



Course and Instructor Evaluation Summary Department of Political Science

Elgin, Samuel Zincke
POLI 28 - Ethics And Society II (A)
Winter Quarter 2021

Number of Students Enrolled: 188
Number of Evaluations Submitted: 79

PLEASE COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Your class level is

0 (0.0%): Freshman
4 (5.1%): Sophomore
36 (46.2%): Junior
38 (48.7%): Senior
0 (0.0%): Graduate
0 (0.0%): Extension
0 (0.0%): Visitor
1: [No Response]

2. Your reason for taking this class is

0 (0.0%): Major
0 (0.0%): Minor
75 (98.7%): Gen. Ed.
0 (0.0%): Elective
1 (1.3%): Interest
3: [No Response]

3. What grade do you expect in this class?

35 (45.5%): A
20 (26.0%): B
0 (0.0%): C
0 (0.0%): D
0 (0.0%): F
21 (27.3%): P
1 (1.3%): NP
2: [No Response]

GENERAL QUESTIONS

4. I learned a great deal from this course.

2 (2.6%):	Strongly Disagree
1 (1.3%):	Disagree
9 (11.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
43 (55.8%):	Agree
22 (28.6%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

5. How many hours a week do you spend studying outside of class on average?

7 (9.1%):	0-1
20 (26.0%):	2-3
28 (36.4%):	4-5
10 (13.0%):	6-7
6 (7.8%):	8-9
3 (3.9%):	10-11
1 (1.3%):	12-13
0 (0.0%):	14-15
2 (2.6%):	16-17
0 (0.0%):	18-19
0 (0.0%):	20 or more
2:	[No Response]

6. How often do you attend this course?

10 (13.0%):	Very Rarely
19 (24.7%):	Some of the Time
48 (62.3%):	Most of the Time
2:	[No Response]

COURSE MATERIAL POLI 28

7. The course material is intellectually stimulating.

2 (2.6%):	Strongly Disagree
6 (7.9%):	Disagree
3 (3.9%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
40 (52.6%):	Agree
25 (32.9%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable
3:	[No Response]

8. Assignments promote learning.

1 (1.3%):	Strongly Disagree
2 (2.6%):	Disagree
4 (5.2%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
50 (64.9%):	Agree
19 (24.7%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

9. Required reading is useful.

1 (1.3%): Strongly Disagree
3 (3.9%): Disagree
8 (10.5%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
36 (47.4%): Agree
28 (36.8%): Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable
3: [No Response]

10. This course is difficult relative to others.

2 (2.6%): Strongly Disagree
22 (28.6%): Disagree
24 (31.2%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
23 (29.9%): Agree
6 (7.8%): Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable
2: [No Response]

11. Exams are representative of the course material.

1 (1.3%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
11 (14.3%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
28 (36.4%): Agree
18 (23.4%): Strongly Agree
19 (24.7%): Not Applicable
2: [No Response]

12. Do you recommend this course overall?

63 (80.8%): Yes
15 (19.2%): No
1: [No Response]

13. Course POLI 28:

- POLI28 is an excellent class that really engages you in civic learning. I truly enjoyed learning about how political dissent was conducted in society.
- It covers whatever topic the prof wants to do, I think, so this might not be indicative of your experience. But this class was about political dissent. Interesting lens. I enjoyed it.
- The class is intellectually stimulating, and I enjoy learning about these subjects.
- This courses was very fun. It was very interesting the learned and how powerful dissent could be.
- really interesting, felt like I've learned a lot
- prof is good but this GE is so ass
- I really enjoyed the focus of this class and the way Professor Elgin structured it by focusing on a

new form of dissent each week(ish). The progression of intensity of the dissent was also really interesting, because it helped me see how each concept builds on the next.

