# Study of Religion Students' Union



### Introduction

The Study of Religion Students' Union (SRSU) represents all undergrads enrolled in any RLG course. The SRSU organizes seminars and social events throughout the year. To find out more or to get involved with the SRSU, please come by the ASSU office, SS 1068.

Editor

### **RLG 101Y1Y THE PHENOMENON OF RELIGION**

Instructor(s): D. Scully

Enr: 56			Resp	Retake: 63%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	5	2	5	12	32	32	10	5.0
Explains	0	4	2	14	31	36	9	5.2
Communicates	0	0	9	2	31	29	26	5.6
Teaching	0	2	4	7	19	39	26	5.7
Workload	0	2	7	65	14	2	7	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	35	30	21	11	5.1
Learn Exp	4	4	4	21	26	13	26	5.0

Scully was deemed a good instructor overall. He was quite energetic and knowledgeable, and respectful. Students found the material very interesting. However, a few felt tutorials were "awful" and "useless".

### **RLG 201Y1Y ABORIGINAL RELIGION**

Instructor(s): D. Blais

Enr: 32			Resp	R	Retake: 76%			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	7	7	14	25	21	25	5.2
Explains	0	3	7	17	21	32	17	5.2
Communicates	0	0	3	3	14	32	46	6.1
Teaching	0	10	3	7	17	39	21	5.4
Workload	0	0	0	53	32	10	3	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	3	59	29	3	3	4.4
Learn Exp	4	4	4	12	20	25	29	5.3

Students found this course to be a good learning experience. They felt that Blais was a knowledgeable, witty and enthusiastic instructor. A few students however, felt that the expectations with respect to the assignments were not clearly communicated.

## **RLG 202Y1Y THE JEWISH RELIGIOUS TRADITION**

Instructor(s): K. Green

Enr: 44			Resp: 33					Retake: 75%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean	
Presents	0	0	3	33	36	16	10	5.0	
Explains	0	0	3	16	22	38	35	6.0	

Communicates	0	0	0	9	16	38	35	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	9	31	37	21	5.7
Workload	0	3	9	62	21	0	3	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	12	62	18	3	3	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	3	28	25	25	17	5.2

Green was described as engaging and presented lectures clearly.

### **RLG 203Y1Y THE CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS TRADITION**

Instructor(s): A. Lehto

Enr: 58			Resp		Retake: 67%			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	2	2	5	22	31	31	2	4.8
Explains	2	0	5	31	22	31	5	4.9
Communicates	2	0	11	14	34	31	5	4.9
Teaching	2	2	8	8	34	40	2	5.0
Workload	0	0	2	85	8	2	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	11	74	11	2	0	4.1
Learn Exp	3	3	10	33	16	26	6	4.6

Students found the course informative and interesting. Lehto was a knowledgeable and approachable instructor, who made effective use of audiovisual material. Some felt that more feedback on the tests and assignments would have been helpful.

#### **RLG 206Y1Y THE BUDDHIST RELIGIOUS TRADITION**

Instructor(s): F. Garrett

Enr: 87			Resp	Retake: 90%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	5	13	41	40	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	5	20	45	28	6.0
Communicates	0	0	3	6	13	31	45	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	5	10	48	36	6.2
Workload	0	4	8	63	18	4	0	4.1
Difficulty	1	0	11	61	20	3	1	4.2
Learn Exp	0	2	0	21	36	26	13	5.2

Students found Garrett a very effective, organized, enthusiastic and knowledgeable instructor. Many found this an interesting course and thought that the educational and audiovisual aids were extremely helpful. Most found Garrett a very good, reasonable and accommodating instructor who went out of her way to create a positive learning environment.

### RLG 210Y1Y INTRODUCTION TO THE SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

Instructor(s): J. Bryant

Enr: 58	-		Resp	Retake: 80%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	3	0	0	12	24	27	33	5.7
Explains	0	3	0	0	12	36	48	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	18	34	46	6.3
Teaching	0	0	6	0	15	40	37	6.0
Workload	0	3	3	78	6	9	0	4.2
Difficulty	3	0	3	63	24	3	3	4.3
Learn Exp	3	0	3	16	10	23	43	5.7

Bryant was a very good lecturer who was very informative and clearly presented his lectures in an organized manner. Bryant was a very knowledgeable, enthusiastic and articulate instructor.

There were a few complaints that tests and assignments did not reflect the material learned and the marking was harsh and arbitrary.

# RLG 212Y1Y INTRODUCTION TO THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF RELIGION

Instructor(s): G. Gillison

Enr: 56	Resp: 38						Retake: 50%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean	
Presents	8	13	18	13	24	16	5	4.0	
Explains	2	5	5	25	31	22	5	4.7	
Communicates	0	2	5	10	29	29	21	5.4	

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Teaching	2	5	16	22	27	19	5	4.5
Workload	0	0	2	54	32	5	5	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	24	43	10	21	5.3
Learn Exp	9	6	0	29	32	16	6	4.4

Students found the course informative and interesting. However some students felt that the workload was high and that the required readings were very dense. Students found Gillison to be an enthusiastic and extremely knowledgeable instructor. However, some found Gillison unapproachable and unavailable to answer their questions at times.

