

**Geography 2011W2 Survey
2011W2 2012**

**University of British Columbia
Arts**

Course: URST 400 201 - Seminar in Urban Studies

Department: GEOG

**Responsible
Faculty:** Elvin Kirk Wyly

Resp. Rec'vd / Expected: 16 / 31

University Module	Wyly, Elvin Kirk					--- Comparisons ---	
	Individual					GEOG	
	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean	Mean	Pct
Q1 The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	4.5	5	.83	16	4.3	4.1	67
Q2 The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	4	4	.66	16	4.3	4	59
Q3 The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	5	5	.33	16	4.9	4	92
Q4 Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	5	5	.35	7	4.9	4	96
Q5 The instructor showed concern for student learning.	5	5	.24	16	4.9	4.1	98
Q6 Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	5	5	.57	15	4.7	4.1	92
Number of Individuals / Survey Responses used for Comparisons:						48 / 1,331	

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5 Pct = Percentile Rank (Higher is better)

Arts Instructor Questions	Wyly, Elvin Kirk					--- Comparisons ---	
	Individual					GEOG	
	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean	Mean	Pct
Q7 In classes where the size of the class and content of the course were appropriate, student participation in class was encouraged by the instructor.	5	5	.33	16	4.9	4.1	88
Q8 High standards of achievement were set.	5	5	.96	15	4.5	4.1	82
Q9 The instructor was generally well prepared for class.	5	5	.61	15	4.6	4.4	55
Q10 The instructor was readily available to students outside of class (e.g., through email, office hours, or by appointment).	5	5	.40	15	4.8	4.2	92
Q11 The instructor treated students with respect.	5	5	.53	16	4.8	4.5	80
Number of Individuals / Survey Responses used for Comparisons:						48 / 1,249	

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5 Pct = Percentile Rank (Higher is better)

Arts Course Question	URST 400 - 201				
	Course				
	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
Q12 Considering everything how would you rate this course?	5	5	.58	16	4.7

Choices / Values: Very poor=1 | Poor=2 | Neutral=3 | Good=4 | Very good=5

Geography Departmental Questions	Wyly, Elvin Kirk					--- Comparisons ---	
	Individual					GEOG	
	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean	Mean	Pct
Q13 The instructor attempted to provide satisfactory answers to all questions in class.	5	5	.48	16	4.9	4.3	96

Q14	The instructor established effective communication with students in the classroom.	5	5	.75	16	4.8	4.1	86
Q15	The instructor was helpful when students requested course related assistance outside of class.	5	5	.34	15	4.9	4.2	98
Q16	Assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time.	5	5	.47	12	4.7	4.1	83

Number of Individuals / Survey Responses used for Comparisons: 48 / 1,296

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5 Pct = Percentile Rank (Higher is better)

URST 400 - 201

Geography Departmental Question

Course

Med. Mode S.D. N Mean

Q17	For courses that had discussion groups or labs, the discussion groups or labs made an important contribution to the course.	5	5	.66	10	4.6		
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Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5

Q18 - Please comment on course content, or any aspects, positive or negative, of your instructor's teaching, attitudes to students, class atmosphere, or any other matters affecting the quality of instruction that you consider worthy of note.

Response Rate: 87.50% (14 of 16)

- Fantastic! Extremely enjoyable classes, wonderful teaching style.

"The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn"- neutral because Prof. Wyly encouraged us to make our own decisions about what to learn and to follow our own interests.

We were all teaching each other throughout the semester and Professor Wyly is an amazing and inspirational professor.

Wonderful class. Addressed various thought provoking issues and theories.

Wished we could have narrowed down the number of textbooks so we could probe deeper.

Elvin - you are a phenomenal instructor: clear and fair, but open with your own interests, opinions and point-of-view. The barn-raising approach to this course gave us all such an opportunity to discuss and get to know each other, without any of the hassles or obstacles so often presented to students. I learned to be a better reader, writer and listener in this class, and was always excited to show up. Keeping such a large class engaged in meaningful discussion for three hours didn't seem to be a challenge for you. In fact, the course and the readings, many of which would have been quite difficult under other circumstances, made issues of social justice in the city compelling and personally important to us.

Thank you for everything, and I hope to take another class with you again some time.

This is my third class with Dr. Wyly and I would recommend it to anyone who is majoring in Geog or is looking for an intellectually stimulating course at UBC. While Dr. Wyly is very understanding about deadlines and being overloaded with other course work, he also inspires hard work and dedication to the subject matter in a way that makes you choose to study for his course over others you may be taking. I have learned quite a bit over the years from Dr. Wyly's courses and primarily so from personal interest that he has inspired.

I really enjoyed the way this seminar was structured (or not structured). Elvin allowed the conversation to go in different directions which always ended up being interesting and engaging, and just as (or more) useful as discussing the readings. He strongly encouraged student participation and for students to formulate their own ideas and think critically. The course did not seem to be as strongly linked to the theme of "right to the city" as I expected, but I'm not faulting it for that. Best seminar I've taken at UBC.

Prof Wyly in every way encourages the independent thinker in his students. He sets both a high standard with a relaxed atmosphere. He is an exemplary professor. While he does not provide us with every answer, it is for good reason, these are conclusions we must arrive at ourselves. He is rich with personal and factual information providing great insight into today's world. I was highly inspired and greatly encouraged, which is often a missing element in today's university system.

Elvin Wyly is a great professor and is very inspiring. He is respectful of students and encouraged us all to contribute and think for ourselves.

- However, I found the overall course itself to be slightly unsubstantial, in that there was not enough of a focus in the seminar group. Perhaps if there was a smaller class size it would have been more effective and I think more focus should be given to the readings and topics at hand during class discussions.

It was an absolute pleasure and privilege to attend this class and be taught by such an outstanding and passionate teacher. Not

- only was the material so important in broadening my knowledge, but the teaching and material certainly helped shape the way I think about the subject matter both during the course and in the future. I honestly have nothing bad to say about this course.

This was an absolutely outstanding course, and Elvin Wyly is an outstanding teacher. His students respect him greatly and he holds

- his students in the highest esteem. The level of discussion that developed in this class was a testament to his respect for the academic and intellectual capacities of his students, and to his rare ability to allow student ideas and questions to lead the direction of learning. In my 5 years at university, I had the most rewarding learning experience in this class. Thank you Professor Wyly.

- Fantastic seminar course

- Excellent instructor, although the class in general took a little while to get focused on the actual readings and topics that we were "supposed" to be discussing - although there was also much valuable discussion outside of that.

Everything about this class was awesome. Small tutorial, effective teaching, intimate learning and class participation. The only thing I

- would recommend is *maybe* mandatory handing in of essay direction before term paper due... to reflect direction of student learning, grades, ect.

- An instructive course, but lacking in structure and layout. More class discussion was necessary. Too often conversations became tangential. Perhaps a smaller class size would have aided this.