

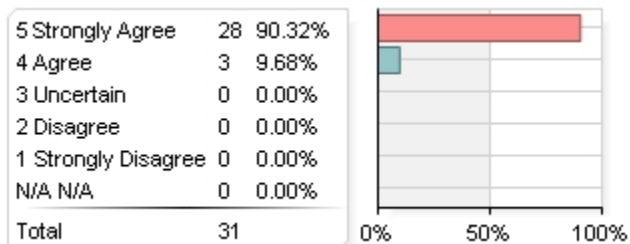
# Fall 2018 - Course Evaluation Report for SOCY100106\_2019F\_INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY - Lara Birk

## Response Table

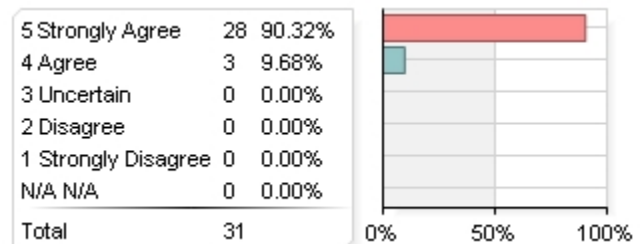
Raters	Students
Responded	32
Invited	34
Response Ratio	94.12%

## Course Related Questions for SOCY100106\_2019F\_INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY- Distribution of Responses

1. The course was well organized.



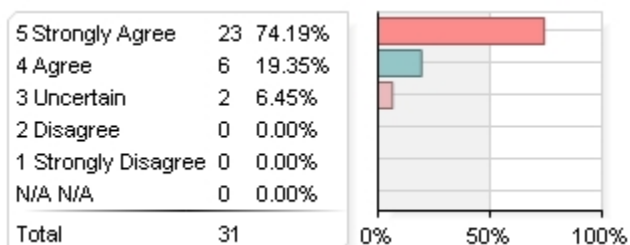
2. The course generally followed the syllabus.



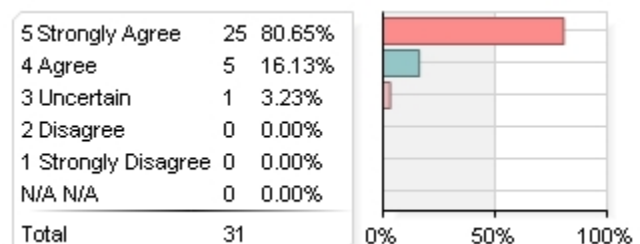
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.90
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.30

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.90
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.30

3. Class attendance was necessary for learning course material.



4. The course was intellectually challenging.

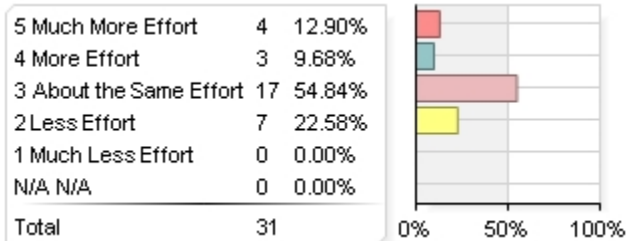


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.68
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.60

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.77
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.50

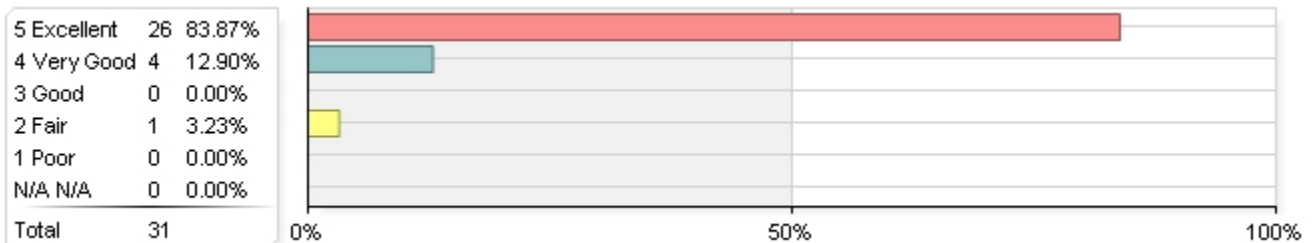
## Course Related Questions for SOCY100106\_2019F\_INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY- Distribution of Responses (continued)

Compared to similar courses (ie core, major, etc), this course required:



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.13
Median	3.00
Mode	3
Standard Deviation	0.92

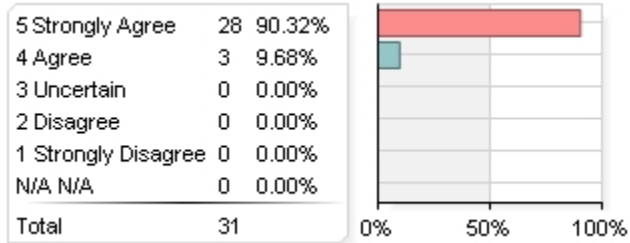
How would you rate this course overall?



