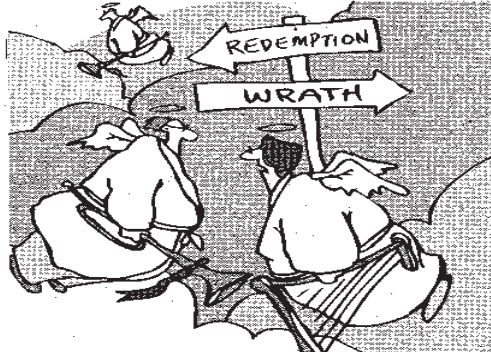


Study of Religion Students' Union

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"Don't go there."

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 100Y1Y World Religions

Instructor(s): W. Saleh

	Resp: 89							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	14	9	24	30	21	5.4
Explains	0	0	1	16	23	28	29	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	5	7	40	46	6.3
Teaching	0	0	2	11	15	33	37	5.9
Workload	0	0	1	66	25	3	3	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	9	67	16	2	3	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	28	29	15	26	5.4

Students thought Saleh was generally organized and knowledgeable, although there were some religions that he clearly knew better than others. The readings were highly relevant and enjoyable. However, there were complaints about insufficient comments on graded material.

RLG 101Y1Y The Phenomenon of Religion

Instructor(s): D. Perley

	Resp: 50							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	2	4	18	28	18	28	0	4.4
Explains	2	2	12	34	28	18	2	4.5
Communicates	4	10	12	22	33	10	6	4.3
Teaching	2	4	8	16	35	27	6	4.9
Workload	0	0	2	72	18	8	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	48	30	18	4	4.8
Learn Exp	5	2	12	53	7	12	5	4.2

Some students thought the amount of reading for this course was too much, given that it was a 100-level course. Also, the lectures tended to focus on the readings, and many students expressed that they would have liked to see more deviation in lectures. However, most students felt that Perley was genuinely concerned for the students, and that he would carefully attend to individual questions. Some students wanted more in-class discussion.

RLG 201Y1Y Aboriginal Religion

Instructor(s): D. Blais

	Resp: 33							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	3	9	36	30	21	5.6
Explains	3	0	0	6	42	33	15	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	0	15	27	57	6.4
Teaching	0	0	6	6	18	24	45	6.0
Workload	0	3	3	36	24	21	0	4.5
Difficulty	3	0	0	57	18	21	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	18	25	14	40	5.8

Most students believed that the instructor was enthusiastic, well spoken, and knowledgeable. In general, the course material was said to have been highly valuable.

RLG 202Y1Y The Jewish Religious Tradition

Instructor(s): K. Green

	Resp: 32							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	6	3	19	22	25	22	5.3
Explains	0	0	0	20	26	20	33	5.7
Communicates	0	0	3	6	20	33	36	5.9
Teaching	0	0	3	6	19	35	35	5.9
Workload	0	6	0	70	9	9	3	4.3
Difficulty	0	3	3	61	25	6	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	4	8	24	12	40	12	5.1

The instructor was very enthusiastic and knowledgeable. Questions were encouraged and thoroughly answered. Due to the amount of material, tutorials were recommended.

RLG 204Y1Y The Islamic Religious Tradition

Instructor(s): W. Saleh

	Resp: 55							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	1	3	7	25	25	18	16	4.9
Explains	0	0	3	11	35	35	13	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	1	16	38	42	6.2
Teaching	0	1	0	16	26	32	22	5.5
Workload	0	0	0	28	30	19	21	5.3
Difficulty	0	0	3	41	24	16	13	4.9
Learn Exp	0	0	2	27	24	29	16	5.3

Saleh was very knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and often times humorous. His choice of T.A.'s was highly criticized due to their lack of feedback in grading. Some students thought that the instructor made a few assumptions regarding the level of prior knowledge in Islam. There was a general consensus that the course was very intensive, tough, extremely challenging and highly interesting.

RLG 206Y1Y The Buddhist Religious Tradition

Instructor(s): F. Garrett

	Resp: 83							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	1	16	40	40	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	1	9	38	50	6.4
Communicates	0	0	0	3	4	25	65	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	0	8	34	57	6.5
Workload	0	2	10	68	12	6	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	3	12	69	11	3	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	10	26	29	33	5.9

Garrett was caring, engaging, and enthusiastic by all accounts. Students thought that he attended to student questions thoughtfully. Some thought the tutorials were not useful, and that more feedback on mini-essays would have been helpful.

