

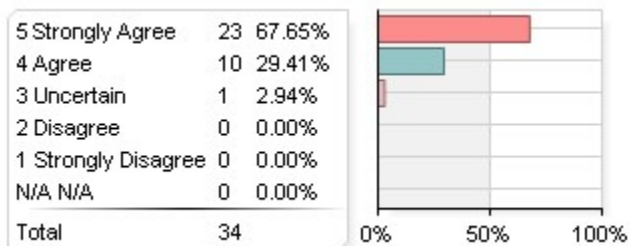
Fall 2013 Course Evaluation Report for TH16108_2014F THE RELIGIOUS QUEST I - Jillian Maxey

Response Table

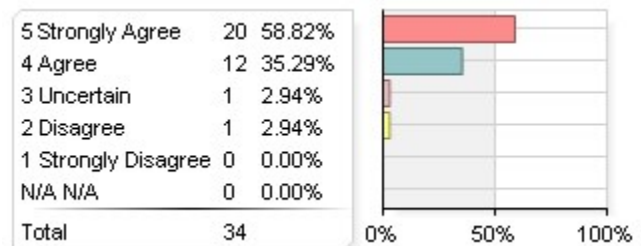
Fall 2013	
Raters	Students
Responded	34
Invited	37
Response Ratio	91.89%

Course Related Questions for TH16108_2014F THE RELIGIOUS QUEST I- Distribution of Responses

1. The course was well organized.



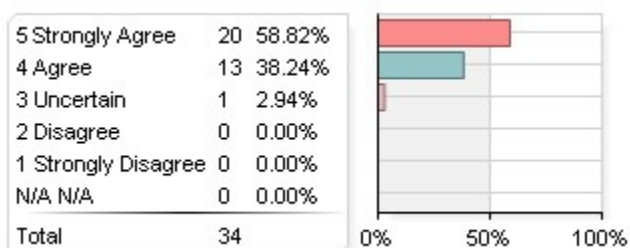
2. The course generally followed the syllabus.



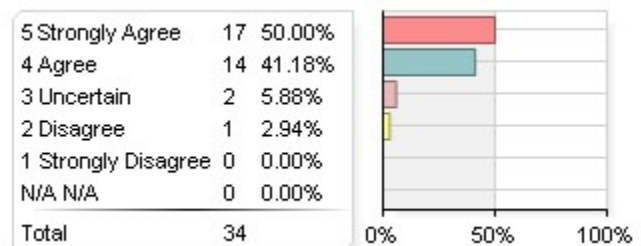
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.65
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.54

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.50
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.71

3. Class attendance was necessary for learning course material.



4. The course was intellectually challenging.

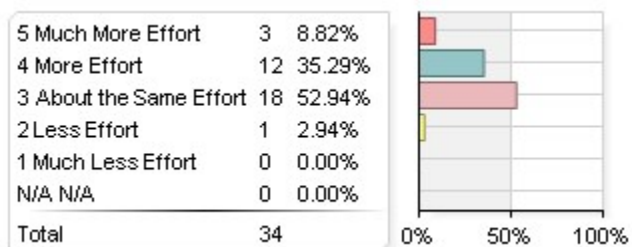


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.56
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.56

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.38
Median	4.50
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.74

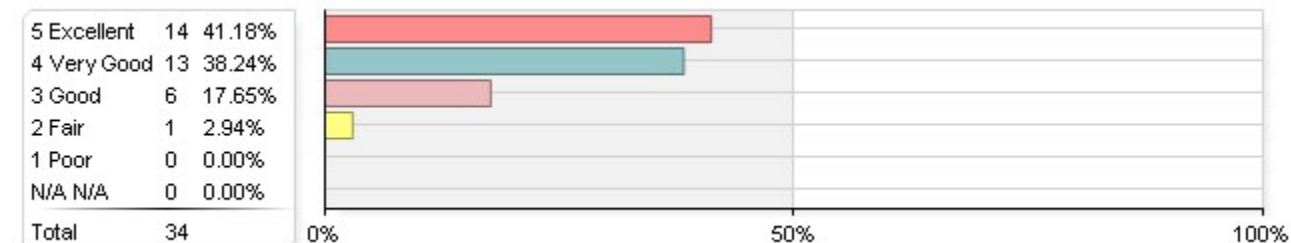
Course Related Questions for TH16108_2014F THE RELIGIOUS QUEST I- Distribution of Responses (continued)

Compared to similar courses (ie core, major, etc), this course required:



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.50
Median	3.00
Mode	3
Standard Deviation	+/-0.71

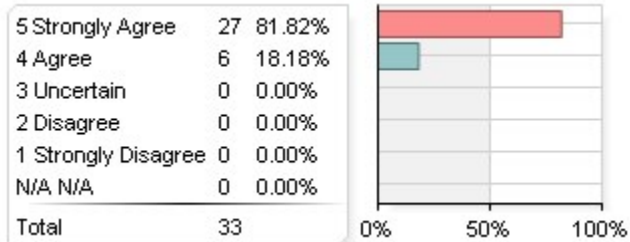
How would you rate this course overall?



