviation	0.59

Comparison of Mean Scores

| Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
How easy was this course?	2.80	717	0.68	2.73	6169	0.77	2.68	23067	0.83

The course instructor explained course concepts clearly.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	94	48.0%
Agree	4	89	45.4%
No Opinion	3	8	4.1%
Disagree	2	4	2.0%
Strongly Disagree	1	1	0.5%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	196
Mean	4.38
Standard Deviation	0.71

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
The course instructor explained course concepts clearly.	4.23	726	0.94	4.15	6332	0.96	4.08	23682	1.05
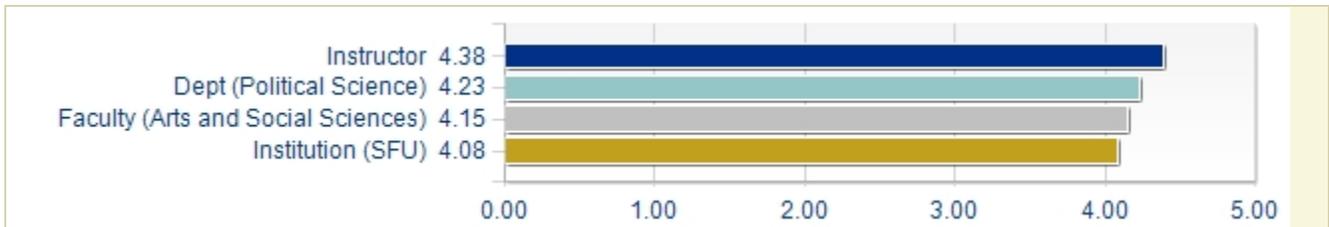
The course instructor explained grading criteria clearly.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	94	49.2%
Agree	4	81	42.4%
No Opinion	3	11	5.8%
Disagree	2	5	2.6%
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.0%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	191
Mean	4.38
Standard Deviation	0.71

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
The course instructor explained grading criteria clearly.	4.07	712	1.07	4.11	6239	1.00	4.11	23327	1.04

Instructor	4.38
Dept (Political Science)	4.07
Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)	4.11
Institution (SFU)	4.11

0.00   1.00   2.00   3.00   4.00   5.00
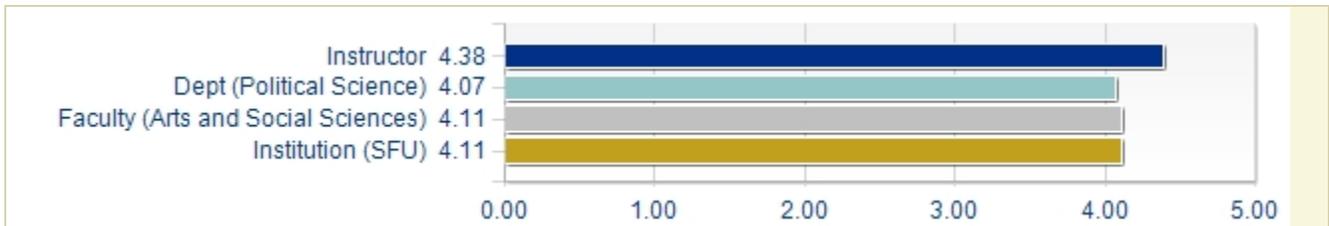
The course instructor created a respectful learning environment.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	131	69.3%
Agree	4	55	29.1%
No Opinion	3	3	1.6%
Disagree	2	0	0.0%
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.0%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	189
Mean	4.68
Standard Deviation	0.50

Comparison of Mean Scores

| Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
The course instructor created a respectful learning environment.	4.57	713	0.71	4.44	6240	0.78	4.42	23338	0.82
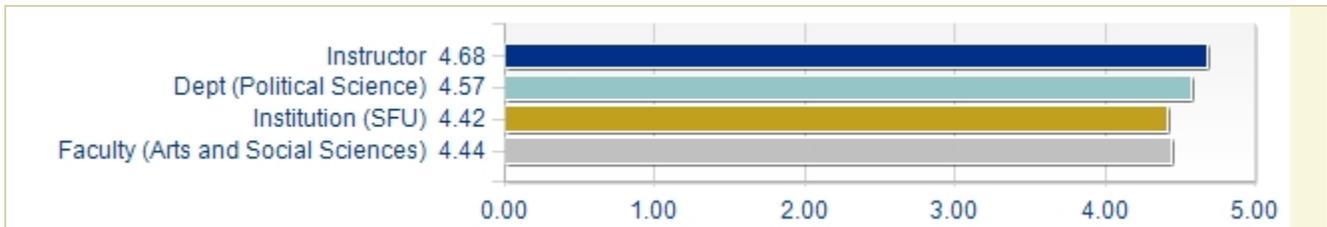
The course instructor was approachable when students asked for guidance.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	114	60.6%
Agree	4	60	31.9%
No Opinion	3	11	5.9%
Disagree	2	2	1.1%
Strongly Disagree	1	1	0.5%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	188
Mean	4.51
Standard Deviation	0.71

