

Narrative Course Evaluations

1) *Were the pre-course reading assignments useful? Did you do any additional preparation for your course? Are there any books or articles that you would like to see included in future years? Any that you might suggest removing?*

1. The articles were a good overview/set-up for course discussion and activities.
2. Yes, they were focused and will be useful for future reference.
3. {no response}
4. The pre-course readings were very useful. I would suggest including informative readings not just in scientific papers.
5. The articles for required reading were surprisingly redundant; only one article would have been necessary. Otherwise, it was absolutely important foundation-building for the course.
6. The reading assignments were very useful; they provided a good introduction to the materials.
7. Yes.
8. Readings helpful. A dictionary of common imaging terms would be helpful...but I should have done this myself!
9. They were! The readings themselves gave me helpful and useful insight into what we were going to be doing for the duration of the week, as well as what was to be discussed in class.
10. Readings were helpful.
11. Yes, they were quite useful.

2) *What are your thoughts on the course workbook and/or other teaching materials distributed during class? Was the content appropriate and useful? Will it continue to be useful for you after the course?*

1. The workbook and accompanying materials were relevant, well thought-out, and very useful for the week. Yes, I will continue to use after the course.
2. The workbook is very helpful. I was able to use the instructions successfully to complete the homework.
3. The workbook is imperative to a participant's success in this class. It is extremely well-organized and provides step-by-step instruction on many complex multi-spectral imaging techniques.
4. The workbook is on point, but I would suggest including written theory; sometimes it was difficult to write things down due to the nature of the course.
5. Great. So valuable to get step-by-step directions with screenshots explaining how to operate the programs. Visual component very much appreciated. I would like a copy of the lecture PowerPoint slides—several people brought this up throughout the week, but we haven't yet received them.
6. The workbook was great! The staff did a great job of giving clear instructions and providing images.

7. Yes.
8. Great workbook. Invaluable for future research.
9. The course workbook was very useful, in following step-by-step instructions within a particular project/task; the content was also very appropriate and useful. Hopefully it will be useful for whenever it will be needed.
10. Very good! I will absolutely use them.
11. It was very useful to have the workbook with step-by-step instructions, and my lab will continue to use it to guide us through implementation.

3) *If you've taken previous RBS courses, how did this one compare?*

1. {no response}
2. As far as content and instructions, this course is excellent and on par with the best RBS has to offer. From the perspective of the other aspects of the RBS experience (Monday lecture, &c.), there did not seem to be an effort made.
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. {no response}
6. This is my first RBS course.
7. Better. Very useful and clever.
8. They were very different—not fair to compare.
9. This is my first RBS course.
10. {no response}
11. {no response}

4) *Which aspects of the course were most interesting and relevant for you as an individual? Did you walk away with any new insights, ideas, or project plans?*

1. The demonstrations of the equipment and how/why they are used. Yes, new ideas were inspired.
2. Yes, I'm looking forward to applying what I've learned at my institution. Also, I have come away with additional opportunities for collaboration.
3. Virtually ALL aspects of this course were both interesting and relevant! Being able to see the imaging scientists at work, then having the opportunity to practice what we had just witnessed provided a superb learning experience.
4. The diverse possibilities within preservation imaging and all the tests and procedures that could be performed to a diverse array of materials.
5. This course is a bit advanced for my institution's current needs, but as a result, I have great context and background information on not just digitizing but studying the scientific materiality of objects.
6. I love the fact that we can use this technology to look beyond the surface to gather more and useful information. I'm happy to have this knowledge and to apply it to future careers and projects.
7. Imaging process.
8. Time in the digitization lab and seeing the set-up and specialized equipment.
9. I pretty much walked away with a whole new understanding, as well as insights and new potential ideas on how to {illegible} this learned information within an information environment.
10. The combination of hands-on and lecture was really key to understanding the

material.

11. I'm glad to know what's worked for PRTD in their imaging practice, so I can start with a foundation. It's a huge help to get suggestions for open source and affordable software.

