Introduction

The Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations once again promises to offer a wide variety of courses that will appeal to students who are interested in the earliest and modern civilizations of the Near and Middle. These courses range in scope and include history and material culture (archaeology), philosophy, religion, language and culture in those regions.

The Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations Students' Union (NMCSU) is dedicated to enhancing student life within the department. We provide all sorts of entertainment, guest lectures, and tons of wacky fun. Check out our website: **http://www.nmcsu.ca** We've always got something going on.

NMCSU Executive

NMC 201Y1Y Islamic Culture and Civilizations

Instructor(s): S. Guenther

Enr: 85		Resp: 53				Retake: 70%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	6	2	16	12	24	30	8	4.7
Explains	0	2	6	22	31	29	8	5.0
Communicates	2	2	2	10	27	37	18	5.5
Teaching	0	0	8	8	25	35	22	5.6
Workload	2	0	17	56	17	4	2	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	4	74	14	6	0	4.2
Learn Exp	3	3	6	24	12	33	18	5.1

Students were impressed by the teachings of the instructor. Some students felt the course required more organization. Others felt that the number of guest lecturers either aided the course material or made it more confusing.

NMC 255H1S Arabic Literature in Translation

Instructor(s): S. Guenther

Enr: 39		Resp: 18				Retake: 83%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	23	23	29	23	5.5
Explains	0	0	0	11	44	27	16	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	11	16	44	27	5.9
Teaching	5	0	0	0	29	41	23	5.6
Workload	0	5	33	44	16	0	0	3.7
Difficulty	0	5	16	61	16	0	0	3.9
Learn Exp	7	0	7	21	28	21	14	4.9

More time could have been used to more fully explain concepts. Some people were uncomfortable with the individual presentations. The instructor was passionate about the material.

NMC 256Y1Y Literature and Culture of Modern Israel

Instructor(s): S. Green

Enr: 25		Resp: 21				Retake: 90%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	5	25	35	35	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	10	20	30	4	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	5	25	70	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	5	10	55	30	6.1
Workload	0	5	45	50	0	0	0	3.5
Difficulty	0	0	15	75	10	0	7	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	5	52	17	23	5.6

Most students highly recommended the instructor. Green encouraged students to go to office hours. Some felt more feedback would have been helpful.

NMC 258H1S Tales from the Masnavi of Rumi

Instructor(s): M. Subtelny

Enr: 27		Resp: 16				Retake: 100%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	6	0	6	40	46	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	0	6	13	80	6.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	7	14	78	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	6	26	66	6.6
Workload	0	0	28	57	14	0	0	3.9
Difficulty	0	0	13	60	20	6	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	8	8	41	41	6.2

Subtelny was found to be knowledgeable and enthusiastic. Students enjoyed the course material and found the instructor well-prepared and interesting.

NMC 260Y1Y The Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

Instructor(s): T. Harrison

Enr: 41		Resp: 24				Retake: 90%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	39	47	13	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	4	22	63	9	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	4	18	40	36	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	4	22	45	27	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	72	27	0	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	4	68	18	9	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	36	42	15	5	4.9

Students found Harrison very knowledgeable. Many commented on his enthusiasm and enjoyed his lectures. Some students wished that the tests were organized differently, but most were satisfied with the course material and testing.

NMC 270H1F History of Syriac Christianity

Instructor(s): A. Harrak

Enr: 30		Resp: 24				Retake: 90%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	4	4	29	62	6.5
Explains	0	0	0	8	4	29	58	6.4
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	29	70	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	8	37	54	6.5
Workload	0	0	8	79	4	8	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	83	12	4	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	15	15	15	53	6.1

Most students thought that this was an excellent course taught by a great instructor.

NMC 273Y1Y Islamic History to the Fall of Baghdad (1258)

Instructor(s): M. Simidchieva

Enr: 68 — Resp: 27 — Retake: 65%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	3	0	7	61	19	7	5.2
Explains	3	3	0	22	33	25	11	5.6
Communicates	0	0	7	15	42	23	11	5.2
Teaching	0	3	0	11	46	26	11	5.3
Workload	0	3	0	34	34	26	0	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	4	39	39	13	4	4.7
Learn Exp	6	0	6	12	37	25	12	5.0

Students enjoyed the material but found the lectures hard to follow. The readings were considered irrelevant.

NMC 284H1F Judaism and Feminism

Instructor(s): T. Meacham

Enr: 21 — Resp: 19 — Retake: 94%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	16	27	33	5	16	4.8
Explains	0	0	0	11	27	33	27	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	33	66	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	5	27	27	38	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	94	0	5	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	5	61	33	0	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	35	14	14	35	5.5

Meacham was a very good instructor - very knowledgeable, helpful and easy to approach. Lectures would have been better organized had there been a lecture plan. Some thought that it was difficult at the beginning if you had no prior knowledge of Judaism.