RLG 210Y1Y Introduction to the Sociology of Religion

Instructor(s): M. Chapman

	Enr: 105 Resp: 55 Retake: 73%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	1	0	1	0	9	53	33	6.1
Explains	0	3	0	3	14	57	20	5.8
Communicates	0	0	1	1	12	53	29	6.1
Teaching	0	0	1	1	14	62	18	5.9
Workload	0	0	0	71	22	1	3	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	69	22	5	1	4.4
Learn Exp	2	0	7	28	26	23	11	5.0

Chapman was a good instructor. He presented the material thoroughly and clearly, using excellent examples to explain the concepts. The website was acclaimed as a useful tool.

RLG 220H1F Philosophical Responses to the Holocaust

Instructor(s): D. Novak

	Enr: 60 Resp: 44 Retake: 88%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	2	11	23	39	23	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	4	27	32	34	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	13	31	54	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	2	19	40	38	6.1
Workload	0	2	11	69	16	0	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	2	2	62	25	4	2	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	14	31	28	25	5.7

Novak was helpful and very approachable. He led the class discussions in an interesting manner, and effectively explained the material. He was very knowledgeable of the subject matter and was passionate in conveying his knowledge.

RLG 232HIS Religion and Film

Instructor(s): T. Michael; K. Derry

	Enr: 127 Resp: 27 Retake: 92%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
<u>Michael:</u>								
Presents	0	0	3	3	25	37	29	5.9
Explains	0	0	3	0	14	40	40	6.1
Communicates	0	0	3	0	3	11	81	6.7
Teaching	0	0	3	3	11	37	44	6.1
<u>Derry:</u>								
Presents	0	0	4	0	25	37	33	6.0
Explains	0	0	4	0	12	41	41	6.2
Communicates	0	0	4	0	8	16	70	6.5
Teaching	0	0	4	4	12	33	45	6.1
<u>Course:</u>								
Workload	0	0	12	80	8	0	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	0	11	53	34	0	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	5	22	22	22	27	5.4

Students enjoyed the enthusiasm displayed by both instructors that was apparent in their teaching. Students felt that the course would have benefited by having someone to handle the audiovisual equipment in order to minimize time-consuming technical difficulties. Overall, the material was very engaging.

RLG 239H1S Jewish and Christian Polemics

Instructor(s): D. Novak

	Enr: 47 Resp: 29 Retake: 89%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	7	3	25	25	39	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	7	21	32	39	6.0
Communicates	0	3	0	3	7	22	62	6.3
Teaching	0	0	0	0	17	39	42	6.2
Workload	0	0	14	71	7	3	3	4.1

Difficulty	0	3	3	37	44	6	3	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	3	15	11	38	30	5.8

This course was engaging and the material presented was interesting. Students enjoyed Novak's lecture style and found him to be knowledgeable and thoughtful.

RLG 241Y1Y Early Christian Writings I

Instructor(s): A. Damm

	Enr: 64 Resp: 48 Retake: 95%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	6	29	64	6.6
Explains	0	0	0	0	12	31	56	6.4
Communicates	0	0	0	2	16	31	50	6.3
Teaching	0	0	0	2	4	36	57	6.5
Workload	0	0	4	77	14	4	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	10	75	12	2	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	20	28	20	30	5.6

The material that comprised this course was interesting and well-organized, and the lectures were clear and detailed. Students felt that concepts were explained thoroughly, and they were impressed with the instructor's efforts to make himself available for consultation, even outside of office hours. Work was graded fairly and returned with helpful comments.

RLG 271H1F Chinese Religions

Instructor(s): Y. Lu

	Enr: 52 Resp: 39 Retake: 67%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	2	2	10	23	36	20	0	4.6
Explains	0	0	12	17	38	25	2	4.8
Communicates	2	0	5	23	35	25	7	5.0
Teaching	0	8	5	18	35	29	2	4.8
Workload	0	10	13	71	5	0	0	3.7
Difficulty	0	10	10	76	2	0	0	3.7
Learn Exp	3	6	10	34	31	13	0	4.2

Students enjoyed learning the historical concepts and beliefs of Chinese religions. Lu was enthusiastic and passionate about the material. He was also a fun lecturer. Some complained that the essay and test expectations were not clearly stated.

RLG 275H1S Japanese and Korean Religions

Instructor(s): Y. Chang

	Enr: 53 Resp: 42 Retake: 60%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	2	12	24	29	14	12	4	4.0
Explains	0	7	17	46	17	9	2	4.1
Communicates	0	0	2	9	34	36	17	5.6
Teaching	0	2	5	44	21	21	5	4.7
Workload	0	4	11	71	11	0	0	3.9
Difficulty	0	2	9	73	14	0	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	6	61	16	12	3	4.5

While the instructor's enthusiasm toward the topic was apparent to the students, most felt that the lectures were difficult to follow. Students also felt that too much of the course material was devoted to history. However, the instructor was helpful in answering individual questions.