#### RLG 221H1F RELIGIOUS ETHICS: THE JEWISH TRADITION

Instructor	(2)	D	Novak	<

Enr: 45			Resp	Retake: 80%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	10	20	23	35	10	5.2
Explains	0	0	7	15	28	18	28	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	5	18	43	32	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	7	28	38	25	5.8
Workload	0	0	5	70	15	7	2	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	5	47	22	17	7	4.8
Learn Exp	0	3	3	21	30	30	12	5.2

Novak was very enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the course. Students complained about having one exam worth 50% of the final mark.

### **RLG 236H1S WOMEN AND EASTERN RELIGIONS**

Instructor(s): F. Garrett

Enr: 55			Resp	Retake: 81%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	5	0	7	26	42	18	5.6
Explains	2	2	0	7	30	35	20	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	5	31	36	26	5.8
Teaching	0	2	0	10	12	43	30	5.9
Workload	0	0	8	75	13	2	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	2	84	13	0	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	6	3	20	6	41	20	5.3

Students praised Garrett's use of innovative methods such as blogs for teaching. Although there were a few complaints about the quizzes, most students felt that Garrett was a very good instructor and the course was definitely one worth taking. Some students felt that there should have been a pre-requisite for the course.

## RLG 312H1S FAITH AND REASON: BARTH, OGDEN, RAHNER

Instructor(s): M. Vertin

Enr: 25			Resp	F	Retake: 90%			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	4	4	33	57	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	4	4	47	42	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	38	61	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	57	42	6.4
Workload	0	0	4	52	33	4	4	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	9	28	28	23	9	5.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	5	20	35	40	6.1

Students really enjoyed this course describing it as "enlightening". They appreciated Vertin's high level of enthusiasm and the way he challenged his students intellectually. Seminars were great for discussing the readings.

# **RLG 322H1S EARLY CHRISTIAN GOSPELS**

Instructor(s): J. Kloppenborg

Enr: 21			Resp:	Retake: 93%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	6	46	46	6.4
Explains	0	0	0	0	13	46	40	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	26	20	53	6.3

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Teaching	0	0	0	0	13	33	53	6.4	
Workload	0	0	0	50	18	18	12	4.9	
Difficulty	0	0	0	43	43	12	0	4.7	
Learn Exp	0	0	0	15	38	15	30	5.6	

ASSU ANTI-CALENDAR

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Most students found the instructor to be absolutely fabulous and extremely knowledgeable. Overall, an enjoyable course.

# RLG 341H1F DREAMING OF ZION: EXILE AND RETURN IN JEWISH THOUGHT

Instructor(s): K. Green

Enr: 21			Resp	F	Retake: 82%			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	5	11	29	29	23	5.5
Explains	0	0	5	5	17	52	17	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	1	52	35	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	0	27	41	29	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	76	17	5	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	58	29	11	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	23	23	38	15	5.5

# RLG 343H1S KABBALA: A HISTORY OF MYSTICAL THOUGHT IN JUDAISM

Instructor(s): K. Green

Enr: 19			Resp	R	Retake: 83%			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	5	5	47	31	10	5.4
Explains	0	0	0	21	21	26	31	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	5	31	63	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	5	10	63	21	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	82	17	0	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	0	29	41	29	0	5.0
Learn Exp	0	0	6	26	20	33	13	5.2

Most students loved the course and found it extremely fascinating. A few complained about the hard marking, but still enjoyed the course. Students also felt that the course should have been a full year course.

### **RLG 345H1F SOCIAL ECOLOGY AND JUDAISM**

Instructor(s): H. Fox

Enr: 18		Resp: 11					Retake: 54%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean	
Presents	0	0	0	45	27	27	0	4.8	
Explains	0	0	0	9	36	54	0	5.5	
Communicates	0	0	0	0	45	27	27	5.8	
Teaching	0	0	0	0	45	36	18	5.7	
Workload	0	0	0	81	18	0	0	4.2	
Difficulty	0	0	0	90	9	0	0	4.1	
Learn Exp	0	0	0	44	22	11	22	5.1	

Students liked the instructor's method of teaching and particularly liked his use of presentations and essays instead of tests and exams.

### RLG 346H1F TIME AND PLACE IN JUDAISM

Instructor(s): H. Fox

Enr: 9			Res	R				
	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	16	16	16	33	16	5.2
Explains	0	0	0	16	16	33	33	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	20	0	40	40	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	20	0	60	20	5.8
Workload	0	0	20	80	0	0	0	3.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	60	40	0	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	20	40	40	6.2

Fox was praised for his class discussions and ability to simplify difficult concepts.