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.18
Median	4.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.83

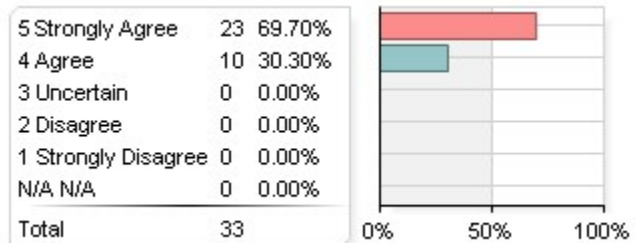
Instructor Questions for (Jillian Maxey)- Distribution of Responses

1. The instructor was prepared.



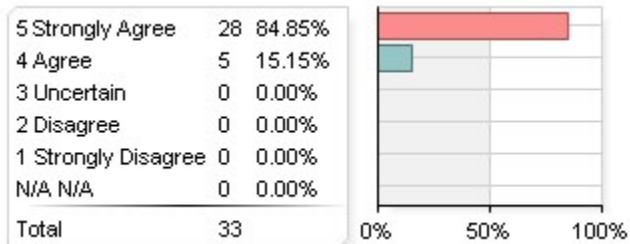
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.82
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.39

2. The instructor was available for help outside of class.



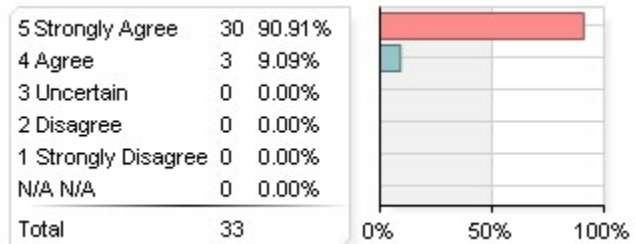
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.70
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.47

3. The instructor returned assignments/tests conscientiously.



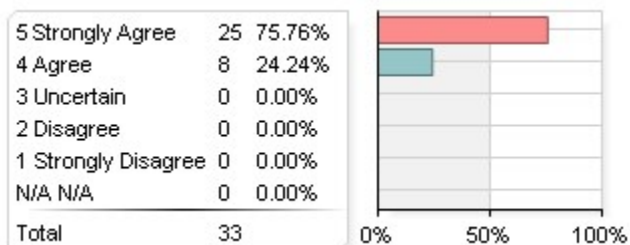
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.85
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.36

4. The instructor showed enthusiasm about the subject matter.



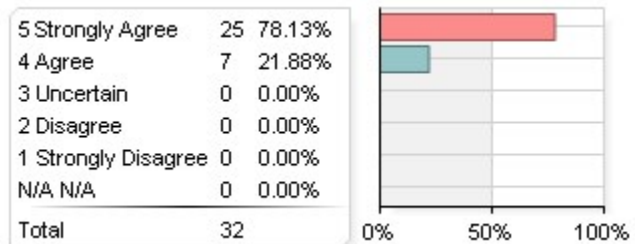
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.91
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.29

5. The instructor stimulated interest in the subject matter.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.76
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.44

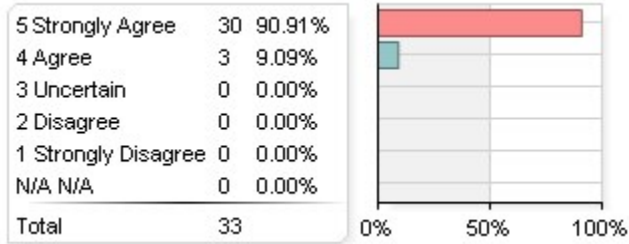
6. The instructor's explanations were clear.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.78
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.42

Instructor Questions for (Jillian Maxey)- Distribution of Responses (continued)

