Introduction
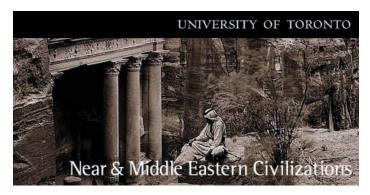
The Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations once again promises to offer a wide variety of courses that will appeal to students who are interested in the earliest and modern civilizations of the Near and Middle. These courses range in scope and include history and material culture (archaeology), 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. Drop by our office - 4 Bancroft Avenue, Rm 322.

NMCSU Executive

NMC 256Y1Y Literature and Culture of Modern Israel

Instructor(s): S. Green

Enr: 22		Resp: 21					Retake: 93%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	0	4	33	57	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	10	0	25	65	6.4
Communicates	0	0	0	9	0	14	76	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	5	5	20	70	6.6
Workload	10	0	21	63	5	0	0	3.5
Difficulty	10	0	5	80	5	0	0	3.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	11	29	58	6.5

Green was described as an excellent and very enthusiastic instructor who made a great learning experience possible. Her class was described as fun, casual, and students felt very comfortable to be a part of it.

Some students argued that she didn't provide the class with extra material (such as slides or handouts).

NMC 260Y1Y The Archaeology of the Ancient Near East

Instructor(s): D. Foran

Enr: 35		Resp: 23					Retake: 95%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	9	18	72	6.6
Explains	0	0	0	4	4	52	39	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	4	13	81	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	4	4	34	56	6.4
Workload	0	0	0	81	9	9	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	82	8	8	0	4.3
Learn Exp	5	5	0	10	15	45	20	5.4

Foran was characterized as a very good instructor who made the class enjoyable. The lectures were well-organized and the instructor presented the material by using slide shows that were extremely helpful.

Most students enjoyed the so called "Friday activities" that were adopted in the 2nd term. Some students felt that the instructor was a hard marker compared to the other 200-level classes.

NMC 270H1F History of Syriac Christianity

Instructor(s): A. Harrak

Enr: 22		Resp: 16					Retake: 93%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	12	56	31	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	0	6	37	56	6.5
Communicates	0	0	0	0	6	6	87	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	43	56	6.6
Workload	0	6	18	56	18	0	0	3.9
Difficulty	0	0	12	81	6	0	0	3.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	15	15	23	46	6.0

Harrak was described as an excellent and enthusiastic instructor who was very passionate about the course material. Some students expressed concerns that the paper was a bit lengthy for a second year course.

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

Instructor(s): M. Simidchieva

Enr: 67		Resp: 38					Retake: 59%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	5	8	25	19	27	11	2	4.0
Explains	2	10	13	24	40	5	2	4.2
Communicates	8	13	10	37	27	0	2	3.7
Teaching	2	8	13	16	33	19	5	4.5
Workload	0	0	0	40	40	13	5	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	40	37	18	2	4.8
Learn Exp	0	4	4	60	20	12	0	4.3

The instructor was described as very informative, however, the 3-hour class, as well as the instructor's lack of enthusiasm, made it difficult for some. The mixed nature of graduate and undergrad students was also a source of complaints.

Students found the course material interesting yet the lectures were difficult to follow.

NMC 278H1F Introduction to the Modern Middle East

Instructor(s): J. Reilly

Enr: 88		Resp: 42					Retake: 94%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	12	12	31	43	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	2	30	30	37	6.0
Communicates	0	0	2	9	31	26	29	5.7
Teaching	0	0	0	7	21	41	29	5.9
Workload	0	2	4	65	14	9	2	4.3
Difficulty	0	2	0	65	26	5	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	10	10	20	33	26	5.6

Reilly was described as a person with a good sense of humour, very knowledgeable and capable. Some students had a problem with the speed of the lectures.

A few students would have appreciated if the instructor had provided handouts and had offered a power point lecture. Although modern, the material lacked readings from the 20th-21st century.

A number of students had problems with writing the exam/paper in the specified time.

