

Department: GEOG

Responses / Expected: 78 / 163

The instructor established effective communication with

Q14	students in the classroom.	0	1	10	25	39	5	5	.76	75	4.4
Q15	The instructor was helpful when students requested course related assistance outside of class.	0	0	5	23	40	5	5	.63	68	4.5
Q16	Assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time.	0	0	3	27	44	5	5	.57	74	4.6

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5

GEOG 250/URST 200 - 101

Geography Departmental Question

		Responses					Course				
		[SD]	[D]	[N]	[A]	[SA]	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	9	15	36	14	4	4	1.07	78	3.6

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] 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: 83.33% (65 of 78)

- good course overall. could use some more discussion during lecture, not just in designated discussion sections.
- I find that a lot of the content is interesting however I find that some of the slides in the lecture can be heavy. For example, sometimes the long quotes can seem overwhelming and hard to keep up with.
- Elvin tends to talk a lot and it's very easy to lose track of what he is talking about. Otherwise, he is a wonderful prof who is quite engaging and is very willing to answer questions. He's also very interesting!
- He made the class material engaging it was definitely interesting.
- i am very enjoyed in this class, i have learn more about different cities all around the world. in particular, i like the opening videos.

Professor Wyly is by far one of the best professors I've had at UBC. He is a very animated and interesting lecturer. More professors at UBC need to learn from him - he cares deeply for student learning and is ALWAYS available to meet with students whether it has to do with the course or not. I never wanted to skip any of his lectures and in the one instance where I had to I felt really sad because I love his lectures and his lecturing style!

- The discussion sections for the course were of no value. Maybe it was because I'm a 4th year Arts student. But most students had never completed the readings so it was difficult to have meaningful discussions on the course material or readings. Although the TA tried his best to facilitate and foster discussion he can only do so much. So often the discussions were off topic, uninteresting, and not challenging.

Although, I feel like I've learned a lot from this course just through the lectures and readings - the midterm was too easy. It was all multiple choice and I got only one question wrong. I barely studied for the exam - just skimmed through the slides. But the questions/answers were directly word for word from the slides. I understand Wyly's argument about not having essay questions on the midterm, but at least make the multiple choice a little more challenging - we're in university for a reason! Other than that I LOVE WYLY and cannot wait to take another course with him!

- A lot of very interesting digressions!

Professor Wyly is very passionate about cities and this conveys through his lectures! He is very engaging and knowledgeable about the topic. However, in the future, I suggest that he makes his powerpoint slides more organized and focused on the specific material being taught so it is easier for students to follow along! Overall, this class was a great course!

- Although the course has very interesting material, the lack of structure makes it more difficult to study and know what the KEY concepts are. A great prof, an an enjoyable class!
- Even with such a large lecture hall, Professor Wyly created a very warm and welcoming environment, which allowed for students to express their opinions freely.

- it would be nice for there to be more discussion in class because it can get cumbersome having to sit and listen to the prof lecture for 1hr 30mins without any other stimulating activities occurring in class.

It was good subject to know when cities are formed.

- I'm afraid that philosophy that applied on class would be different individually.
- Elvin really LOVES cities. Makes it easier to pay attention because he is so passionate.
- Professor Wyly was extremely organized with his powerpoint slides and was very knowledgeable with the material. I really enjoyed the fact that he brought in modern aspects to the course as well

Great class ! Really interesting and it made me want to pursue my interest in urban studies !

- The course was so much more than just about urbanization, I learned about photography, society, history, culture, municipalities, racial issues and so so much more !

Thank you for your enthusiasm and originality !

- It's a pretty good course. It was not what I was expecting, but definitely novel and interesting, and worth learning about. I found the teacher's lectures captivating that I almost didn't need my own notes. Almost.

I found the course material to be interesting and Dr. Wyly is amazingly dedicated. I found it sometimes difficult to decipher through all of the information provided to figure out exactly what was important to memorize (as there was A LOT of helpful information provided).

- I would suggest setting the standard from the beginning that everything from the readings is testable on the final. It didn't seem at all important to do the readings for the midterm unless you needed more clarification on a concept gone over in class. However, it was announced a few weeks before the end of the semester that there were going to be questions from the readings that were not covered in lecture. I understand that it is generally important to know everything that is assigned/introduced, but just speaking from a strategic standpoint as a student it did not seem at all necessary to do the readings based on the midterm.

Overall, I really appreciated Dr. Wyly's outstanding efforts.

- It's definitively a very interesting and enriching course. The professor prepares very well the classes, and the TA the discussion sections as well. However, it would be great if there is some level of discussion or interaction during the lectures. Thank you for the course prof!

