



Course and Instructor Evaluation Summary Department of Political Science

Elgin, Samuel Zincke
POLI 28 - Ethics And Society II (A)
Winter Quarter 2023

Number of Students Enrolled: 135
Number of Evaluations Submitted: 60

PLEASE COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Your class level is

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Freshman |
| 6 (10.0%): | Sophomore |
| 29 (48.3%): | Junior |
| 24 (40.0%): | Senior |
| 1 (1.7%): | Graduate |
| 0 (0.0%): | Extension |
| 0 (0.0%): | Visitor |

2. Your reason for taking this class is

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 5 (8.8%): | Major |
| 0 (0.0%): | Minor |
| 52 (91.2%): | Gen. Ed. |
| 0 (0.0%): | Elective |
| 0 (0.0%): | Interest |
| 3: | [No Response] |

3. What grade do you expect in this class?

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 44 (78.6%): | A |
| 12 (21.4%): | B |
| 0 (0.0%): | C |
| 0 (0.0%): | D |
| 0 (0.0%): | F |
| 0 (0.0%): | P |
| 0 (0.0%): | NP |
| 4: | [No Response] |

GENERAL QUESTIONS

4. I learned a great deal from this course.

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 2 (3.6%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 2 (3.6%): | Disagree |
| 4 (7.1%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 30 (53.6%): | Agree |
| 17 (30.4%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

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

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 8 (14.3%): | 0-1 |
| 18 (32.1%): | 2-3 |
| 18 (32.1%): | 4-5 |
| 8 (14.3%): | 6-7 |
| 3 (5.4%): | 8-9 |
| 1 (1.8%): | 10-11 |
| 0 (0.0%): | 12-13 |
| 0 (0.0%): | 14-15 |
| 0 (0.0%): | 16-17 |
| 0 (0.0%): | 18-19 |
| 0 (0.0%): | 20 or more |
| 4: | [No Response] |

6. How often do you attend this course?

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 12 (21.4%): | Very Rarely |
| 17 (30.4%): | Some of the Time |
| 27 (48.2%): | Most of the Time |
| 4: | [No Response] |

COURSE MATERIAL POLI 28

7. The course material is intellectually stimulating.

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Disagree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 33 (58.9%): | Agree |
| 21 (37.5%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

8. Assignments promote learning.

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Disagree |
| 2 (3.6%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 30 (53.6%): | Agree |
| 20 (35.7%): | Strongly Agree |
| 4 (7.1%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

9. Required reading is useful.

1 (1.8%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
10 (17.9%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
23 (41.1%): Agree
20 (35.7%): Strongly Agree
2 (3.6%): Not Applicable
4: [No Response]

10. This course is difficult relative to others.

3 (5.4%): Strongly Disagree
19 (33.9%): Disagree
17 (30.4%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
11 (19.6%): Agree
5 (8.9%): Strongly Agree
1 (1.8%): Not Applicable
4: [No Response]

11. Exams are representative of the course material.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
1 (1.8%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
29 (51.8%): Agree
18 (32.1%): Strongly Agree
8 (14.3%): Not Applicable
4: [No Response]

12. Do you recommend this course overall?

54 (94.7%): Yes
3 (5.3%): No
3: [No Response]

13. Course POLI 28:

- The content was much less interesting to me than the content of poli 27, but it was still a worthwhile course.
- It's about political dissent, which I think is very relevant in these times.
- Always stimulating to be in this class, but it might just be because my professor is really good at professor-ing.
- You know how it is. POLI 28 is part of the Warren Gen Ed, so I had to take it. Pretty good course overall, and I prefer this content to PHIL 28. A lot better than POLI 27 as well since it focuses on a much more specific topic in political dissent instead of ethics as a whole.
- It is definitely closer to a phil course, but the actual content of the readings are relatively simple once they are broken down in lecture. The essays were fair, but the final seems very daunting- there is a lot of material to remember. I wish that was an essay :)

14. Exams/Quizzes/Papers:

- Good essay assignments, albeit some of the questions do not ask for enough information to write 6-8 pages with sometimes. Have not taken final yet but seems like it will be mostly vocab and essays we can prepare for before.
- Papers had a variety of topics, and flexible structure. I liked that the grade was based on skill of writing and not the opinion. Again, the final seems very daunting
- The grading of the papers is much more strict compared to POLI 27 and feel like they're draining the life out of students. Grading rubric isn't specific enough to know what you need to write in papers (ex. TAs should probably say how they would like the counter argument to be if they're expecting more than one paragraph).
- The grading for papers seems very random and is entirely at the discretion of the TA you're assigned. Last quarter for poli27 I got a 98 on an essay I thought I deserved a B on and this quarter for poli28 I got a B for an essay I thought I deserved an A- on. Even though there's a rubric, there's no rationale behind why they chose the numbers they put. I.E. I got a 9/10 for formatting even though as far as I'm aware my formatting exactly matched my essay from poli27 where I got full credit.