NMC 355H1S The Ottoman Empire in the Age of Reform, 1808-1918

Instructor(s): J. Hanssen

Enr: 34		Resp: 18					Retake: 87%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	5	5	16	33	27	11	5.1
Explains	0	5	0	16	16	27	33	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	0	5	38	55	6.5
Teaching	0	5	0	5	5	50	33	5.9
Workload	0	0	0	55	33	5	5	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	50	38	11	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	7	0	21	57	14	5.7

Hanssen was described as a good instructor who was enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the course material. Students mentioned that his lectures were very enjoyable and that he was a fair marker.

The course material was advanced for one with no prerequisite, however, students felt that the course was presented extremely well, although difficult.

NMC 359H1F Iranian Constitutional Revolution

Instructor(s): R. Jahanbegloo

Enr: 30   Resp: 21   Retake: 81%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	4	0	9	14	14	19	38	5.4
Explains	0	5	0	0	5	50	40	6.2
Communicates	0	5	0	0	0	20	75	6.6
Teaching	5	0	0	0	15	25	55	6.2
Workload	0	0	0	47	42	5	5	4.7
Difficulty	0	0	5	47	36	10	0	4.5
Learn Exp	8	0	0	8	16	16	50	5.8

Most students appreciated the instructor's first hand experience with the material. He welcomed comments and questions and encouraged analytical thinking.

Class handouts provided by the instructor were very useful and the course was informative overall.

NMC 359H1F Archaeology of the Biblical World I: The Bronze Age

Instructor(s): T. Harrison

Enr: 21   Resp: 19   Retake: 94%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	5	0	10	47	36	6.1
Explains	0	0	5	0	5	33	55	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	50	33	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	0	11	50	38	6.3
Workload	0	0	0	61	22	16	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	83	5	11	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	61	15	23	5.6

Harrison was described as an instructor with a vast amount of knowledge who was able to effectively communicate the material. Students described his tests as being reflective of what was covered in lectures.

NMC 361H1S The Archaeology of the Biblical World II: The Iron Age

Instructor(s): T. Harrison

Enr: 18   Resp: 16   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	6	6	6	40	40	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	6	6	40	46	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	6	40	53	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	0	6	26	66	6.6
Workload	0	0	0	68	31	0	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	80	13	6	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	25	33	8	33	5.5

Harrison was described as an excellent instructor with a vast amount of knowledge. Students felt that the required reading was heavy, however, they acknowledged its usefulness in the course.

Students described the course as enjoyable, although the material was difficult.

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

Instructor(s): A. Barron

Enr: 12   Resp: 9   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	11	33	55	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	0	11	22	66	6.6
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	11	88	6.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	44	55	6.6

Workload	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	33	22	22	22	5.3

Barron was a helpful instructor who taught her lectures with enthusiasm. Although she lectured at a brisk pace, students mentioned how they found her to be very approachable and that she cared about her students.

The course load was very expansive and tended to move quickly to cover all the bases. Some students mentioned that at times it felt like a survey course.

NMC 365Y1Y Islamic Archaeology

Instructor(s): M. Sadeq

Enr: 13   Resp: 11   Retake: 75%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	9	9	27	54	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	9	9	27	54	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	9	0	27	63	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	18	9	18	54	6.1
Workload	0	0	0	81	9	9	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	81	9	9	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	16	33	0	33	16	5.0

Sadeq was said to be very knowledgeable and enthusiastic. He was a friendly instructor who was always ready to answer questions. Some students had problems with the too many quizzes and tests.

NMC 368H1S Coptic Art & Archaeology

Instructor(s): R. Boutros

Enr: 22   Resp: 17   Retake: 75%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	5	5	17	47	23	5.8
Explains	0	0	5	0	29	47	17	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	11	52	35	6.2
Teaching	0	0	5	0	17	35	41	6.1
Workload	0	0	5	71	17	5	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	5	71	5	17	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	40	13	33	13	5.2

Boutros was classified as a good instructor who was definitely an expert in the field. He was very concerned, helpful and caring about student concerns. He also responded to emails very quickly.

NMC 369Y1Y Archaeological Materials and Industries

Instructor(s): R. Mason

Enr: 22   Resp: 14   Retake: 92%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	7	14	35	14	28	5.4
Explains	0	0	7	7	28	28	28	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	7	0	28	64	6.5
Teaching	7	0	0	0	30	23	38	5.7
Workload	0	0	15	69	7	7	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	84	7	7	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	30	38	7	23	5.2

Mason was generally thought of as a good instructor who made learning fun. Several students argued that he covered a lot of material in slides and yet reviewed them too quickly. Some students complained about the delay in getting their tests back.

