

Project Title: **Spring 2025 Evaluations**

Courses Audience: **54**
Responses Received: **19**
Response Ratio: **35.19%**

Subject Details

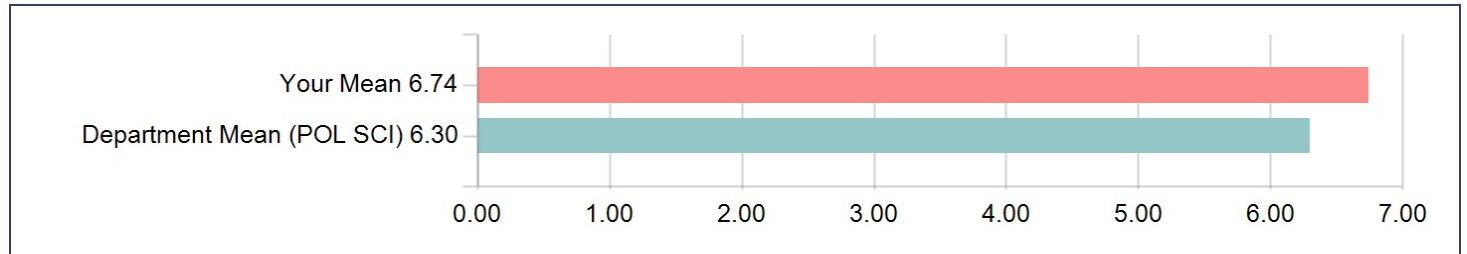
Name	POLSCI 1400 LEC 001 Projecting Power
DEPT_NAME	POLSCI
DEPT_FORM	POL SCI
EVALUATION_TYPE	F
First Name	Omar
Last Name	Wasow

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Please note that "Department Mean" for each rating question is calculated using all sections in your department. This may include both Faculty and GSIs depending on whether the department has selected a question item to be used for both.

UNIVERSITY WIDE QUESTIONS (QUANTITATIVE/RATING):

The items in this section are asked across all courses at Berkeley.

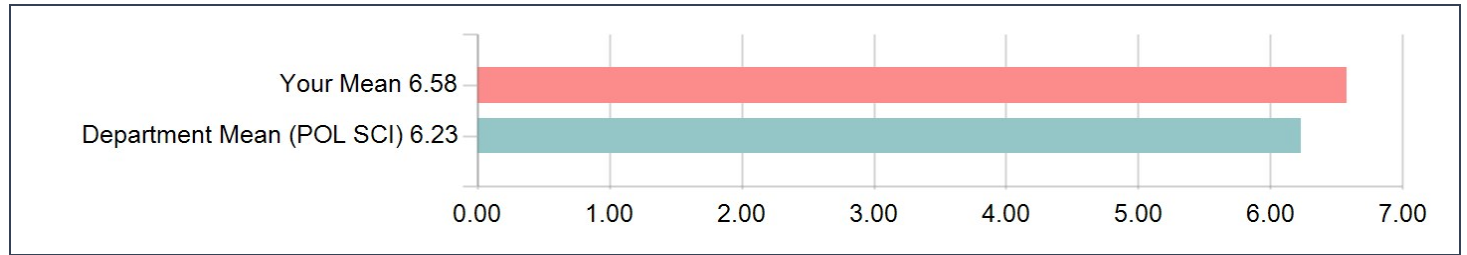
The instructor’s lectures, facilitation of classes, and/or office hours and help sessions enhanced my learning. (“Learning” may include gaining mastery of course content and new skills, exposure to new methodologies and modes of critical thinking, and extending the ability to express oneself on the topics treated in the course).



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Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	0	0.00%
5-Agree Somewhat	1	5.26%
6-Agree	3	15.79%
7-Strongly agree	15	78.95%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	
Mean	6.74	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	0.56	