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.77
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.62

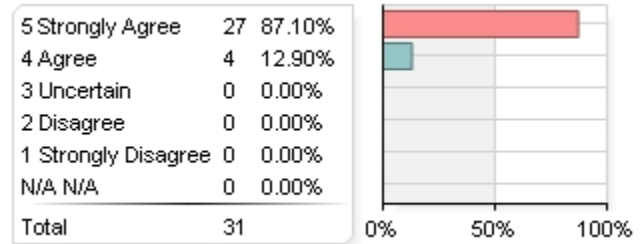
## Instructor Questions for (Lara Birk)- Distribution of Responses

1. The instructor was prepared.



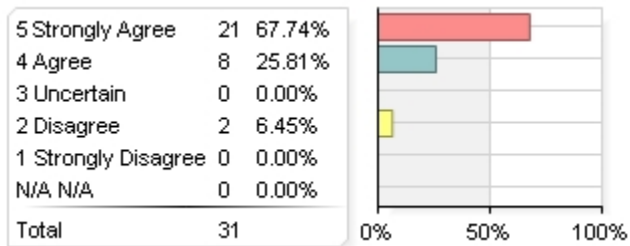
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.90
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.30

2. The instructor was available for help outside of class.



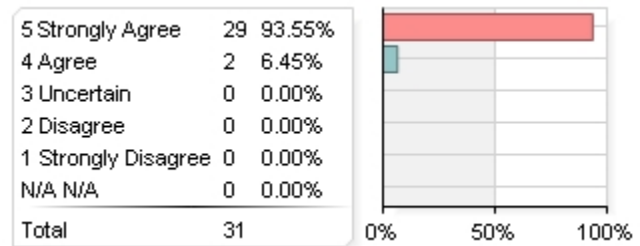
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.87
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.34

3. The instructor returned assignments/tests conscientiously.



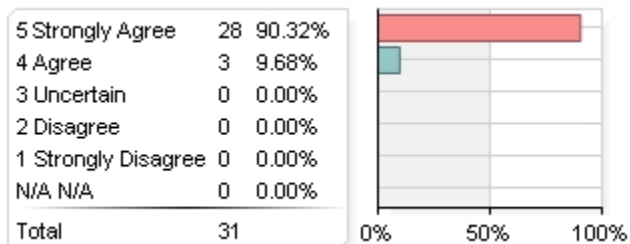
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.81

4. The instructor showed enthusiasm about the subject matter.



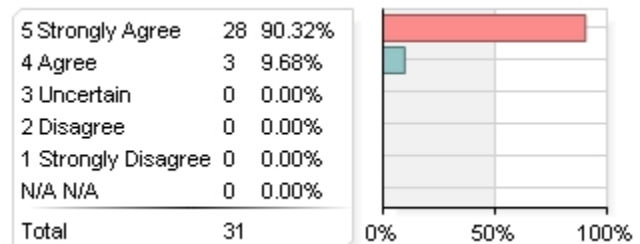
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.94
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.25

5. The instructor stimulated interest in the subject matter.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.90
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.30

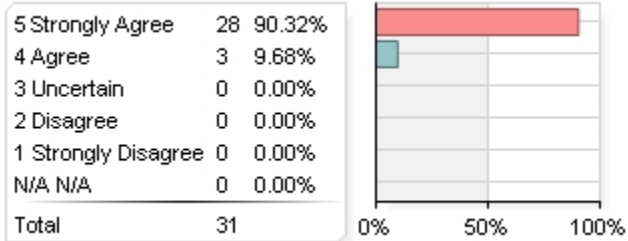
6. The instructor's explanations were clear.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.90
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.30

