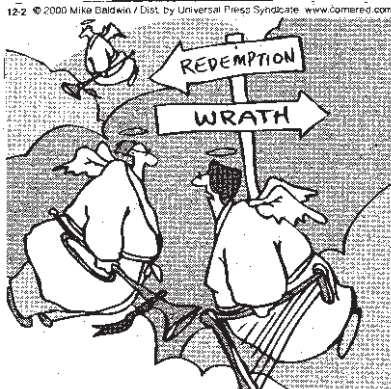


Study of Religion Students' Union



"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/280Y1Y World Religions

Instructor(s): D. Perley

Enr: 222	Resp: 106							Retake: 81%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	1	7	19	22	38	9	5.2
Explains	0	0	4	15	39	24	16	5.3
Communicates	0	4	9	23	29	23	8	4.8
Teaching	0	0	1	17	30	32	16	5.4
Workload	0	2	3	71	14	3	1	4.2
Difficulty	0	3	10	65	13	4	1	4.1
Learn Exp	0	2	4	38	28	17	8	4.8

Perley effectively delivered his lectures with the use of excellent power-point presentations. He covered a wide range of religious traditions and connected them thematically. Many commented that class discussions were valuable and managed well even though the class size was big. Some complained that TAs marked the essays harshly with not much feedback on them. The value of the tutorials was very low because the TAs were not well-versed about different religions.

Overall, the course was enjoyable.

RLG 200Y1Y The Phenomenon of Religion

Instructor(s): T. Juric

Enr: 76	Resp: 30							Retake: 50%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	22	25	33	18	0	4.5
Explains	3	3	18	29	29	14	0	4.2
Communicates	0	3	7	7	37	25	18	5.3
Teaching	3	3	3	21	32	32	3	4.9
Workload	0	0	0	53	30	7	7	4.7
Difficulty	0	0	3	29	37	22	7	5.0
Learn Exp	4	0	9	38	23	19	4	4.5

Juric's lectures were interesting, full of enthusiasm and insightful. However, she spoke too quickly and went off topic frequently. She organized the material well, but assigned too many readings. The concepts were too philosophical or abstract making them a bit hard to digest.

RLG 202Y1Y The Jewish Religious Tradition

Instructor(s): K. Green

Enr: 38	Resp: 24							Retake: 89%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	13	18	27	36	5.8
Explains	0	0	9	4	4	47	33	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	4	4	36	54	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	9	0	57	33	6.1
Workload	0	9	19	66	4	0	0	3.7
Difficulty	4	0	14	61	9	9	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	16	22	38	22	5.7

Green was extremely knowledgeable about the material and answered questions thoroughly. His lectures were exciting, insightful, clear and organized, though he spoke too quickly at times. Many students found the material fascinating, and a few thought that the readings were not that valuable.

RLG 204717 The Islamic Religious Tradition

Instructor(s): W. Saleh

Enr: 83	Resp: 49							Retake: 90%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	2	13	24	33	26	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	2	20	31	46	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	6	24	68	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	4	25	25	44	6.1
Workload	0	2	4	55	22	13	2	4.5
Difficulty	0	2	6	60	20	8	2	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	17	28	28	25	5.6

Saleh made challenging material easy to understand. He was engaging and very enjoyable to listen to. He explained concepts clearly with sufficient examples. Several students had problems with the unfair marking of assignments and tests.

RLG 206Y1Y The Buddhist Religious Tradition

Instructor(s): F. Garrett

Enr: 99	Resp: 51							Retake: 80%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	22	34	34	6	5.2
Explains	0	0	0	24	28	24	24	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	6	32	32	30	5.9
Teaching	2	0	0	10	28	38	22	5.6
Workload	0	2	10	64	14	8	2	4.2
Difficulty	0	4	6	72	10	8	0	4.1
Learn Exp	2	5	2	28	23	20	17	5.0

Garrett was attentive to students' needs, approachable and friendly. Many enjoyed the main project from the course: going to a Buddhist temple, mapping it and creating a website for it. Some commented that the course was disorganized, but this may be due to its newness in the program. The readings were not applicable to the term work or lectures, but interesting and informative.

RLG 210Y1Y Introduction to the Sociology of Religion

Instructor(s): I. Zeitlin

Enr: 72	Resp: 41							Retake: 63%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	12	20	32	20	10	5	4.1
Explains	0	7	15	20	35	15	7	4.6
Communicates	0	2	2	15	10	42	27	5.7
Teaching	0	2	5	35	20	27	10	4.9
Workload	0	2	5	67	20	2	2	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	5	62	30	2	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	3	16	35	32	9	3	4.4

Zeitlin was enthusiastic about the material, but his lectures "lacked structure". Some students thought he was not welcoming of questions and went off on tangents several times without finishing his previous

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thoughts. Some students found him "inspiring" and challenging. A few commented that they found the readings biased, and wished other textbooks were employed.