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
The course instructor was approachable when students asked for guidance.	4.43	707	0.86	4.34	6190	0.87	4.34	23110	0.90
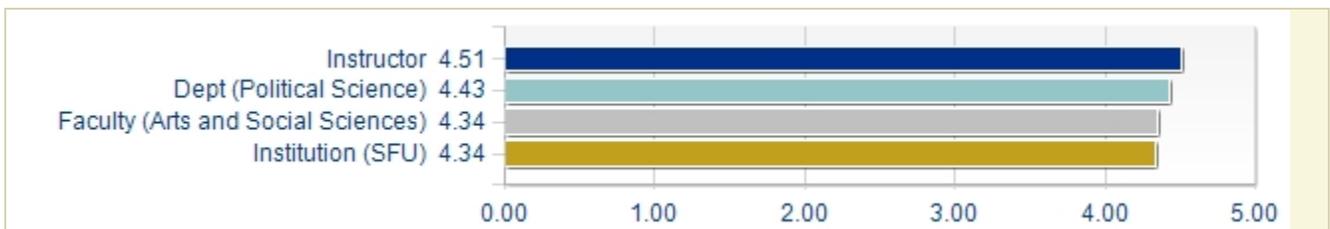
The different course parts/activities (lectures, labs, tutorials, online forums, discussions, etc.) were connected.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	71	36.2%
Agree	4	100	51.0%
No Opinion	3	16	8.2%
Disagree	2	8	4.1%
Strongly Disagree	1	1	0.5%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	196
Mean	4.18
Standard Deviation	0.79

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
The different course parts/activities (lectures, labs, tutorials, online forums, discussions, etc.) were connected.	4.24	726	0.92	4.26	5979	0.86	4.22	22598	0.92
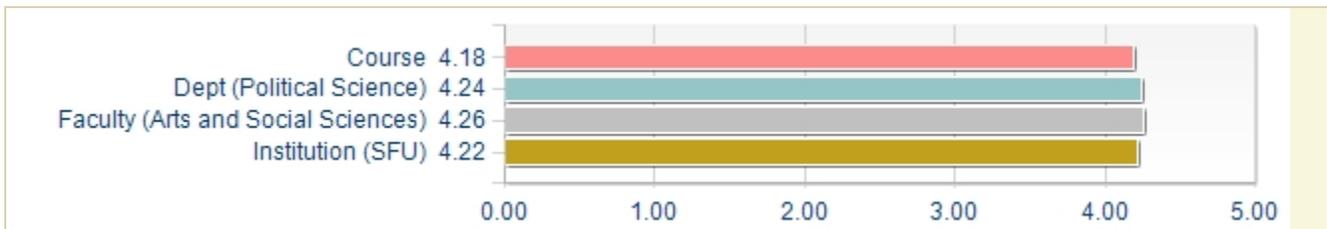
Course materials (textbook, readings, handouts, assignments, etc.) improved my understanding of the course content.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	80	41.7%
Agree	4	82	42.7%
No Opinion	3	18	9.4%
Disagree	2	11	5.7%
Strongly Disagree	1	1	0.5%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	192
Mean	4.19
Standard Deviation	0.87

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
Course materials (textbook, readings, handouts, assignments, etc.) improved my understanding of the course content.	4.11	712	1.01	4.18	6094	0.94	4.08	22680	1.01
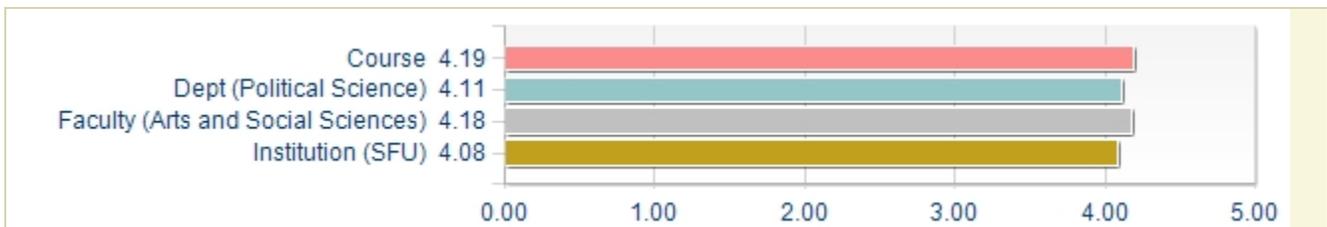
Course	4.19	
Dept (Political Science)	4.11	
Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)	4.18	
Institution (SFU)	4.08	

The assessments in this course (tests, assignments, essays, etc.) allowed me to demonstrate my understanding of the course content.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	59	30.7%
Agree	4	101	52.6%
No Opinion	3	18	9.4%
Disagree	2	13	6.8%
Strongly Disagree	1	1	0.5%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	192
Mean	4.06
Standard Deviation	0.85

