



Course and Instructor Evaluation Summary Department of Political Science

Elgin, Samuel Zincke
POLI 27 - Ethics And Society I (A)
Winter Quarter 2023

Number of Students Enrolled: 120
Number of Evaluations Submitted: 46

PLEASE COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Your class level is

0 (0.0%):	Freshman
16 (34.8%):	Sophomore
19 (41.3%):	Junior
11 (23.9%):	Senior
0 (0.0%):	Graduate
0 (0.0%):	Extension
0 (0.0%):	Visitor

2. Your reason for taking this class is

4 (8.7%):	Major
0 (0.0%):	Minor
39 (84.8%):	Gen. Ed.
2 (4.3%):	Elective
1 (2.2%):	Interest

3. What grade do you expect in this class?

32 (69.6%):	A
13 (28.3%):	B
1 (2.2%):	C
0 (0.0%):	D
0 (0.0%):	F
0 (0.0%):	P
0 (0.0%):	NP

GENERAL QUESTIONS

4. I learned a great deal from this course.

1 (2.2%):	Strongly Disagree
1 (2.2%):	Disagree
5 (10.9%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
24 (52.2%):	Agree
15 (32.6%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

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

13 (28.3%):	0-1
13 (28.3%):	2-3
11 (23.9%):	4-5
5 (10.9%):	6-7
2 (4.3%):	8-9
1 (2.2%):	10-11
0 (0.0%):	12-13
1 (2.2%):	14-15
0 (0.0%):	16-17
0 (0.0%):	18-19
0 (0.0%):	20 or more

6. How often do you attend this course?

15 (32.6%):	Very Rarely
10 (21.7%):	Some of the Time
21 (45.7%):	Most of the Time

COURSE MATERIAL POLI 27

7. The course material is intellectually stimulating.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
3 (6.5%):	Disagree
2 (4.3%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
23 (50.0%):	Agree
18 (39.1%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

8. Assignments promote learning.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
4 (8.7%):	Disagree
2 (4.3%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
20 (43.5%):	Agree
20 (43.5%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

9. Required reading is useful.

1 (2.2%): Strongly Disagree
2 (4.4%): Disagree
5 (11.1%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
19 (42.2%): Agree
18 (40.0%): Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable
1: [No Response]

10. This course is difficult relative to others.

5 (11.1%): Strongly Disagree
13 (28.9%): Disagree
11 (24.4%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
9 (20.0%): Agree
7 (15.6%): Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable
1: [No Response]

11. Exams are representative of the course material.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
1 (2.2%): Disagree
3 (6.5%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
13 (28.3%): Agree
16 (34.8%): Strongly Agree
13 (28.3%): Not Applicable

12. Do you recommend this course overall?

40 (87.0%): Yes
6 (13.0%): No

13. Course POLI 27:

- The class is a good size. Elgin teaches the material well and he makes it easy to take notes on.
- POLI 27 can be a bit hard to care about. At the beginning of the class I found myself asking "So what?" but the class became more enjoyable during the writing of the essays were there is a direct goal in the class rather than listening and memorizing the readings.
- Good class
- I think it is important for students to take this course because it helps students define their own beliefs. This helped me think of what types of goals I want to achieve in my education and life. In addition, many of the topics we discussed were relevant and important.
- Poli 27 is a very interesting class and is one that brings up a lot of interesting discussions overall. I personally enjoyed the normative ethics topics the most!
- This class is just so much fun. I wish my other classes didn't stress me out so much so I could spend my evenings doing homework for this class in peace, Even if I am a computer science major, this was my favorite class this quarter. I learned a lot about philosophy in ways that affect my outlook on my moral compass.

14. Exams/Quizzes/Papers:

- Papers are 6-8 pages. Kinda long.
- The prompts for the two essays made sense with the content taught and helped me take the time to understand fully what was discussed in lecture. I think there was space in all essay prompts for students to express what they believed.
- Papers are clear in terms of expectations and expectations. Exam set up is clear and conveyed properly ahead of time.
- Papers are graded really harshly. You can have a paper with no mistake but still earn a B because some structure you are using just "do not recognized" by TA.
- The papers all gave me an opportunity to write about and research something interesting.
- The papers are relatively straightforward. As long as you read the prompt carefully and include some of the readings, it will be graded well. I think the word count is good enough that it's not tedious but some minimum amount of work has to be done to complete them.

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

- Readings were not needed to follow along in the course.
- I have not read many of the readings, and they are not very useful in the writings. I only had to use one reading per essay compared to the dozen or so readings assigned.
- In general, all the readings were good and the length or information they contained was necessary for the class. In addition, I think some of these readings introduced important books that students who think about these ideologies or might pursue politics should read to create their own beliefs.
- Not only did I learn a lot from the readings, I also felt like they were all relevant to me as a person.