5) *Did the instructors help you to acquire all the skills and information promised in the course description? Was anything left out or undeveloped? Did you learn what you had hoped to learn?*

1. Yes. No, nothing was left out. Yes, I learned all that I hoped and was capable of grasping during this week.
2. Yes, I've come away with a clear understanding of the applications and methods of preservation imaging science.
3. I learned far more than I had hoped for! FF and her crew are true gems in this imaging field of research.
4. I did, but I also need to organize my notes and dedicate more time for practicing.
5. Yes!
6. The instructors were great! They were patient and helped if we had any questions. Yes, I learned more about preservation imaging and acquired new skills.
7. Yes, very good. Instructors were very helpful, nice and clear. We learned a lot. It was a really great experience.
8. Yes, as promoted. I have some things I can implement and some things to grow towards.
9. Absolutely! They were also very understanding that if I had any more questions, comments and/or concerns, I could contact them directly.
10. Yes. I learned more than expected.
11. I've learned all I expected and more.

6) *How do you plan to use the skills and knowledge acquired during your time here?*

1. Going back to my parent institution to suggest ways to collaborate with digitization and how certain aspects can directly impact conservation.
2. I plan to collaborate with another institution to learn more about specific rare/archival materials.
3. I hope to apply for grants and start a multi-spectral aspect for our existing digitization programs.
4. To better analyze materials in the conservation lab and to suggest new approaches.
5. Intentionally select and prioritize which items should be digitized and which should be further processed for scientific study.
6. As an archivist, I plan to use the skills I've learned to further my job experience and help other institutions to look at the different technologies available to better preserve historical objects.
7. I have a general view, thanks to the course, and I can do something with the tools.
8. Share with colleagues at my job.
9. For whenever it may be needed or called upon within any cultural heritage institution that has a desire to go down this path in the near future.
10. I plan to investigate equipment required to do this work and also open conversations about interest within my library and university.
11. My home institution hopes to someday start our own preservation imaging

system, and I will help plan and train.

7) *Please briefly describe the intellectual level of the course. What sort of person might benefit the most from taking it?*

1. This course will be interesting/engaging for all persons.
2. The intellectual level is at a graduate course level. Anyone interested in rare materials would benefit from this course. I'd particularly recommend subject specialists/curators, as well as professors.
3. The course is of a high intellectual level but taught in a way that is easy to understand. People involved in preservation and digital initiatives would most benefit from this class.
4. Basic computer knowledge.
5. This course was more niche than I expected—I came with no background on preservation imaging (at least half did), but as a result I learned a lot. For anyone able to contribute to the curatorial and scientific care of their collections.
6. I would describe the intellectual level of the course as a master's level. The content is a bit more to understand and grasp. I think anyone who is interested, regardless of their background, would benefit.
7. It's high-level. Good quality.
8. Someone who does imaging or supervises staff who do.
9. Most likely someone or anyone who spearheads an applicable department where the information is disseminated would be most helpful (technical services, preservation department, &c.).
10. While this is an intellectually challenging course, it is also most useful for the practitioner. It may be less rewarding on an informational/theoretical level.
11. The course does a good job of taking scientific analysis and imaging science at a high level and making it accessible. It will be most interesting to preservation specialists.

8) *If applicable, what were the most original, powerful, or otherwise noteworthy educational moments in the course? Were there any "aha!" moments you'd like to share?*

1. {no response}
2. The course built our skills cumulatively, so on the last day we were all able to run with analysis on our own.
3. N/A
4. When we visited the manuscript room and we encountered the opportunity to develop our own questions, and learned how to apply preservation imaging to answer them.
5. The equipment is not what makes the LC's preservation department one of the only of its kind in the world—it's the staff of thirteen scientists to study and process the digital data that comes in.
6. N/A
7. The visit in the Jefferson Building. The imaging machine. {private response}
8. The transmitted light equipment.
9. Exactly. Those "aha!" moments where I was finally able to grasp the information discussed.

10. Great opportunities to see mundane but highly useful tools in the labs. Wonderful discussion around the table, and instructors were very open to answering questions at all levels.
11. Figuring out the scientific application and analysis of collected data took a few days, but it was a revelation once it sank in.