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
The assessments in this course (tests, assignments, essays, etc.) allowed me to demonstrate my understanding of the course content.	4.09	716	0.99	4.03	6116	1.02	4.00	22860	1.06
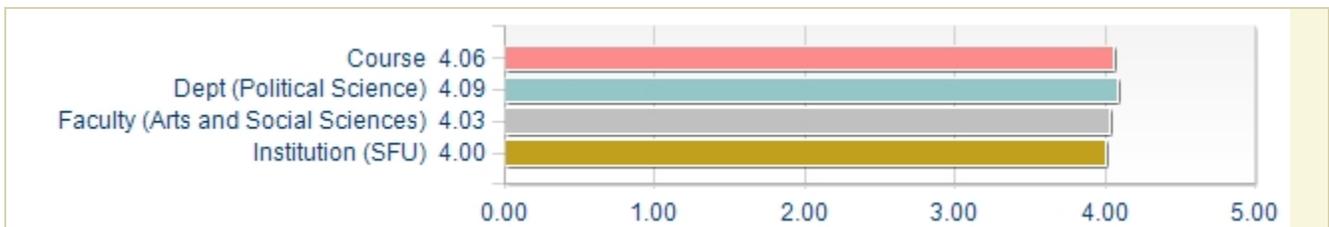
Course activities (lectures, discussions, group work, labs, etc.) were engaging.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	55	28.6%
Agree	4	95	49.5%
No Opinion	3	22	11.5%
Disagree	2	15	7.8%
Strongly Disagree	1	5	2.6%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	192
Mean	3.94
Standard Deviation	0.97

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)			Institution (SFU)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
Course activities (lectures, discussions, group work, labs, etc.) were engaging.	4.07	712	1.05	3.95	6067	1.09	3.94	22662	1.12
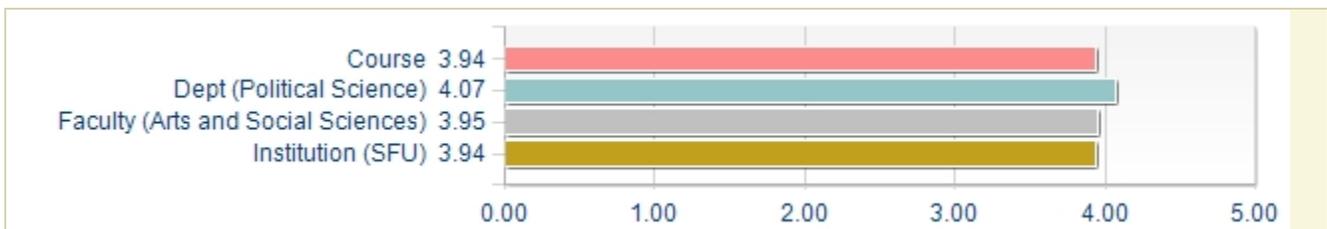
Section 3: Detailed Results - Part 2. Arts and Social Sciences Questions

When explaining course concepts, the instructor connected the concepts to the major themes of the course.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	100	51.0%
Agree	4	82	41.8%
Neutral	3	12	6.1%
Disagree	2	2	1.0%
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.0%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Instructor			Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
When explaining course concepts, the instructor connected the concepts to the major themes of the course.	4.43	196	0.66	4.36	722	0.83	4.26	6306	0.82

Instructor 4.43
Dept (Political Science) 4.36
Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences) 4.26

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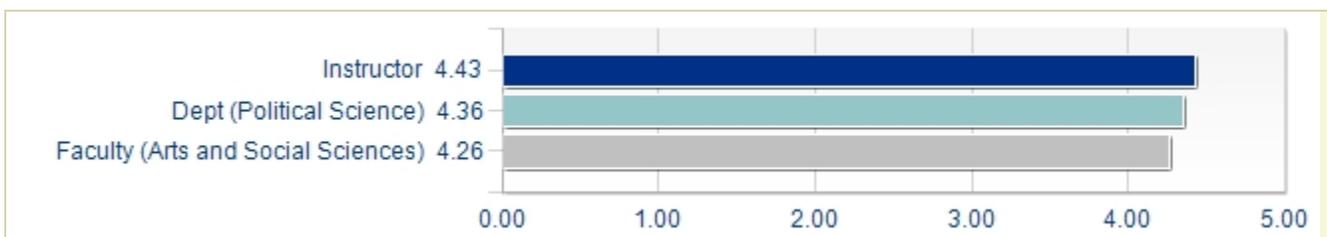
The course instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn in the course.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	92	47.2%
Agree	4	83	42.6%
Neutral	3	15	7.7%
Disagree	2	4	2.1%
Strongly Disagree	1	1	0.5%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Instructor			Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
The course instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn in the course.	4.34	195	0.75	4.19	721	0.94	4.15	6309	0.92

Instructor 4.34
Dept (Political Science) 4.19
Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences) 4.15