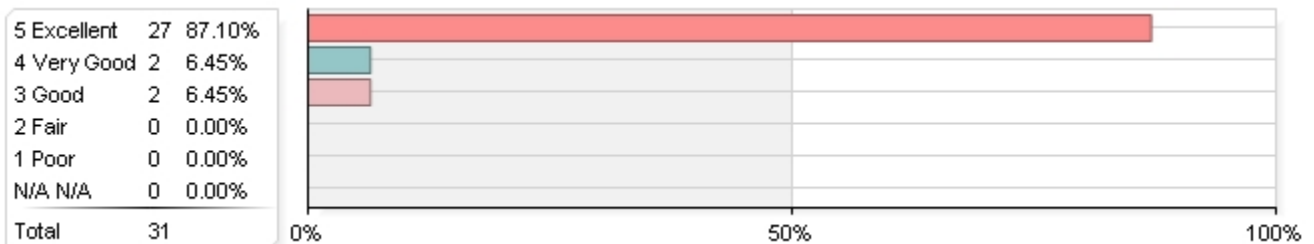
## Instructor Questions for (Lara Birk)- Distribution of Responses (continued)

7. The instructor treated students with respect.



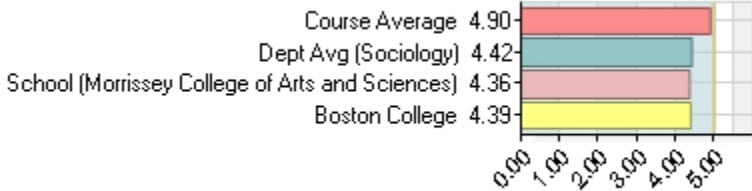
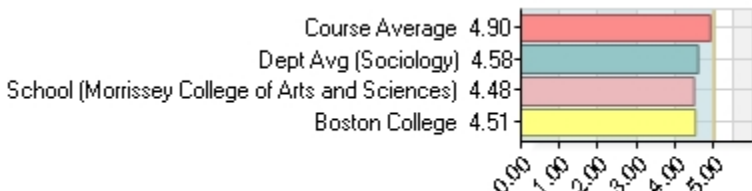
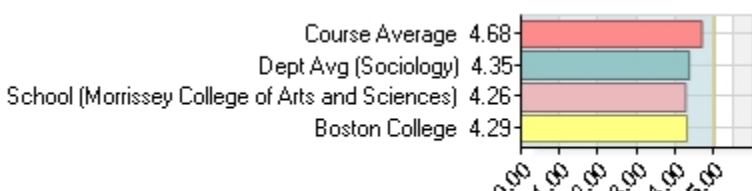
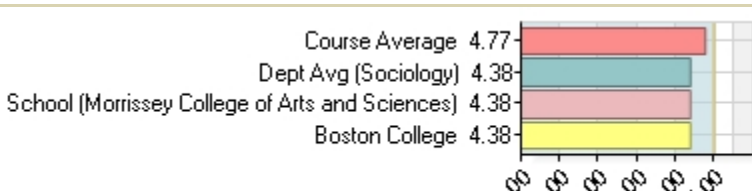
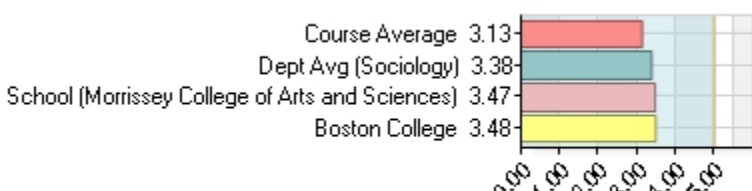
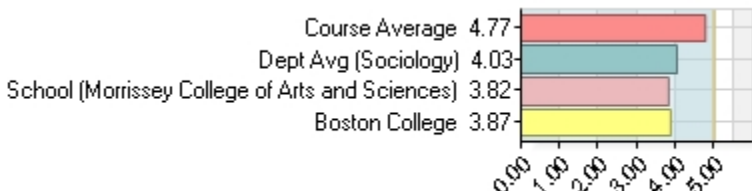
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.90
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.30

How would you rate this instructor overall as a teacher?