- It was a really hard course in my opinion. The readings were way too much to handle and the explanation for exams and essays was way too broad and not helpful.
- A lot more interesting than all the other courses required by the WCWP program.
- Garbage class.
- Interesting
- Only reason I'm taking it is because it is required
- Ethics and Society II covers dissent: both its theory and application. Examples include voting, revolution, terrorism, secession, etc.
- I think the course focused a too much on different examples of topics rather than talking about theories and arguments for/against these theories. Sometimes this felt like a history course. I think perhaps focusing on a couple examples in depth or perhaps some examples where it isn't so clear cut on if this is following theory xyz or not could be beneficial.
- Really boring material. I don't blame the professor, but there really just doesn't seem to be that much nuance in the course material.
- This course was interesting to learn about the different types of dissent.
- Very interesting stuff! I liked how the course material that the professor presented was especially relevant nowadays
- I waited for pretty much an entire year to take this class instead of PHIL 28. It's not that I have anything against PHIL, but PHIL requires a lot more reading and understanding theories, some of which are very abstract, which I'm not the best at, so I took POLI instead. For both 27 and 28 I took POLI, and I think I made the right choice. Both classes were very interesting and closely related to our current society.
- Significantly more interesting than its predecessor, but that could be do to how great the professor was for this quarter. It may sound obvious, but the minimal work required is a nice break and I think adapting to the pandemic has gone well for this course in particular.
- This class was engaging and structured well. The material was very interesting and made you think deeply about your position in certain situations.

14. Exams/Quizzes/Papers:

- I do not like the fact that essays are not based on word count; rather we have a page count which makes it really strange as I feel like I have to use more quotes and stuff to try to make the paper look longer rather than writing to the best of my abilities.
- We have one final exam, no quizzes, and two papers. We get about a week's time to finish this 6 to 8-page paper, which honestly isn't that bad. It takes a while to research and prepare the materials needed to write the paper, but other than that it was manageable. I also had a great TA, which was nice.
- The papers, are very straight forward, accommodating, and are only challenging based on the size of the essays themselves.

- 3 papers in the quarter which is what determines your grade, for the required page length the prompts were too broad making it a struggle to reach the page count.
- hard
- Paper topics were challenging, not because they were difficult to grasp or understand, but because there is just so little that could be said about them.
- Papers require much thought and understanding of the material. They should be no less than six pages in length.
- Papers were a lot of work, but I felt that I thoroughly learned the topic I wrote about for each, so they were helpful. I do wish there had been a study guide or at least some sample/model questions for the final exam, because I'm a little stressed about what kind of questions the final exam will be asking since we haven't had an exam in this class before the final.
- Well organized and clear expectations.
- Papers were highly representative of course material and intellectually stimulating!
- The paper are very reasonable. The professor gives a reasonable amount of time to complete the paper. Everything we learned can be used in the paper.
- The papers required you to think deeply about the material and to engage with it in a constructive way in order to synthesize a thorough response to the prompt. They took a lot of work but it was rewarding in the end when it was finished and thoroughly/accurately represented what you thought.
- Fair prompts
- Papers have been graded rather fairly, I feel as though the effort I put in is rewarded.
- Claims to grade fairly but clearly does not.
- 2 papers, a final, and participation. You can do it

15. Reading [title(s) and comments]:

- All helpful and worth reading.
- Readings each week that are relevant to the lecture, best to read them before class.
- Terrible readings. Makes you want to gorge your eyes out,
- Differ class to class
- Absolutely required.
- Readings can vary from interesting to dull, but honestly the readings do not feel overwhelmingly required for the course.
- Readings may have been very long during some parts of the course.
- long
- Sometimes, the readings could be very long and we had to read several long readings in a week, which was difficult.

- The readings, overall, were targeted to the class topics and were helpful for providing evidence for the essays. Some of the readings were exceptionally long, and given that they're theoretical or philosophical papers, it was sometimes hard to stay caught-up on them.
- There were a bunch of readings. I'd recommend preparing light music and snacks, and take notes as you read, with significant quotes and page numbers. If you're not in a rush, these readings are actually quite entertaining.