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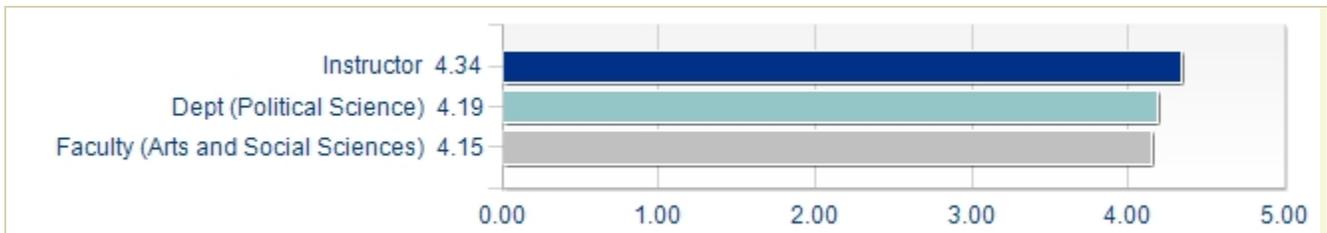
My experience in this course has motivated me to learn more about the subject.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	60	30.6%
Agree	4	54	27.6%
Neutral	3	58	29.6%
Disagree	2	19	9.7%
Strongly Disagree	1	5	2.6%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Course			Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
My experience in this course has motivated me to learn more about the subject.	3.74	196	1.08	3.78	722	1.14	3.72	6189	1.17
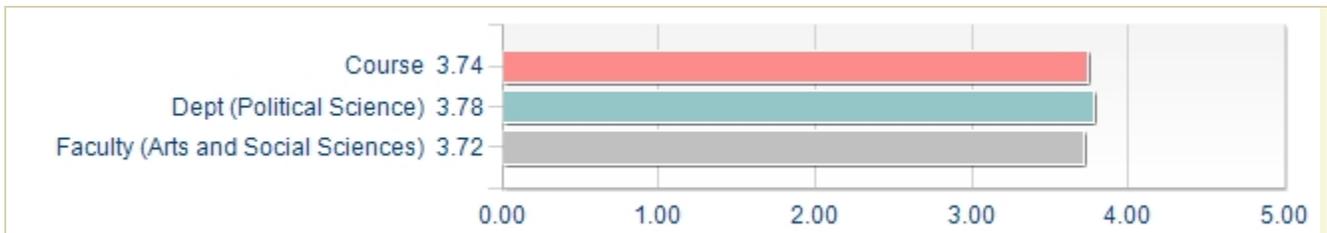
Course 3.74
Dept (Political Science) 3.78
Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences) 3.72

We are interested in knowing to what extent courses promote critical thinking. To think critically means to carefully evaluate an idea or hypothesis on the basis of the available evidence, and to try to reach a justifiable conclusion using rational analysis within the context of a specific discipline. My experience in this course has encouraged me to think critically.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	57	29.2%
Agree	4	90	46.2%
Neutral	3	39	20.0%
Disagree	2	8	4.1%
Strongly Disagree	1	1	0.5%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Course			Dept (Political Science)			Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
We are interested in knowing to what extent courses promote critical thinking. To think critically means to carefully evaluate an idea or hypothesis on the basis of the available evidence, and to try to reach a justifiable conclusion using rational analysis within the context of a specific discipline. My experience in this course has encouraged me to think critically.	3.99	195	0.84	4.11	716	0.90	3.99	6175	0.97

Course 3.99
Dept (Political Science) 4.11
Faculty (Arts and Social Sciences) 3.99

0.00   1.00   2.00   3.00   4.00   5.00
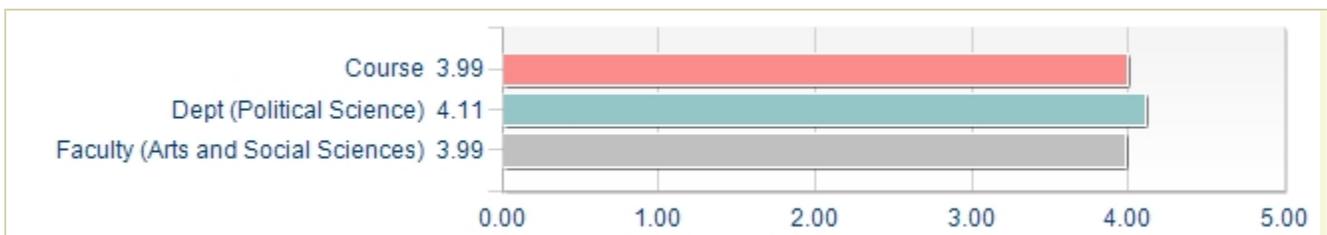
# Section 3: Detailed Results - Part 3. School/Department of Political Science

Are you a Political Science:

Scale used: 1=Major or intended major, 2=Minor or intended minor, 3=None of the above, 4= Do not know