NMC 378H1S Themes in Modern Arab History

Instructor(s): J. Reilly

Enr: 49   Resp: 25   Retake: 88%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	4	12	56	28	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	0	16	58	25	6.1
Communicates	0	8	0	0	33	45	12	5.5

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Teaching	0	0	0	0	13	65	21	6.1
Workload	4	0	4	76	8	4	4	4.1
Difficulty	0	4	0	70	16	8	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	11	38	50	0	5.4

Reilly was described as a well-informed and experienced instructor who was enthusiastic and inspiring. He was approachable and available to answer student questions. Some students would have liked to have had more discussion in class. The lectures were described as very well-organized and interesting.

NMC 381H1S Modern Islamic Thought

Instructor(s): A. Mittermaier

Enr: 29   Resp: 16   Retake: 90%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	6	20	40	33	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	14	14	42	28	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	14	35	50	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	7	7	42	42	6.2
Workload	0	0	0	28	42	28	0	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	14	35	28	21	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	12	0	25	25	37	5.8

NMC 384H1F Life Cycle and Personal Status in Judaism

Instructor(s): T. Meacham

Enr: 14   Resp: 13   Retake: 91%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	7	0	0	46	30	15	5.4
Explains	0	0	7	0	15	38	38	6.0
Communicates	0	0	7	0	0	23	69	6.5
Teaching	0	0	7	0	15	38	38	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	76	15	7	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	76	23	0	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	37	25	25	5.6

Meacham was described as a knowledgeable and enthusiastic instructor. Students expressed that they really enjoyed coming to class. In addition, the instructor was said to available for extra assistance and was very understanding of students' needs.

NMC 388H1F Shi'i Islam I

Instructor(s): M. Rustom

Enr: 19   Resp: 11   Retake: 60%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	18	9	0	18	18	36	0	4.2
Explains	0	10	0	20	10	40	20	5.3
Communicates	0	9	0	9	0	27	54	6.0
Teaching	10	0	10	0	30	20	30	5.2
Workload	0	0	0	80	10	10	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	36	18	18	27	5.4
Learn Exp	0	0	25	0	25	12	37	5.4

NMC 389H1S Shi'i Islam II

Instructor(s): M. Rustom

Enr: 14   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	20	30	50	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	10	10	80	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	10	10	80	6.7
Workload	0	0	10	60	20	10	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	20	50	30	0	5.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	6.5

Rustom was described as being extremely knowledgeable on the subject matter ensuring that students were able to understand the difficult material. Students mentioned his ability to discuss complex topics in great depth thus illuminating the subject matter. Students really enjoyed this course.

NMC 487H1F Readings in the Modern History of Arab Societies

Instructor(s): J. Reilly

Enr: 9   Resp: 5   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	20	0	80	0	5.6
Explains	0	0	0	0	40	60	0	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	20	20	40	20	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	20	40	40	6.2
Workload	0	0	0	60	20	20	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	60	40	0	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	50	25	25	5.8

NML 150Y1Y Introductory Biblical Hebrew

Instructor(s): R. Holmstedt; L. Clenman

Enr: 11   Resp: 12   Retake: 91%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Holmstedt:								
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	72	27	6.3
Explains	0	0	9	0	18	27	45	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	36	63	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	9	45	45	6.4
Clenman:								
Presents	0	0	0	0	22	44	33	6.1
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	55	44	6.4
Course:								
Workload	0	0	0	60	20	20	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	40	50	40	0	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	10	10	40	40	6.1

Holmstedt was described as an instructive and enthusiastic instructor. His introduction to the material was very well-received by the students.

Clenman was a very enthusiastic and enjoyable instructor. Students also described her as being more in depth with her lessons as opposed to the first term, however, her marking scheme was at times unclear.

Students felt the course was very engaging, however, some expressed that more required readings would have greatly assisted them in retaining the material.