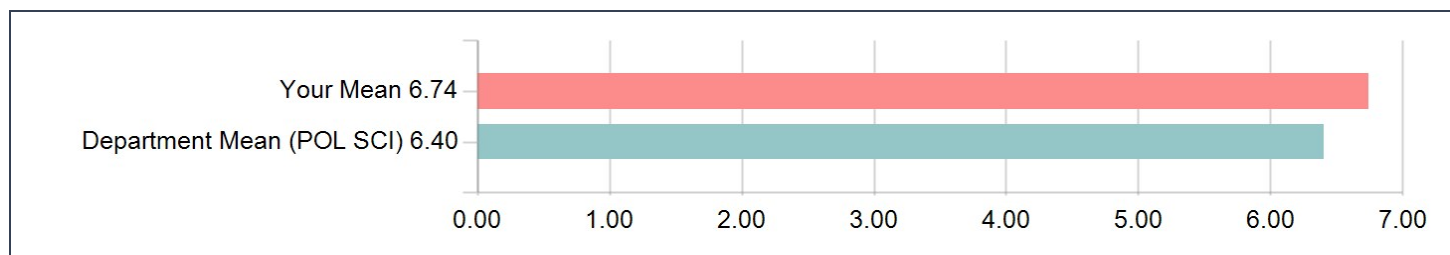
The assignments were well designed to help me understand the course material and gain a deeper perspective on the subject.



The assignments were well designed to help me understand the course material and gain a deeper perspective on the subject.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	0	0.00%
5-Agree Somewhat	1	5.26%
6-Agree	6	31.58%
7-Strongly agree	12	63.16%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.58
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.61

The instructor created an environment in which I could feel included (for example, encouraged multiple voices/perspectives, welcomed questions and critiques, responded to student feedback).



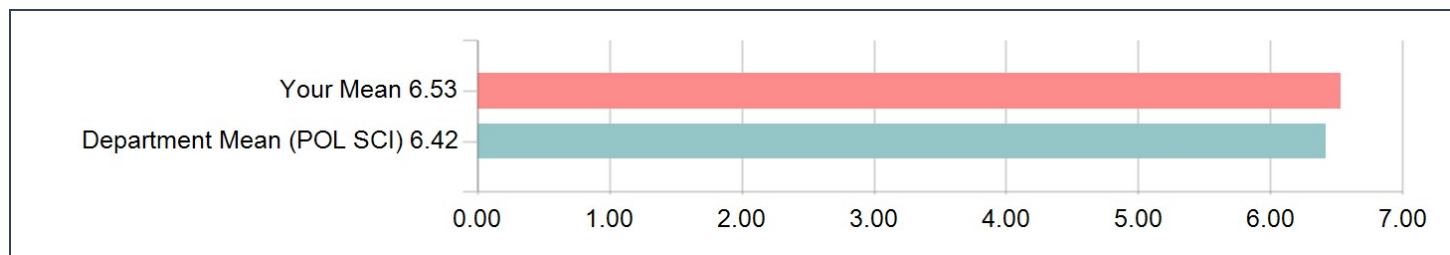
The instructor created an environment in which I could feel included (for example, encouraged multiple voices/perspectives, welcomed questions and critiques, responded to student feedback).

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	0	0.00%
5-Agree Somewhat	1	5.26%
6-Agree	3	15.79%
7-Strongly agree	15	78.95%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.74
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.56

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS:

Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.

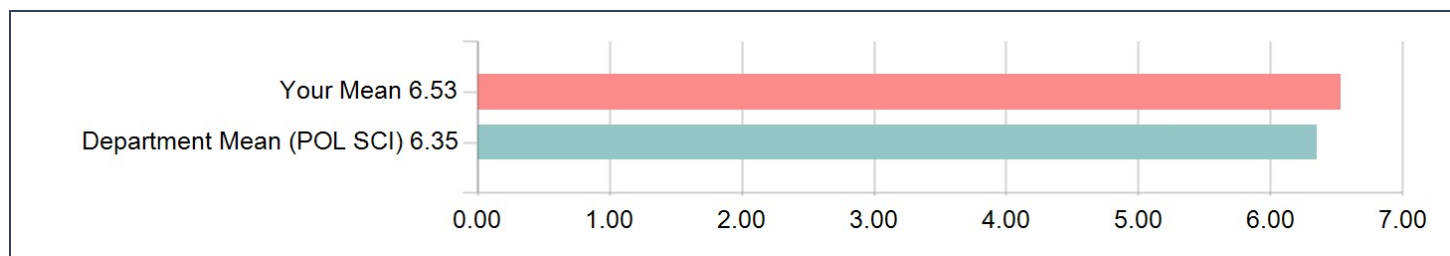
The instructor presented content in an organized manner.