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Major or intended major	1	14	7.1%
Minor or intended minor	2	14	7.1%
None of the above	3	150	76.5%
Do not know	4	18	9.2%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Course			Dept (Political Science)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
Are you a Political Science: Scale used: 1=Major or intended major, 2=Minor or intended minor, 3=None of the above, 4= Do not know	2.88	196	0.66	1.92	720	0.99
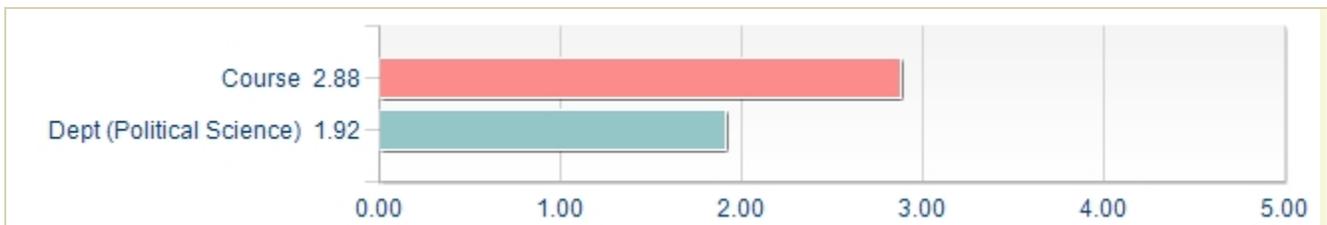
If you answered "none of the above" in the previous question, do you intend to take another course in Political Science?

**Scale used: 1=No, 2=Not applicable (already a major or a minor), 3=Yes, 4= Do not know**

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Yes	3	60	31.4%
No	1	57	29.8%
Not applicable (already a major or a minor)	2	22	11.5%
Do not know	4	52	27.2%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Course			Dept (Political Science)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
If you answered "none of the above" in the previous question, do you intend to take another course in Political Science? Scale used: 1=No, 2=Not applicable (already a major or a minor), 3=Yes, 4= Do not know	2.56	191	1.18	2.29	643	0.87

Overall

Course 2.56
Dept (Political Science) 2.29

0.00 1.00 2.00 3.00 4.00 5.00
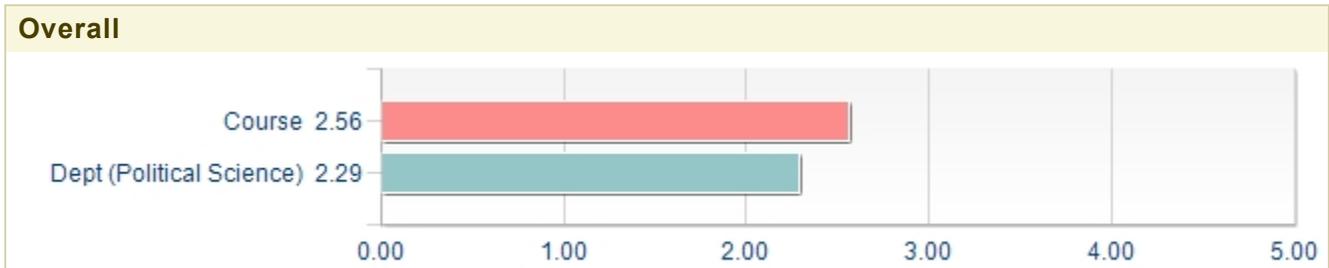
This course encouraged me to be more politically engaged

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	56	28.6%
Agree	4	72	36.7%
Neutral	3	53	27.0%
Disagree	2	12	6.1%
Strongly Disagree	1	3	1.5%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Course			Dept (Political Science)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
This course encouraged me to be more politically engaged	3.85	196	0.96	3.81	719	0.97
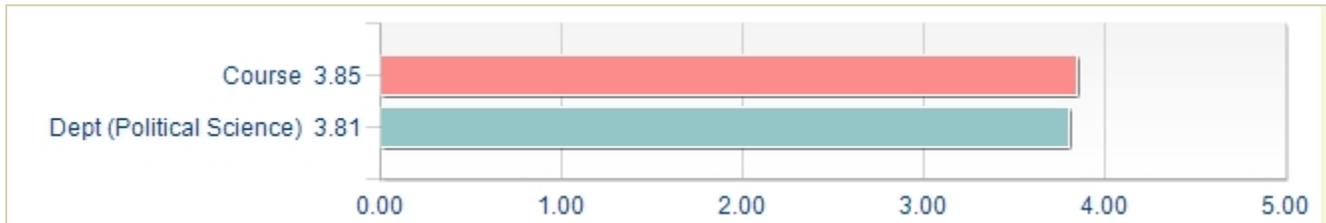
Attending lectures/seminars enhanced my understanding of the subject matter of the course.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	86	43.9%
Agree	4	82	41.8%
Neutral	3	15	7.7%
Disagree	2	9	4.6%
Strongly Disagree	1	4	2.0%