NMC 285H1F The Qur'an

Instructor(s): T. Lawson

Enr: 93 — Resp: 72 — Retake: 93%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	2	8	23	27	23	14	5.0
Explains	0	1	0	8	24	31	33	5.9
Communicates	0	0	1	1	4	21	71	6.6
Teaching	0	0	1	4	12	40	41	6.2
Workload	1	0	8	56	24	7	1	4.3
Difficulty	0	2	11	55	27	2	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	1	0	16	13	33	33	5.8

The majority of students found the instructor very knowledgeable and enthusiastic. However, some students complained that he and the TAs were quite disorganized. It would have been better if the course syllabus was more precise about the test days and the required readings. The non-Arabic speakers found this course challenging.

NMC 286H1S The Qur'an: Reading and Transformation

Instructor(s): T. Lawson

Enr: 63 — Resp: 44 — Retake: 81%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	4	13	15	27	18	20	5.0
Explains	0	0	6	15	18	31	27	5.6
Communicates	2	0	0	2	15	31	47	6.2
Teaching	2	0	6	4	15	36	34	5.6
Workload	0	0	2	52	27	15	2	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	2	55	25	13	2	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	9	16	22	16	35	5.5

Many students felt Lawson was very knowledgeable, interesting and approachable, but that the lectures were somewhat disorganized.

NMC 344H1S History of Ancient Egypt II: Second Intermediate Period to Greco-Roman Period

Instructor(s): S. Shubert

Enr: 94 — Resp: 52 — Retake: 72%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	1	15	40	28	13	5.4
Explains	0	2	0	14	36	28	20	5.5
Communicates	0	1	0	13	19	27	37	5.8
Teaching	0	0	0	5	39	47	7	5.6
Workload	0	0	3	76	15	3	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	1	86	11	0	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	9	45	27	9	9	4.6

Many students felt the instructor was enthusiastic and knowledgeable. The lectures were long and required readings were excessive. Some students felt that the material was confusing at times.

NMC 355H1F The Ottoman Empire in the Age of Reform, 1808-1918

Instructor(s): J. Hanssen

Enr: 43 — Resp: 25 — Retake: 56%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	16	8	16	20	36	4	0	3.6
Explains	0	4	8	20	40	24	4	4.8
Communicates	0	4	0	8	16	36	36	5.9
Teaching	0	4	8	12	20	40	16	5.3
Workload	0	0	0	4	8	32	56	6.7
Difficulty	0	0	0	8	32	40	20	5.7
Learn Exp	0	5	5	20	25	25	20	5.2

Many students said that this course was very intense for a 300-level course. There was an excessive amount of readings and assignments. Nevertheless, the course was interesting.

NMC 363H1F The Archaeology of Historical Mesopotamia I

Instructor(s): S. Batiuk

Enr: 34 — Resp: 23 — Retake: 85%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	21	30	21	21	5.3
Explains	0	0	0	8	26	43	21	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	8	8	43	39	6.1
Teaching	0	0	4	21	17	30	26	5.5
Workload	0	4	13	56	13	13	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	8	8	60	21	0	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	31	37	25	6	5.1

Batiuk was generally well-liked and conveyed interest in the course material.

NMC 364H1S The Archaeology of Historical Mesopotamia II 1600-330 BCE

Instructor(s): S. Batiuk

Enr: 29 — Resp: 13 — Retake: 91%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	23	38	38	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	0	30	23	46	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	15	30	53	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	0	23	30	46	6.2
Workload	0	0	7	61	23	7	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	46	53	0	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	20	10	40	30	5.8

NMC 369Y1Y Archaeological Materials and Industries

Instructor(s): R. Mason

Enr: 24 — Resp: 21 — Retake: 93%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	10	31	57	6.5
Explains	0	0	0	0	5	42	52	6.5
Communicates	0	0	0	0	5	15	78	6.7

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Teaching	0	0	0	0	10	31	57	6.5
Workload	0	0	16	55	11	5	11	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	11	55	16	5	11	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	18	25	43	6.0

Students enjoyed the visual nature of the course. Mason made the material interesting. However, the work could have been graded quicker.

NMC 381H1S Modern Islamic Thought

Instructor(s): S. Kudsieh

Enr: 37   Resp: 20   Retake: 88%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	5	16	50	27	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	5	11	61	22	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	44	38	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	61	38	6.4
Workload	0	0	0	73	15	10	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	10	73	5	10	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	7	21	35	28	7	5.1

Kudsieh was enthusiastic, organized and interesting. A few thought there were too many authors.