NML 210Y1Y Introductory Standard Arabic

Instructor(s): N. El-Tahry

Enr: 18   Resp: 12   Retake: 90%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	45	54	6.5
Explains	0	0	0	0	8	8	83	6.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	25	75	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	18	81	6.8
Workload	0	0	0	25	50	16	8	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	41	33	16	8	4.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	12	50	25	5.9

She was described as a very knowledgeable and enthusiastic instructor who loved teaching. She was also very patient when listening to students and answering their questions.

NML 250Y1Y Intermediate Biblical Hebrew

Instructor(s): L. Clenman

Enr: 5   Resp: 5   Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	50	50	0	5.5
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	20	80	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	80	20	6.2
Workload	0	0	0	25	25	25	25	5.5
Difficulty	0	0	0	25	0	50	25	5.8

| Learn Exp | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 75 | 25 | 6.2 |

NML 255Y1Y Intermediate Modern Hebrew

Instructor(s): L. Wiseman

Enr: 5			Resp: 7			Retake: 100%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	42	57	6.6
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	42	57	6.6
Workload	0	0	0	66	33	0	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	83	16	0	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	16	16	66	6.5

Wiseman was an exemplary instructor who was very engaging. She was also described as being enthusiastic and concerned about her students' progress.

The course was well-received by the students who mentioned that although there was a large focus on participation, they wished more attention was paid to vocabulary.

NMC 260Y1Y Introductory Persian

Instructor(s): A. Hojatollah Taleghani

Enr: 26			Resp: 20			Retake: 100%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	5	15	20	60	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	0	15	20	65	6.5
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	10	90	6.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	5	20	75	6.7
Workload	0	0	0	55	27	16	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	11	66	16	5	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	13	13	26	46	6.1

Taleghani was a very enthusiastic and approachable instructor who was able to explain concepts in a clear and easy to understand manner. Students also noted her passion for the subject which made it a much more enjoyable course.

The course was described as being extremely well organized and overall, the students greatly enjoyed it.

NMC 360Y1Y Intermediate Persian

Instructor(s): A. Hojatollah Taleghani

Enr: 22			Resp: 11			Retake: 100%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	9	90	6.9
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	9	90	6.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	9	90	6.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	18	81	6.8
Workload	0	10	10	20	50	10	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	18	54	27	0	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	11	11	66	11	0	4.8

Taleghani was an excellent instructor. Students mentioned how much she cared for her students and put in effort even outside of class time.

Students really enjoyed the course overall.

NML 270Y1Y Intermediate Turkish

Instructor(s): M. Bezikoglu

Enr: 9			Resp: 9			Retake: 85%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	22	11	11	11	22	22	4.7
Explains	0	11	0	0	44	11	33	5.4
Communicates	0	11	0	11	22	22	33	5.4
Teaching	0	11	0	33	0	22	33	5.2
Workload	0	0	0	71	0	28	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	85	0	0	14	4.4
Learn Exp	0	20	0	0	20	40	20	5.2

Students described Bezikoglu as a helpful instructor who always ensured that time was available to his students as needed. However, some students raised concerns that an instructor with a background in language instruction would have been more helpful.

Students mentioned that they enjoyed the course, however, the material utilized in the course was lacking. In addition, some students felt that there was a divide between those with Turkish background and those without.

NML 460Y1Y Classical Persian Literature

Instructor(s): M. Subtelny

Enr: 15			Resp: 8			Retake: 100%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	12	12	50	25	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	0	12	37	50	6.40
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	14	85	6.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	12	87	6.9
Workload	0	0	12	62	0	12	12	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	12	50	12	25	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	33	0	0	66	6.0

Subtelny was an amazing instructor who was a talented lecturer. Students mentioned her vast knowledge as a great asset to the course, as well as her interest and enthusiasm.

Students described the course as a fantastic experience. The only concerns raised were that students wished there had been more class time to cover the material.

NEW: Tuition payment or fees deferral must be made by Wednesday, August 19th!!

NEW: "Virtual Monday" – Wednesday, November 11th – on this day Monday classes will be held; no regularly scheduled Wednesday classes.

NEW: Fall Break – November 12-13 – no classes will be held

NEW: A new limited policy on Late Withdrawal (LWD) is available for students in difficulty. See the Calendar, page 537 for details.

NEW: Students may now take one credit in their degree as Credit/ NoCredit (CR/NCR). See the Calendar, page 537 for details.