The instructor presented content in an organized manner.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	2	10.53%
6	5	26.32%
7-Very	12	63.16%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.53
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.70

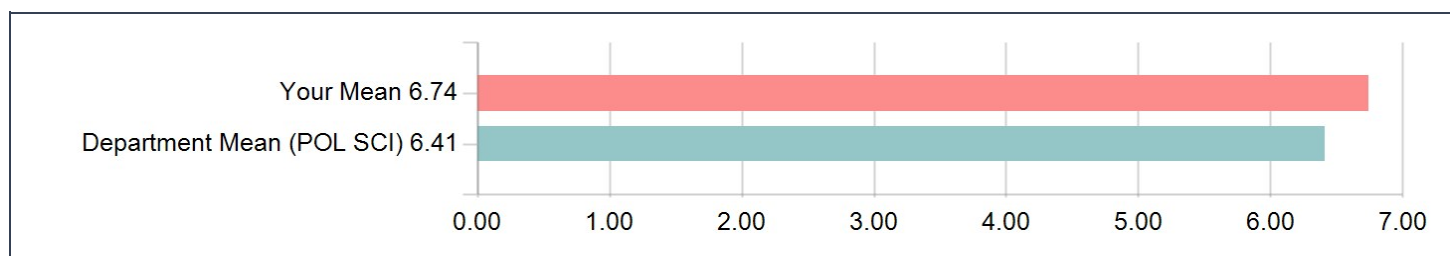
The instructor explained concepts clearly.



The instructor explained concepts clearly.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	2	10.53%
6	5	26.32%
7-Very	12	63.16%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.53
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.70

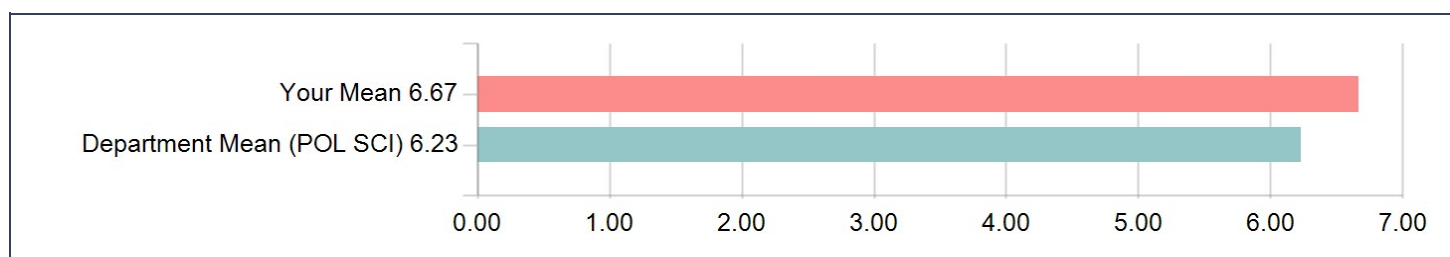
The instructor was helpful when I had difficulties or questions.



The instructor was helpful when I had difficulties or questions.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	1	5.26%
6	3	15.79%
7-Very	15	78.95%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.74
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.56

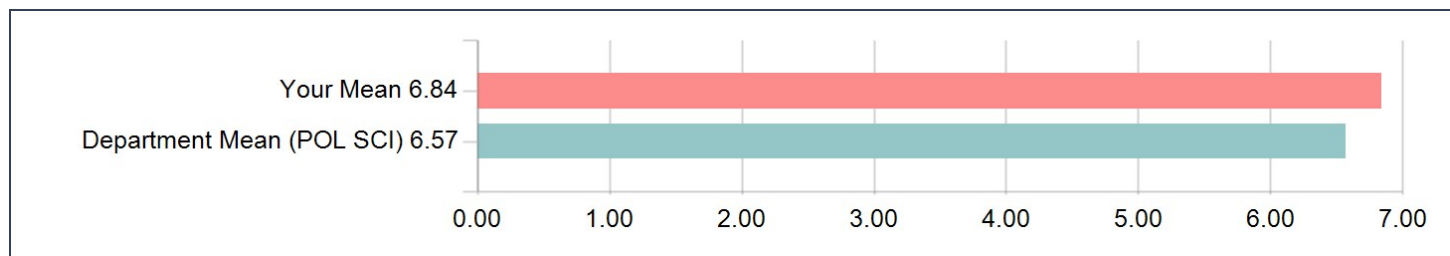
The instructor provided clear constructive feedback.



