ICNC 2019 People Power Course Final Evaluation Graphs

The graphs below are from ICNC’s Online Course in partnership with Rutgers *People Power: The Strategic Dynamics of Civil Resistance*. The survey was divided into nine sections. 22 participants completed the survey.

I. Course Content ..............................................................................................................................................2
II. Group Work..................................................................................................................................................9
III. General Impression of the Course .............................................................................................................12
IV. Knowledge Gained.......................................................................................................................................14
V. Self-Learning Community ............................................................................................................................17
VI. Applicability ...............................................................................................................................................21
VII. Self-Assessment .........................................................................................................................................24
VIII. Technology...............................................................................................................................................28
IX. Improvements and Testimonials..................................................................................................................29
I. Course Content

1. The goals of the course and its modules were clear

![Bar chart showing the distribution of responses to the statement. The majority of respondents agreed with the statement, with 15% strongly agreeing and 32% agreeing.]
2. Course content was comprehensive and balanced, and topics were well selected.
3. Taking this online course was a positive experience

- 0 [0%] for 1 (Strongly Disagree)
- 0 [0%] for 2
- 0 [0%] for 3
- 7 [32%] for 4
- 15 [68%] for 5 (Strongly Agree)
4. Please explain your overall impressions of the course. Was there a particular part of the course that was most valuable to you? If so, what was it and why?

- “Overall the course was excellent. No major issues. The case studies and readings were eye-opening at how applicable CR is in a variety of social issues.”

- “Everything on the course was well planned to me. But the most important thing was the activity in group. Doing that was much valuable because I learned through others. I am really grateful for the staff and for my colleague Mercedes, from Venezuela.”

- “This course was very well put together, clearly delineating topics for each module. I was impressed with the wealth of resources and case studies. I gained a lot from just thinking about nonviolent direct action in those topics and delving further into it. They were extremely valuable. Reading the experiences of the others as well as staff members, added another dimension. It was thought provoking and illuminative.”

- “It was a great course, and a valuable information which would enrich ideas, visions and projects about nonviolence. Also, it presented perfectly wide range of examples in the history both modern and ancient. It was good to have ideas about the development of nonviolence over decades and different times”
5. Course content was organized and planned well

- 1 (Strongly Disagree) - 1 [5%]
- 2
- 3
- 4 - 9 [41%]
- 5 (Strongly Agree) - 12 [54%]
6. Course modules and content were timed and sequenced well
7. What did you think about the length of the course and density of content? Should the course be longer, shorter, or was it just right? Should there be more content, less content, or was the amount of content just right? What other topics could have been discussed?

• “I think it was just perfect. Week was enough to get everything done and move forward to the next module I understand that people are different, and everyone individually finds certain topic more interesting than another. I think if would be great to be able to request more information on the topic you are focused on the most. However, all the information provided was completely relevant and necessary to understand the course.”

• “I think the course content was about right. It works for everyone, especially for those who are busy in jobs and school.”

• “I am only disappointed the course came to an end. The amount of work / research was easy enough to balance working full time with family.”

• “Coming towards the end of the course, I wished it continued for longer. However, it did feel very intense at times (especially combining with work and family life) and in that respect liked it was condensed and needed to be completed within the given time frame. I did wonder if a ‘reflection week’ in the middle of the course would have been useful. It could have allowed me to take a breath, catch up with outstanding work and take stock of what I've learned.”
II. Group Work

8. Small group exercises were organized and substantive

![Bar chart showing responses to the statement about small group exercises. The chart indicates that 9 people (40%) strongly agreed, 3 people (13%) disagreed, 2 people (9%) agreed, and 4 people (19%) neither agreed nor disagreed.](image)
9. Small group exercises complemented and enriched individual learning

1 (Strongly Disagree)  2  3  4  5 (Strongly Agree)

- 3 [13%]
- 3 [13%]
- 7 [32%]
- 7 [32%]
- 2 [10%]
10. Please describe your overall experience with the group work. Were there any particular parts of the group exercise that you found especially helpful for engagement & learning or/and challenging and why?

- “In our group only 3 out of 6 or 7 members were able to engage and communicate. That said, I found the discussions with these members to be rich and valuable. The technology wasn't very user friendly and we had multiple technical issues.”

- “Our group had some difficulty with coordination and technology. We often reverted to "reply all" email communication when technology or coordination faltered. The individuals in the group were encouraging and great to work with.”

- “In both exercises there were only 2 of us completing the group exercise. This was enriching for me as I was able to learn a lot by doing the exercise, but did mean the two of us could only enrich the learning through our experience, whereas more individuals would have brought in more knowledge and experience that could have been applied to the group exercise.”