Comparison of Mean Scores

Question	Course			Dept (Political Science)		
	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation	Mean	Response Count	Standard Deviation
Attending lectures/seminars enhanced my understanding of the subject matter of the course.	4.21	196	0.92	4.18	720	1.03
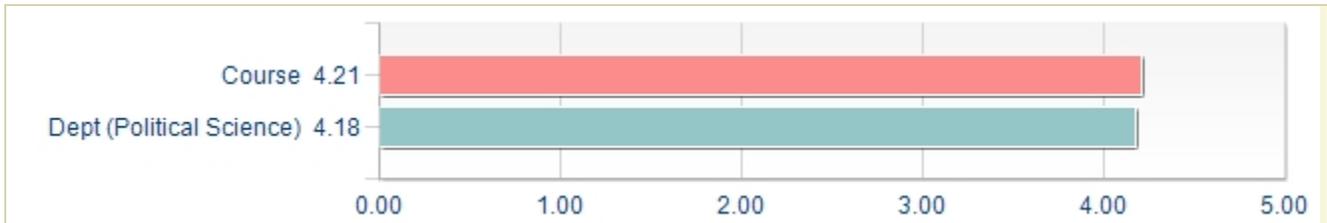
Do you plan to take more courses in (one or more of) the following areas:

Distribution of Responses

Options	Count	Percentage
Political Theory (philosophy or methods)	48	14.4%
Canadian Politics	50	15.0%
Comparative Politics	32	9.6%
International Relations	73	21.9%
GovernancePublic Policy/Governance	37	11.1%
Not applicable (not intending to take more courses in Political Science)	34	10.2%
Do not know	60	18.0%
Respondent(s)	**195**	

Section 4: Instructor-Selected Questions

Note that only the questions that you selected are displayed, otherwise this section may be empty.

I appreciated that the instructor (Sanjay Jeram) elaborated upon the textbook material.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	85	43.4%
Agree	4	81	41.3%
No Opinion	3	24	12.2%
Disagree	2	3	1.5%
Strongly Disagree	1	3	1.5%

	Mean	SD	Resp
I appreciated that the instructor (Sanjay Jeram) elaborated upon the textbook material.	4.23	0.84	196

The instructor (Sanjay Jeram) provided sufficient information about the mid-term test beforehand.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	108	55.4%
Agree	4	65	33.3%
No Opinion	3	12	6.2%
Disagree	2	6	3.1%
Strongly Disagree	1	4	2.1%

	Mean	SD	Resp
The instructor (Sanjay Jeram) provided sufficient information about the mid-term test beforehand.	4.37	0.89	195

The use of Top Hat or another interactive platform would be useful for this course.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	16	8.2%
Agree	4	49	25.0%
No Opinion	3	50	25.5%
Disagree	2	44	22.4%
Strongly Disagree	1	37	18.9%

	Mean	SD	Resp
The use of Top Hat or another interactive platform would be useful for this course.	2.81	1.24	196

The instructor (Sanjay Jeram) presented the material at a level appropriate for first-year students.

Distribution of Responses

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Agree	5	70	35.7%
Agree	4	88	44.9%
No Opinion	3	14	7.1%
Disagree	2	20	10.2%
Strongly Disagree	1	4	2.0%

	Mean	SD	Resp
The instructor (Sanjay Jeram) presented the material at a level appropriate for first-year students.	4.02	1.01	196

Section 5: Comments

Note that this section only displays if comments have been submitted, otherwise this section may be empty.

Do you have any further comments?

Comments
Great course, thank's for everything.
Great Prof. Always willing to help. Very patient in office hours (willing to take time to explain everything). Very clear and concise lecturing.
An amazing professor. Absolutely one of the best of my SFU instructor so far. Made me want to take more POLI SCI courses
Sanjay is, without a doubt, the typification of an ideal professor. His speaking style, candor, eye contact, humor, and strength in knowledge make him a terrific professor. When I refer to strength in knowledge, I mean that Professor Jerman is able to welcome differing and unique perspectives, unpack said points of view, and if necessary, articulate why that student was wrong. In matters regarding feminism, racism, and inequality, Professor Jerman was able to craft understanding without hurting anyone's feelings.
Should rewrite notes to be easier for review in the final and mid term exam. At this point it is a struggle to read just jumbles of random notes. Also should do clicker quizzes for easier examination.
Keep up the good work. Your explanations were slow, steady, and crystal clear. Truly a nice change from all my other profs.
Great job in explaining whats on the test/midterms.
thanks!
He was a great instructor and was able to explain concepts clearly and elaborate on concepts by providing real world examples which greatly helped my learning experience.
tutorial didn't represent the class well
Thank you so much for your wonderful and engaging lectures.
The test is way to hard for a first year course, the multiple choice questions seems like they are trying to trick you.The marking is pretty harsh as well. Lectures are pretty dry, I feel like tutorial is more useful than lecture.
I would suggest instead of Top Hat to use iclickers. I have used them for other courses and I find they are a good way for students to engage and test their knowledge without it being a huge hassel.
I enjoyed Sanjay Jeram's lectures, I found them to be engaging and useful in understanding the concepts from the textbook. He is very approachable and has excellent skills in being able to explain concepts in various ways to ensure students understand the material. I thoroughly enjoyed Sanjay Jeram's course.
Great Class, Great Professor
Thank you for a great semester!
The concept of using Top Hat was understandable, and in fact, was quite useful at some points. However, since we were not able to use Top Hat due to technical issue, I believe that more critical decisions (such as using iClicker) would be more acceptable for all students rather than assigning more points to other assignment because after it has been decided not to use Top Hat, there obviously were less engagements from other students.
Very engaging professor! Very respectful.
I really enjoyed this course, I think it can be dumbed down just a tad, or have some terminology explained before majorly introducing it (Civic Nation, for example I had no clue what it was during the first time it was mentioned in lecture)
Professor Jeram's course was one i looked forward to attending. He was always very approachable and class was rarely boring.
Sanjay, although a younger professor, executes his class and conveys his criteria with the confidence and poise of a veteran professor. I was extremely surprised by his ability to not only educate the course criteria with passion, but to also engage the students with interest and attachment. I wish him the best in his career.