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.81
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.54

## Course Questions for SOCY100106\_2019F\_INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY - Benchmarks

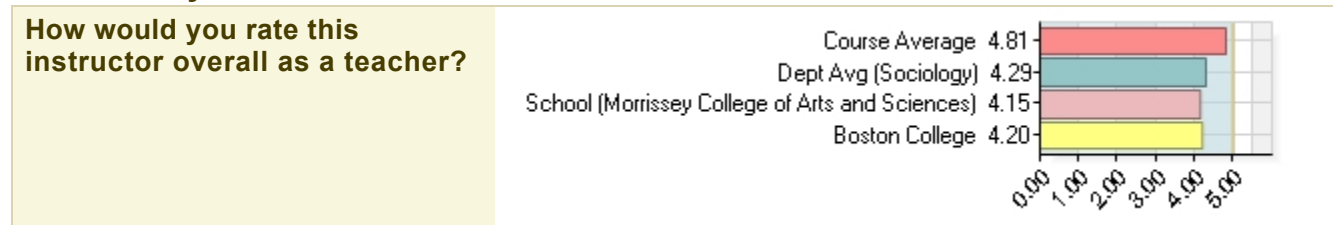
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## Instructor Questions for (Lara Birk) - Benchmarks

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## Instructor Questions for (Lara Birk) - Benchmarks (continued)

How would you rate this instructor overall as a teacher?



**Comments for SOCY100106\_2019F\_INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY -  
Lara Birk**



## What are the strengths of this course?

Comments
the way she taught – did not use power points, facilitated great class discussion
Professor was wonderful and so invested in the subject.
super relevant and interesting
Very engaging
helpful in understanding broader ideas
Professor Birk is incredible. She shows a lot of care about the subject matter and creates an environment in which everyone can express their thoughts. This class impacted me in a really positive way and made me think about society at large in a way that I never have before.
This was one of my favorite courses of my 4 years at Boston College. I think that Dr. Birk should be hired full time here at BC. I recommended her to all of my friends. Her lectures are amazing, I enjoyed going to class every T/TH and I honestly think it made me a more welcoming and open minded person. She made herself available over email and in person, and offered help with my essays and talking through assignments with me. She was a really welcoming person in class and Liked her in class discussion leader assignment. I also think she really committed herself to finding a wide array of sources for us to read, some were on NY Times while others were academic journals. It was great to get experience reading all different types of article and thinking about them academically.
The Professor is so passionate and absolutely exceptional. Made me extremely interested in any topic we discussed in class. Very engaging.
This is what a core class should be like
The syllabus was very clear and laid everything out, and everything was done very fairly. The structure of the class was great, and I liked how students would lead discussions to start the classes.
It was easy to discuss things
Prof. Birk truly cares about her students and provides a place to provoke fruitful discussions and thinking. The discussions that were held in class throughout the semester were beyond eye-opening and spurs greater thinking as we chatted about a variety of societal issues. She very much validates every students' opinions and thoughts and provides a safe space where students can share their differing opinions. Prof. Birk made the conversation even more personal as she shares her stories and life experiences to the class. She is very much open to chatting after class and in her office hours as well. It has been an absolute pleasure to have gotten to know her throughout this past semester.
The professor! Professor Birk was did an amazing job with facilitating discussion. The structure of the course was also really interesting and made it easy and almost natural to relate back to what we had learned. The readings were also all really interesting and new.
I loved this course. I think she truly cares about her students and wants us to become better thinkers and better sociologists. All of her material is fascinating and she is so good at engaging the class to have discussions. This class truly changed how I thought about individuals and their relationship with society.
The topics are relevant and interesting to learn about Professor Birk is very knowledgeable and approachable I learned a lot by taking this course
The articles prepared for class and the videos are both interesting and relevant to every day life
Excellent professor; effortlessly engages the entire class in fascinating discussion.
very organized and class discussion is very engaging
Very in depth conversation, not usually seen in other courses
The discussion based aspect made it very engaging, not rigid
Really interesting subjects that we covered and professor was really good at stimulating discussion among students
The class was engaging and discussions were interesting. We talked about contemporary issues that matter. Professor Birk cares deeply about her students and reached out personally when she realized I was struggling outside of class.
The class did an amazing job at linking social issues, sociological thoughts, and our personal experiences in a conducive manner. It helped me think outside of the box and really apply what we had learned in class to my own life.

## How could the instructor improve the course?

Comments
Assignments to facilitate more discussion in class
more group discussion
no comment
NA
To have more courses! Hire her!!!
N/A
Nothing, class was excellent
I can't think of anything that should be changed
Its perfect
None!!!! Maybe trying to have the room set up more in a socratic seminar / circle like room so students can see one another's faces.
n/a
Nothing.
None
More politically varied sources (liberal vs conservative)
Create in class debate amongst students
some of the early readings are very old and lengthy
More activities like the brain puzzles in the beginning
I think class routine got a little redundant at times- with having presentation at beginning then discussion for the rest of the time but that is not necessarily bad
N/A
She did a fantastic job and hope she is able to continue teaching the course like she did for us!