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

- The readings were very long and I admit I went to lecture then did the readings so I could understand them. Having taken phil 27, I know that this is normal. The topics were fairly straightforward
- A lot of reading that completes understanding of topics, but isn't required in going through the motions of the class.

INSTRUCTOR Samuel Elgin

16. Instructor displays a proficient command of the material.

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 12 (21.4%): | Agree |
| 43 (76.8%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | 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 |
| 10 (17.9%): | Agree |
| 45 (80.4%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [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 |
| 10 (17.9%): | Agree |
| 45 (80.4%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

19. Instructor explains the course material well.

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 14 (25.0%): | Agree |
| 41 (73.2%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

20. Lectures hold your attention.

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 3 (5.4%): | Disagree |
| 7 (12.5%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 22 (39.3%): | Agree |
| 23 (41.1%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

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

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Disagree |
| 3 (5.4%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 24 (42.9%): | Agree |
| 28 (50.0%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

22. Instructor shows concern for students' learning.

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 0 (0.0%): | Strongly Disagree |
| 0 (0.0%): | Disagree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Neither Agree nor Disagree |
| 22 (39.3%): | Agree |
| 32 (57.1%): | Strongly Agree |
| 1 (1.8%): | Not Applicable |
| 4: | [No Response] |

23. Instructor promotes appropriate questions/discussion.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
2 (3.6%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
26 (46.4%): Agree
27 (48.2%): Strongly Agree
1 (1.8%): Not Applicable
4: [No Response]

24. Instructor is accessible outside of class.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
2 (3.6%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
23 (41.1%): Agree
27 (48.2%): Strongly Agree
4 (7.1%): Not Applicable
4: [No Response]

25. Instructor starts and finishes class on time.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
17 (30.4%): Agree
37 (66.1%): Strongly Agree
2 (3.6%): Not Applicable
4: [No Response]

26. Instructor is effective in promoting academic integrity.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
3 (5.4%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
19 (33.9%): Agree
33 (58.9%): Strongly Agree
1 (1.8%): Not Applicable
4: [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 (5.4%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
16 (28.6%): Agree
36 (64.3%): Strongly Agree
1 (1.8%): Not Applicable
4: [No Response]

28. Instructor Samuel Elgin:

- Good lecturer, has a great understanding and grip on his topics. Even so, his lectures can be said to be optional in learning the topics of his class.
- professor has an excellent command of the room and brings an energy which makes the content exciting and engaging. He puts a lot of energy in creating class materials which really aid in students learning and creating a curricula which is engaging
- Sam is a great professor who cares about his students' well-being. This is my second quarter with Sam, and I can honestly say that he is one of the best professors that I have had as a lecturer. This is regardless of the course being a general education course; even though my major is completely different (engineering), I found the course material and the way that Sam taught to be intellectually stimulating and interesting!
- Always a very good professor, I had him for POLI27 as well and was just an amazing professor. Talks clearly and concisely and his slides are guiding to what he says.
- Well organized class with interesting topics.
- Great lecturer and his written handouts/ lecture slides are very concise and useful.
- Dr. Elgin is by far one of my favorite professors at UCSD! He speaks very clearly in lecture and is able to communicate information very precisely and easily. This makes his lectures very easy to follow! In Office Hours, he provided invaluable advice and constructive criticism on my essays. He helped me take on different views for each of my paragraphs which pushed me to create new counter arguments and rebuttals. Overall, I have absolutely loved learning from Dr. Elgin. I have taken POLI 27 and POLI 28 from him and absolutely loved both courses!

Thank you much for the last two quarters Dr. Elgin! I wish you the absolute absolute best!!!!!!

- His manner of speaking is very robotic, which can be good for following along and understanding what he is saying. For me, it was a little too monotonous and I ended up not attending lecture early into the quarter. The recordings are very useful.
- Lectures are both structured and open ended for questions, which keeps my attention. Near the end of class, all the conflicting theories is a bit much but it is explained well.
- A great professor who is super caring. Did not get to personally go to office hours, but he always answered emails in a timely manner.

29. Do you recommend this professor overall?

57 (100.0%): Yes
0 (0.0%): No
3: [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.

- Good coverage of the class material, nothing bad but not a lot that was really great (personal preference). Better than being a bad professor though.

- The slides and speaking notes were posted in advance so we can review them. I prefer reviewing slides before coming to lecture, so this really helped.

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.