Comments
passionate
Thank you for being our professor for this course. It was quite insightful although I'm just taking this course as a prerequisite. Continuing with this topic, I felt that this course was a little bit too difficult for those who are not pursuing a path towards political science. I felt that some of the material that was involved in lecture required that we had some previous knowledge when we did not. Some topics were difficult to understand and I wished that it was better explained.   I also want to talk about Tophat. I felt that the interactive aspect of it was a very good part to our lectures. Until it didn't work, I felt we could have done something else. We could have used iclickers for multiple choice questions that you propose. Unless this is our first semester and only course we are taking, I'm sure a lot of us have existing iclickers or could have went and got one. It would keep the interactive part in lecture and continue to keep us engaged. This would also save you from reallocating the participation grade.   All in all, the way you lectured was different and I enjoyed that.   You were very patient with everyone as well! Sometimes I felt bad when nobody responded or that the same students responded. Especially so when some students were very opinionated or frequently provide bias answers. You were able to curve the discussion and pull us back.   Thank you.
Nice guy but multiple choice questions were wayyyy too hard
he is a great lecturer
Thank You!
You made the course enjoyable and very interesting. Perhaps promoting more discussion among the students before asking for a response to a question would be helpful so we can think about the question critically and really find the proper response. I look forward to taking more courses in this field!   Thanks!
Thanks for a great class! i really enjoyed it, im so excited to be taking another poli sci class with you in the summer. Out of all my profs you have been the best, and i am truly thankful that you provided the exam layout and prepped us before hand because it is truly helpful! The only concern i had was my TA, he didnt know how to speak english that clearly and when asked to repeat he would go off on another topic, he never answered any of my questions or other classsmates, and i really think he needs to work on his teaching skills, because he is not fit to be a TA. Qyi was one of the worst TAs I've had this semester and he was not that helpful in class, majority of my class zoned out when he talked. thanks for a great class sanjay! cant wait to take my class with u next semester.
Was very open to answering any questions as well as always reminding us he is always available at office hours. Made sure we understood key concepts and got us to think outside the box. Made sure we were well prepared for the midterm. Sometimes they terminology used to explain key concepts was very complex and hard to follow. Overall one of the best profs I've had.
He was a fantastic Prof, my favourite this semester. I particularly liked how clear his lectures were and the quality and preparedness of each lecture. I was eager to come to each class.
He's very passionate about it and it inspired me to be more engaged in politics.
Well done !
Extra points for Harambe
you did well
<3
Great Prof
The use of tophat would encourage participation in lectures which cannot be substituted by adding 5% to tutorial participation. Lecture notes do not provide sufficient elaboration on key content. For a first year course, lecture slides are crucial for students to feel confident in participating in lecture discussions. When lecture slides cover key concepts, students are able to actively develop critical thinking in class and not have to worry over redoing textbook content notes not covered in lecture slides. Class is motivating and engaging however there's a lot to improve in terms of content. Thanks.
good instructor leads engaging lectures and material. has good understanding of course content
The course overall was great, the text book was not so much. especially that the chapters in the syllabus were different than the book at the book store.

Comments

I believe the fact that you were engaging and were willing to talk to your students during class (discussions) was great. i was unfortunately stuck with a not so great TA, as she had gotten sick and this HORRIBLE TA came for a couple of classes. The third and last TA was phenomenal!!

very engaging prof, super helpful during office hours! Articulates points very well

the midterm was weirdly place, too much material on the final, and minimal on the midterm.

Sanjay is an amazing professor who has the unique ability of connecting with the students. By doing so, he makes the class that much more enjoyable by teaching us in a way that our generation of students finds engaging. I feel that more professors at SFU should be more like him.

Dr. Jeram is really great!! He's really nice and super flexible in terms of what he covers in class and does his best to keep course content interesting and relevant!! He mentioned that as a new prof, this sort of stuff is really important, and I think he should just keep doing what he's doing. It was a shame that tophat didn't work out, because it was a great idea!! I would love to have another course with Dr. Jeram someday :-)

he was awkward to talk to

Thanks for the semester

Good professor. Probably could explain the terminologies as some of the terms are difficult to understand. Really nice person as well.