#### 210 RELIGION

### RLG 350H1F THE LIFE OF MUHAMMAD

Instructor(s): W. Saleh

Enr: 59	Resp: 41							Retake: 94%		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean		
Presents	0	2	5	10	21	45	13	5.4		
Explains	0	0	0	13	15	34	36	5.9		
Communicates	0	0	0	2	10	26	60	6.4		
Teaching	0	0	2	8	13	35	40	6.0		
Workload	0	0	5	40	17	30	7	4.9		
Difficulty	0	2	0	64	21	8	2	4.4		
Learn Exp	0	0	0	13	31	17	37	5.8		

All students praised Saleh's enthusiasm and extensive knowledge of the subject. However, some students complained that there were too many books and readings required for the course. Overall, a great instructor and course.

### RLG 351H1F THE QUR'AN: AN INTRODUCTION

Instructor(s): W. Saleh

Enr: 49			Resp	Retake: 97%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	2	12	20	35	30	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	5	12	23	58	6.4
Communicates	0	0	0	0	5	12	82	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	5	12	32	50	6.3
Workload	0	0	2	72	15	7	2	4.3
Difficulty	2	5	2	66	17	5	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	14	21	14	50	6.0

Students found Saleh to be a very passionate and enthusiastic instructor. He was very knowledgeable and attentive to students' needs. His ability to inspire the students to be interested in the material made this class a joy to attend.

### RLG 366H1S CLASSICAL HINDU PHILOSOPHY

Instructor(s): D. Miller

Enr: 47			Resp	Retake: 90%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	4	25	41	25	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	8	33	37	20	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	29	54	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	0	20	54	25	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	66	25	8	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	4	29	50	16	0	4.8
Learn Exp	0	0	5	23	23	29	17	5.3

Miller was a very good instructor who brought a lot of enthusiasm into the classroom, and was helpful.

Students would recommend both Miller and the course to others.

# RLG 371H1S BUDDHISM IN EAST ASIA

Instructor(s): F. Garrett

Enr: 34			Resp	Retake: 100%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	18	33	48	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	3	23	26	46	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	3	11	25	59	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	0	11	23	65	6.5
Workload	0	0	0	42	34	7	15	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	59	22	7	11	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	11	11	27	50	6.2

Students really enjoyed the blogging experience (online journal) and thought it was innovative and unique. Garrett was described as a "phenomenal" teacher who was very attentive to her students' needs.

### **RLG 386Y1Y RELIGIONS OF NON-LITERATE SOCIETIES**

Instructor(s): G. Gillison

Enr: 11			Resp	Retake: 72%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	18	0	0	36	0	18	27	4.6
Explains	9	0	9	18	18	27	18	4.9
Communicates	9	0	0	18	9	27	36	5.5
Teaching	18	0	0	18	9	45	9	4.7
Workload	0	0	9	63	18	0	9	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	72	0	18	9	4.6
Learn Exp	22	0	0	22	22	33	0	4.2

Students were divided on the course and the instructor. Most commented that she was a good lecturer as she explained concepts well and presented analytical views on the material read in class. A few stated that the course wasn't a good experience because the instructor was a little intimidating and unapproachable at times.

## **RLG 389H1S INTRODUCTION TO RABBINIC JUDAISM**

Instructor(s): R. Kimmelman

Enr: 12	Resp: 12						Retake: 100%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	33	66	6.7
Explains	0	0	0	11	0	22	66	6.4
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Teaching	0	0	11	0	22	33	33	5.8
Workload	0	0	0	66	11	11	11	4.7
Difficulty	0	0	0	55	22	11	11	4.8
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	0	57	42	6.4

Kimmelman provided fascinating lectures. He was enthusiastic and engaging.

# RLG 445H1S RELIGIONS WEST III: THE MORAL MEANING OF THE BIBLE AND ITS HISTORY AND INTERPRETATION

Instructor(s): R. Kimmelman

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Enr: 17			Resp	Retake: 92%				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	7	7	30	53	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	0	7	30	61	6.5
Communicates	0	0	0	0	7	21	71	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	14	0	35	50	6.2
Workload	0	0	7	50	35	0	7	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	0	28	28	28	14	5.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	9	36	54	6.5

Kimmelman was "exciting" and "brilliant". He provided intellectually stimulating lectures and as approachable. His analysis of the bible was interesting. His high energy was a bit intimidating but students felt motivated to learn. This was certainly an enjoyable course.

### RLG 467H1F CHRISTIAN ORIGINS III (PARABLES OF JESUS)

Instructor(s): J. Kloppenborg

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Enr: 8		Resp: 8					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	14	85	6.9	
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	16	83	6.8	
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	14	85	6.9	
Workload	0	0	0	0	71	14	14	5.4	
Difficulty	0	0	0	42	28	14	14	5.0	
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7	

Students found Kloppenborg to be very helpful and organized, and always available for consultation. Students thought the course was a fantastic learning experience.