I really liked almost everything about this course, it really sparked my interest in many different aspects of urban studies that I hadn't known or thought very much about before. My one complaint is that the course website was a little disorganized, and I had some difficulty finding the explanations of our different options for the writing assignment. Besides that the course was generally very enlightening and enjoyable.

- The lecture topics I found the most interesting were suburbia, race and ethnicity, immigration, urban governance and city political machines; all of those were great. I thought the lecture about "disciplines and the city" dragged on and could have been better, maybe if had a little less information about the nature of inter-disciplinary study and gave more in-depth examples of how people from different disciplines might view a particular urban issue, and work together on them.
- He is an effective professor who loves his topic and really tries to promote interest in the learnings of cities."
- The course could be a bit more cohesive, it seemed that the topics seemed not tied together a bit

- This course was interesting but my only major critique is that the lecture slides and course website MUST be condensed and summarized. It is way too hard to find everything on the course website. Maybe have a page on the website with a summary of everything we need to really know (dates, word limit etc).
- Very good teaching, however the slides had too much text on it. In order to improve attendance, reduce the amount of text on the slides and have students take own notes

- Professor Wyly is a very educated professor in his area of study. He keeps classes interesting and engaging but class slides are quite detailed it left students unsure as to what would be tested for the exams. Overall a good class but felt bombarded with information at times.
- Very interesting class, keep doing what you are doing ! :)

- The lectures were quite interesting, yet a little redundant given that the material was posted online. Attendance in a lecture+discussion type course should only be optional in the lectures, and mandatory in the discussion sections where there is more interaction required on behalf of the student, since we are paying for these classes, we should decide when we want to attend and do not.

Elvin is really enthusiastic about urban studies and the way that he delivers the material is very engaging. He is passionate and excited about what he is talking about. Even though the slides are very much writing, it is very good to refer back for exam preparation or other references. If I would not attend the classes, however, I would not be able to understand huge blocks of writing on those slides! The class is perfectly structured! Visuals, supporting videos kept me very engaged to the class this long (1.5 hours of talking could be quite sleepy). If somebody else would lecture this class, I could not have been this engaged and even think about pursuing a city planning masters after my undergraduate degree.

- Great lectures, while most of the material was available online Elwyn's oratory style was well worth attending lecture.
- It is an interesting class. I've learned a lot about the cities.

The system that you can submit your essay three times was good.

- I would prefer this class to be an 1 hour class on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

The professor is very committed to the course. He puts a lot of effort into it. Grading is very fair. He makes the content seem very interesting and the use of videos and pictures in class certainly made it more interesting. Certainly one of the best courses I've taken this semester and professor Wyly is an amazing professor.

Until I took this course, this was meant to be an elective. After the first lecture, I was convinced that this area of interest was what I was right for. Each lecture on top of this compounded upon the last one, and today, I'm totally trying to figure out the next few years to fit a minor in Geography - and that's only because I'm in 3rd year. If I took this in first year I would've been convinced of a major immediately. The first week of this class in fact organically inspired me to go towards working on a project in local government.

To sum this up, Geog 200 was like going to an amazing Ted Talk every class. Keep it up Dr. Wyly, you've been an amazing inspiration, and I'll be the most eager to get into any future class you hold.

I thoroughly enjoyed this class. From an engineering background, I found this class added a different dimension to my traditional course structure. Elvin selected a wide variety of interesting topics that pertained to the study of cities. Sometimes it would be a little challenging to understand how they fit in all together. On the question of lecture slides, I do feel that there is a lot of text presented which can get overwhelming. I do like the Professor's use of multimedia. He posts past news articles, videos and pictures which really add to the lecture material and also relate it to current events. Perhaps more interactive in class activities might encourage more class participation. All in all, I really enjoyed this class and the discussions! I feel like it is a new option I'd like to continue to explore.

Very friendly and accessible.

- Passionate about the subjects being discussed.

Midterm shouldn't be entirely based on multiple choice - very interesting subject with lots to write about and yet not given the opportunity to by simply having multiple choice. 'Key points' for each session to gain full understanding of what's being learnt. Love the use of videos - should be used more as most effective lessons when there has been a mix of appropriate videos and slide shows!

really enjoyed the personal anecdotes and use of multimedia.

- I think what might increase attendance is if you supplement the lecture slides with additional information you only mention and discuss in lecture that will also be on the midterm and final exams.

- very knowledgeable about subjects, made class very interesting! Positive :)

it is good to have power point available online.

However there are too much texts on power point as well as the course website.

- prefer a more short and clear layout of both.

Overall, an interesting and inspiring course."

- A more clear idea of the course and of the paper topic

He is very passionate about his work and was able to view things in a variety of perspective.