The instructor provided clear constructive feedback.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	1	5.56%
6	4	22.22%
7-Very	13	72.22%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	18	
Mean	6.67	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	0.59	

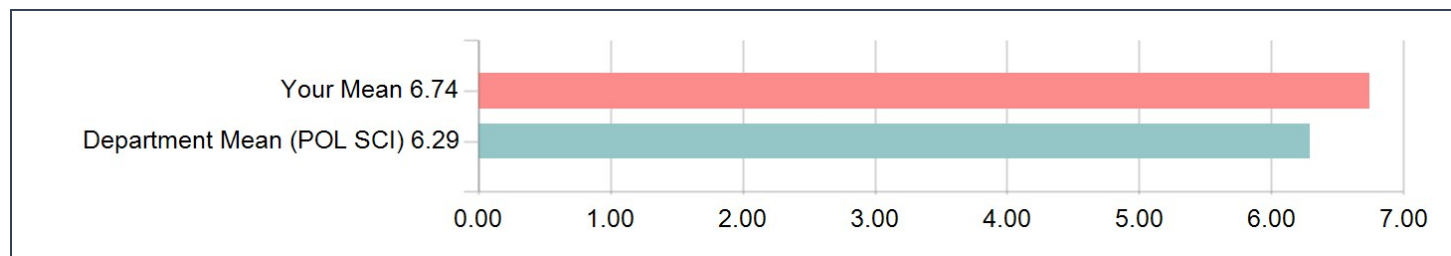
The instructor encouraged student questions and participation.



The instructor encouraged student questions and participation.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	3	15.79%
7-Very	16	84.21%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	
Mean	6.84	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	0.37	

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this instructor?



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Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Moderately Effective	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	5	26.32%
7-Extremely Effective	14	73.68%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.74
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.45

INSTRUCTOR PROVIDED CUSTOM QUESTIONS:

If any items appear in this section, they were created by you. These are visible only to you and not accessible by other report viewers in your department.

Were there any readings you particularly liked or found helpful?

Comments
Brubaker, Patterson & Monroe, Anderson
The Brubaker reading
I think most of the readings were really helpful.
The Fields race as ideology reading was life-changing. Genuinely perspective-shifting.
Anderson – Imagined Communities, Fields, Tilly, Brubaker, King & Smith
Brubaker is probably the best reading I've ever done for a class at my time here at Cal.
I liked the Stoddard and the Whitman readings the most.
Sidanius & Pratto was my favorite, it really set the stage for the rest of the course themes — also I loved that there was an audio recording option
Brubaker's Ethnicity Without Groups and Tilly's War making and state making as organized crime
None
Yes, Sidanius & Pratto (1999)
The readings that immediately come to mind that I particularly enjoyed were the readings of Brubaker, Sidanius & Pratto, Grinde, and Herrera & Kyd.
I really liked Sidanius and Pratto, Stoddard, and Smootha
The ones on media I found super interesting. And the ideology of race.
The one about rags to riches media.
I liked all of them
Espiritu (1992), Asian American panethnicity Adida & Robinson (2023), Why (Some) immigrants resists assimilation Kim (1999), Racial Triangulation of Asian Americans

Were there one or two films that you particularly liked or found especially thought provoking?

Comments
Tantura
Tantura and Europa Europa
I think one of the film that I liked would be the film call Sami Blood.
Manda Bala holds a special place in my heart.
LA 92, The Battle of Algiers
LA 92 and Street Fight
Europa, Europa and Sami Blood were my favorite movies.
Manda Bala, The Act of Killing, and LA '92 were the most interesting to me
Tantura and LA '92
None
Yes; "Europa, Europa" and "Crip Camp"
Europa, Europa, and LA 92' stand out as two of the most captivating and engaging films that we've covered this term.
The Act of Killing, Street Fight, Bisbee 17
LOVED Sami Blood and really enjoyed LA '92. LA '92 should be taught earlier!
I enjoyed Choh Soo Lee and look forward to the last film on the Asian American. As an asian american student it has been incredibly refreshing to see us represented and our history in America known.
Crip Camp was my favorite!
The Act of Killing was very powerful in addressing intersectional issues and the emotional traumas of atrocities committed. I also believe Free Choh Soo Lee was a powerful and emotional film that effectively captured injustice and the importance of social movements.