RLG 280Y1Y World Religions: A Comparative Study

Instructor(s): W. Saleh

	Enr: 41 Resp: 23 Retake: 81%							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	8	0	4	26	34	17	8	4.7
Explains	0	8	4	4	39	26	17	5.2
Communicates	0	0	0	8	8	43	39	6.1
Teaching	0	0	8	8	30	34	17	5.4

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Workload	0	0	13	69	13	0	4	4.1
Difficulty	0	4	8	65	17	4	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	33	38	11	16	5.1

Students enjoyed Saleh's enthusiasm and appreciated the clear and concise explanations he offered in lectures. The material presented in lectures were interesting. One concern shared by the students was inadequate feedback on tests marked by a T.A.

RLG 301H1F Sigmund Freud on Religion

Instructor(s): K. Haartman

Enr: 34	Resp: 28							Retake: 92%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	7	10	46	35	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	0	14	39	46	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	0	14	42	42	6.3
Workload	0	0	7	78	10	3	0	4.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	70	22	3	3	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	12	33	29	25	5.7

Students generally agreed that Haartman was an outstanding lecturer. He was genuinely interested in teaching—it showed in the way he handled the course. He used several examples to explain concepts clearly, injected a lot of humour, was open to questions and always available for help. Students definitely recommended taking the course.

RLG 302H1S Carl Jung's Theory of Religion

Instructor(s): K. Haartman

Enr: 30	Resp: 30							Retake: 85%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	4	36	40	20	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	4	32	44	20	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	44	40	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	4	16	60	20	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	60	21	17	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	52	34	8	4	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	14	42	35	7	5.4

Haartman was very enthusiastic, articulate, and engaging. His casual lecturing style was appreciated by most students. There was a lot of class discussion and encouragement to ask questions. Although the loose structure on essays was appreciated, many students believed that having solely two assignments led to an uneven distribution of marks. Overall, it was an exceptional course. Many students thanked the instructor for their academic experience.

RLG 314H1F Gender Issues in Religion

Instructor(s): L. Zwissler

Enr: 57	Resp: 38							Retake: 63%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	10	21	26	31	10	5.1
Explains	0	0	0	21	28	31	18	5.5
Communicates	0	0	2	2	18	32	43	6.1
Teaching	0	0	5	18	18	27	29	5.6
Workload	0	0	2	57	34	5	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	73	18	7	0	4.3
Learn Exp	3	3	10	35	3	21	21	4.8

Zwissler was deemed as an inspiring, enjoyable and fun instructor. She "tried to engage her students in discussions and was open to their varying opinions." She was always helpful with any concerns or questions students might have. She also encouraged critical thinking, which students found very valuable. Some commented on the amount of readings saying it was heavy at times and didn't really relate to lectures. Others were concerned about the lack of evaluations—no participation marks, no tests—so some students felt there was no need to attend classes.

RLG 323H1F Jesus of Nazareth

Instructor(s): S. Brown

Enr: 29	Resp: 20							Retake: 78%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	10	15	26	36	10	5.2
Explains	0	0	0	21	26	42	10	5.4
Communicates	0	5	11	22	16	33	11	4.9
Teaching	5	0	5	15	21	42	10	5.2
Workload	0	0	5	75	15	5	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	5	73	21	0	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	5	0	50	16	11	16	4.8

Students thought that the course was engaging and fun. Brown was a good instructor; his lectures were insightful and clear. The course material was interesting and "did not present a biased portrayal of the reconstruction of Jesus of Nazareth." Brown also ensured that the class paid attention to various sources so as to present different perspectives. He was helpful in answering students' questions.

RLG 324H1S Paul of Tarsus

Instructor(s): D. Froese

Enr: 28	Resp: 21							Retake: 66%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	9	33	28	23	4	4.8
Explains	0	0	10	25	25	35	5	5.0
Communicates	0	0	0	28	14	47	9	5.4
Teaching	0	0	9	19	33	38	0	5.0
Workload	0	0	4	71	19	4	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	9	71	14	4	0	4.1
Learn Exp	0	0	11	44	16	22	5	4.7

Students found the material presented by Froese to be interesting, but that the presentation of the material could be a little disorganized at times. A clear outline of the course material would have been appreciated. Many students thought that parts of the midterm test did not reflect material presented in class.

RLG 330H1F God and Evil

Instructor(s): M. Vertin

Enr: 32	Resp: 27							Retake: 96%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	7	19	38	34	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	0	46	23	30	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	7	30	61	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	0	12	44	44	6.3
Workload	0	0	7	66	22	3	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	0	29	48	22	0	4.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	20	20	35	25	5.7

Students agreed that this course was excellent in many areas. It was well-organized, the lectures were "enriching and presented in a concise and clear manner," and "the hand-outs provided in class were very helpful." Vertin was an awesome instructor. He was attentive to students' needs and was always providing constructive feedback. He was passionate and knowledgeable about the material. Students felt comfortable expressing their opinions during seminars because he was "very open to discussing ideas and was supportive and respectful of the discourse."