INSTRUCTOR Samuel Elgin

16. Instructor displays a proficient command of the material.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
1 (2.2%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
13 (28.3%):	Agree
31 (67.4%):	Strongly Agree
1 (2.2%):	Not Applicable

17. Instructor is well prepared for classes.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
1 (2.2%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
14 (30.4%):	Agree
30 (65.2%):	Strongly Agree
1 (2.2%):	Not Applicable

18. Instructor's speech is clear and audible.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
13 (28.9%): Agree
31 (68.9%): Strongly Agree
1 (2.2%): Not Applicable
1: [No Response]

19. Instructor explains the course material well.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
1 (2.2%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
15 (32.6%): Agree
29 (63.0%): Strongly Agree
1 (2.2%): Not Applicable

20. Lectures hold your attention.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
2 (4.3%): Disagree
5 (10.9%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
16 (34.8%): Agree
22 (47.8%): Strongly Agree
1 (2.2%): Not Applicable

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

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
1 (2.2%): Disagree
7 (15.2%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
15 (32.6%): Agree
22 (47.8%): Strongly Agree
1 (2.2%): Not Applicable

22. Instructor shows concern for students' learning.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
3 (6.5%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
17 (37.0%): Agree
23 (50.0%): Strongly Agree
3 (6.5%): Not Applicable

23. Instructor promotes appropriate questions/discussion.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
4 (8.7%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
17 (37.0%): Agree
23 (50.0%): Strongly Agree
2 (4.3%): Not Applicable

24. Instructor is accessible outside of class.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
2 (4.3%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
17 (37.0%):	Agree
21 (45.7%):	Strongly Agree
6 (13.0%):	Not Applicable

25. Instructor starts and finishes class on time.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
2 (4.3%):	Disagree
1 (2.2%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
20 (43.5%):	Agree
22 (47.8%):	Strongly Agree
1 (2.2%):	Not Applicable

26. Instructor is effective in promoting academic integrity.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
1 (2.2%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
15 (33.3%):	Agree
27 (60.0%):	Strongly Agree
2 (4.4%):	Not Applicable
1:	[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
2 (4.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
16 (37.2%):	Agree
23 (53.5%):	Strongly Agree
2 (4.7%):	Not Applicable
3:	[No Response]

28. Instructor Samuel Elgin:

- He is really very and approachable. I could take this class online but I found it worth it to be in class during the lecture time. He is responsive to class opinions and answers student questions thoroughly.
- Elgin very clearly puts a tremendous amount of effort into the lecture presentation and puts out tremendously helpful summary pages that help students recap the reading.
- Pretty good. Knows the content.
- Professor Elgin is always clear in what he is doing. He demonstrated class material really well. He is always passionate about what he is teaching.

- Samuel Elgin's lectures were the best I have seen in my college experience so far (I am in my second year). Each one of them was interesting, easy to understand, and could probably be uploaded to Youtube with minimal editing.
- Professor Elgin is extremely clear in his articulation of class topics, providing an expansive view of course materials spanning from theories of welfare to the explosion of AI. Professor Elgin is knowledgeable in such topics, so his answers to questions posed during lecture are especially insightful. Professor Elgin shows great care towards students as he is accessible outside of class if need be and is extremely reasonable with class evaluation metrics.
- This professor really keeps me engaged in the topic. I honestly enjoyed this class a lot because of Professor Elgin.
- Professor's lectures were very understandable and easy to follow.
- Professor Elgin is clear at explaining concepts and understands that students learn differently. He supplements his well organized lectures with readings that are very useful and handouts that summarize the lecture content. These handouts are very good for taking notes on and very clear to follow!
- Professor Elgin made sure to allow students to communicate with him and express their thoughts on improving the course. In addition, I think the way his lecture and slides are set up is easy to understand and makes these complicated ideologies easy to digest. He also implemented participation by raising our hands to express where we stood in specific dilemmas.

29. Do you recommend this professor overall?

46 (100.0%): Yes
 0 (0.0%): No

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.

- He does not promote one specific worldview. Instead he lets us make our own assumptions given the information we are taught in class.
- Professor Elgin presents materials in a non-crystalized manner so that students may grapple with class materials to make their own arguments in their papers. Thus, he lectures of materials from both views of the spectrum -- challenging us to think and rethink issue areas. Professor Elgin does this in a way where every student can feel that they may voice their opinion, but gently enough where no student is shut out of this process.
- He emphasized the importance of free speech in the beginning of the course and every lecture respected and considered every reasonable viewpoint. We could all have radically different opinions and still be included in every lecture. A great introduction to political science!

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.