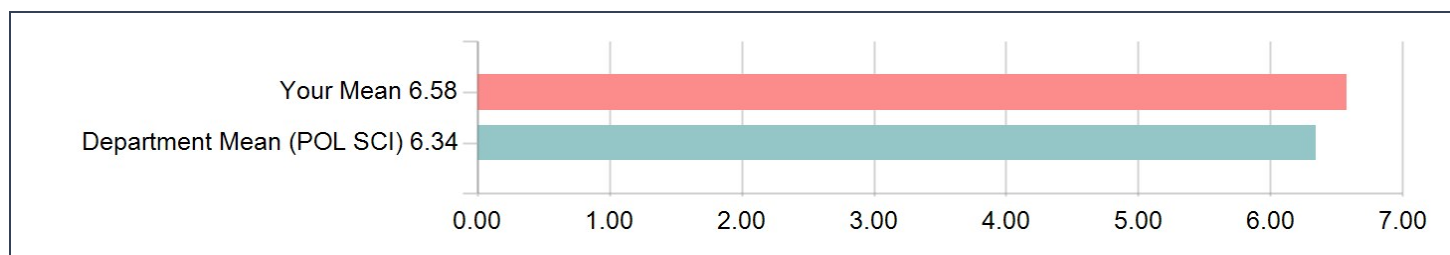
How do you see politics and/or film differently now?

Comments
I see film as a vessel to express political desires and empower groups
Much more rigorous thought about constructed identities.
Film is able to reflect politic and it is able to allow the audience to understand more about some of the things that are happening around the world through watching the film.
I definitely think I've become a more critical watcher of documentaries.
I like Professor Wasow's idea of the "state as a character." I feel like I definitely see that more clearly now, and will likely continue to watch films with this lens in mind. I also think I see politics as more constructed now – thinking about the different ways ethnicity and race in particular can be manipulated and mobilized in different ways. Considering these different dynamics will help me approach politics more critically in the future.
Moving forward, I see a lot of political underlying in every movie, whether that's subtle or painfully obvious. This class has taught me that the media and politics go hand in hand.
I'm more mindful of the structures and ideas that shape politics, in terms of the history, narratives, and hierarchies that shape it.
While we spent a lot of time analyzing the way power structures work within the films, I think my biggest takeaway from the class was the way that film itself can impact politics. I feel like I understand society with a new, nuanced perspective because of the films themselves — it honestly made me consider documentary filmmaking as a career.
This class has redefined the ways I see ethnicity being weaponized by and against the state. I also will be looking at films through a more political science specific lens, looking for instances of folk political science and ways that art reveal political power structures.
None
Definitely. I believe film has the power to challenge ideas and show a different perspective from the storyteller, especially in smaller, independent films.
In Political Science we study how politics is all around us, it's the streets we walk on, the people we choose to interact with, and the judgments we have about our surrounding architecture. This course really captured that and put this same thinking into a film framework, where every second that passed required further thinking about the themes and character at large. We were even looking at the expression of characters and attributing that to the larger message of Power.
I think that this course has taught me to evaluate power structures in a different light and films have the power to captivate different power dynamics in a stunning, visual, and profound way.
I think about ways in which we can make these films or similar films more widely available. Personally, I think everyone should be exposed to these things more, it makes us all more understanding of one another, and better able to support each other as a community.
This course taught me to consider the angle of the film, and how the production strategies affect its overall message. Politics-wise, this class opened my eyes to a lot of interesting social theory that helped me rethink the way I understand social hierarchies around the world. I know a lot of these ideas will stick with me.
I appreciate the differences between archival film in documentaries and other types of footage as these elements along highlight the differences in storytelling. I see the relationship between politics and film as essential to understanding collective memory about crucial historical events. While I have believed in the connection between media and politics, this class made me feel more confident about my connections and ideas.