I would appreciate opinions - I respect that Sanjay tried to remain neutral and unbiased but it would be beneficial to my learning if he expressed opinions for certain concepts/theories. Remaining unbiased makes it difficult for students to fully understand the social context behind certain ideas.

Good job explaining the concepts to the best of your ability, and going through topics thoroughly. Many professors do not seem to do this.

Before taking this course, I did not enjoy politics in general. But after being part of this class I now appreciate it and find it more interesting as a topic. He has made politics entertaining.

n/a

thank you for a great semester!

great prof! very engaging and enthusiastic. thanks dr. Jeram

Very good lecture style, enjoyed learning the content that was being taught.

I really enjoyed Sanjay as a prof. He was engaging and seemed very interested in his topic. His lectures were clear and captivating. On the other hand, he sometimes used complex terms which were hard to understand.

Professor Jeram often makes lectures engaging through discussion questions and online videos that highlight course concepts. There were a few problems with organization at times. I would advise against ever using Top Hat again as it is a terrible system and costs students unnecessary fees. I would suggest looking into iclickers as they are much better.

I enjoyed the course but I think your lectures were a little dry, and the textbook was borderline useless other than for definitions. Regardless I think Dr. Jeram was a very nice and engaged prof, and it helped make the course more interesting.

Sanjay was a great prof. He was clearly very passionate about politics and was very eager to explain concepts and as a matter of fact he made sure to emphasize the importance of distiniguishing between terms and concepts!

Great lecturer, very passionate about the topic

Beyond the two tests (midterm and final) and the essay, I would have liked a smaller assignment to maintain feedback in how I am learning throughout the course. At the same time, I appreciate that all the testing/assignments were due 'early' in relation to all the other courses so that it made it easier to balance multiple courses.

Very helpful and engaging instructor. Tests were fair but still reasonably challenging.

Although I do not plan to take more political science courses, I learned a lot in this course and feel like I have gained a better understanding of politics, which will help in my life as an engaged citizen, and in other courses I take. Thank you! I do have a concern about the length of the exam and the time we are given to complete it. I feel that there may be too much information to relay on the exam and not enough time to do so to the best of our abilities.

Thank you for a great semester hope to have you again

Awesome class, great teaching style Loved it.

Comments
should've provided more examples on how you wanted the definition questions answered on the midterm, marking was done very hard and tough
Sanjay is a terrific and charismatic professor. Well done.
Was a great professor! Seemed very passionate about teaching and made lectures interesting!
Sanjay was a wonderful professor in my opinion.
Very good, makes the course content which is generally dry more enjoyable and easy to understand. Maybe add more emphasis on important concepts in your notes
Power points were nicely made but would have been better if they had more information.
Great instructor. He is very clear and enthusiastic, also approachable and relate-able. I really appreciated his encouragement for student engagement during lecture.
I think for the future maybe consider trying iclicker since many courses use iclickers in my experience. I found that the articles however did not really help my understanding of what we had to learn
I would recommend the prof to make easier notes to follow along. At times it was very hard to follow to the lectures because of the lecture notes. Would recommend to keep the lecture notes point form so it would be easier for the students to follow. Also, the use of TopHat for 10% is a great idea as they give good marks !
I think instead of tophat, an iclicker would be more useful and easier to use. Most students have one so there would be no added charge. Also many students do not have a lot of political back round knowledge. Because Sanjay is very knowledgable he often talks about events or terms that are difficult to understand or grasp for someone who does not know much about politics. The much of the material learned is all new and so this course was hard to understand and follow much of the time. Also as for tutorials, I found that there were a lot of differences between the different tutorial instructors. and they taught tutorial. A better constructed tutorial would be more helpful in understanding the course material and knowing what exactly what is needed in order to receive a good mark in the tutorial. We were told to submit questions about the textbook readings, however these questions were never adressed in tutorial. Sanjay is a very good and knowledgable professor. I would take another class with him, it wasn't politics.
I appreciated his vast knowledge regarding the content of the course, however some topics that he discussed seemed convoluted, in the sense that this is a first year course and he began to discuss on issues that were hard to follow along. Overall a friendly professor, but the pace of the lecture was hard to keep up with at times due to the higher level of knowledge he was presenting.
Thanks for being a great professor, made a first level course interesting and something i can use as in information wise for the future!
it was overall good he made the controversy questions interesting
Dr. Jeram has been amongst my favourite lectures during my time at SFU.
It is evident that he cared about the students and wanted them to succeed in class. I would consider taking another class of his. Overall, he's an excellent professor!
Sanjay Jeram is an exemplary professor. As educated as he is learned, and supremely gifted as an educator. Best Professor I've had as of yet, and likely ever will.
I like how you dress
He have great slides, but many technical difficulty.
Sanjay is a passionate professor who really cares about teaching students about Political Science. I would definitely take another course with him, and will most likely recommend his courses to my peers.
great professor
Thanks for a great semester!
Thank you for your lecture I was glad to be in your class!
The lectures where more efficient then sleeping gas...