

**Geography 2011W1 Survey
2011W1 2011**

**University of British Columbia
Arts**

Course: GEOG 350 101 - Introduction to Urban Geography

Department: GEOG

**Responsible
Faculty:** Elvin Wyly

Resp. Rec'vd / Expected: 36 / 77

University Module

Wyly, Elvin K

Individual

	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
Q1 The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	4	5	.84	35	4.3
Q2 The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	5	5	.76	36	4.4
Q3 The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	5	5	.64	36	4.5

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5

University Module

Wyly, Elvin K

Individual

	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
Q4 Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	4	4,5	.60	36	4.4

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5

University Module

Wyly, Elvin K

Individual

	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
Q5 The instructor showed concern for student learning.	5	5	.68	36	4.6
Q6 Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	5	5	.60	36	4.5

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5

Arts Instructor Questions

Wyly, Elvin K

Individual

	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
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.	4	5	.98	35	4.1
Q8 High standards of achievement were set.	4	5	.70	36	4.3
Q9 The instructor was generally well prepared for class.	5	5	.31	36	4.9
Q10 The instructor was readily available to students outside of class (e.g., through email, office hours, or by appointment).	5	5	.78	33	4.5
Q11 The instructor treated students with respect.	5	5	.51	35	4.7

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5

Arts Course Question

GEOG 350 - 101

Course

	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
Q12 Considering everything how would you rate this course?	4	4	.87	36	4.2

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

Geography Departmental Questions**Wyly, Evin K****Individual**

	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
Q13 The instructor attempted to provide satisfactory answers to all questions in class.	5	5	.60	34	4.6
Q14 The instructor established effective communication with students in the classroom.	5	5	.76	36	4.4
Q15 The instructor was helpful when students requested course related assistance outside of class.	5	5	.54	30	4.7
Q16 Assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time.	5	5	.60	36	4.5

Choices / Values: Strongly Disagree=1 | Disagree=2 | Neutral=3 | Agree=4 | Strongly Agree=5

Geography Departmental Question**GEOG 350 - 101****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.	4	3,5	.89	5	4

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: 72.22% (26 of 36)

- Very passionate about the topic and inspirational! However, would be better if could rally for a more spacious classroom. Mid-afternoon classes in a packed room with the lights off = siesta time. Also wish that the pow erpoint notes were available. Props on the course website, very helpful and provides a lot of outside interest reading.
- Wyly has an excellent presentation style and a good sense of humour that goes well with his teaching.
- This teacher was extremely prepared for class and he explained the subject matter in a very detailed and efficient way. It was clear to me that he loved his job and wanted everyone else to enjoy the course and learn lots of new information. I liked how he posted all of the lectures in September so that I could read ahead and be fully prepared for every lecture. The only thing that I did not like was the fact that the TA marked our term papers and seemed to have conflicting expectations with what our professor had asked us to do for the project.
- This course could have used it discussion group. That would have been nice.
- Elvin is a great teacher, he really loves what he does. He's always available if you need help and responds to every question. Good course, but I found that the feedback I received on my assignments (marked by the TA) was unhelpful. We were promised detailed comments if we submitted early and all I got was a 3 sentence email. Meh, you can win them all.
- but elvins great, keep it up
- Professor Wyly is so knowledgeable and excited about his subject that he inspired interest in it. The course work was very reasonable and gave the students a lot of flexibility in what they wished to work on.
- Elvin is the professor you have no problems approaching. I didn't take advantage of office hours but would have felt very comfortable doing so which is saying something for me. Elvin is friendly, and laid back but still manages to create a stimulating academic environment. The class material was quite good especially through the second half of the course. My only suggestion would be to reduce the amount of time spent on early cities as it seemed that we spent longer on that topic than necessary. However, I recognize that this could also be personal perspective based on the fact that I was also taking Historical Geography of Urbanization at the same time and thus seemed like I was learning everything twice. I suspect for students who haven't taken Geog 321 or at least not at the same time, that the introduction would have been perfect.
- The amount of time and effort that Dr Wyly has put into this class is impressive and greatly appreciated. There are, however, a few suggestion that I have to make. First, the course outline should be made a little more stream-lined as it was difficult to identify information such easily as it is structured more in a essay style. Also, I felt that there was a lot of emphasis placed on math equations which made lecture hard to follow and very dry. I understand that some explanation is needed, but perhaps a balance can be struck so that non-math oriented people can engage in the material too! Thanks
- I liked the breakdown of 2 small papers throughout the year. It was easier to manage, and you got an in-depth analysis of 2 topics of the course.

- Elvin Wyly was an excellent professor. His love for the material really showed and got me very interested in it as well. His lectures were well researched and had great examples. Very intelligent professor. I really enjoyed his class.

- Really good. I appreciated the several guest lectures.

This class was well taught but was not what I expected and turned out to have little to do with my degree and not as in tune with my interests as I thought it would be. The assignments were vague and it would have been nice to have more instructions and structure.

- I think the workload for the course is fair; and I know the deadlines for projects are 'firm but optional,' but if they were just 'firm' I wouldn't procrastinate them until final exam period!! I suppose that is my issue entirely though...

- This was an excellent course, and I was truly inspired by urban geography. Thank you Elvyn!

- Most of the course was interesting, in some parts there were too many numbers and equations for a geography class.

- Elvin Wyly is an incredible instructor, he was truly passionate about what his students were learning and what he taught. I decided to major in Geography because of him.

- I feel like the materials are far too much. They are not straight to the point and they are very time consuming. The instructor does not seem to talk about the materials clearly. Rather he provides information that is overloaded and not straightforward.

- Wyly loves what he does and it shows. That helped make the class exciting and enjoyable.

- Best teacher, a joy to come to class.

- Prof. Wyly is very helpful and approachable. Sometimes, he goes off-topic during lectures which he focused too much on statistics and other quantitative stuff, which I find irrelevant to the course. He should focus more on theories and concepts since this is an Arts course, not a Science one.

- some technical and mathematical approaches in data analyzing can be difficult to follow and overwhelming in lectures. statistical number crunching and the use of computer programs can make it confusing to understand main concepts and take away points. projects take much time for research but are only worth 20%, which results in student's attention shifting to other assignments as a result

- This was my favorite class of the semester.

- I sincerely appreciated the enormous resources available in the lecture notes and on the course website. This enabled me to pursue any topic which interested me at a level of detail that is generally not available in a general lecture course. The textbook policy and late submission/feedback policy are truly enlightened and should be made mandatory for all courses at UBC.

- Though I understand the course is more or less a classic lecture style, I would have valued the chance for even occasional debate and discussion within the course. The instructor's only questions were limited to a fairly simplistic ilk: "where is this picture from?" and "what was the ____ theory all about?"

- Good course, great prof, really enthusiastic about the material which made it enjoyable.

- Outstanding professor with a clear passion in the field of Urban Geography

- Fantastic and knowledgeable instructor. He is clearly passionate about what he researches/teaches which makes attending every class an absolute pleasure. The most accommodating, responsive and helpful instructor I had for matters in-person, telephone and email. Encourages a high standard of work. A valuable asset to the department. His praise from past students is well warranted.

- Course content was interesting and well structured. Enjoyed the various guest lectures.

- I took this course because Professor Wyly was teaching it. He's the best there is, which is a bold statement coming from such a strong faculty in Geography. I look forward to more of his classes next semester.

- I think the independent project aspect of the course should be changed in order to make it more clearly for the student as to what is expected from them.