RLG 334H1F World History of Modern Christianity, 1770s-1914

Instructor(s): M. McIntire

Enr: 46	Resp: 32							Retake: 72%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	3	18	34	37	6	5.2
Explains	0	0	6	9	31	37	15	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	6	21	37	34	6.0
Teaching	0	0	3	12	21	34	28	6.0
Workload	0	6	25	61	3	3	0	3.7
Difficulty	3	0	12	68	6	9	0	4.0

Learn Exp 0 4 4 42 28 19 0 4.5

RLG 340Y1Y Classical Jewish Theology

Instructor(s): H. Fox

Enr: 8 Resp: 5 Retake: 75%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	40	40	20	0	4.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	40	60	0	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	0	40	40	20	5.8
Teaching	0	0	0	20	40	40	0	5.2
Workload	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	60	20	20	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	40	0	60	0	5.2

Students appreciated that Fox was available for individual consultation. However, they expressed a desire for a clearer outline of expectations for both the course as a whole and the assignments.

RLG 342Y1Y Judaism in the Modern Age

Instructor(s): K. Green

Enr: 7 Resp: 7 Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	6.5
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	16	83	6.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	16	83	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	57	42	6.4
Workload	0	14	0	71	0	14	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	57	28	14	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	50	16	33	5.8

Students found the instructor to be very enthusiastic, and were thoroughly engaged by Green's presentation of the course material. The instruction and the material itself were greatly enjoyed by the students, all of whom would take the course again!

RLG 344Y1Y Antisemitism

Instructor(s): D. Dixon

Enr: 22 Resp: 17 Retake: 93%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	11	17	29	41	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	5	17	58	17	5.9
Communicates	0	0	5	11	47	23	11	5.2
Teaching	0	0	0	5	5	52	35	6.2
Workload	0	5	5	88	0	0	0	3.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	76	23	0	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	25	8	25	41	5.8

Students thought that the material presented in this course was not only interesting and thought-provoking, but also important. The clarity and organization of the lecture material was appreciated, as was the clarity of the course expectations. Dixon was knowledgeable and approachable, and carefully attended to students' questions. Many students mentioned that this course was worthy of becoming an annually-offered course.

RLG 372H1F Tibetan Buddhism

Instructor(s): F. Garrett

Enr: 40 Resp: 35 Retake: 93%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	3	18	39	39	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	0	20	35	44	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	12	28	59	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	0	12	42	45	6.3
Workload	0	0	0	53	25	12	9	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	60	33	3	3	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	8	36	20	36	5.8

Many students thought Garret was one of the best instructors they've had at U of T. She was very approachable, understanding, passionate

and knowledgeable. Her lectures were clear and enlightening. The reading material was heavy at times. However, the course was highly recommended.

RLG 386Y1Y Religions of Non-Literate Societies

Instructor(s): G. Gillison

Enr: 7 Resp: 7 Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	42	14	42	6.0
Explains	0	0	14	0	14	28	42	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	14	14	0	71	6.3
Workload	0	0	0	28	57	14	0	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	0	0	42	42	14	5.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	33	16	50	6.2

Students found Gillison's approach to the material presented to be refreshing, and found the instructor to be very engaging. The material was quite challenging, but the educational experience was rewarding.

RLG 389H1S Islam in the Americas

Instructor(s): M. Jiwa

Enr: 13 Resp: 9 Retake: 88%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	12	25	37	25	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	44	55	6.6
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	33	66	6.7
Workload	0	0	0	22	44	33	0	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	66	33	0	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	12	0	0	25	62	6.2

This course provided a thorough exploration of the topic, which was approached from various viewpoints. Students thought that the instructor demonstrated a genuine concern for the academic development of students. The required readings were highly valued by the students, but it would have been preferred if the readings were compiled into a course reader.

RLG 452H1F The Death of Jesus

Instructor(s): J. Kloppenborg

Enr: 5 Resp: 6 Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	6.5
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	16	83	6.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	20	80	6.8
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	6.5
Workload	0	0	0	80	0	20	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	60	40	0	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	0	66	33	6.3

RLG 464H1S History and Historiography of Buddhism

Instructor(s): F. Garrett

Enr: 8 Resp: 7 Retake: 100%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	16	16	66	6.5
Explains	0	0	0	0	28	28	42	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	14	85	6.9
Workload	0	0	0	0	0	42	57	6.5
Difficulty	0	0	0	0	0	42	57	6.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	6.5

Overall, students found this course to be both challenging and highly rewarding. The instructor was enthusiastic, organized, fair, and helpful, which was greatly appreciated by the students—all of whom would take the course again.