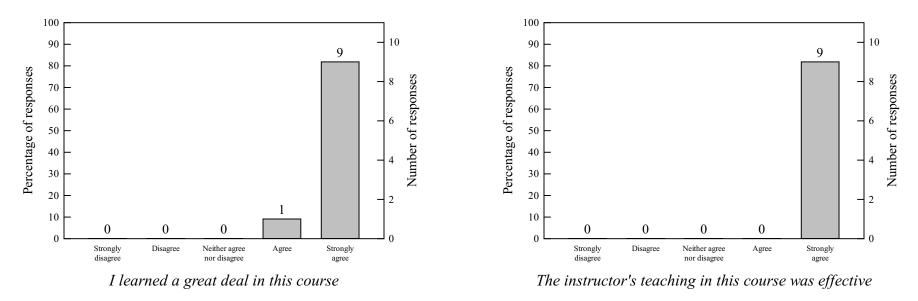
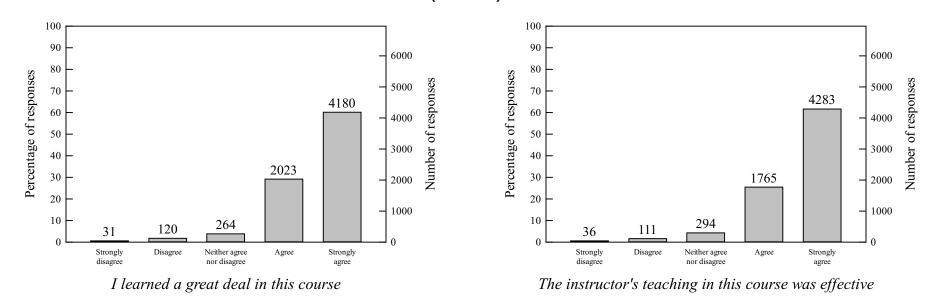
PSCI 0411A: Politics of Money and Finance [Fall 2021] Winslett, Gary

Number of response forms completed: 11, of 19 total students enrolled



Aggregate of all courses in Fall 2021 (All Staff)



Learned a lot about economic and fiscal policy and how it developed, the different mechanisms of finance and economy, the causes behind certain events like financial crisis, etc. Learned how to think about and analyze these issues and how to consider and understand things like wealth, capital, wages, housing, taxes, money, etc.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

I liked the discussions that we had each class that really helped consolidate the readings and learn and understand the information. The assignments also helped us explore deeper into the topics and be creative with the information we had learned.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

For my major requirement

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

Attended every class, probably spent 4-7 hours outside class each week doing work/reading

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Very effective in explaining and facilitating discussion and learning the material

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes, Yes

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

None, except maybe we could do more smaller group work sometimes to help discuss certain things more individually

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

We covered a range of financial instruments and phenomena, including the recession of 2008 and that induced by COVID. We also learned about the political implications of implementing policy in response.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Our class mainly relied on completing readings and discussing in class. We also submitted a paper about the '08 recession, as well as a series of reports on a subject of our choice. Finally, we gave a presentation in front of the class on one of the subjects we read about. This range of assignments gave us exposure to a wide range of subjects and communication styles, meaning we learned a lot while also learning how to present in several different ways.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

Major, senior seminar requirement. I also just like taking classes with Professor Winslett.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I spent around 2-3 hours per week on this class, but this jumped to 10 hours when we had papers due. I attended almost all classes. As always, I wish I could have had more time with the readings, but I felt like I did my best.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Professor Winslett is the best professor I've had in the political science department, bar none. He has a knack for guiding stimulating, thoughtful, and genuine conversation among his students. He is infinitely encouraging of participation, which makes people feel welcome sharing and enhances understanding of the material. He has a clear, deep knowledge of the subjects at hand (and those not immediately at hand), and he shares it in a manner that is neither patronizing nor condescending.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

I felt so. I appreciated the flexibility afforded by our independent projects, which gave us the opportunity to tie in what we learn in class to a subject of our choice.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

I have very little to add. I recommend that all political science majors (and most students in genera) take a class with Professor Winslett.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

slett.