INSTRUCTOR Samuel Elgin

16. Instructor displays a proficient command of the material.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
2 (2.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
21 (28.0%):	Agree
51 (68.0%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
4:	[No Response]

17. Instructor is well prepared for classes.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
26 (34.2%):	Agree
49 (64.5%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
3:	[No Response]

18. Instructor's speech is clear and audible.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
24 (31.6%):	Agree
51 (67.1%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
3:	[No Response]

19. Instructor explains the course material well.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
1 (1.3%):	Disagree
2 (2.6%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
25 (32.9%):	Agree
47 (61.8%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
3:	[No Response]

20. Lectures hold your attention.

3 (3.9%):	Strongly Disagree
8 (10.5%):	Disagree
15 (19.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
24 (31.6%):	Agree
25 (32.9%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
3:	[No Response]

21. Instructor's lecture style facilitates note-taking.

1 (1.3%):	Strongly Disagree
7 (9.1%):	Disagree
9 (11.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
29 (37.7%):	Agree
29 (37.7%):	Strongly Agree
2 (2.6%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

22. Instructor shows concern for students' learning.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
2 (2.6%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
29 (38.2%):	Agree
44 (57.9%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
3:	[No Response]

23. Instructor promotes appropriate questions/discussion.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
3 (3.9%):	Disagree
1 (1.3%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
27 (35.1%):	Agree
45 (58.4%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.3%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

24. Instructor is accessible outside of class.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
9 (11.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
24 (31.2%):	Agree
35 (45.5%):	Strongly Agree
9 (11.7%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

25. Instructor starts and finishes class on time.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
3 (3.9%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
30 (39.0%):	Agree
42 (54.5%):	Strongly Agree
2 (2.6%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

26. Instructor is effective in promoting academic integrity.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
5 (6.5%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
27 (35.1%):	Agree
43 (55.8%):	Strongly Agree
2 (2.6%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

27. The instructor practiced effective teaching strategies that acknowledged and valued differences among students, including differences of race and gender identity.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
3 (4.0%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
27 (36.0%):	Agree
43 (57.3%):	Strongly Agree
2 (2.7%):	Not Applicable
4:	[No Response]

28. Instructor Samuel Elgin:

- Professor Elgin did a great job teaching this course. Although, I'm not usually particularly interested in Poli Sci or Philosophy, I enjoyed the course and appreciated how thorough he was in explaining each topic. Professor Elgin was always kind to our class and cared about us outside of the classroom. He
- Professor Elgin explains dissent effectively and has a lot of energy when doing so.
- really chill professor. also very understanding in the sense that he extended deadlines for essays for some students when they were going through some rough times, so he cares about his students. content is a bit boring but that's to be expected of a GE. overall, great professor.
- The only issue at times is Professor Elgin goes through the material a bit slowly because of the amount of detail he uses so we got behind a few times.
- Cool dude. Recommend.
- Good
- a great professor, very accomodating and helpful. clearly understands the material and I enjoyed learning from him
- Great professor and knows how to engage class and make the course interesting!