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED COURSE QUESTIONS:

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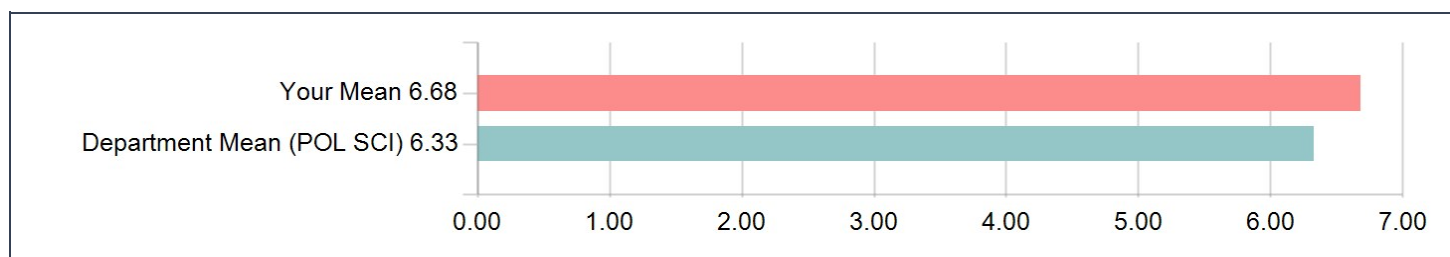
The course was effectively organized.



The course was effectively organized.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	1	5.26%
5	0	0.00%
6	5	26.32%
7-Very	13	68.42%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.58
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.77

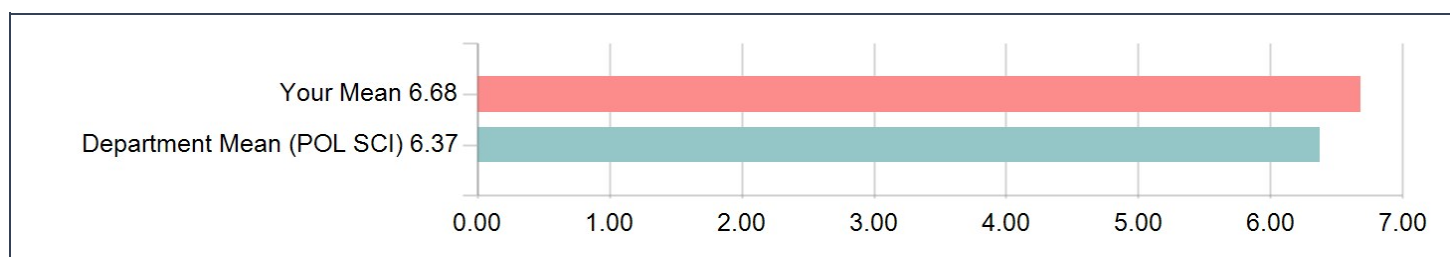
The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.



The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	2	10.53%
6	2	10.53%
7-Very	15	78.95%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.68
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.67

The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.



The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	2	10.53%
6	2	10.53%
7-Very	15	78.95%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.68
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.67

Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of the course (or section).

Comments
Open discussion, professor invites students to share thoughts, different film each week helps to maintain variety in the curriculum
The movies and the lectures
I think the strength of this course would be that the course allow student to understand more about important ideas through the films and readings every week.
Professor Wasow is great at engaging students in class. I like how he gives some students the opportunity to answer questions first – drawing students into the discussion who may not join otherwise – and then opens it for everyone, and the students with "first dibs" on answering rotate every time. He keeps the discussion very balanced and tries to make sure everyone can speak. I learned something from every single one of the films, and I think the ability to pair films with more theoretical readings really helped me view film more critically as well as shape how I view power relations in society. Professor Wasow was clearly incredibly passionate and I was excited for lecture every week. It's hard to make a 3 hour lecture engaging for the whole time – but Professor Wasow manages to do it. Thank you Professor, I loved this class!
The movie selections as well as the discussion posts about what we thought about the movie. It felt like an amazing way to get your participation points for those students who don't feel comfortable speaking in class.
The range in the selected movies was great since they brought attention to different issues. I also found it helpful to have readings that are paired with the movies since they helped expand on the topics that we were talking about regarding the films (they fit the films well).
The course was incredibly powerful and informative without being a burden. I felt like I learned a lot, but never felt overwhelmed or stressed.
This course was genuinely one of my favorites at Berkeley, both because of the course content itself as well as the professors. The course was well organized, and I appreciated the breadth of content that was covered. I liked that the content was often completely new to me or a topic that I might have had broad knowledge of of but nothing specific. I really liked that the professor brought his own research into the class as well as his expertise with statistical data, guiding us through our own analysis of the material he was presenting.
None
Showing films that relate well to the readings that add more depth and understanding to them.
Each week, every reading felt necessary for the film, and every film felt necessary for the reading. It was obvious that the readings and films were organized and picked out with very careful intention, the course as it moved along felt more akin to unraveling a ball of yarn, every week we'd delve further and further into the larger theme of power, and understood even the most nuanced examples of social structures at play.
<p>–The structure and organization of the course</p> <p>–The emphasis on showing us both sides to a situation and helping us understand that a lot of these issues in the social sciences are not black and white.</p>
I really liked how deep we dived into topics and the participatory nature of the course.
I looked forward to this class, and I think that is saying a lot given how burnt out I am. It is engaging, Professor Wasow is engaging, and so is Andrew. I think the strengths are that our professor truly cares about the content, and knows how to naturally guide his students to the intended message.
This was my favorite class I've ever taken! I think an essential strength is the way that Professor Wasow prioritizes class participation by inviting specific people to speak throughout the semester. He is an excellent teacher and he and Andrew (GSI) do an amazing job of making students feel included and engaged.
Connecting films to readings was very insightful!! I really enjoyed expanding my repertoire of film while applying concepts from readings.