## Would you recommend this course to other students, majors, etc.? Why or why not?

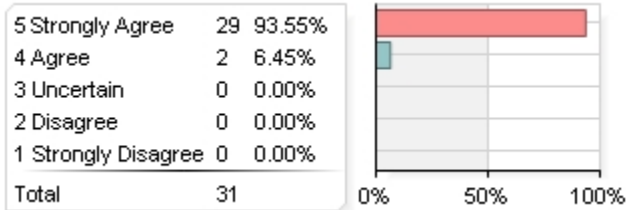
Comments
yes, covered very interesting subjects
absolutely because it is relevant to our lives instead of just academics
definitely
Yes
Yes, I already did and will continue to! She should be hired full time!
Absolutely. The best class I've taken at college! I don't know why we shouldn't take 2 semesters of sociology considering the issues at our school and within our generation. Seems like much better preparation for the real world than philosophy.
Yes, learned a lot
Yes! This was an awesome course that opened my mind to a bunch of concepts and outlooks that have not been discussed in any of my other classes. I really looked forward to the class and the discussions that were had, and I feel like it expanded my mind and the way I look at things
Yes its fun and not overly hard. Makes it enjoyable
Yes! Prof. Birk provides a space to talk about the uncomfortable topics that many of us struggle to talk about in our daily lives. It is very much easy to only confine ourselves to people of similar thoughts, but hearing differing views in class have been very beneficial to my education here at BC thus far.
I would recommend Birk's course to majors and anyone looking to fulfill their social science core or even just looking for an elective. It was an enjoyable class and one of my favorites I've taken so far- and it was an introductory course!
Yes I would recommend this course to everyone (not just soc majors) because it has taught me to think in ways I have not thought of.
Absolutely. I would recommend this course to any student of any major. Professor Birk makes the course worthwhile!
Yes the course material is relevant to multiple majors
Yes!
yes, this was a very interesting class
yes i would, great teacher
Yes, provides a good insight into the major
yes- think its really important to learn about a lot of the topics we learned about and Honestly think sociology should be required for freshman
Yes. Great way to fulfill core and it was one of the highlights of my week when I had class.
I would. It was a great A&S elective where I was able to learn about things besides business. It helped me to grow as a person!

### Additional Comments:

Comments
I love Dr. Birk!!!
BEST CLASS BEST PROFESSOR!
Excellent professor; BC needs to consider encouraging/helping Prof. Lara Birk to find a way to use her abilities as a teacher for social change on campus.
I like the lack of lecturing and tests
I really loved your teaching style! It is the perfect combination of class discussion and lecture

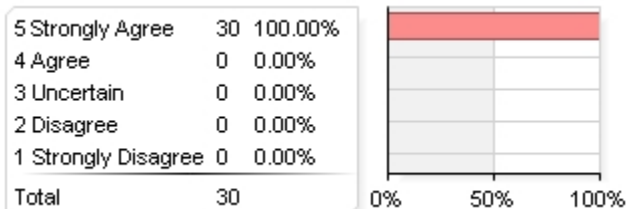
## Responses to Customized Questions for SOCY100106\_2019F\_INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY - Lara Birk

This professor's teaching style was engaging and conducive to generating interesting discussions.



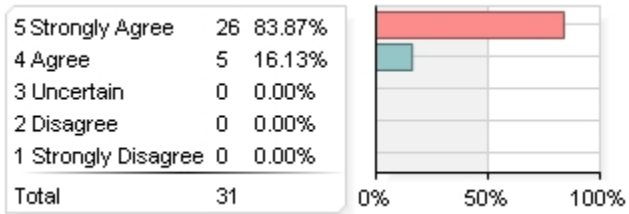
Statistics	Value
Response Count	31
Mean	4.94
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.25
Population Standard Deviation	0.25
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.04
Standard Error (base on PSD)	0.04

The professor was approachable, responsive, and genuinely concerned about her students.