I learned a great deal about economics, finance, and how countries choose to wield monetary policy. I had always meant to take an econ course before I graduated, but that was tough with a double major. Taking this was as close as I got and I was quite pleased.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

The lectures and presentations from students were phenomenal and really insightful. I wish more classes had this format. The readings struck a nice balance between not being too long but still getting the point across.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

It's part of my major

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I participated regularly in every class I attended. Sadly I had to miss a few classes for quarantine and some unexpected thesis work that popped up, but I attended 90% or more of classes. I worked about 4-5 hours a week outside the course on the material

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Prof. Winslett is a phenomenal teacher. I have met some professors who kind of just go through the motions of teaching, but Prof. Winslett takes the time to make sure everyone genuinely understands the material.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes. I greatly appreciated the freeform nature of the final assignment as well. I found the presentation and film review to be unique assignments that I enjoyed completing.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

Tenure this man.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Quite a bit about the relationship between state and private sector and how different formulations of that relationship impacts society and people' lives in different ways. Welfare state, housing, varieties of capitalism, history of money, bimetallism, central banking, financial crises, too many things to name -- great class

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Love the in-class discussions, and how Prof Winslett prepares questions to ask us instead of lecturing rote. Makes us find answers on our own and guides us there instead of handing information to us -- style is so compelling and charismatic, and discussions are well-laid out and well-thought out

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

Prof Winslett is one of my favorite professors -- counts for my major -- love politics, but working in finance, so very compelling

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

2-4 hours, generally did (always at least skimmed) readings, attended every class but one (I let Prof Winslett know in advance)

Agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

AMAZING!! Professor Winslett is among the best professors I've had at Middlebury. I love (as mentioned above) how well he planned discussions and guided us towards the ideas he wanted us to grapple with instead of explicitly and directly telling us what we needed to know. Prof Winslett's directness is refreshing, and it's fun being in class with him

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

No response to "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I have learned about the development of financial systems, from old money such as the gold standard, to the more modern and complex means of exchange we see today. The class has boosted my communicative skills through in-class discussion, giving a presentation, writing a film review for the first time, and producing a final research project.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Learning methods have been diverse throughout the class. Relevant readings are assigned, in-class conversation is encouraged, and assessments encourage thoughtful exploration of ideas.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

This course is in my major. As someone who tends to gravitate towards political science, I felt the course would be right up my street.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I feel I have performed successfully in this class. The class has certainly been challenging in terms of understanding concepts and writing assignments. For this reason, I feel more well-versed in a number of topics and able to discuss them more confidently.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

The professor was excellent at explaining all concepts. I felt that you could ask him any question, and he would be able to give an in-depth answer.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Standards of evaluation were clearly laid out and instructions were available on Canvas. Assessments allowed me to take my favourite components of the course, and apply them to interesting questions.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

There is nothing I would change. The class should be taught in its current form to future students, who I'm sure will benefit as much as I have.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Learned about the intersection between global finance + politics; in particular we discussed the gold standard and its effect on global economies + Great Depression; Latin American debt crisis + repercussions; origination of money; fallout from 2008 financial crisis and the role the banking system played

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

Major requirement; also sounded extremely interesting and would have taken even if I did not need it to satisfy a requirement

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

Attended all but 2 classes; believe I did well overall, did well on assignments to date and participated a fair amount; would spend at least 3-4 hours doing readings in a given week, with much more time spent completing the writing assignments and final project

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Professor is an excellent lecturer who know how to facilitate student discussions. Had extremely interesting discussions in every class and that was due in large part to Professor Winslett's ability to encourage active discussion.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I learned so much about money as a concept, its function, and how it is used to create, concentrate, and distribute wealth. I also learned risk mitigation mechanisms for society and for the individual. The inclusion of COIVD related material and cryptocurrency also gave me an opportunity to grasp and interpret the current situation.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Diverse readings and films provided the basic knowledge about the content which was always clearly elaborated in the class discussions. Fact Sheet making and presentation was a great way to practice skills that will be necessary in the real world. The individualized capstone projects were engaging and very enjoyable to pursue.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I chose this course for the PSCI senior seminar requirement for my IP&E major.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