7. The instructor treated students with respect.



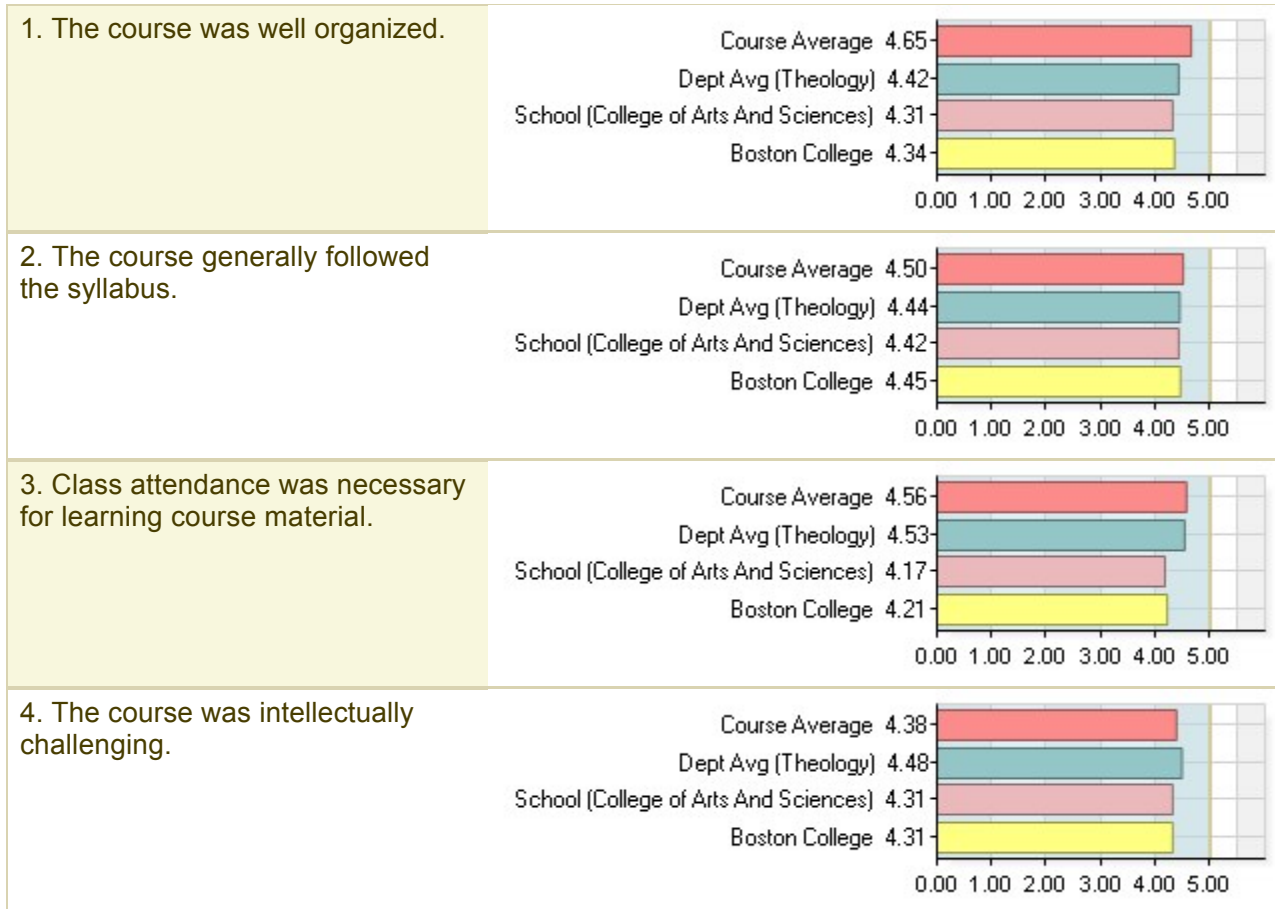
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.91
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.29

How would you rate this instructor overall as a teacher?

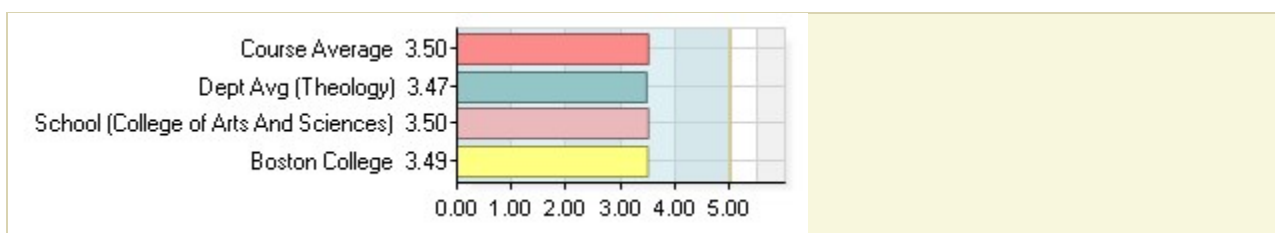


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.87

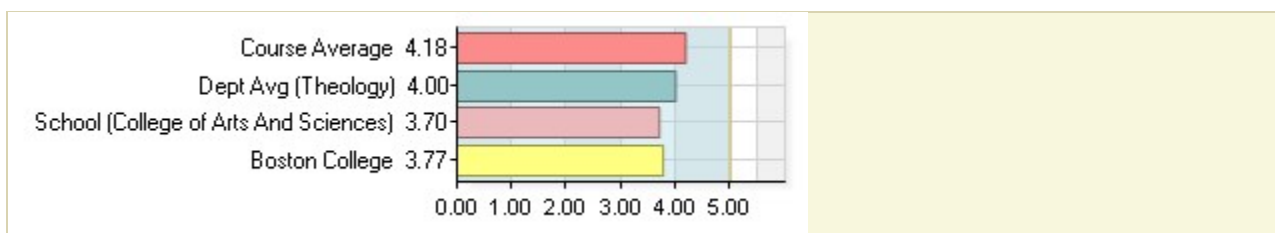
Course Questions for TH16108_2014F THE RELIGIOUS QUEST I - Benchmarks



Compared to similar courses (ie core, major, etc), this course required:



How would you rate this course overall?