9) *How could the course have been improved?*

1. {no response}
2. I think providing more of the overall RBS experience should occur.
3. The course was perfect.
4. N/A
5. Days one and two were intense because all the information was so new, then the pace really slowed down day four and especially day five, practicing the programs (important and valued, but could have been spread out). Losing Wednesday (day three) may have been the cause for this feeling. {LC was closed that Wednesday owing to the presidential funeral.—RBS staff}
6. I think the course was well-organized, and there were plenty of examples.
7. Send computer requirements one month or three weeks before the course.
8. Really need to have folks download and test software...I was prepared, but some folks fell behind due to technical difficulties.
9. None. Everything was phenomenal.
10. Not sure?
11. N/A

10) *Do you feel that you got your money's worth? Would you recommend the course to others?*

1. Yes. Yes.
2. Absolutely yes.
3. I would HIGHLY recommend this course to others.
4. Great experience. Will strongly recommend.
5. Yes, and yes!
6. Yes, I felt like I got my money's worth, besides the national day of mourning for President Bush. Yes, I would recommend this course. {LC was closed that Wednesday owing to the presidential funeral.—RBS staff}
7. Yes. Yes, of course.
8. Yes!
9. Absolutely. I would highly recommend this course due to its high quality.
10. Yes.
11. Yes, and yes.

11) *If your course made any trips outside of the classroom, do you feel that they were time well spent?*

1. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. N/A
4. N/A

5. Yes! Loved visiting other floors and divisions of LC.
6. N/A
7. {no response}
8. Seeing the other labs doing pigment research was interesting.
9. Yes, absolutely.
10. Yes.
11. The trip to the rare book reading room to meet Stephanie Stollie was a great look into how what we learned can be important to others in research.

12) *If you attended any of our optional evening events, do you feel that they were a good use of your time? Were there any that were particularly important to your RBS experience? Any that you could have done without?*

1. {no response}
2. There should be more RBS administrative staff around, even though this course is not in Charlottesville.
3. I realize that this course was at a satellite location, but having evening events would have been very nice.
4. N/A
5. N/A
6. N/A
7. Yes.
8. {no response}
9. Yes, I was able to meet and network with professionals within their respective fields relevant to mine.
10. No events were offered.
11. N/A

13) *Do you have any additional thoughts or advice for anyone considering taking this course in a future year?*

1. {no response}
2. See above on staffing. There seems to be more RBS staff than ever before, which makes the lack of RBS staff around during the week so surprising.
3. Take the course...and any other course FF might be teaching!
4. N/A
5. {no response}
6. {no response}
7. {no response}
8. 64-bit computer with plenty of RAM.
9. I am so glad I was able to take full advantage of this opportunity where I would not have been able to do so otherwise.
10. {no response}
11. Take it! Do the advance reading!

14) *If you had to sum up your RBS experience with a single sentence, phrase, or haiku, what would you say?*

1. I listened, I asked questions, I did, I learned. Now I will go do.

2. Excellent course!
3. Excellent.
4. A W E S O M E !
5. Enriching experience, valuable professional development and learning from peers from other institutions.
6. This was a great and informative experience, and I can apply what I've learned to future projects.
7. It's very useful.
8. Well worth the time. Somewhat aspirational, but mentally we need this, too.
9. It was simply just magnificent and truly unforgettable.
10. It was a wonderful experience. Great instruction and a lovely group of people. I felt acutely engaged in the topic and ready to take back what I learned.
11. {no response}

Student Data

Number of respondents: 11 (of 11)

How did you arrange for time off to attend this course?

My institution/employer gave me professional leave time: 8 (72.72%)

My institution/employer did not give me professional leave; I used paid or vacation days: 1 (9.09%)

I am a student or non-year-round employee, with a more flexible summer schedule: 1 (9.09%)

My situation does not fit any of the options above: 1 (9.09%)

Who paid your RBS tuition costs?

I paid 100% myself: 2 (18.18%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 5 (45.45%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to pay/waive 100%: 3 (27.27%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to pay/waive part; my institution/employer paid the rest: 1 (9.09%)

Who paid your RBS housing expenses?

I paid 100% myself: 1 (9.09%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 3 (27.27%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to cover 100%: 3 (27.27%)

I stayed with friends/family, or stayed in my own home and commuted: 4 (36.36%)

Who paid your RBS travel expenses?

I paid 100% myself: 2 (18.18%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 4 (36.36%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to cover 100%: 2 (18.18%)

I used a scholarship/fellowship to cover part; I paid the rest: 1 (9.09%)

I live locally, and had no travel expenses: 2 (18.18%)

*Which of the following **best** describes your current occupation?*

Library disciplines:

Archivist: 1 (9.09%)

Conservator/binder/preservation librarian: 7 (63.63%)

Other: 2 (18.18%)

Student working toward a/n:

Ph.D./D.Phil: 1 (9.09%)