- “I have a good chance to be in contact with some colleagues. We could know each other and know more about ideas and other experiences, even tough, it was not so easy to be assembled in some cases, but I believe it was a great chance to meet with creative activists. Challenges could be limited to the time difference, and in some cases, the lack of continuation by some.”
III. General Impression of the Course

11. The course met or exceeded my expectations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (Strongly Disagree)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10 [46%]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (Strongly Agree)</td>
<td>12 [54%]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. I would recommend this course to other people

- 20 [90%] (Strongly Agree)
- 2 [10%] (Strongly Agree)
- 0 (Strongly Disagree)
- 0 (Strongly Disagree)
- 0 (Strongly Disagree)
IV. Knowledge Gained

13. I now have more knowledge about civil resistance and its various topics than I had before taking the course

[Diagram showing responses: 16 [73%] (Strongly Agree), 5 [22%], 1 [5%], 0, 0]
14. I learned a considerable amount of new information about civil resistance
15. In what areas of civil resistance did you increase your knowledge during the course?

- “Strategic planning, how to deal with brutal repression. The great and effective result by the nonviolence especially by calling some historical examples.”

- I found this course had considerable depth, and I feel much more able to discuss intelligently and persuasively civil resistance with others, including those more skeptical. The solid information about the successes of civil resistance over time is very, very useful.”

- “Before this course I had very basic understanding. This course helped me to deepen my knowledge and actually inspire to believe in people's power even more. The most important for me was to learn the statistics, the case studies and new tactics of nonviolent resistance and I think I got even more than expected.”

- “All of them really. This reflected in me progressing with the game as well. Initially I just wanted to crack on, and later on realized how important strategizing, mapping and other things are. I also learned a lot about the variety of NVDA tactics, how to use them, examples of successful campaigns, the importance of the role of women/gender (really enjoyed that module!), general knowledge on success rates of civil resistance, how to use backfire methods, deal with violent flanks,.... Overall the course has just been an eye opener!”
V. Course Moderation

16. I found weekly module summaries shared by course moderators relevant and helpful

![Bar chart showing responses to question 16. 0 (Strongly Disagree) - 5 (Strongly Agree).]
17. Course participants offered comments that helped me in my learning
18. What did the moderators do that was helpful to your learning and engagement with the course content?

• “Their insights were useful but often lost in the traffic of other comments. Perhaps a special email alert when the moderator puts in a comment.”

• “They provided the spaces required to connect people with each other, they could indicate briefly each module and how to connect past with present time. For higher and better outputs, I see that followings ups could be amplified in order to make the benefits at maximum from this course.”

• “Many of them widened the content of the course in the forums and explained personal experiences which were really valuable. Moreover, they also offered additional readings references which were also interesting. Perhaps interactions among participants were limited. Putting forward questions to participants as some moderators did it is something that helps, I would even put forward tricky questions to make people think and make discussion more active.”

• “Moderators were thoughtful and supportive in their comments, often providing value-added knowledge to course modules. I did find the summaries kind of clunky, though, hard to read through in a way that felt conversational. One suggestion is to make sure names are clearly attached to comments. I also would find it extremely useful to have countries of origin attached to people's names -- these give context to their responses and a sense of global village throughout.”
19. How could the participant interactions and learning in your view could be improved in this type of courses?

• “I think the course can benefit a lot from a facilitator (even if it is only for an hour or two in every module). I understand this represents an extra cost, but perhaps a small registration fee for the class can help cover this expense. The quality and focus of the discussions would benefit enormously just by having a person moderating the online interactions.”

• “Give more time to complete the modules and solve technical issues in the early stages of the course.”

• I think the nature of the platform has limitations - e.g. not being able to see who else is online at a particular moment, not getting live-notifications, etc. the types of video conferencing I’d never heard of before - I managed to get one to work, but not the other, and in the end we used skype anyway. Also one person in my group was 6 time zones away.”

• “There has to be a different way to make group work more effective as the diversity of the participants is an added advantage that needs to be experienced”
VI. Applicability

20. Course content matched my interests and professional needs

1 (Strongly Disagree) 2 3 4 5 (Strongly Agree)

0 0 0 10 [46%] 12 [54%]
21. The knowledge I gained from the course will be relevant in my current and future study/work/activities
22. How do you think you will apply the knowledge from the course in your current/future professional activities?

- “I will be keeping in contact with several people from the course to collaborate on ideas for future CR events. I have already made plans to travel to several countries in the upcoming months to assist some of the individuals in the course.”

- “I am currently working on a campaign on shrinking civic space in Nigeria. I am taking the lessons from this course to this effort especially around non-violent tactics, media, international advocacy, and network building.”

- “In 4 things: 1) As a trainer it will include many new topics and I will feel more confident in others 2) as activist I will use more strategic tools to assess context and plan campaigns 3) It open to me an amount of new literature to read, 4) I would like to do some research to substantiate more the effectiveness of the actions”

- “By equipping my skills and information with new ideas and examples included in this course, I think and thanks to my wide participation in this context. This new knowledge will be a great source, which I will rely on in future whether in new campaigns I am seeking to launch in future, especially, those regarding peace and nonviolence in building societies. And also, in training course, which I would be glad to forward this knowledge to others, who will be really parts of the changing operations in present and in future.”
23. How would you assess your own engagement with the course material, including participation in the course forums?
23a) If you were not able to keep up with the course material as much as you would have liked, could you please share your thoughts on why? How could have this been rectified, if at all?