Statistics	Value
Response Count	30
Mean	5.00
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.00
Population Standard Deviation	0.00
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.00
Standard Error (base on PSD)	0.00

**This course gave me tools to better understand or appreciate people who are different from me.**



Statistics	Value
Response Count	31
Mean	4.84
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.37
Population Standard Deviation	0.37
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.07
Standard Error (base on PSD)	0.07

## How does this professor compare to other professors you have had?

Comments
Felt that she really cared about each student's beliefs and opinions and wanted to help students understand the topics and the world better
Very engaged and cares so much about students
im a freshman but she was very clear about her intensions and respectful
She is very compassionate
Better, more helpful
She is one of the best professors I have ever had. She cares about her students and the topics we discuss and I walked away from this class with the ability to apply concepts to my daily life.
She rocks. She is so welcoming and available. I recently was asked what my top 5 favorite classes at BC were, and SOCY was in there, because of her.
Best professor I have ever had
Top 5 professor by far, loved going to class and receiving such positive energy early in the morning
Professor Birk is one of the best professors I've ever had at BC. Nicest woman you'll ever meet, extremely understanding, and really engages the class in actual discussion about interesting topics. I'm really going to miss having someone like her as a professor. She is what every BC professor should strive to be more like.
Professor Birk was extremely respectful, approachable, and able to portray big, daunting topics in a way that you could apply to your own life and the life of others. She made everyone in the class feel comfortable and allowed everyone to further develop their own outlooks and opinions, which some classes do not provide the opportunity to do
Way nicer
She truly cares and makes students feel very comforted when they share their thoughts in class. The skills that she stresses in class will definitely stay with students even after this class has ended.
She is one of the best I have had.
Best professor at BC so far! She is knowledgeable and compassionate.
Professor Birk is one of my favorite professors at BC
Prof Birk had an inviting attitude that I always felt comfortable raising my hand and sharing my opinions
More engaging with student
The teaching style brought more engagement and better understanding of the subject manner
very good at stimulating class discussion
This professor was more engaged and interested in what her students had to say.
One of the best professors I have had
One of the most compassionate and thoughtful professors I've had. She's had the most impact on my as a student at Boston College, encouraging us to engage ourselves in everyday life.
much better– very interesting lecturer and engaging with students– always open for extra help
One of the best i've ever had
She was one of the best. She really works hard to connect with the students on a deeper level than the student– professor relationship. She made sure all students were comfortable to participate. 10//10

**Do you leave this course with a different or more complex perspective on your place in society? Please elaborate.**

Comments
yes, definitely think different now about some of the topics. especially mental illness.
yes, we talked about issues that ive never thought too much about before
yes absolutely especially in terms of the nuances of language
Yes
Yes, I feel like I am more aware of many different problems that are occurring around the nation and world
Absolutely. I now understand why people or societies are the way they are and I am very grateful to have been able to take this class.
Yes, I think so. thinking about hard topics in class made me widen my view on them and become more educated on the topic.
Yes, I feel that I'm more "socially agile" as she would say. I can pick up more on issues within our society. I feel more apt to try to change them. I wish our school would include more courses like this especially regarding recent incidents with black lives matter and also regarding mental health for the students here on campus.
Oh yes, no doubt. Professor Birk really made be think about things in ways i'd never considered before, and now, my outlook on life is changed for the better.
Yes! I am definitely more open to the opinions of others, and feel like I have been exposed to perspectives that are different than my own and have become more respectful of these.
Yes. A lot of the topics we discussed I never thought about before
Definitely. The course has reflected many different perspectives of the institutions and structures in society and being more aware of them leads inspires us to provoke much needed change in our broken society.
Yes, I found myself relating what we learned to all my other classes. The papers were also helpful in learning how to apply a sociological perspective to myself and the broader world.
Significantly different, more open perspective. The sociological imagination helped me make connections that helped me see individuals/situations from a different POV.
Yes
yes. This course opened my eyes to events in life and problems within our society that i wasn't aware of before. I'm so grateful because I felt more educated and can participate in discussion with a more open mind.
I think that I learned various perspectives of how people view my place in society and how I view others. I can strive to change my viewpoint to more align with reality by having conversations.
Yes I feel that I understand the importance understanding other social factors and where I belong amongst those social constructs
yes, there are always more thing to think about than what is on the surface
Yes; we looked at social topic from many different views. I particularly liked the idea of social constructions and norms, and how they shape of viewpoints.
The course made me much more aware of the way I think about others and how my own prejudices can be harmful and how to be more accepting
yes— I think I have learned so much about our world and it has really enabled me to look at a lot of things in a new light and think more about structures in our society
Yes
Yes it did. I am used to thinking in regards to my CSOM classes and this class proved to be an outlet for me to think outside of the box and find ways to understand the world in a different manner, and really to try to uncover the underlying factors that have led our society to where it is today.