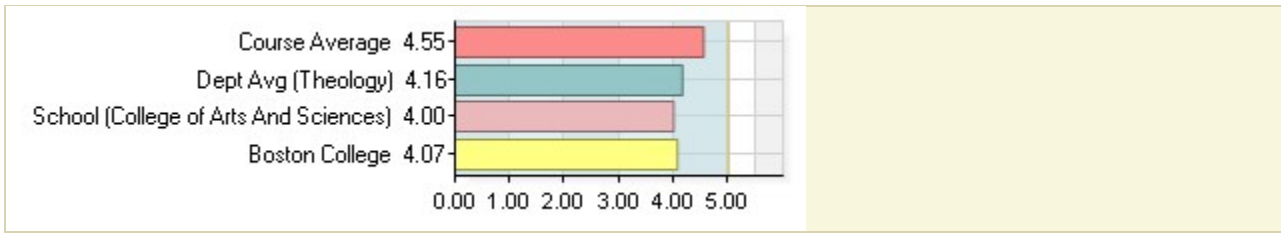


Instructor Questions for (Jillian Maxey) - Benchmarks

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Course Average	4.82										
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Course Average	4.91										
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Instructor Questions for (Jillian Maxey) - Benchmarks (continued)

How would you rate this instructor overall as a teacher?



Comments for TH16108_2014F THE RELIGIOUS QUEST I - Jillian Maxey

What are the strengths of this course?

Comment
Professor Maxey is incredibly passionate about the subject matter and this comes through in the lectures. The course is also well-structured and the order of topics covered made perfect sense.
The greatest strength of this course was Professor Maxey herself.
Strengths of this course include: manageable course work throughout the week, great/easy to follow powerpoint presentations, group discussions/group presentation
Great communication by teacher, comprehensive syllabus, EXTENSIVE feedback on papers (much appreciated)
You learn a lot of material without the assumption that you already have had exposure to the Biblical texts before very interactive and engaging
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Conscious of everyone's religious background so that she can make sure everyone benefits from it- Incorporates videos with lecture- a lot of group work- fun/innovative ways of putting religion into perspective
Professor Maxey did a wonderful job presenting the foundations of the Christian and Jewish religions. The readings were interesting, and the assignments were helpful in gaining knowledge about the religions, such as the synagogue and church visits. I liked working with a group throughout the semester, as it gave me different perspectives on the readings. Also, Professor Maxey kept the class engaged in discussion, which helped foster a comfortable community for people sharing about their religious differences. The final project, analyzing a work depicting Jesus' crucifixion from both a Christian and Jewish perspective, was especially interesting.
The sources from which the course drew were varied and engaging, allowing the students to develop their own perspectives on the course's major themes. As both an introductory and comparative theology course, Religious Quest succeeded by exposing the students to materials that engaged the courses major themes and questions from many perspectives. Professor Maxey responds to her students' ideas with thoughtful questions and comments that promote further insight and deeper understanding. Professor Maxey promotes diversity of opinion in discussion and in written work, encouraging students to develop and refine their own perspectives on texts and larger themes.
Professor is very excited about the topics! Provides many resources, and a wide variety of readings. Pushes you to experience faith outside of BC---with a synaouge visit that left a strong impression on me. Breaks the class into groups for the entire semester--was able to meet some incredible people. Facilitates discussion--does not let the same people talk over and over again. Leaves time for questions. Has a bubbly attitude that makes the class exciting instead of somber.
Reflections helped learn the subject
Good introductory course for theology, synagogue and church visits stimulate interest, not difficult for a intro class
Effective group work, comparative skills gained
Intellectually engaging, thorough, well-organized, fairly graded
The strengths of this course are in the teacher and the class itself. Coming into this class, i was quite skeptical and really thought i would breeze through it because its a core class requirement. But the teacher really got me interested into the subject matter and i learned a lot about Jewish and Christian religions and also about my own religion. it really helped me discover and define more my personal religious identity. Also we sometimes worked in groups which i thought was really helpful. I'm excited to take the second part of this class in the spring semester.
Interesting and well taught. Discovered some interesting things about the relationship between Christians and Jews
Very motivated
I think Professor Maxey does a great job of teaching it and the information within the course is interesting and connects very well
Awesome classroom setting with plenty of opportunities to engage in dialogue about important class material A lot of reading material to inform students even more of Christian-Jewish relations

Professor has a wealth of knowledge about the subject and shows real enthusiasm and passion about it
Professor goes the extra length to help her students
Powerpoint are very organized and really help during lectures

Very interesting information

This course exposed me to both the Jewish and Christian master stories in great detail. It was especially interesting to learn about the Jewish-Christian relations both hundreds of years ago and their relations today.

Professor Maxey is a wonderful professor. I really appreciated her immense knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject matter -- it really helped spark interest in the material, as well as motivate me to do well on the assignments. I found all the readings applicable to the subject matter. Of course, some readings are hard to get through but Professor Maxey does a great job of going over them in the next class. Additionally, I really enjoyed the visits to Synagogue and Church. I've been to Church plenty of times, so that wasn't as exciting, but without this course I don't think I would have ever attended services at a Synagogue. I really enjoyed that experience!

