

University of British Columbia
Arts

Course: GEOG 250/URST 200 101 - GEOG 250 101/URST 200 101 Department: GEOG

Responsible Faculty: Elvin Wyly

Category/Section: *Arts Course Question*/Course Question



[**E**] Very poor=01 | [**D**] Poor=02 | [**C**] Neutral=03 | [**B**] Good=04 | [**A**] Very good=05

K Questions
Y

Statistics Frequency Response
Mean Med. Mode S.D. E D C B A Rec. Exp.

Considering everything how would you rate this course?

4.3 4 5 .83 - 3 3 20 25 51 96

Category/Section: Geography Departmental Question/Course Question

For courses that had discussion groups or labs, the...

[E] Strongly Disagree=01 | [D] Disagree=02 | [C] Neutral=03 | [B] Agree=04 | [A] Strongly Agree=05

K Frequency **Statistics** Response Questions Ε Mean Med. Mode S.D. EDCB A Rec. N/A* Exp. For courses that had discussion groups or labs, the 1.27 5 7 9 17 13 3.5 51 0 96 discussion groups or labs made an important contribution to the course.

*N/A responses indicate that the participant felt they did not have the information or experience required to respond to a question.

Question: Please Comment
Response Rate: 58,82% (30 of 51)

- The prof covered a really broad spectrum of themes in this course which was interesting but at the same time I think it was too much to focus on for one course. We didn't talk about the physical structure of cities as much as I would have liked to.
- a it is hard to track the overall idea of the course. probably because cities is an interdisciplinary study. very interesting and attractive, i
- Elvin's inspiration is contagious. I am happy to have taken this course, he has taught me a lot about what I should be getting out of my classes, to learn for life and not for grades. His way of formatting the course I think encourages students to be responsible about their work. His notes were very effective and his class was always full of very interesting material.
- 4 Overall the class was very good, how ever it wasn't what I was expecting and found most of the course material unimportant to my major, and won't be able to relate much of it back to it.
- 5 I found the course content interesting and well presented, and there was considerable outside support both in person or online.
- 6 Evin Wyly's passion and excitement for the subject he teaches is obvious and translates into an excellent course all round.
- 7 sometimes difficult to track down during office times and almost evasive of some students
- 8 Very interesting.

Definitely one of the most passionate teachers at UBC! I wish I was as passionate about Urban Studies, then probably would have found some of the topics more interesting but the prof did everything possible to make the course interesting. Projects were GREAT!!

- 9 Exams were very fair. Really respect how much research/time the prof puts into the lectures and website. Website is somewhat hard to navigate because there is so much ellaboration but that is prof's writing style so can respect that.
- Nothing but good things to say about the class. I found the material a little on the dry side, but that is probably due to personal preferences so there is not much you can do about that.
- Prof. Wyly's passion for the material is obvious, how ever it can sometimes interfere with note taking as one is never sure if the class is being given direct lecture materials or one of the many other facts, anecdotes and pieces of knowledge that he possesses.

I thought I was crazy for being so interested in urban issues. After taking URST 200 I feel rather normal.

The amount of information available is sometimes overwhelming

prehaps extensive notes available online as they are

and condensed notes presented in class

12 it would make a benefit to class attendence versus just staying home and reviewing notes online

hardest thing about studying for midterm was trying to find the important points within the large amount of information available

-very passionate about cities rathering inspiring

sometimes hard to relate the themes in the course

13 well done, keep up the good work and enthusiasm

The course w ebsite w as very confusing and it w as difficult to find things on it. Lectures did not often relate to one another.

14

Lectures were very interesting, I enjoyed all of the uses of different medias (videos, radio broadcasts, etc.)

15 The Prof. w as extremely passionate about his subject w hich in turn inspired me to pay more attention to the subject .

Overall this course w as very fascinating, the atmosphere and attitudes were all very positive as the content we learned was new and interesting, there wasn't any repetition of the same dull facts (like calculations in most other courses). And Dr. Wyly made the course interesting by allowing students to explore their own view on the content, it wasn't expected that you had to take one side of an argument and stick with it, you could explore the content from both sides, which helped me learn the material much better. The only negative comment I have for this course is the level of vocabulary used, I'm well aware that this course belongs to a more literate than computing course but some concepts in the class could have been explained or analyzed using simpler vocabulary, overall this didn't effect my learning much, but did cause some confusion during lectures at times. Overall great course and very interesting!

- Professor Wyly was an absolutely fantastic teacher, extremely well prepared, above and beyond any expectations, and any other courses. He was extremely enthusiastic about the course and made it extremely interesting and a pleasure to attend.
- 18 The course content was good. The instructor was enthusiastic while teaching, and he had very good attitude towards the students.
- Prof Wyly is very enthusiastic and his system with both the course and the Elvinotes is great. His website is very interesting, especially because it gives you lots of informations or possible sources. I like the type of assignment proposed.
- Professor Wyly's passion for urban studies was an extra incentive for attending his class. He keeps the subject matter interesting and relevant. This course was my favorite course this term, and Professor Wyly one of the best instructors I've seen at UBC.
- 21 This class was informative and enjoyable to attend. The instructor demonstrated a wealth of knowledge, enthusiasmand allowed for a great amount of creativity to be exercised on the student's part.

Professor Wyly clearly enjoys teaching this class, and his passion for the subject made it easier and more enjoyable to learn.

22 How ever he tried to cover too much material during class sometimes and there wasn't a lot of time allocated for student contributions.

Mr. Wyly's custom course notes on his w ebsites are so detailed and interesting that he should convert and publish them into textbook or booklet forms specially for this course! Wyly mentions on his syllabus that he could never teach a course using a book written by somebody else, so why not publish his own?

23 Unfortunately this also leads to inconsistent student attendance in class when almost everything you need to know is online.

The speeches are enthusiastic and well presented for the full duration of more than an hour but the classroom quiz (or midterm) is too short to fully justify for everything students learn from Urban Studies. If the tests are short (20 multiple choice questions and requiring less time than 30 minutes) then there should be more than one of them given throughout the course.

instructor w as very good at incorporating different types of media and content into the lectures, and the structure of the lectures themselves flow ed very well.

- I thought that the structure of the course, online lecture notes, optional tutorials and soft deadlines promoted a lack of student participation in the class. The tutorials were completely unnecessary.
- highly engaging and informative lectures. I appreciated his strategy of giving all the info he could without placing value judgements on the content and providing a lot of extra reading if ppl were interested in a certain area.
- 27 URST 200 w as my only Tues/Thurs class this term, and I w as planning on dropping it for the days off (and take it in a later year), but after going to my first class and tutorial, I had to keep it it w as that great!
- The course w as interesting but it covered too much material. The notes were very good in the beginning but as the course went the lecture w asn't as close to the notes making it very difficult to follow along at times. It felt like being in a candy store, too
 - Excellent course. Excellent professor. The most interesting, engaging and relevant course I have taken at UBC.
- The course was organized very nicely by topic. I would suggest more focus on issues of energy scarcity / peak oil and the implications this will have on urban governance, transportation, food supply, among many other aspects of urban studies. This will likely be the defining challenge our lifetime.

Great course!

30 Maybe change the classroom to a bigger one?