

*On attracting students to further sociological study:*

“Jorie has definitely made me think differently about things in the world. I have become a much more critical thinker and I have become much more interested in issues like race and gender. This recitation, in addition to lecture, has also solidified my plans to do a sociology minor.”

“Out of all of the classes I've taken this semester I learned the most in this class by far. I am now seriously contemplating furthering my education in sociology after graduation thanks to this course.”

“Our professor really helped me to take more of an interest within sociology and helped me to fully decide that I wanted to double major in criminal justice and sociology. I truly enjoyed this course.”

“Sociology is my minor but I'm now looking into double majoring in it.”

“This course has encouraged me to think of possibly switching my major. It was a very eye opening experience. I didn't even feel like I was doing homework because I enjoyed the readings so much. This is definitely something I'd like to continue studying.”

*On high expectations and challenge:*

“She challenged us to have the hard conversations and to think about the problems that are going on in our society right now.”

“[O]pposing sides of an argument were always handled with respect and argued with intelligence and sociological evidence.”

“She always wanted to dig deeper when learning about different inequalities and wanted us to get to the root of it in order to really have a good understanding of the material.”

“Professor Hofstra challenges her students because she knows they are capable of doing difficult readings if they apply themselves.”

“I see the world from different perspectives now, and I catch myself all the time thinking how things relate to deviance, or how I jump to conclusions by labeling others. At first I thought the weekly assignments were excessive, but her goal wasn't to kill us with work, but to keep us up to date on what we are learning about.”

“She has a lot of passion and interest in societal issues which opened my eyes to things I never really noticed before.”

“I was pushed to think about everyday occurrences more critically and look at events through a more analytical lens that was more careful about letting the information fed to me in. This class has helped me shift my world view some and I appreciate the shift.”

“This course has encouraged me to be critical of sources and to not always look for individualistic explanations but consider social factors that may be at play.”

“She asked a lot of questions that challenge the way you think and encourage you to think more in depth.”

“The topics we covered, [she] made them eye opening and forced us to step outside of our shoes and norms.”

*On classroom culture and engagement:*

“This instructor has really encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone and participate. I love her enthusiasm and knowledge when it comes to sociology.”

“She has a passion for teaching and truly enjoys when her students succeed. Sometimes she would get so excited she would get out of breath. The students weren't just a number in her class. She made it her mission to memorize all of our names the first week of class. I liked how she walked around the classroom during group work to observe what we were talking about. Sometimes just seeing her nod at our ideas gave me a boost of confidence. She taught me that there is no such thing as a stupid question. She was extremely personable and her positivity lit up the classroom.”

“[What I liked best:] Hofstra's commitment and desire to help every student succeed. Also the ability to interact with peers. It was good that a Facebook page was opened to also increase interaction for those who were reluctant to speak up in class.”

“It's awesome to really talk in depth over the material we cover throughout the semester, especially because there are some difficult readings. The engaging conversations also make the class more of an open environment, especially with so many [small] group assignments.”

“[The] assignments really did help me to understand the material while the lecture reinforced what I learned. I also loved our class discussions. It made the late class one I looked forward to.”

“I really like how she puts a lot of effort into the course and we don't just sit there and listen to a lecture, it's interactive so you learn more.”

“The instructor introduced current events that related to the topic we learned in class, making the course very immersive.”

“The instructor fostered an environment of open discussion and got everyone involved on a regular basis.”

“Jorie ensured that each student spoke in class, and encouraged all students to give their input on each topic. It made me more interested in the material knowing that someone was listening to what I had to say.”

“The instructor was really good at facilitating discussion between students.”

“She led discussion in a way that didn't make any of us uncomfortable to talk.”

“I don't know if I would have retained so much knowledge about deviance had it been another professor who may have not been as passionate or insightful as she is”

“Well organized, well taught, well done”

“Jorie is really passion[ate] about the material. She makes me want to learn more.”

“It opened my eyes to the history that we are not taught and I really had no idea about some of the things. I didn't realize how deep racism really is.”

“Amazing semester. I absolutely loved this class and what I learned and the open environment you made in the classroom.”

“[What I liked best:] the fluidity of the class topics and responsiveness to current events. I knew that every time I walked in, I was going to learn and understand another aspect of sociology.”

“It was a very open course that allowed me to learn things about not only society as a whole, but also about myself as an individual and the way I see the world.”

“Unabashed yet respectful approach to sensitive topics.”

*On developing students as scholars:*

“The professor always made herself available to talk to students after class. She was willing to work with each student individually to help them understand a particular concept. I felt very comfortable approaching her. She was very warm and welcoming. She taught me that learning is not about scantrons and memorization. It is about truly understanding concepts and remembering them once the semester is over.”

“Professor Hofstra has encouraged me to think more sociologically and has helped me become a better writer.”

“Prof Hofstra inspired me as a student to always give my best work.”

“The structure of the class actually made me more confident in my work and class participation.”

“She really cares about everybody's success.”

“Jorie is a genuine person who cares about her students. She took the time to get to know me both academically and personally which made the difference in my overall course experience.”

“She was very helpful, and guided the students when they seemed to struggle in certain topics.”

“Improved my writing skills and ability to analyze data to form my own arguments.”

“I appreciate Jorie's feedback on my papers. She is very thorough and wants us all to improve our writing.”

“Definitely developed my sociological lens and changed the way I view society, events, history...”