

Supplemental Course Evaluation
History 808 and Sociology 980
The Global City
Spring 2005 Anton Rosenthal

1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

The writing assignments were the most valuable because they challenged me to synthesize the readings, discussion, and my own background knowledge in further research. The intellectual space and openness to creativity allowed for understanding and application as opposed to regurgitation.

There were a few readings that I found less valuable, but in the whole scope, very few.

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

We were provided with literature and tools to pursue our own research and enable us to answer the central questions of the course. The emphasis was not on specifically establishing the definition of the Global City in history, but on approaching the question from different angles and exploring the complexity of the answer. Looking back we hit every point on the Seminar Goals #1-6.

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

I used new types of primary sources that I had never (or rarely) worked with: travel account, photography, etc.

I was exposed to historians and theories that I had never touched.

I had used comparative methods to some extent in a literary and film context, but I enjoyed working with them and developing those further in history.

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1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

most valuable - feel like I have a more informed perspective when analyzing a place, I feel I know what phenomena to look for for insight... can ~~analyze~~ interpret primary sources & draw broader conclusions

least valuable - hmm... gosh, maybe... can't think of least valuable, maybe the more esoteric hard to understand readings...

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

all goals were met except the ones which were modified to better fit the class body.

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

- using primary sources
- comparison of viewpoints/cultures/places
- analysis/deconstruction of materials
- analysis of visual imagery

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Thanks for an
enjoyable course.
My favorite course
I have taken at KU!

1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

Most valuable = The degree of flexibility & creativity that I was encouraged to use in analyzing the texts and developing my ideas.

Least valuable = Hard to say, I know the readings I did not like (Savigliano) others enjoyed.

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

All goals were met.

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

I enjoyed the interdisciplinary nature of the course, especially being exposed to new disciplines & methodologies i.e. interpreting photography.

Thanks for the opportunity to approach each topic from the perspective that felt most natural & for encouraging us to utilize new perspectives in our work.

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1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

This class had the best discussion I have ever had in a class (as far as quality and participation by all). In addition, I felt my researching skills were well developed, as I used a wide variety of sources that were not from my typical shortlist (JSTOR, Lexis-Nexis, etc). As for as least valuable, if I have to pick something, I would say the comparative readings (for Mar 31) were the least effective.

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

The goals of the course were well met.

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

I certainly improved "old" research skills by digging deeper to find older materials. (Old is relative, and I am meaning journal articles not on databases and books that have not been checked out in a decade.)

New Skills - The ideas of spectacle and public space were the most difficult for me to work with and were new ideas that challenged me a great deal.

The teaching writ paper will also be a new skill. It seems like such an obvious skill to develop for students in grad school, but it is the first time anything like this has been assigned.

When I've told my friends about it, they are blown away and saddened that it is not a common teaching practice.

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1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

Most valuable: course readings, class discussions,
assigned essays, a very well
thought of syllabus, complete,
assignments well explained.
& goals

- The diversity of topics discussed
I cannot think of anything that was not valuable

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

I believe the goals were fully met.

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

- I learn how and where to find journals and articles about urban issues and how to use this information to write critical essays.

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1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

most - being exposed to new academic disciplines (history & sociology)
and @ finding new ways to approach material

least - with so many assignments / topics, it felt rushed
as a class. I would have liked fewer presentations
& more readings / discussions

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

very much - I came out knowing more
about cities, and most importantly having
new methodologies

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

using primary source materials was a
new skill (though at some point I still
need to learn about interviewing)

old - using journals - I had an opportunity
to explore new ones

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1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

(+) MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO SPECIFIC PROBLEMATICS.
MULTIPLE CITIES, PERIODS.
CREATIVITY IN ANALYSIS/RESEARCH.
COMPARATIVE METHODS OF ANALYSIS.
WRITE/ANALYZE NARRATIVES.

(-) THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES → I DID NOT GRASP THE CORE AT 100%.

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

~~QUESTIONS~~

①	PLACE OF THE CITY	—	100%
②	TEACHING	—	90%
③	COMPARATIVE	—	100%
④	SUMMARIES	—	70%
⑤	WRITING	—	80%
⑥	LITERATURE	—	70%

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

NEW! LIFE STORIES.

USING FICTION FOR HISTORY ANALYSIS.

OLD! PHOTOGRAPHY ANALYSIS
COMPARATIVE "

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1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

Least: I found writing a research paper every two weeks (even though short) to be quite taxing as research can be quite time-consuming & I felt like I was finding new materials all the time of the typical research building on itself.
Most: Speaking one-on-one about the nature of academic work.

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

I think I should have reminded myself of the ^{course} ~~best~~ goals on the syllabus. I feel I met about #2, 5, & 6. And actually #4 too. I think I can only report #1 in a general sense (typically)

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

Primary sources: I find the idea of finding stuff informally is not sure why, but I also know that I found the photos & the found records fascinating & am intending to search for these types of materials when I write my thesis -

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1. What was most valuable and what was least valuable in this course in terms of your intellectual development?

Exploring an interdisciplinary approach to understanding global processes was perhaps the most valuable aspect of this course.

Least valuable - listening so much to some other students & desired more guided discussions or topical control of discussions from instructor.

Syllabus was not very helpful & could be improved.

2. To what extent were the stated goals of the course met?

#1 goal - unsure

#2 - OK

#3 - comparative method of analysis - well, the assignment

Perhaps more careful choice of readings next time. charged pro...

#4 - a bit too in depth - but I enjoyed this goal (as listed on syllabus)

#5 - Excellently achieved this goal.

#6 - Excellent again. Very valuable.

3. What new skills or disciplinary methods did you learn and what old skills were you able to improve?

N/A