- “By extending the course by an extra week to allow for catch up. Having a summary of the modules (prior to the links) to summaries what was being learnt after the objectives. 7 hours was reasonable.”

- “I kept up but often spent a full day or two vs 1 hour a day, both because of my own schedule and because of the intensity of the materials. I suggested above it might be good to extend the course to 10 weeks and incorporate more of the "optional" readings.”

- “The only part where I didn't engage as much as hoped was when the content wasn't very relevant to my research interests. Due to the condensed nature of the course, sometimes I had to sacrifice some level of engagement in order to focus on other areas of the course that I deeply interested in.”
23b) If you kept up with the pace of work and your participation met your course commitment, what tips would you share with future participants about how you managed the course load, engagement with the material, and participation in the course forums?

- “Spread the readings throughout the week, post your comments as early as possible to give others a chance to engage with them, try to come up with one central idea for each forum and don't shy away from asking questions and thinking out loud.”

- “Just post and not always feel you are required to know the topic in detail. Comment on other posts. Try to keep up every week and don't run behind.”

- “I tended to spend 3.5 hours twice a week rather than 1 hour a day, as logging on, getting to that week’s content on the website etc. took a while (Perhaps I didn't use the bookmark function effectively). Allocating this time was more manageable and realistic than 1 hour a day.”
24. How could participants' involvement and engagement in the course have been maintained or facilitated more effectively? What other ideas or tools can you think of that might have helped increase your or other participants' engagement with the content and in forum discussions?

- “Have people make a youtube video or online presentation. Have some people organize a webinar in which they present their answers rather than just write them down.”

- “It might be a stunning idea to make one grand meeting gathering all participants with staffs, to discuss ideas and how these ideas could be outputted later on as a booklet. When putting a target of a research or a booklet, that might encourage all to participate and engage in such discussions.”

- “I liked the idea of the polls presented during the orientation seminar. Having one or two more seminars with q and a throughout the course may add some level of engagement. Another idea might be to make some of the assignments more creative, like creating a poster, sharing a video, making a small presentation, etc. Using different tools can make the discussions more vibrant.”
VIII. Technology

25. What was your overall experience with the online course web platform and the ICNC mobile app? How could the online course web platform and mobile app have been improved to create a better learning environment? Please list any technical challenge or difficulties that you experienced during the course on either the web platform or the mobile app.

- “I think this was really well structured. I found the group discussions on the mobile app difficult to navigate, so eventually only did so on the laptop.”

- “The platform was solid, it was the layout that was difficult to follow. Having a content on the left handside slide bar that expands for each component of the module would have been effective. I used the table of contents at the top to relocate where I was or saved the URL and logged on to that each time. The next and previous buttons weren't helpful in reading posts. Making the "return to all posts" larger and at the bottom/top of the screen would have helped as I kept selecting the previous button and going to the wrong context. Accessing the shared google doc for the group work was difficult, I changed all the layout only to find that it wasn't saved and had to redo it.”
IX. Improvements and Testimonials

26. Do you have any other suggestions for how to improve this online course in the future?

- “Periodic meetings, and an object of final project of program held or supported by the ICNC. It could be a greater experience and would guarantee better participation, and practical values added by participating in writing or producing a research of a draft of research.”

- “Rethink the group work”

- “Keep the course going. This was an absolute pleasure working with your team and my fellow students.”

27. Testimonials

- “Taking this course has transformed my life. Aside that it opened my eyes to the praxis of nonviolence resistance, it gives me confidence that many of the tactics of nonviolent resistance can be used to achieve many feats, even at the interpersonal level of relationship with friends and colleagues”- Noah Opeyemi Balogun

- “This course is an outstanding step to widely understand and know more about nonviolence, and its consequences in people’s life. It is a great resource for those who are interesting in dive in struggling and methods followed for this purpose.”

- “In addition to important information provided, it is a good chance to be in contact with many people from different countries. That would enrich values with new experiences, and new thoughts.”

- “This course is an outstanding step to widely understand and know more about nonviolence, and its consequences in people’s life. It is a great resource for those who are interesting in dive in struggling and methods followed for this purpose.”
• “In addition to important information provided, it is a good chance to be in contact with many people from different countries. That would enrich values with new experiences, and new thoughts.”
• “Material covered were highly and professionally presented and topics, examples and forums were selected and listed in professional and convenient ways”-Eyad Samman
• “A great and informative course. I was pleasantly surprised”
• “This course inspired me to believe in people’s power more than I even expected. Learning from different case studies how nonviolent resistance is actually effective made me feel like people have always had this strength, we just need to share this knowledge, we just need to build peaceful unity and stand for better future together.”
• “The People Power course is hands down the most comprehensive online Civil Resistance course I have taken in over five years of self-research. The moderators and instructors had an excellent mixture of professionalism and passion. I could not recommend them more highly. I look forward to continuing to work with ICNC and Rutgers on this program.”
• “Absolutely solid course for students, practitioners, academics, and resisters around the world”-Adam White"