NMC 393H1F Early Islamic Art & Architectures

Instructor(s): L. Golombek

Enr: 18   Resp: 15   Retake: 72%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	7	0	21	21	42	7	5.1
Explains	0	0	7	14	28	42	7	5.3
Communicates	0	0	0	21	14	42	21	5.6
Teaching	0	0	7	7	28	35	21	5.6
Workload	0	0	14	64	21	0	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	7	71	21	0	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	28	28	28	14	5.3

NMC 467H1F Archaeology and Material Culture of Ancient Egypt I: Predynastic Period to Middle Kingdom

Instructor(s): M. Wegner

Enr: 26   Resp: 21   Retake: 85%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	4	28	57	9	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	9	9	57	23	6.0
Communicates	0	0	4	4	19	23	47	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	19	47	33	6.1
Workload	0	0	0	55	25	15	5	4.7
Difficulty	0	0	0	61	19	14	4	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	38	16	22	18	5.3

Initially, students found the presentations daunting but found that they learned a lot through them. Some students felt a time limit should have been imposed on the presentations in order to leave more room for discussion. Several students felt the material was dry and could have been enhanced with more class time focusing on artefacts and more time spent at the ROM.

Overall, students found the instructor to be enthusiastic and extremely knowledgeable with all aspects of Egyptian culture and civilization. Students were impressed with her ability to answer questions and think outside the box; all of them were excited to be taught by an expert in the field.

NMC 4689H1S Archaeology and Material Culture of Ancient Egypt II: Second Intermediate Period to Greco-Roman Period

Instructor(s): M. Wegner

Enr: 15   Resp: 10   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	40	30	30	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	10	0	60	30	6.1
Communicates	0	0	10	0	10	50	30	5.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	10	30	60	6.5

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Workload	0	0	0	50	40	10	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	50	40	10	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	10	30	30	30	5.8

Students found the instructor to be very good and highly knowledgeable, however, some did not appreciate the time allocated to presentations relative to time spent on discussing course material and lectures. Students enjoyed the trips to the ROM and found them to be an excellent learning experience. Students felt that more time should have been allocated to the ROM visits, the lectures and class discussions.

NMC 481H1S Muslim Gnostics and Mystics

Instructor(s): T. Lawson

Enr: 27   Resp: 16   Retake: 85%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	6	12	25	25	25	0	6	3.8
Explains	0	0	0	25	18	31	25	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	6	12	25	56	6.3
Teaching	6	6	6	12	6	50	12	5.1
Workload	0	0	6	50	31	21	0	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	6	62	25	6	0	4.3
Learn Exp	7	0	7	14	28	35	7	4.9

Many students felt the instructor was very knowledgeable but somewhat unorganized. There was no syllabus offered, expectations were not communicated adequately, and some felt he did not even prepare for lectures. The instructor changed his mind many times regarding readings, course requirements and assignments.

NML 150Y1Y Introductory Biblical Hebrew

Instructor(s): L. Clenman

Enr: 13   Resp: 11   Retake: 90%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	20	30	10	40	5.7
Explains	0	0	9	9	9	36	36	5.8
Communicates	0	0	9	9	0	36	45	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	18	0	9	72	6.4
Workload	0	0	10	30	20	40	0	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	0	45	27	27	0	4.8
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	25	25	37	5.9

Clenman was found to be effective, approachable and available to students. Students found the use of examples and support provided invaluable. Some felt the instructor made a difficult language more accessible to learn.

NML 156H1S Elementary Modern Hebrew II

Instructor(s): R. Ron-Yerushalmi

Enr: 11   Resp: 8   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	57	42	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	14	85	6.9
Workload	14	0	14	42	14	0	14	4.0
Difficulty	14	0	14	42	14	0	14	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	16	16	66	6.5

Students found the instructor to be enthusiastic, engaging and helpful. Most found the course very enjoyable.

NML 230H1F Elementary Coptic I

Instructor(s): M. Kaler

Enr: 8   Resp: 6   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	50	16	33	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	16	66	16	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	66	16	6.0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	83	16	6.2
Workload	0	0	0	33	16	50	0	5.2
Difficulty	0	0	16	50	0	33	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	60	40	0	5.4

Students felt the course had a lot of memorization and that the use of dictionaries would have been helpful after a certain level. Students also suggested that more supplemental readings would have been helpful.

Overall, most students felt Kaler was great and extremely helpful. They appreciated his use of examples to support his answers.