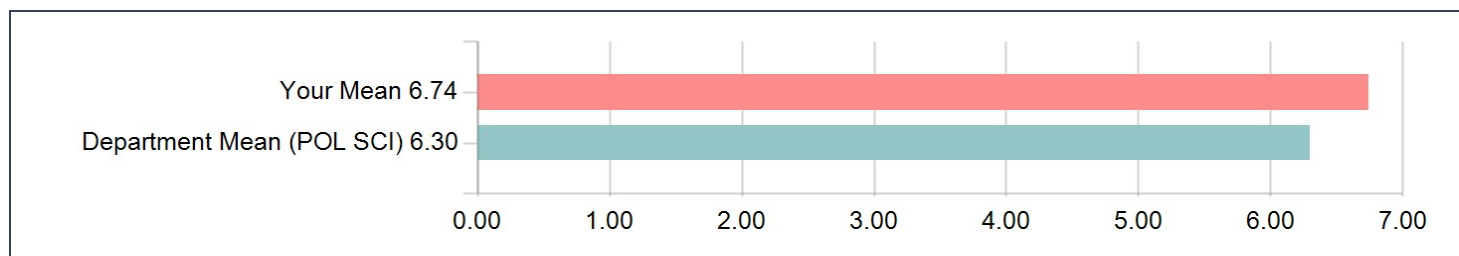
Please identify area(s) where you think the course could be improved.

Comments
Lectures are at times disorganized, the professor jumps around slides often skipping over some or jumping forward and backward based on train of thought. I think ideas and curriculum could be presented in a more organized manner with a clear flow
N/A
I think there is no area where the course could be improved since the course is interesting.
At times, the quizzes felt less relevant to the big picture questions the course was asking. However, Professor Wasow was always open to feedback and was clearly trying to incorporate student feedback into his quiz design. I would've appreciated the opportunity to write an essay or do more writing exercises (even if not graded) to help tie the many different concepts we explored together.
Different readings on those that felt too dense.
I sometimes wish we had more time in class to talk about the films, some weeks there was more emphasis on the readings, and I feel like we missed out on analyzing a few of them in depth. also I really don't think you need to do Bisbee again.....
It sometimes felt that not every film received the same attention that it might have done it justice, and other films got disproportionate amounts of time. There were some films like Tantara or LA '92 that I felt we could have focused a lot more on, though that might have been because they were my favorite films that we watched. I also am not sure how helpful the integration of watching video essays in class was, as it was often repetitive of the lecture and felt like it was just taking up time. I appreciated hearing other students' takes, but perhaps watching them on our own time would have been more helpful.
None
While I do like documentary movies, I think a balance between fiction and non-fiction movies would help improve the course.
It's asking a lot but I feel the breaks we'd take in between lecture could've been extended. I found myself needing to go to the restroom and stressing about the allotted time we were given, and missing important information, especially on quiz days.
I can't think of any. This has been my favorite course thus far.
I would have liked more discussion of the film making process and why/how it was made.
Sometimes the quizzes were a bit difficult, even if you had done the readings.
The quiz questions were a little "gotcha" like where I felt like I could defend my wrong answers. I would do the readings and watch the film every week and still get horrible quiz scores and that was frustrating.
Quizzes could be improved as many times there were questions asked that were either not addressed in study guides nor mentioned in lectures. Some quizzes made films or readings more confusing as concepts were unclear and remained unaddressed.