This course is very thought-provoking, class discussions were very helpful, and the readings that supported the class material was very interesting. Also, the group projects and site visits made learning about other religions more interactive and applicable.

The course covers all aspects of Christian-Jewish relations both past and present giving full knowledge on the topic set out to be taught.

Professor Maxey conveys points well through class discussion and her powerpoints. There's a good balance between her lecturing and class response, it keeps me attentive.

the professor is very good, and treats her student very well. The course allows people to look at religion from different perspectives.

How could the instructor improve the course?

Comment

It does not need any major improvements. The only minor tweak is that some of the readings assigned out of class were too long and I therefore had a lot of trouble concentrating and retaining the information . One example was when we were assigned nearly all of Genesis for one class

Group presentations work well, but having more than two students working together on a single paper, especially for a final grade, is not the best assessment. I would have suggested having each student write their own, smaller paper, after the presentation.

I felt having a group paper at the end of the semester was kind of tricky. Maybe in the future students can write an individual paper on their section of the powerpoint. Also having one more graded paper in the semester would be nice.

More group discussion. The classroom was horrible for stirring up group discussion (help the woman out)

The readings were often too long. Long assignments would be given and only portions would be discussed. Simplifying the reading by cutting it down a bit would be helpful and (I think) garner more interest in completing the assignments necessary to learn the material.

more help on midterm exam

None

Although this is a core class, I thought much of the material was pretty basic for those with a strong background in Christianity or Judaism. It gave a nice foundation, but I felt it could have gone a little more in depth. Also, there was often a large amount of reading for one day, and I felt it was hard to prepare all of the reading in between classes well enough to be able to discuss it fully during class.

Some readings were not discussed and seemed almost unnecessary.

The powerpoints can sometimes include an excess of information---the use of bulletin points would be less overwhelming. For a core class, the workload is extreme. Typed reflections every night on the reading, a midterm, a final presentation, and a final 25 page paper. However, I will say that being intersted in this course---I did not mind the workload.

More discussion

Maybe vary the groups within the class

Less reflections, more larger essays.

Having the one page responses due every class was a little bit overwhelming.

none

Not much. Maybe less dry hw assignments
I don't have any way for her to improve it
Not sure
Lighten up the reading load
It felt a little unorganized at times, but I understood it was because it was her first year teaching.
I understand the reason behind write-ups for each reading, but it got very tedious towards the end. By the end of the semester, I felt I was repeating myself a lot. I think a weekly reflection on the readings would be a better approach. Additionally, I'm not a huge fan of group projects/papers. Maybe next time, a group could present together, but group members could write a smaller paper individually.
none
Keeping the syllabus more standard, because a lot of changes were made.
Shift the focus away from the readings slightly in order to discuss more of the philosophical aspects of religion. That's what I really wanted to study about, the philosophy behind religion.
I thought the dates for the final presentation should have been different due to the closeness to Thanksgiving break.

Would you recommend this course to other students, majors, etc.? Why or why not?

Comment
This course is a great option for core: the inter-religious dialogue was much more engaging for me than a traditional Christian Theology course
Absolutely - Professor Maxey encourages her students to think about religion (most often considered taboo)
Yes, it does a great job opening your mind
Yes. Ms. Maxey is one of the best professors I've had at BC and her section of Religious Quests is unique. What I found most admirable about Ms. Maxey was that she clearly has her own religious background and opinions, but she never lets that interfere with her teaching and she never tries to impose her views on your own. Her ability to keep the discussion scholarly and professional was definitely one of the best parts of the class. You could tell that students were willing to voice their opinions because they weren't afraid of saying the "wrong thing" - everyone's opinions were discussed, but none were put down. This was my most enjoyable class this semester and I genuinely look forward to reenrolling in the next semester's section.
yes, professor is excellent.
Yes I would definitely recommend this course! Professor didn't exaggerate course-load, considering it was a core class and I felt like I really learned a lot. I appreciate group work and I also appreciate the way Prof. Maxey approached the course: group discussion, personal paper, and a work of our choice in relation to the bible. Loved it.
Yes, I would recommend this course to other students because of the great foundation it gives in the Christian and Jewish religions. It is valuable to know about these religions, the way they interact with each other, and the importance of inter-religious dialogue between them.
Though this is a core theology course, it does require effort. Professor Maxey is a fair grader and a professor who is clearly passionate about her subject. Although there is a lot of reading and the final project is substantial, this is one course in which you truly will learn, in which your perspectives will truly develop. If you're willing to put in the time, this course is wonderful.
Yes, absolutely. This course is insightful and refreshing. One of the few courses at BC that excited me, where I felt my professor really cared about the class's well being, and took a very deep interest in the readings she required of us.
Yes, interesting, good way to learn about theology
Yes, if the student is interested in comparing Judaism and Christianity or trying to fulfill the theology core
Yes! I have enjoyed fulfilling my theology core with such a worthwhile course.
Definitely! The material is interesting and can appeal to anyone, and the professor is very knowledgeable.
Yes i would because it is a very interesting course and you'll learn a lot.
Yes. Interesting material and fun to learn
Yes, in comparison to the other theology course that I have taken I feel that I have actually learn about theology

Yes, it is a great class and helps fill two cores. It is also just a fun class to be in

Yes, Ms. Maxey is a professor that goes above and beyond to help her students. If you want to learn as much as you can both inside and outside of the classroom about the Christian/Jewish religions and their relations, then I highly recommend taking this course

absolutely it was a great experience

I would strongly recommend this course to other students. I think it is much more interesting to compare two religions, their master stories, and how they relate to each other, as opposed to studying just one religion's doctrines and beliefs.