NML 240Y1Y Introduction to Middle Egyptian

Instructor(s): J. Bekcic

Enr: 24   Resp: 18   Retake: 93%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	5	22	11	61	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	5	16	22	55	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	22	61	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	11	11	16	61	6.3
Workload	0	0	0	16	16	50	16	5.7
Difficulty	0	0	0	16	33	33	16	5.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	7	7	28	57	6.4

Very enthusiastic instructor as well as clear and concise. Some students felt the instructor gave harsh criticism when homework was not done. Others felt they were not graded fairly.

NML 241Y1Y Ancient Egyptian Iconography

Instructor(s): V. Angenot

Enr: 7   Resp: 7   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	14	14	42	28	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	14	28	28	28	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	28	14	28	28	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	28	42	28	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	42	28	14	14	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	28	28	14	28	5.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	20	40	40	6.2

Students felt this was a great course, but felt that the workload made it feel like a third or fourth level course. Angenot was very knowledgeable and made classes interesting. Many students felt she was a very good instructor.

NML 255Y1Y Intermediate Modern Hebrew

Instructor(s): D. Eylon

Enr: 8   Resp: 6   Retake: 83%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	16	16	33	33	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	33	16	50	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	33	66	6.7
Teaching	0	0	16	0	16	0	66	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	16	33	33	16	5.5
Difficulty	0	0	0	50	16	0	33	5.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	40	60	0	5.6

Students found Eylon to be engaging and knowledgeable. Some found the course to be difficult, with too much homework and the tests were found to be too long and complex. Some students felt a language conversation class would have been beneficial.

NML 260Y1Y Introductory Persian

Instructor(s): F. Molavi

Enr: 31   Resp: 26   Retake: 91%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	3	3	0	23	23	30	15	5.1
Explains	0	0	11	19	30	23	15	5.1
Communicates	0	0	3	7	38	34	15	5.5

Many students felt the course needed language labs/conversation sessions to allow them to practice their knowledge. Some students felt the presence of native speakers impeded their understanding of the material.

NML 340Y1Y Intermediate Egyptian

Instructor(s): R. Leprohon

Enr: 6   Resp: 6   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	33	66	6.7
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Workload	0	0	0	16	66	16	0	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	16	66	16	0	5.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	16	16	66	6.5

Leprohon was extremely informative and interesting. He was helpful and patient.

NML 353H1S Jewish Apocalyptic Literature

Instructor(s): S. Metso

Enr: 13   Resp: 12   Retake: 83%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	8	8	38	50	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	8	0	50	41	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	8	91	6.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	8	33	58	6.5
Workload	0	0	16	41	16	25	0	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	18	36	36	9	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	10	30	30	30	5.8

Most students felt the course itself was very interesting. Metso was very informative and knowledgeable.

NML 410Y1Y Advanced Standard Arabic

Instructor(s): A. Lane

Enr: 9   Resp: 8   Retake: 85%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	12	0	62	25	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	0	12	50	37	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	12	37	50	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	75	25	6.2
Workload	0	0	12	37	37	12	0	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	0	25	62	12	0	4.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	20	20	20	40	5.8

Lane was very courteous and polite. A few students felt there was too much focus on grammar with not enough oral work. These students also felt there should have been more focus on learning the vocabulary. Lane was found to be very enthusiastic and approachable. The classes were interactive with clear explanations.

NML 412Y1Y Survey of Classical Arabic Literature

Instructor(s): S. Guenther

Enr: 10   Resp: 10   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	10	40	50	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	30	70	6.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	20	80	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	20	80	6.8
Workload	0	0	20	70	10	0	0	3.9
Difficulty	0	0	0	70	20	10	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	16	16	16	50	6.0

Students felt it was a very enjoyable course. The instructor was very approachable and knowledgeable. Many students felt the class was simply great.

NML 414H1S Qur'anic Arabic

Instructor(s): A. Lane

Enr: 7			Resp: 5				Retake: 80%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	40	40	20	0	4.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	40	0	60	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	20	20	0	60	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	20	20	40	20	5.6
Workload	0	0	0	0	60	20	20	5.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	0	20	60	20	6.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	20	20	60	0	5.4

Students felt more clarity on assignments, more time for exams and a variety of authors would have been helpful.

NML 460Y1Y Classical Persian Literature

Instructor(s): M. Subtelny

Enr: 16			Resp: 9				Retake: 100%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	33	66	6.7
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	33	66	6.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	22	77	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	11	88	6.9
Workload	0	0	0	33	55	11	0	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	0	62	37	0	5.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	0	37	50	6.2

Students felt that the material was insightful. The instructor explained complex ideas very well. Many students felt it was the best course they've ever taken.