

IR 519 (A1): People Power

Spring18 | Jeremy Menchik

21 | Students Enrolled

19 | Students Responded

90.48% | Response Rate

Quantitative

	(1) Low	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5) High	<u>N</u>	<u>DNA</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>M</u>	
Relevance of assigned readings	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	36.84% (7)	63.16% (12)	19	0	0.48	4.63	
	Easy	Moderately Easy	Neither Easy nor Difficult	Moderately Difficult	Difficult	<u>N</u>	<u>DNA</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>M</u>	
Difficulty of course	0% (0)	21.05% (4)	36.84% (7)	36.84% (7)	5.26% (1)	19	0	0.85	3.26	
	Light	Moderately Light	Neither Light nor Heavy	Moderately Heavy	Heavy	<u>N</u>	<u>DNA</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>M</u>	
Workload in course	0% (0)	5.26% (1)	31.58% (6)	52.63% (10)	10.53% (2)	19	0	0.73	3.68	
<i>Course Evaluation</i>	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	<u>N</u>	<u>DNA</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>M</u>
Overall rating of discussion instructor (if applicable)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	42.11% (8)	57.89% (11)	19	0	0	5
Overall rating of lab instructor (if applicable)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	5.26% (1)	94.74% (18)	19	0	0	5
Usefulness of assignments and papers	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	36.84% (7)	63.16% (12)	0% (0)	19	0	0.48	4.63
Overall course rating	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	10.53% (2)	89.47% (17)	0% (0)	19	0	0.31	4.89
<i>Faculty Evaluation</i>	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent		<u>N</u>	<u>DNA</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>M</u>
Effectiveness in explaining concepts	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	10.53% (2)	89.47% (17)		19	0	0.31	4.89
Ability to stimulate interest in subject	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	21.05% (4)	78.95% (15)		19	0	0.41	4.79
Encouragement of class participation	0% (0)	0% (0)	21.05% (4)	21.05% (4)	57.89% (11)		19	0	0.81	4.37
Fairness in grading	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	36.84% (7)	63.16% (12)		19	0	0.48	4.63
Promptness in returning assignments	0% (0)	0% (0)	5.26% (1)	31.58% (6)	63.16% (12)		19	0	0.59	4.58
Quality of feedback to students	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	21.05% (4)	78.95% (15)		19	0	0.41	4.79
Availability outside of class	0% (0)	0% (0)	5.26% (1)	21.05% (4)	73.68% (14)		19	0	0.57	4.68
Overall rating of instructor	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	15.79% (3)	84.21% (16)		19	0	0.36	4.84
	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent		<u>N</u>	<u>DNA</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>M</u>
Were the grading criteria clearly stated?	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	27.78% (5)	72.22% (13)		18	0	0.45	4.72