However, the course seems to me more like a history class, which some lecture topics are VERY engaging when it is closely relevant or able to put into current reality, and some lose my attention within 25 minutes when it is about

history earlier than 1950s. This may be a very good course for a lot of people, however, I simply couldn't perform well enough since I'm those kind of people who learns by listening, some lectures like the introduction, path, community, photography, metropolitan, immigration, class, first nations, I still have vivid memory about those lectures as I can repetitively apply them throughout the course, and those case studies are very story like which sticks in my head. However, the first cities, urbanisation (different approaches) Suburbia, Disciplines, I barely got any learning outcome from it. Surprisingly, the social media - facebook one wasn't intriguing me either.

In regarding attendance, its their lost, because this course emphasis about learning, not just "memorising" facts. Its about viewing things in different perspectives, not ONE correct answer. Therefore, if they don't attend the lessons or discussions, they'd not achieve the course objective.

However, this is only MY view, and as far as I've observed in the class, it is way more positive for the others.

Elvin Wyly is a phenomenal lecturer and professor. He is genuinely excited about his class, which is really refreshing. I would mention that the "city reader" is available on the UBC library website so students don't have to buy it. I accessed every article easily online, which saved me fifty bucks. He grades fairly and uses a variety of sources to teach, which is awesome. There is a plethora of information on his site, which is helpful. What I appreciated most was Elvin's down to earth style. He's clearly smart, but not intimidating. Which really helps make learning fun and interactive again. A lot of professors can't get out of their ivory tower and it really inhibits student learning, especially if they are terrifying to talk to! Elvin is approachable and knowledgeable. All in all, truly one of the best profs I've had at UBC.

The slides are very difficult to follow.

It would be beneficial to use less colours of text. larger fonts, remove extra text and simply pull out the INDIVIDUAL LINE that you would like to elaborate on.

Using less images per slide (ie not overlapping images)

When using images make sure that they are of a resolution where the viewer can actually make out the crucial element of the image

The text on the slides, while highly detailed and interesting, tends to be taken directly out of other written works. The expert view of these writers may be of substantial value, however I would appreciate seeing your personal insight and interpretation of these passages in the notes more frequently.

I would appreciate a slide called "class objectives" at the beginning of each power point and include a very brief summary of those points against at the end of class to ensure that everyone has a tangible means of determining what the take home message of each powerpoint presentation should be.

I felt a lot of information was delivered about cities that I would have not considered as a collection without taking this class.... unfortunately I feel as though there has been a lacking of connectivity among the highly divergent information covered in the class. Possibly look at creating a sort of visual schematic that would serve to link together all the components of the class and understand their effects on the students comprehension of "urban studies".

- I enjoyed the class but sometimes we covered some weird conspiracies.

Excellent prof. Very knowledgeable and interesting lectures. There wasn't much student discussion in the lectures but honestly I don't think his lectures needed it, it was a pretty big class, we also had discussion tutorials and his class material was engaging enough on its own. Also really respectful and accommodating in helping students with the course outside the class

The instructor is very enthusiastic in teaching his material which made it enjoyable to listen and to learn. This instructor is also very flexible in which I am very grateful for. He allowed me to attend another discussion section as the other discussion section that I was registered to was across campus from my next class (which takes more than 10 minutes to get to). The class atmosphere is very comfortable and inviting! Thank you and have a great holiday!

- I don't really know what it was but this class was very dull to get through. Trying to keep your attention focused was extremely difficult and I felt that the subject digressed to other things a lot.
- The tests are very fair. "The available powerpoints made studying much more effective. Elvin is a very passionate and engaging professor, "however the long lecture of 1.5 hr made it difficult to stay intuned."

- The biggest challenge in this course is navigating the website. Paper criteria expectations are rather unclear. In upcoming years please make a clear outline of criteria and make the 5 essay topics more clear in reducing words off the website. Too many words to read resulting in several people just choosing the photography option.