I would definitely recommend this course to other students. Professor Maxey is a great professor and really tries to relate with the students. What other professor would attend her student athletes' basketball game over the weekend? She has a great sense of humor and you can definitely tell she works extremely hard at her job. I'm really happy I took this course.

Yes, this course is a very interesting approach to Christianity and Judaism

Absolutely. The class is mentally stimulating, interesting, and not overly challenging. It requires thought, participation, written skills, and presenting abilities which are the most important skills in the real world. GREAT COURSE

Yes, it's a good core religion class.

Yes, I would. It is a great core class.

Additional Comments:

Comment

I'm extremely excited to be taking the second portion of Religious Quest with Professor Maxey!

Professor Maxey, though a first year teacher, did an incredible job. She commanded respect that many teachers don't and made sure she gave you the feedback you deserved.

Professor Maxey really cared about the class, always came prepared. She also really cared about how each of us were doing in the class. She also made many references to the work she was currently doing in regards to her dissertation which made her a lot more relatable to what we as students were going through.

Great teacher and even better person

Responses to Customized Questions for TH16108_2014F THE RELIGIOUS QUEST I - Jillian Maxey

Please comment on the assigned reading for the course (The introductory essays on religion, the Bible, Goldberg, Irreconcilable Differences? and Seeing Judaism Anew). Which books, articles and/or authors did you find helpful? Would you recommend they be assigned again?

Comment
I enjoyed all of the readings and found them helpful, except for when we had to read all of Genesis for one class period. That made it very difficult to retain the text. In other instances, there were other readings (mostly the master story analytical essays) that I had a similar difficulty with because of their length and density.
All works served the course well, especially Goldberg.
Yes - gave insight into what religion/Christianity/Judaism are from the perspective of religious scholars
Goldberg was thick but useful.
The readings were interesting, many of them were much too long.
I think Goldberg was very helpful out of all of the assigned reading. It illustrated the central themes of the course and was a good introduction into theological analysis.
Goldberg was very interesting and helpful breaking down the bible.
Goldberg was great and clear, made us think. Didn't like the play, all other books were very useful and elaborated further on what she taught in class.
I thought the readings from the Bible and Goldberg, especially reading them side by side, were helpful. The introductory essays on religion helped provide a foundation in the class, and I would recommend the be assigned again. The readings from Irreconcilable Differences and Seeing Judaism Anew were not as essential to the class, but there were helpful in analyzing Christian and Jewish relations more in depth, and they helped stimulate discussion in class.
Some essays seemed to be too esoteric for an introductory course, but most were relevant and engaging. Goldberg's book was the most interesting and was a great companion to the Bible. I would definitely recommend those to be assigned again. Seeing Judaism Anew and Irreconcilable Differences were relevant to course material, but were not as engaging. Still they were good to read.
Loved Goldberg! Awesome ideas and thoughts that provoked great discussion in class. Parts of SJA were important. The intro essays were inspiring but perhpas not 100% necessary.
Goldberg was the most helpful and best written I would say
I specifically enjoyed reading the bible and would recommend it to be assigned again. The other readings, while related and interesting usually, were sometimes far too long.
I found all of them helpful and I definitely think that future classes should read them.
They all gave a great background on the subjects, particularly Goldberg and Irreconcilable Differences
I found all the books to be helpful and i would read them again
I thought Goldberg was interesting but talked a little bit in circles. Had to read a lot to get just one point across. Rest were good
I like all of the books
I thought all the readings, especially Goldberg, were interesting to read and made sense as well.
Irreconcilable Difference/Bible/Goldberg - Yes
all of them
The introductory essays on religion were really helpful and gave me the background I needed to better understand what we talked about in class. Although reading the Bible is not always fun, I think we were assigned a fair amount to read. Goldberg's book was also most helpful to me in understanding the Jewish and Christian master stories.
I really liked Goldberg's readings -- they helped me understand the readings from the Bible. Irreconcilable Differences was easy to enjoy and learn from as well. They went over the content clearly and were very insightful, especially to someone who doesn't know too much about Judaism and Christian-Jewish Relations. Some of the

longer/older articles/readings were hard to get through. I think that when there is a 20 page article, there should only be one assigned for that corresponding class.

I found the assigned readings very helpful, except some of the Jewish texts were confusing. Although in class everything was explained.

I really enjoyed reading from the Bible. The other articles in this section were a little long for the points they were trying to make.

