

What features of this course and/or instructor were most effective? Why?

- Class discussions were most effective and the handouts that students did. Gave an outline of the chapters
- He **was/is** an awesome prof. Very personable. Very knowledgeable. I highly recommend this class and prof. This course was perfect for how I grew up.
- His knowledge for the material and ability to explain.
- Interacting with the class.
- Discussions—his ability to create discussion on the topics and apply them to our everyday lives.
- The teacher's knowledge of the material. He provided great insight to the class discussion.
- Professor Yamane was always enthusiastic and made everyone feel comfortable when they participated.
- Instructor was interesting.
- Classroom discussions were interesting and entertaining. Also, the paper that we worked on all semester helped me understand my family and our religious history.
- I liked the guest speaker and reading current articles on the subject matter (Radiance Church) as it allowed us to see how material applied in daily life. Also liked having time off to focus on papers.
- I just think his enthusiasm and humor he brought to class everyday really made the course enjoyable.
- Teaching method—Because he got the class involved with the course subjects.
- He was really personal, had a good sense of humor and made the class fun as a whole.
- The teacher's enthusiasm and his knowledge of the material provided a great learning environment.
- The teacher made learning the material fun.
- The setup in which tests took the form of consecutive papers that we were continually adding to and improving. Allowed for a more direct use of the learned materials and the ability to incorporate our own ideas.
- Assigned students to do their own presentation and **outline**—I really liked that and was helpful.
- Class discussion is the most important part of classes like this one—a sociology class must examine the differences among a group of people in a society (like the students in a classroom) so learning what the news of the instructor and other students helped the understanding of the course

material and provoked intelligible sociological thought and discourse. References to Kanye (were entertaining at least). Speaker was excellent.

- I enjoyed being able to relate what we learned from the readings to movies like "Save" as well as the lecture by the professor from Davidson.
- The readings and discussions provided a place to really think about our contemporary culture. The paper allowed us to apply it to our lives.
- Great sense of humor—makes class interesting. Thought provoking, made me think about my stance on religion.

What features of this course and/or instructor could be improved? How?

- Somehow encourage more discussion and class participation so that there's less awkward silence at times.
- Some of the readings didn't apply to me because they were basing info on a more idealist society
- More instruction outlines on what we are covering in class instead of just student-led discussions.
- A little more structure for discussions in class to increase **participation/discussion**.
- None, awesome course
- Class discussions were painful at times. Have more grades – not just paper and participation.
- Needs to be more points available or less emphasis on participation because it was clear that many were uncomfortable talking about religion.
- I think that some of the books we read seemed to be redundant.
- Nothing. It's a great course.
- Maybe 2-3 fewer books while spending more time on some of the longer, more important **readings/books**.
- Assign more material besides just reading maybe.
- Religions pluralism may need to be highlighted more. Sometimes class discussion just stops. Those days are not really worth my coming to class, but then again, I should maybe have spoken up.
- I thought that class was a bit productive at times although that could be related to the fact that not many students actually read the material.
- I would have liked to discuss, just a little, major sociological theories of religion (Durkheim, **Marx**, Berger, etc.) I also think dealing with contemporary thoughts and theories such as pluralism, postmodernism and relativism would benefit the course.
- More guidance on class discussions, sometimes I felt like I was bombarded with material and didn't know what to focus on—this made class participation somewhat difficult for me because I spent time trying to formulate ideas and make sense of so much material.

Please include any other general comments about this course and/or instructor.

- Really enjoyed the course and the professor.
- Great class and prof
- Very enjoyable course, great instructor.
- The course is very interesting.
- An excellent class and excellent professor.
- Dr . Yamane was great, one of my favorite professors here. He was very accessible and helpful throughout the course.
- All in all, good, enjoyable class.
- One of the best profs on campus.
- Great person and prof.
- Loved Prof. Yamane and class = great prof.
- Good = enjoy the enthusiasm of Dr. Y. Understand his frustrations with the class sometimes.
- I thought this was a very interesting class. I learned a lot.
- It would have been nice to draw more conclusive answers and parallels to the ideas presented rather, movements of absolute truth and no trust were presented without being able to see how they both exist and are growing and why.
- Overall I enjoyed the course, and feel that Dr. Yamane is a good person to teach this material.