- I don't blame the professor for the material being boring, that's the only reason that lectures didn't hold my attention. If the material for this class had any semblance of depth to it, I'm sure I would have enjoyed it a lot more.
- .
- Professor Elgin explains concepts really well. However, it is also really easy to zone out during class.
- Very intelligent, and very friendly. Nothing against him, I enjoy going to his class.
- Very nice guy who knows a lot.
- Professor Elgin is extremely knowledgeable and explains class concepts and topics very well in a clear and engaging way. He is extremely prepared for class and equips us with very interesting and thought provoking class materials that expands our knowledge and perspective. I love this way he sets his class up, it definitely promotes learning and creativity.
- I used to think that Professor Elgin spoke too fast during the lecture, making it hard to take notes, but after the first week, I realized that the pace was perfect for the amount of material we had to cover. I especially love the enthusiasm in the way Professor Elgin spoke and delivered the classes, it really helps me stay engaged in the lectures.
- Professor Elgin was really great!!! I love how he was very considerate of his students, and it's a shame I couldn't take his class in person. I always recommend him to people who ask whether they should take PHIL or POLI 28 (this answer is always POLI 28 with Elgin)
- The instructor really goes in depth with the courses and I really enjoyed that. The paced can be a little bit slow. I really like that we go in depth with the topic, but we often times have to rush on other topics.
- Pretty awesome professor. I don't think I've had a prof that was as engaging and excited to talk about class as Dr. Elgin. Legit felt like I was watching a youtube video about political dissent. That's talent if you ask me. I wasn't even doing good in the class but I still enjoyed going to lecture because it was genuinely interesting.
- Professor Elgin (or Sam) is knowledgeable in his course. I would say that during lecture, however, he often goes too much into the historical content and leads the class into a history lecture.
- Professor Elgin did a fantastic job at making me care about this course, which the previous professor for poli 27 did not achieve. His lectures are always interesting to listen to, even as a recording, and he speaks very clearly.
- I appreciate that Professor Elgin was understanding of students circumstances and helped by extending the second paper deadline. I felt that lectures were not that stimulating because he mainly read off of the slides. In addition I felt like I came from a lecture with a lot of examples but not an understanding of the concept.
- Knows what he is talking about just tends to talk a bit too fast and goes through the slides a bit too fast. Wish the class would be more interactive by asking questions or having discussions.
- Can tell he is very motivated about these topics, even though it is considered a GE class. Can see the efforts he puts into the slides and the lecture material. Definitely a case of recommending the professor.
- Great lecturer. Clear and easy to understand, and shows interest in his student's well-being.

- Well prepared, keeps class material and lecture interesting, very responsive to students needs and obviously wants us to succeed. Appreciate how he listened to the concerns of the students in the mid quarter survey and changed future lectures accordingly.
- Professor Elgin is so kind and knowledgeable! He truly cares for his students and I appreciate the consideration he's shown throughout the quarter. It's clear that he's passionate about the topic as well. Sometimes his slides were a little wordy, which can be hard to take notes on, but other than that his lectures were informative and interesting.
- Professor Elgin was a great professor. He took the time to thoroughly explain the material and encouraged students to ask questions during class and/or in discussion forums if they needed more help. Professor Elgin cared about his students and took the time to make the material as well as the structure of the class clear to everyone.

29. Do you recommend this professor overall?

77 (98.7%): Yes
 1 (1.3%): No
 1: [No Response]

Custom Question 5

30. Please provide examples of the ways the instructor did or did not create a learning environment that welcomed, challenged, and supported all students.

- .
- Professor Elgin's lectures are very detailed and informational. At the same time, he is also very good with delivering the classes in a clear and concise manner. He's open to discussions (although this sometimes depend on the amount of time we have for class) and he also provides opportunities for the students to discuss with each other. Overall, this is a good class and Professor Elgin gave me a really good time in POLI 28.
- the only concern is the prompts for the paper the prompts were too broad and the papers are what determine your grade.
- He always reminds students at the beginning that the lecture is recorded so anyone who is unaware can be prepared.
- He encouraged collaboration amongst students w/ discussion forums and set aside time during class to make sure the material as well as the course structure was clear. He and his TAs worked really hard to make sure everything was running smoothly and/or understood thoroughly and I greatly appreciated that given the circumstances of this quarter.
- listening to students concerns, addressing them in lecture and offering solutions and help if needed
- One example is that he would always answer the students questions. We would interrupted him and we would be able to asked him questions.

Please note that any responses or comments submitted by evaluators do not necessarily reflect the opinions of instructors, Political Science, Academic Affairs, or UC San Diego. Responses and comments are made available without auditing or editing, and they may not be modified or deleted, to ensure that each evaluator has an opportunity to express his or her opinion.