Besides the bible, none of them were interesting, just boring and time-consuming.

I thought these were good choices for this class.

Please comment, specifically, on the play we read about Abraham Heschel and Cardinal Bea in Religious Differences Between Artichokes. Did this enhance the other materials and discussions in the course? Did you learn anything new or different that you don't think you would have otherwise? Would you recommend that it be assigned again?

Comment

I enjoyed the play, but due to the negative reactions to it from important religious figures, it wasn't credible in my eyes. I would not recommend that it be assigned again.

Perhaps it will play a greater role in the second semester of this course, but the play felt a tad out of place, and almost tacked onto the end of the unit.

I enjoyed having a large discussion after reading the play instead writing a response paper. Allowed students to bounce ideas off of one another - also we read this play later on in the semester so students were familiar with one another.

Not really desirable

I really enjoyed reading this play and analyzing it in class. I wish we worked with the other materials in this way.

I think it was good to show the nuances and challenges of inter-religious dialogue. However, I think perhaps the class didn't fully understand the arguments Bea and Heschel were putting forward and the discussion never really clarified their positions.

this definitely enhances the material.

I thought it made a minimal difference.

I thought Religious Differences Between Artichokes was very interesting, and I enjoyed reading it. It gave me a new perspective on the history of Christian-Jewish relations, and I thought it particularly interesting after reading Nostra Aetate. I would recommend that it be assigned again.

RDBA was a great way to bring Christianity and Judaism into a conversation about their places in modernity. It's an easy read that develops insight on the human, rather than theological or theoretical level.

It was a nice break from the more scholarly material we were reading, however it still remained insightful. It was one of my favorite discussions in class ---I wish we had more time. I would recommend it!

It was interesting way to look at the discussion, I wouldn't say I learned anything new though

It wasn't too informative to me; however, I enjoyed the read as a break from drier material and it related well to the material we were learning.

I am not so sure if I would recommend this play again--it was a fun read, but I do not think it added much value to the course.

I enjoyed reading this play because it gave me a more personal perspective on Jewish-Christian relations and would recommend that it be assigned again

I learned some new things and got a better understanding of how Jews still felt about the Holocaust many years later. I wouldn't mind reading it again.

Yes they were good and insightful

I enjoyed these readings, it was nice to learn about modern theologian figures. I would recommend it.

I think it did a good job of talking about certain things we learned, but I do not know if it was necessary

Yes, it showed how 2 great leaders in their religions came together and set an example to be followed in anything.
Yes, highly recommended

yes this was a great addition

I loved this play! I thought it was funny, easy to read, and related to the course well.

I really enjoyed "Religious Differences Between Artichokes" as well. It was extremely easy to read and really applied to the course material. I liked how we could see Jewish-Christian Relations via an actual friendship. It made it that more relatable. I would definitely recommend assigning this play again.

As a work of fiction, I think the play has a helpful message in understanding religious tolerance. I would recommend it.

Religious Differences Between Artichokes was my favorite piece that we read this semester because it used real life dialogue between two different religious figures. It was interesting and many of the conversations were inspiring.

No, don't assign it again, truthfully I read about 30 pages.

I enjoyed the book, I thought it was a very different way of learning about religion. I would recommend it again.

Please comment on the assignments for the course (the Genesis narrative and personal identity essay, the reading responses, and the midterm.) Would you add or subtract any other TYPES of assignments?

Comment

I thought there was a great balance of assignments, between papers, exams, and a public speaking component. I wouldn't make any changes in this category

I would add another paper in addition to the personal identity essay.

I thought it was a fair amount of work, though a bit more than other classes from what I heard.

The reading responses definitely made you do the reading, and it was interesting to reflect on the context of the reading in the whole of the class.

I thought the assignments were sufficient. The midterm was long and challenging to finish (Part 1) but overall I think it was good.

i loved the genesis narrative

I loved the personal identity essay and the final project. However, I think you should emphasize the necessity to be able to talk about everything we're learning in class in specific ways. Maybe give a list of 50 terms for identifications (midterm) and put a certain amount on the midterm. I thought it was really open-ended

I thought there were a lot of reading responses due throughout the semester, and I would subtract some of these. They weren't helpful in reading the material closely, and I felt like I was often struggling to find something to say in my reflections. I would subtract some of these and focus more on discussing the texts in class. The essays and midterm were reasonable, and I might add another essay instead of doing the many short reflections during the semester.

The Genesis narrative was a good assignment, though the instructions were easy to misinterpret. Reading responses, though a little time consuming, were good for developing the students' thoughts. Professor Maxey responded to the papers critically and encouraged further exploration.

The reflections should be changed to every other night! The midterm and Essay were great and totally manageable

I really liked the assignments

I think the reading responses were very helpful for this course, as well as the essay and midterm. I wouldn't subtract any types of assignments.

I would definitely add more major essays to the class and eliminate the constant reflections.