RLG 211Y1Y Introduction to the Psychology of Religion

Instructor(s): W. Wahl

	Resp: 64							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	4	3	19	40	20	11	5.0
Explains	1	3	4	19	32	26	11	5.0
Communicates	1	1	9	32	22	20	11	4.8
Teaching	1	0	3	20	24	35	14	5.3
Workload	0	3	4	77	8	4	1	4.1
Difficulty	0	1	0	48	32	12	4	4.7
Learn Exp	4	10	10	36	16	16	6	4.2

Wahl spoke monotonously, but was clear when explaining concepts. The material was difficult - very philosophical and confusing at times. Some students were happy that there were 4 essays and no test, while a few would have preferred tests. Some commented that the instructor did not use the full 2 hours of lecture time, thus did not cover more material in-depth. A few thought that the marking of the essays seemed arbitrary.

RLG 212Y1Y Introduction to the Anthropology of Religion

Instructor(s): M. Ostling

	Resp: 31							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	3	10	20	31	34	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	16	10	43	30	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	10	10	53	26	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	6	24	31	37	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	53	26	6	13	4.8
Difficulty	0	3	0	26	40	16	13	5.1
Learn Exp	0	0	10	30	20	35	5	4.9

Ostling was very approachable, organized, enthusiastic about the material and genuinely caring towards students. He was always available for questions or help. His lectures were insightful, informative and delivered with great clarity. The tutorials aided in understanding complex concepts. There was a lot of examples from many anthropological perspectives, and the course almost sounded very philosophical.

RLG 250H1F Islam in the Modern World

Instructor(s): H. Khimjee

	Resp: 47							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	2	0	8	21	19	19	29	5.3
Explains	2	2	6	10	21	21	36	5.6
Communicates	2	0	2	12	17	23	42	5.8
Teaching	2	2	0	10	21	25	38	5.8
Workload	0	8	2	55	19	6	8	4.4
Difficulty	0	4	6	57	12	10	8	4.4
Learn Exp	5	2	0	14	8	23	44	5.6

Students generally enjoyed this course. Khimjee showed genuine interest in what he was teaching. He was very knowledgeable and was always available for student concerns and questions. Some students thought that handouts or lecture slides would have been helpful.

RLG 260Y1Y Introduction to Sanskrit

Instructor(s): L. Mills

	Resp: 12							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	0	16	83	6.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	25	75	6.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	8	91	6.9
Workload	0	0	8	25	50	16	0	4.8

Difficulty	0	0	0	25	25	41	8	5.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	9	27	63	6.5

"Mills was an unusually helpful and dedicated instructor". She was extremely enthusiastic about the course, which transferred well to students. The material was language based, making it more complex - Mills' patience, clarity and constant words of encouragement helped students absorb the concepts effectively.

RLG 275H1S Japanese and Korean Religions

Instructor(s): J. Ahn

	Resp: 46							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	2	0	4	15	39	28	10	5.2
Explains	0	2	2	8	30	39	17	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	2	6	34	56	6.5
Teaching	0	0	2	2	15	54	26	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	43	43	8	4	4.7
Difficulty	0	0	4	67	26	2	0	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	23	23	23	20	5.4

Ahn seemed to enjoy teaching and the material very much. "He presented high analytical thinking and critical reviews of the material." His presentations were sometimes disorganized, but engaging. He was very approachable, helpful and genuinely concerned about students' learning. Many loved the numerous short papers and could do with fewer quizzes. The former gave them ample opportunities to express what they learned in class. Ahn's personal experience as an example, enhanced the material.

RLG 280Y1Y World Religions - see RLG 100Y1Y

RLG 301H1F Sigmund Freud on Religion

Instructor(s): B. Carter

	Resp: 23							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	8	8	4	39	26	13	5.0
Explains	0	0	4	17	21	43	13	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	4	4	45	45	6.3
Teaching	0	4	0	4	26	43	21	5.7
Workload	0	0	13	60	21	0	4	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	0	60	30	4	4	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	13	20	26	20	20	5.1

Carter was a very enthusiastic and engaging instructor who brought humour to the class. Many students enjoyed his lectures very much, and he was also very approachable. A few thought that his lectures were a little disorganized at times.

RLG 302H1S Carl Jung's Theory of Religion

Instructor(s): K. Haartman

	Resp: 34							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	3	3	29	41	22	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	21	45	33	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	3	3	33	60	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	3	12	56	28	6.1
Workload	0	0	3	70	23	3	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	66	20	13	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	29	25	25	20	5.4

Haartman showed great enthusiasm for the course material - very infectious. He was willing to discuss the material outside of class, and made difficult concepts easily understandable. More guidance and clearer instruction on the papers could have been given.

