

Sociology 151: Principles of Sociology

Spring 2006

Question: Please list the characteristics of the course and instructor which have impressed you favorably or unfavorably. Do you have specific suggestions/comments about the works read or topics covered? Would you add or eliminate any? (Why?) Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Comment:

Professor Yamane was definitely different than any instructor that I have had so far in my academic career at Wake Forest. When I say this I mean it is the best way possible. He provided a new and extremely enjoyable flare and a strong sense of connection that I think more professors need. In doing this he made an experience that, compared to other courses and professors I have taken in my three years at Wake, was above and beyond the normal lectures that are conveyed containing tons of information but no real way of sustaining what was said. Yamane tried to do things different in and outside of the classroom and conducted himself in ways that made us want to show up for an 1:15 minutes. He knew that what he was doing was different than that of his colleagues, and this is why the classtime was more influential and productive than usual.

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Comment:

Dr. Yamane was very enthusiastic every day and very strongly encouraged participation, which in turn fostered a quality learning environment.

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Comment:

he was very enthusiastic while teaching the course. He would incorporate the class very well with outside material. The class was open to discussion and showed good examples.

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Comment:

I really enjoyed the class. Dr. Yamane was very enthusiastic about the material he was teaching. He made the class fun and not so serious all the time. He is a great

Sociology professor and showed great knowledge of the material. No suggestions for improvement of the class.

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Comment:

My only complaint is that the textbook material was slightly irrelevant to the class at times

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Comment:

I don't like the whole class grade being out of 100 points. It is so nerveracking knowing that when you mess up a definition or something its a whole point off your average. But I guess if the class were out of 1000 points it would still be the same.

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Comment:

Sense of Humor, Study sessions, Grading on class participation

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Comment:

very good at keeping the class engaged, use of video clips and movies make subject matter easier to understand and fun

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Comment:

Taking this course as an elective simply out of interest, I was pleased to educationally stimulated. This was one of the most balanced and thorough courses I

have taken in my Wake career and Dr. Yamane is by far one of the most helpful, intelligent, and effective professors--a rare find, particularly in an introductory course.

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Comment:

I really appreciate the instructor's ability to maintain a professional atmosphere, yet still make the students feel comfortable enough to share stupid details that have strong implications for the class. The works read, especially the outside journal articles, were particularly insightful and assisted in further understanding of the class materials.

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Comment:

The class was interesting and enjoyable to be a part of. Dr. Yamane was very knowledgeable in all areas of the class material and made class time valuable and entertaining. I enjoyed learning the material and especially enjoyed Dr. Yamane's enthusiasm for the subject. I really enjoyed this class!

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Comment:

the course was very good. it explored many aspects of sociology. i think the teacher was very amiable and approachable. he made class enjoyable. he was excellent at relating the material to real life situations today. the one thing i didnt like about the class was the fact that the tests were only out of 25 or 30 points. and they counted for 25 or 30 percent of our grade each test. i just thought they should be out of more points. overall a great class.

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Comment:

You rule professor Ya MONEY

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Comment:

the only thing that i wasn't a big fan of was the fact that participation was worth 25% which was a lot for a class this small- and the fact that there was a really annoying girl who talked all the time and didn't leave time for everyone else to talk- it was hard to get a word in before your idea was said so i feel like that hindered my class participation

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Comment:

The instructor was entertaining and stimulated learning. The works were good especially because most of them were short and applicable. I enjoyed the class and also learned.

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Comment:

The Sociology course was very interesting

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Comment:

Dr. Yamane was an amazing teacher! He engaged our class in sociology, and I really think that every student in this class is coming away with a strong understanding of sociological principles. He made a point of opening up the class to questions/discussions, which helped us to take hold of the information. His tests were fair and challenging. It was clear that Dr. Yamane wasn't out to trick us or mess us up with some oddly worded question. He truly wanted each student to succeed and understand sociology. I would recommend this class and professor to anyone and everyone who needed to fulfill a divisional, or wanted to take an interesting elective class.

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you have any suggestions for improvement?

Comment:

I believe this course was very useful for analyzing how people behave in the real world. The instructor was very enthusiastic and presented the material in a way that the students were interested. My only suggestion to this course would be to add written assignments. This helps the grades to those who struggle with tests.

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Comment:

I enjoyed this class and Dr. Yamane makes me want to major in sociology

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Comment:

What has impressed me favorably about the course is the general subject matter. I came into this class thinking that I would not enjoy Sociology, but I have really enjoyed the readings and class discussions. This may be due, to a great deal, to the enthusiasm, accessibility in class, and knowledge of the instructor. However, if I had my college career to do over, I may very well have chosen to major in sociology.

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Comment:

I think this class was very interesting and entertaining. I really enjoy the professor point of interest about teaching his class and class participation.

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Comment:

The instructor was extremely good, he was very personable and made a strong effort to make some sort of connection with all of his students. His lectures were very interesting and overall he was a great teacher.

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Comment:
Great Class!!!

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Comment:
Dr. Yamane does a great job of interacting with students and creating a fun environment for teaching the material. He very much encourages class participation which vastly increases the ability of students to learn the material. I would recommend him to any student interesting in taking the course as a divisional, for a minor/major, or as just an interesting elective. The coursework was interesting and presented in a unique way with a combination of textbook, supplementary readings, videos, and interactive lectures. D-Ya is an interesting guy and a great professor.

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Comment:
He is an AMAZING professor. He is enthusiastic, interesting, and upbeat. He definitely has a passion for sociology and it shows in every single lecture. He always has intriguing examples that relate to the material. He is one of the best professors I have had at Wake.

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Comment:
I thought overall that Professor Yamane was great. I was excited to come class. He was very enthusiastic and interesting. I was a bit discouraged to spend so much time studying (feeling as if I understood the material) and repeatedly get C's, but I am very interested in the material and after this class I feel like I will take more sociology electives.

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Comment:

What impressed me most was how lively and entertaining the professor was while still teaching the course material effectively. Of all classes taken here, this professor made class most fun in terms of the examples used in class such as the movie clips and the game show style get-to-know you's at the beginning of class. Nothing particularly was unfavorable. Suggestions for improvement might be to spend more time on the racial, gender, and economic inequality because I thought that was really interesting. Overall, great class and learned a lot.

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Comment:

The professor is well dressed, good at explaining concepts and likeable; therefore it is easy to learn in class. The TB is bland but the articles' packet is interesting and relevant. It'd be nice if the exams came with what exactly the answers should include. I did not like that we had to do a lot of guess work for what the professor wanted. The professor gives a lot of extra credit opportunities which are VERY GOOD and relevant to the class material, although they may help more if they were given during the first half of the semester (not when it gets busy at the end of the term).