I would remove a few of the reading responses, make them once a week instead of every day. Also, it would be helpful if the instructions for the long essays were more concise. The directions were several pages and I had trouble pin pointing the exact question and trying to figure out how to address all of the parts

I thought the narratives were fine and were not that difficult to do. The reading responses sometimes got repetitive in doing a lot of them, but i found they helped in reflecting your thoughts and the midterm was cool in how we did two parts, it made it easier to take. I liked that.

All the long assignments were good and fair. Reading responses asked the same question every time

Maybe cut down on the reading a little bit.

No, I thought they were useful and fair

No

no i would not

I actually really liked the assignments for the course. The Genesis narrative/personal identity essay was a nice way for me to think about what has influenced me in life. The midterm was very fair and I feel like I was well prepared for it. The reading responses were also helpful for me to think about what I had read and I liked that I was given feedback on my responses.

Writing the Genesis Narrative was actually an enjoyable experience. In all my other classes, I've never had to include my own personal experience in an essay. As I mentioned earlier, I thought the reading responses were redundant. It obviously gets the students to read the readings, but it got bothersome by the end. The midterm was a fair test, but there was not nearly enough time for the first component. That much writing in only 50 minutes was way too much. It should definitely be cut down for next time.

The Genesis narrative and personal identity essay were very interesting. I had a hard time with the reading responses because I am so familiar with Christianity that I often didn't have much of a response to give.

They were all fair and none were too tedious.

No these assignments were all good.

I think all of these assignments were very useful. They especially make one think about religion in relation to oneself.

Please comment on your experience of the group component of the course. Was this a helpful experience alongside our theoretical discussion of dialogue? Was the final project a valuable capstone to this semester's material and discussions?

Comment

I enjoyed working with a group. You learn so much more when collaborating on something than doing the work on your own.

I very much enjoyed working in a group - the group presentation definitely took time to put together but it was nice to collaborate with other students/it was fun to present in front of the class! I thought putting the group paper together was tricky - maybe in the future the final paper could be individual-based and reflect what each student did in the powerpoint presentation.

The final project VERY MUCH was a capstone to the material and discussions, I had a good group though.

The group project was definitely a learning-experience. Writing at such a long paper with a group of people isn't easy but its practical in terms of what will be required of us outside of college. I was lucky and got a group I really fit with, but I know some other groups were discontent with the people they had to work with.

I think it was an interesting way to present the material and allowed us to analyze works that are perhaps more interesting or tailored to our desires. Group projects have their pros and cons but because I had a generally positive experience with it I think it was a good capstone of the course.

it was hard because I was travelling but overall good experience.

loved the group project and was definitely a capstone to the semesters material.

I liked the group component of the course, however, it was difficult doing the final project with a group. We had very different backgrounds and perspectives, which made conversation interesting, but made writing a cohesive paper together very difficult. I did like the final project, though, and it was a very interesting way to put together everything we have learned in the semester.

The group component was good for getting to know people and having intelligent conversations. Engaging with other students, each of whom having their own religious background and perspectives, enhances the comparative aspect of the course. The final project did feel overwhelming occasionally, but if the group is cohesive and works together it is manageable.

Yes--- I really enjoyed getting to know others and looking to them as a helpful resource. I was able to bond with my group, and they really enhanced my understanding of the material for assignments. For the final project--- I would pick the presentation OR the final paper. Each of these components required a lot of work and I do not think BOTH are necessary. Since we doing plenty of writing in the beginning of the semester--I think a final presentation should suffice.

I think it was valuable. It let us gain other perspectives and make new friends

I wasn't a big fan of the group project, but it was different than the kind of assignments I usually have. It was a very interesting and fun way to conclude the semester however.

I loved working in a group! Many classes do not give me the opportunity to get to know my classmates personally, so I genuinely appreciated the group component. It was helpful towards my appreciation of others' beliefs and opinions regarding theological matters.

The final project was a valuable capstone yet working in a group was sometimes frustrating because there was a chance of getting a particularly unproductive group member that made putting together a quality project much more difficult

I liked working in groups because it gave me different perspectives from different people on the dialogue. The final project was not that bad and I thought it was a good way to end the semester.

I thought it was very good. I had a good group though so it might have been different if I didn't like my group

It's hard to write a group paper since it's difficult to make it all flow.

I think it was helpful having others to work with and bounce ideas off, and also made it more fun being in class with them

Yes

It was great to interact and share ideas

The group component was not my favorite part of the course. In the end, I feel like my group was successful, but I always prefer doing work in a class like this on my own.

I enjoyed working with my group. However, it gets frustrating because at times I feel responsible for other students' work. I liked the group presentation part, but all of us had different ideas about our chosen topic, so it was hard to mesh them together. Additionally, I dislike group papers. I would have preferred to write a smaller paper individually.

I loved the group project, and it was very helpful to have people to go to the synagogue and church with.

I enjoyed the group component until the group paper. It is very difficult to evenly distribute a written paper, especially when not everyone has the same amount of motivation for the particular course. I enjoy group work but the group paper was confusing and difficult. I did not enjoy that aspect.

Yes, I just don't like group papers.

At first I was very hesitant to work with a group on the final paper but I learned that it was a good way to hear new perspectives on the subject matter.