RLG 323H1F Jesus of Nazareth

Instructor(s): A. Droge

	Resp: 36							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	2	11	25	36	25	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	8	2	41	27	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	0	5	25	68	6.6
Teaching	0	0	0	8	16	30	44	6.1
Workload	2	0	2	69	11	11	2	4.3
Difficulty	0	2	0	72	13	5	5	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	31	15	28	25	5.5

Droge was a very good instructor who was very enthusiastic and passionate about his course. He made the lectures enjoyable and interesting.

RLG 324H1S Paul of Tarsus

Instructor(s): A. Damm

	Resp: 37							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	10	18	27	43	6.0
Explains	0	0	2	10	18	35	32	5.8
Communicates	0	0	5	13	29	13	37	5.6
Teaching	2	0	0	10	21	35	29	5.7
Workload	2	0	8	75	8	2	2	4.1
Difficulty	2	0	8	75	5	2	5	4.1
Learn Exp	3	0	6	51	12	3	22	4.7

Damm was friendly, enthusiastic about teaching, well-organized and always available for consultation. Many were impressed that he reviewed papers that were marked unreasonably by the TA. His lectures were coherent, fun to listen to and thorough. Students enjoyed the assignments and their experience in the course even though the material was dull and difficult to understand at times. Several students praised him for answering their questions well in class or following up if he did not know the full answer to a question.

RLG 331H1F Eastern Christianity

Instructor(s): P. Klassen

	Resp: 35							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	2	0	5	11	25	40	14	5.3
Explains	2	0	0	14	11	51	20	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	2	25	48	22	5.9
Teaching	2	0	0	5	25	54	11	5.6
Workload	0	0	0	23	32	35	8	5.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	65	22	8	2	4.5
Learn Exp	3	0	0	51	25	9	9	4.6

Klassen taught this course with much interest and enthusiasm. Some felt that there were too many assignments for a half course. A few students felt that the group presentations were tedious to put together and sit through. Students, generally, didn't like how presentations took up lecture time and were not fond of the surprise quizzes, which affected their performance in the course.

RLG 343H1F Kabbala: A History of Mystical Thought in Judaism

Instructor(s): K. Green

	Resp: 22							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	4	14	19	33	28	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	23	14	28	33	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	0	19	23	57	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	5	25	25	45	6.1
Workload	0	0	0	65	15	15	5	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	14	57	19	9	5.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	20	40	13	26	5.5

Green was a very good instructor who was very effective in ensuring

the understanding of the material which was complex. He also conveyed excitement for the course material. Overall, a very interesting course.

RLG 345H1F Social Ecology and Judaism

Instructor(s): H. Fox

	Resp: 11							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	18	18	27	36	0	4.8
Explains	0	0	0	18	4	18	18	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	0	36	18	45	6.1
Teaching	0	0	9	18	9	36	27	5.5
Workload	0	0	9	54	27	9	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	50	40	10	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	11	22	33	11	22	5.1

Some students found the instructor impressive, especially compared to other instructors they've had. They liked his casual approach to teaching. Others, however, thought his instructions for the assignments could have been more clear, as well as his expectations.

RLG 432Y1Y Natural Law in Judaism and Christianity

Instructor(s): D. Novak

	Resp: 7							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	14	0	57	28	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	14	0	57	28	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Workload	0	0	0	51	28	0	14	4.7
Difficulty	0	0	0	42	0	14	42	5.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	16	16	66	6.5

Students thought that Novak was one of the best instructors at UofT. He was engaging, enthusiastic and well-versed on the topics. "He grappled with the concepts as well as the intellectual history of each thinker in a masterful way!"

RLG 451H1F The Parables of Jesus

Instructor(s): J. Kloppenborg

	Resp: 5							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	40	0	60	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	20	80	6.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Workload	0	0	0	60	40	0	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	0	60	40	0	5.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0

Kloppenborg was very knowledgeable about the material and taught it with enthusiasm. He attended to students' questions and concerns in a thorough manner. Students had high interest when taking this course and praised Kloppenborg.

RLG 490Y1Y Individual Studies: Reading in Sanskrit Texts

Instructor(s): L. Mills

	Resp: 7							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
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	14	85	6.9
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Workload	0	0	0	28	14	57	0	5.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	0	42	57	0	5.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0

Mills was extremely patient and happy to help students learn the material. Her enthusiasm inspired many to "enjoy reading ancient Sanskrit text very much". Everyone was highly motivated by her to learn the material.