Qualitative

STRENGTHS of the course and of the Instructor: -

- Course strengths include: ample, robust, inclusive discussion about *relevant* and *timely* issues, varied assignments (papers, presentation, response papers), and the length of time spent covering each topic on the syllabus - I felt content was divided equally and appropriate time given to each area. Prof. Menchik was one of the best teachers I've had at Pardee or ever, because: It is clear that he cares about his students and the quality of his class immensely He tries hard to make coursework/discussions relevant, and succeeds! He incorporates appropriate humor in attempts to make concepts/the classroom more accessible for all He sets appropriate expectations and standards for work/contributions both inside and out of class He supports and challenges students at the same time - a fine balance Generally, for me, Prof. Menchik has redefined what/who a University professor is (and should be). Thank you!
- Funny and knowledgeable, always prepared and excited for class. Super inspiring and motivating course!
- awesome ability to stimulate interest in the subjects great case studies and relevant readings attached
- Always willing to help out students
- Great in leading group discussions and encouraging students to think independently and critically about the subjects we read
- Always listens to students, great at explaining
- Great facilitation of discussion
- The case studies in class made abstract concepts really easy to understand. In addition, the variety of media used to discuss concepts made the class more engaging.
- Really cares about his students. Makes an active effort to improve his course
- He is very knowledgeable, accommodating and enthusiastic about teaching.
- approachable and engaging, not overly demanding (i.e. understands we aren't PhDs)
- Has a lot of knowledge on the subject. Course had a lot of applicable readings and examples. I feel like I got a much better understanding of the workings of social movements.
- Extremely knowledgeable; is able to easily generate interest and engagement from students; pushes students to look at issues from various viewpoints; organized and reasonable
- In class discussion this week in contentious politics your willingness to engage with your students your kind and understanding demeanor of the workload a semester has
- Professor Menchik is able to stimulate interest in the various topics and readings that we have discussed. He connects ideas to each other which is very helpful and does an incredible job at explaining complicated subjects so that everyone in the class can understand them and the differing perspectives of them.
- Professor Menchik is empathetic, extremely knowledgeable, and utilizes his own research experience in a way that informs his classroom teaching more than other research-centric professors I have taken. He manages to provide both seriousness and levity to a subject that can be highly emotional, and he encourages the experience and participation of the class so we can all learn from each other.
- VERY informative and knowledgeable of topic. Stimulates interest with class discussions and encourages students to better grades with consistent feedback. Takes ownership for classroom and teaching discrepancies amongst students, showing that he truly cares on how the students feel inside the classroom and how they are doing with the subject. Constantly connects real world events with topics. Creates a fun and encouraging environment for students to learn.

WEAKNESSES of the course and of the Instructor: -

- Sometimes the expectations for assignments was unclear. However, after receiving feedback about this from the class, was able to alter tactics to help explain clearly.
- moves very quickly with discussion
- you're great! so none!
- n/a ! Wonderful professor who puts a lot of work into his profession and into curating a course that is stimulating for his students
- none
- The lessons went by slowly at some points and were somewhat redundant
- Wish the presentations were a little shorter so we could have more discuss on the course materials. Some of the students didn't get to discuss more about their projects as much as others.
- Some of the readings were VERY abstract and not discussed enough in class. These readings tended to be studies.
- Some concepts were analyzed/discussed a bit too slow.
- another film!!!
- More just a flaw of seminar-style courses: some students dominated discussions, but this was handled effectively with the suggestion of two-turns-per-class at the midterm evaluation (another great idea that more professors should implement!). Otherwise, N/A.

General Comments: -

- A refreshing course that made me think a lot. Thank you!
- Great class! I would take it again
- This class is really great and helpful in understanding how people come together all over the world!
- Great class! Best IR class I've taken!
- great course! makes me look at world events through a different and more informed lens
- Fantastic professor! As a senior, I'm sad I did not have him more than once and now no longer have the opportunity to. Would recommend Prof. Menchik and his classes to anyone! Interesting readings, assignments and discussions...One of my favorite professors in Pardee and one of my favorite courses I've taken at BU
- Really good and important course!
- Thanks for an amazing semester!
- one of the best professors I've ever had
- This class was amazing, relevant, and one of my favorite collegiate classes ever. As a graduating and experienced senior, I can confidently say that the professor has mastered the trajectory and curriculum of his class. EXCELLENT teacher. Very honored to have taken the class. Learned a lot of useful information and skills.
- When I registered for this class, my IR courses so far had not covered the phenomenon of people power in any detail. Though I had been to a couple small protests in the wake of the 2016 election, I had no clue or context for how effective protests could be -- to me, it felt mostly like a place to give hugs and support to other brokenhearted strangers. Therefore, I gained more new knowledge and context from this course than from almost any other class I've taken at BU. I appreciated the theoretical framework around which the class was structured: I find I learn best when I can trace the roots of human events through qualitative research. I can honestly say that this class has shaped what I want my career to look like, and showed me a way to influence policy as a citizen, not a politician. I am taking advocacy opportunities into new account as I search (only a little desperately) for a post-graduate job. I'll be sad to see this class end, but I'm so grateful!