What advice would you give to another student who is considering taking this course?

Comments
Always watch films before lecture so you can discuss it in class, quizzes can be pretty specific so really study the readings
Watch all the movies.
I think one advice I would give to another student who is considering taking this course would be to take notes when reading the class reading and to also watch every class film every week.
Find a friend to watch the films with! I wish I had done this throughout the course – in some of the more dense movies, I'd sometimes lose focus and have to rewatch scenes over again. I think if I'd watched them with someone else it would've been easier to stay consistently engaged.
Very reading-heavy but often really interesting. Also, it has a lot of open discussions, so the longer you take the class, the more comfortable you will become speaking.
Make sure to do the readings and watch the film before class so that you can participate in the discussion. Even if you choose not to participate, having watched the movie and doing the reading helps you know what's going on.
go to office hours! I wish I had gotten to know the professor better
If you are not prepared to watch a movie and do the readings on time, you are not going to get nearly as much from this class as you could be. There reading load was all very reasonable, so it is definitely doable but if you know that you are not going to have two hours a week to watch a movie plus time to do the readings, this class might not be for you.
None
TAKE THIS COURSE! You won't regret it, and please engage with the readings, I know for one that if I'd been more attentive to the readings I'd score so much higher on the exams.
I have recommended for may friends to take this course!
If you don't have time to read everything, watch all the films at the very least.
Enjoy it!
Do readings first, then watch the films and take notes!

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?



Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?

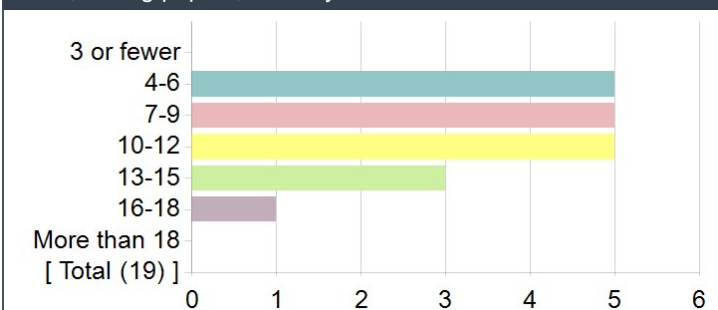
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Moderately Effective	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	5	26.32%
7-Extremely Effective	14	73.68%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	
Mean	6.74	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	0.45	

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED STUDENT INFORMATION QUESTIONS

Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.

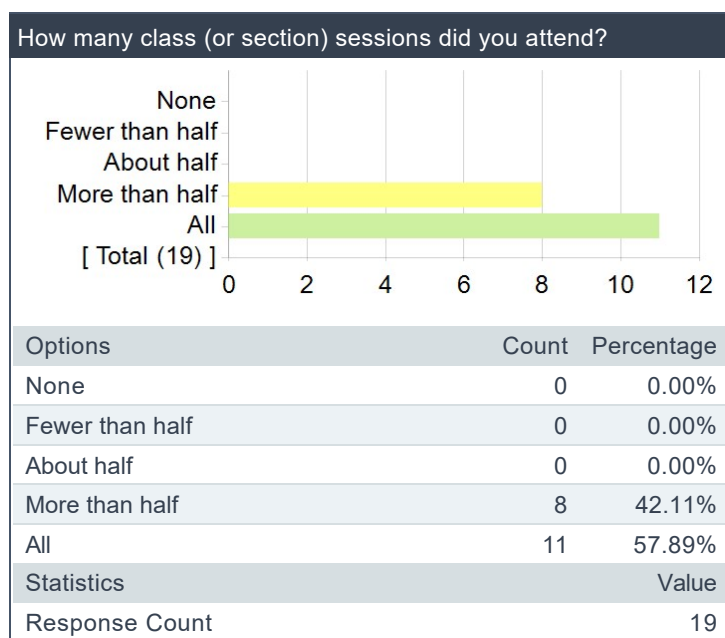
On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?

On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?



Options	Count	Percentage
3 or fewer	0	0.00%
4-6	5	26.32%
7-9	5	26.32%
10-12	5	26.32%
13-15	3	15.79%
16-18	1	5.26%
More than 18	0	0.00%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	

How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?



How satisfied were you with your effort in this course (or section)?