Although it is true that I spoke up less in some topics areas than others, I I think I generally participated well in class. I came to all sessions except once when I was sick.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

The Professor's approach to teaching is very engaging and allows students to fully participate in the discussion. When some concepts from the readings were not clear, he always gave a clear explanation.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes. My assignments were directly connected to the class content and the expectations were clear. The rubric was provided with details on what he expected in our assignments.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

I enjoyed this class a lot. For sure, one of the classes at Middlebury I enjoyed the most. In addition to the academic aspect, I think I was able to learn a lot of financial tools that I could utilize in the future. Thank you very much!

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

No response to "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

No response to "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I have learned a great deal in this class. Specifically, I learned about many different financial events and financial mechanisms that have been used in the course of history. Additionally, I learned how to work on big projects that will be applicable to future work.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

This class was more discussion based than the other class I took with Gary. However, Gary is above and beyond the best discussion leader I have had at Middlebury College and quite honestly it is not even close. The readings that were assigned were always intriguing and insightful, the projects and essays were very hard, but great for understanding concepts, and other assignments were extremely appropriate.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I took this course to satisfy my Poly Sci Major Senior Seminar

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

My participation in the course was satisfactory. I did not miss a class. Additionally, I along with other students, would not dare miss a class as we respect Gary far too much to do so. Weekly work outside of class varied dependent upon what was due. Overall, it was the right amount of work assigned.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

As I mentioned, Winslett was EXEPTIONAL in explaining concepts and fostering communication. He would ask extremely thought provoking questions which forced the class to think critically while also formulating your own opinions. Gary has the ability to round out students answers and make them feel as if they always answered appropriately.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

To Whom This May Concern: Gary is one of the best "leaders" of a group I have ever been around. Wether that be in high school or college, I have never had a professor who is better with his students than him. He makes everyone feel welcome and makes everyone excited to come to class everyday. He has an uncanny ability to communicate effectively with students that the majority of professors do not have. I am incredibly lucky to have taken multiple classes with Gary in my Middlebury Experience as they were both the most rewarding classes I have taken on campus.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Learned many things. Great class at Middlebury. Professor Winslett is the best.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Lectures, readings, discussions

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

Major requirement

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

2-3

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Very effective. Best professor I've taken at Middlebury. Explains everything in a very clear and concise way if you are confused.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes very clear standards

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

This class was awesome. One of my favorite classes I have taken at Middlebury. Winslett is the best. He cares about his students and teaches them material in interesting ways. He is a very thoughtful guy who looks out for his students. He carefully plans the syllabus so it is both interesting and challenges the students. He makes readings interesting and the movies we watched were awesome. Cannot say enough about Winslett.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I learned so much about this class. I signed up because I felt that as an IPE major, my knowledge of finance, such an important part of both the economy and politics, was weak. I leave this class with confidence that I am proficient in understanding the financial world and its workings.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Lectures were always very lively. Professor Winslett is adept at creating an inviting environment for his students. He understands that by making the students have a positive experience with the course will increase their engagement. This was the class where I had the best discussions throughout my time at Middlebury. There just weren't any awkward silences and it made the whole experience so much better.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I took the course because I wanted to learn more about finance, but even more so I took it because Professor Winslett was teaching it. I took a major requirement course with him earlier, and my experience was so positive and enriching that I decided when I saw his name that my political science senior seminar should also be with him.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I was struggling with mental health this semester, so my performance was not as good as I would have wanted. However, Professor Winslett was very pro-active and understanding in the way he dealt with my situation, which made it so much easier for me to make the best out of this class in such a challenging semester.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Professor Winslett is great at explaining concepts and simplifying complex causal mechanisms.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes. I always understood what was expected from me and it was always clear how I could fulfill the expectations set for me.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

He is great!

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."