

**AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES**



**Introduction**

ASSU would like to thank the staff and faculty of the American Studies Program for the assistance in providing the following evaluations.

Editor

**USA 300Y1Y Thinking about the U.S. A.**

Instructor(s): R. Halpern; C. Berkowitz

Enr: 19 Resp: 14 Retake: 92%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Berkowitz:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	14	21	21	42	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	7	14	50	28	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	14	35	50	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	7	14	28	50	6.2
<b>Halpern:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	14	21	28	35	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	7	28	42	21	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	14	35	50	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	7	15	23	53	6.2
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	0	0	21	28	42	7	5.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	64	21	14	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	16	33	8	41	5.8

Many students stated how much they loved the course and enjoyed the instructors' teaching. Both Halpern and Berkowitz were very enthusiastic and passionate about the subject at hand. Students appreciated their seminar-style approach to the course.

However, some found the amount of reading to be "substantial".

Instructor(s): R. Halpern; C. Berkowitz

Enr: 16 Resp: 16 Retake: 93%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Halpern:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	18	18	18	43	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	6	18	37	37	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	18	81	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	12	25	62	6.5
<b>Berkowitz:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	13	20	26	40	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	6	20	40	33	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	26	6	66	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	0	20	33	46	6.3
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	0	12	18	25	37	6	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	18	56	25	0	5.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	7	7	30	53	6.3

Students loved the seminar format of the course which allowed for critical thought and class discussions. While challenging, the course was very engaging, fun and informative. Students appreciated the use of different mediums to learn about the topics. However, there were many books to buy and a lot reading.

Both instructors were terrific - passionate, friendly, knowledgeable and enthusiastic.

Instructor(s): R. Halpern; C. Berkowitz

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Enr: 19 Resp: 16 Retake: 93%</b>								
<b>Halpern:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	0	6	53	40	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	6	6	56	31	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	37	62	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	53	46	6.5
<b>Berkowitz:</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	0	7	64	28	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	6	20	46	26	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	46	53	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	57	42	6.4
<b>Course:</b>								
Workload	0	6	0	6	43	25	18	5.4
Difficulty	0	6	0	31	43	12	6	4.8
Learn Exp	0	0	0	7	23	53	15	5.8

Overall, "an engaging and incredibly informative" seminar which was highly enjoyable and a great learning experience. One common complaint was the heavy reading load.

Halpern and Berkowitz were engaging instructors and did a wonderful job.

**USA 400H1F Hell Hound on My Trail: Living the Blues in the Mississippi Delta, 1890-1945**

Instructor(s): P. Castagneto

Enr: 14 Resp: 11 Retake: 72%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Enr: 14 Resp: 11 Retake: 72%</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	27	36	18	18	5.3
Explains	0	0	9	18	45	9	18	5.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	18	36	45	6.3
Teaching	0	0	10	30	40	20	0	4.7
Workload	0	9	0	72	18	0	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	0	18	72	9	0	0	3.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	62	12	12	5.2

Students appreciated Castagneto's enthusiasm and love for the "Blues". Students described the course as very interesting and enjoyed the multi-disciplinary approach.

However, there were a few negative comments: 1) students did not get assignments back and 2) students were not given a chance to engage in discussions in this seminar course. Students attributed this to the fact that Castagneto was unfamiliar with the North American university system.

**USA 401H1S America in the Canadian Mind**

Instructor(s): M. Farish

Enr: 14 Resp: 9 Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
<b>Enr: 14 Resp: 9 Retake: 100%</b>								
Presents	0	0	0	0	33	22	44	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	11	33	11	44	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	33	22	44	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	0	33	11	55	6.2
Workload	0	0	0	87	12	0	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	12	87	0	0	0	3.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	50	12	25	5.5

Students thought Farish did a good job and they really enjoyed the class discussions which were informative and interesting.