Professor Wyly was engaging, insightful and approachable. His enthusiasm for the subject was contagious, and I feel like I learned a lot. The class itself was fairly interdisciplinary (we went from Heisenberg to Picasso in five

- minutes), but I think that it was a good beginning survey class for those interested in urban studies. Professor Wyly seems genuinely concerned with student success, and made himself extremely available. I liked that he allowed students to share interesting tidbits in the first five minutes of class, and that he seemed to really consider student comments and questions. The discussion sections could have used a little more structure though.
 - Excellent instructor! Very enthusiastic about the subject matter which would have other been very boring
 - I really enjoyed the teaching method and the style of teaching. I thought it was very effective.
 - I really appreciated getting feedback on our written project and having the slides available online. Professor Wyly's enthusiasm for the course material was contagious!
 - Dr. Wyly is a great prof. He is passionate, fun, smart and very concerned with his students. He is very considerate, fair and respectful. One of my favourite profs I've had. He is very committed and engaged.
 - the discussion groups did not contribute to the class and I would suggest not having them or having them every other week
 - the class material was interesting but sometimes went off on a tangent that made me tune out
 - i appreciated having the different times we could hand in the paper but they should be due on the last day of class so that we aren't preparing two essays for the same day
 - for the exam, i would have preferred if we didn't know the essay question before hand
 - overall, an interesting course
 - good and enthusiastic prof
 - mid term, and paper grades were very fair
 - lecture slides were very good and full of everything you need to know
 - tended to read off of the lecture slides for long periods of time during some classes
 - The pdfs of your lecture slides are nice to have but sometimes the words get covered by other pictures. It would be nice to have the powerpoints up too. Other than that, you're an awesome teacher :)
 - I thought this class was excellent. It was really well structured, and I don't have any recommendations for further improvement.
- No iclickers they force you to buy them and they are expensive. For slides try to have fewer large blocks of text and easier to read formats, amount of text is good. I feel that I need to be at class in order to fully understand the material and the information you want to convey. You listed the City Reader as an optional book when in actuality you actually need it in order to meaningfully participate in the discussion sections and for the exams - that is literally the opposite of what an optional book is. As a suggestion, many of the articles were found online either go online with those texts and remove the ones that can't be found online from the course or make a course reader pack for us to purchase. The City Reader is a valuable resource, but not for the price they're selling it for at the bookstore. There is also way too much reading. Discussion articles, textbook chapters, and additional lecture
- articles on top of that (and we need to know all of it for the exam) - I find this extremely unfair. Furthermore I found that while the texts we had to read were relevant, other than the articles discussed in discussion, the rest of the readings were very unguided, broad, and not enough was done to specify exactly what we needed to know for the exams (this is especially true for the Phillips textbook).
- Wiley is clearly an effective and knowledgeable teacher and it is evident that he is passionate and well versed in urban studies. Would prefer more lectures like the ones on suburbia and transportation as opposed to the ones about community power.
- The instructor showed a keen interest and knowledge for the course material and communicated exceedingly well to the students. Great job on those power points and use of multi-media!
 - Lecture slide-based course, not very intuitive
- I liked this course and I would definitely love to take another class with Dr.Wyly in the future if I can. He was always passionate in teaching the materials and was ready to help the students out.
- Just one thing that I didn't really like about the course was the way he made the lecture slides. The notes online
- were helpful but I think they could have been better if the slides had more explanations and details.
- Other than that, I really enjoyed his lectures and the last four months of learning.

Thanks Dr.Wyly :)

Availability outside of class: It would be nice to have some office hours that are not so early in the day. I would have had to come in 3 or 4 hours early just to meet with him.

Lecture material: It would have been useful to explain how each class ties in to a broader goal for the course. It was hard to see where Elvin was going with some of the stuff early on in the semester, but I really liked the lectures in the middle of the term because they seemed to be targeted towards a clear purpose.

- Good parts about the course to keep: the discussions (if you can find TAs like Cat), Elvin's humour / personality, the guest lecturer about protest movements, the walking tour, the movie about urban planning with public space, tying past projects in to the lectures.

Thank you for everything Elvin, the class would not be the same without your enthusiasm and excitement for the material.

A very interesting course that made me more aware of anything 'urban' in the newspaper. Professor Wyly's teaching is different from other professors I had, but I do like his teaching style, it's interesting. His web page is also fascinating as well when you just scroll through all his research interests and courses he teaches! However, sometimes (not all the time) his lectures can get slightly confusing on what the focus is as the lectures can go quite in depth about a particular topic. The amount of writing on each slide can get overwhelming as well! His 'right hand side' material on the geog 250 web page is also very helpful if you want some clarification about the lecture or just want to have a more in depth understanding about the lecture. I also enjoy going to his office hours as he is very helpful about basically anything, from lectures to papers to just talking about anything geography related. Overall a great course that makes you think about the city in a different way!

- This was a very interesting and comprehensive course, in that it delved into many different aspects of urban studies, but tied it all together in a very interesting way that was not too theoretical. It was easy to understand, but still left you with wanting to learn more about certain issues.

For anyone who wants to understand the socio-, economic and cultural aspects of a city, it's a must do. Prof. Elvin

- Wyly's passion towards the subject is really inspiring. Thank you for keeping this course open to all students of UBC, regardless of department or year of study, it is a really unique experience.