

### **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. All were most helpful.
2. Reading was fine.
3. They were challenging and fascinating. The most esoteric one inadvertently wound up on the “required” list and gave a lot of us headaches.
4. Very useful.
5. The reading covered a wide range of background information. Most, but not all, were helpful.
6. Yes. None.
7. Very useful, though order of importance rather than alpha order would be helpful.
8. Yes.

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. It was great to be given a copy of all the slides.
2. Yes, useful.
3. N/A. Instructor put PowerPoint slides on flash drives if we brought them; some good handouts.
4. Shared electronic materials will be useful.
5. Course work was appropriate and useful.
6. N/A
7. Yes. Yes. Yes.
8. There wasn't a course workbook, but PowerPoint slides will be useful.

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

1. {no response}
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. Excellent—learning from the world's expert.
5. N/A
6. {private response}
7. Same level of mastery on part of the instructor. Same level of intensity of work and information.
8. Very well.

- 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. I was reminded of how little I know about many areas, and I am eager to continue my studies.
  2. I learned so much about mapping challenges.
  3. Nice mix of lecture, looking at maps, discussion, and instructor's stories of acquisitions and field trips.
  4. Long view of cartographic history was fascinating—combined with an intensely detailed examination of Ptolemy and Waldseemüller. Many ideas that—perhaps!—will become projects.
  5. Hands-on component was a treat.
  6. Palimpsest recycling.
  7. The math and science behind maps. Yes.
  8. It was all interesting. I'm also interested in exploring ArcGIS.
- 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. See Q4.
  2. I felt like we did well, even with missing a day.
  3. I was terrified by the description of the math involved in understanding projections. We saw videos and only discussed them briefly, so as a result I still don't really understand them.
  4. Modern cartography was necessarily a bit abbreviated (and not promised as part of the course).
  5. Yes.
  6. Missed out on projections because of government shutdown. {LC was closed Wednesday owing to the presidential funeral.—RBS staff}
  7. Yes.
  8. Yes.
- 6) *How do you plan to use the skills and knowledge acquired during your time here?*
1. Knowing about projections and how maps were made will give me increased knowledge to study and learn and appreciate my own map collection.
  2. Encourages me to continue my Latin studies.
  3. {no response}
  4. For professional instruction and hopefully for further academic investigation.
  5. I look forward to applying my new understanding with K-12 teachers and students.
  6. Unsure.
  7. Conceptually rich, shifted perception, makes me want to understand PRAGMATICS of geospatial representation over time.
  8. Teaching and exhibiting the map collection at my home institution.
- 7) *Please briefly describe the intellectual level of the course. What sort of person might benefit the most from taking it?*

1. All levels.
2. Graduate student and above.
3. Very high.
4. High level—expects some knowledge of early books and printing.
5. The course challenged me.
6. Approachable for advanced lay person, but extra rich if you know Latin.
7. Someone with advanced study in the domain.
8. This was totally outside my area of expertise as it was for many others in the class. The level, though introductory, was high because it required a different background than most have.

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. Actually, I learned a lot about the Library of Congress as well.
3. {no response}
4. Each encounter with materials is always an “aha” moment.
5. Seeing firsthand the items you’ve only heard about is powerful.
6. Explanations of the mathematical projections via geometry.
7. {no response}
8. I really liked the variety—looking at actual objects, maps, and books—and seeing the laboratory, &c.

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

1. More time. Unfortunately, our session was reduced to four days {LC was closed Wednesday owing to the presidential funeral.—RBS staff}
2. {no response}
3. {private response}
4. Clearer syllabus in advance.
5. The content felt rushed due to the day off for President Bush’s death. But still worthwhile.
6. {no response}
7. {no response}
8. I wish we had been informed by RBS about relevant lectures.

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

1. Yes. Yes.
2. Yes.
3. N/A; yes.
4. Yes.
5. Yes.
6. {private response}
7. Would definitely recommend.

8. Yes.

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

1. All terrific.
2. Yes.
3. Yes.
4. Self-organized Folger trip was wonderful.
5. Folger Shakespeare Library.
6. Self-organized Folger visit—AMAZING!
7. {no response}
8. Absolutely.

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 evening events offered.
2. We did not have sufficient notice for evening events.
3. N/A. Would have been better if RBS told us about some LC or Folger lectures we could attend. We heard about the Folger one too late; the LC one thanks to a class member.
4. Lectures in evening always a pleasure. Need to communicate better what is taking place.
5. It would've been nice to know about optional programming in advance.
6. These were not advertised to us!
7. {no response}
8. {no response}

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

1. Be sure to read the material.
2. Language skills are helpful but not required.
3. {no response}
4. {no response}
5. {no response}
6. N/A
7. {no response}
8. {no response}

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

1. JH is an amazing scholar and I would recommend all of his courses.
2. Learning for my mind and soul!
3. Stimulating, informative, and fun!
4. You can learn from maps!

5. Amazing!
6. {no response}
7. {no response}
8. {no response}

### **Student Data**

*Number of respondents:* 8 (of 8)

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

My institution/employer gave me professional leave time: 4 (50%)

My institution/employer did not give me professional leave; I used paid or vacation days:  
2 (25%)

I am self-employed, and can arrange my own schedule: 1 (12.5%)

I am retired, and can arrange my own schedule: 1 (12.5%)

*Who paid your RBS tuition costs?*

I paid 100% myself: 4 (50%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 3 (37.5%)

I had an RBS course tuition credit from a previous year: 1 (12.5%)

*Who paid your RBS housing expenses?*

I paid 100% myself: 4 (50%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 2 (25%)

My institution/employer paid part; I paid the rest: 2 (25%)

*Who paid your RBS travel expenses?*

I paid 100% myself: 4 (50%)

My institution/employer paid 100%: 4 (50%)

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

#### **Library disciplines:**

Cataloger/metadata librarian: 1 (12.5%)

Conservator/binder/preservation librarian: 1 (12.5%)

Library administrator: 1 (12.5%)

Special collections librarian: 1 (12.5%)

Subject specialist/bibliographer: 1 (12.5%)

#### **Professional educator:**

K-12 teacher: 1 (12.5%)

#### **Other occupations/vocations:**

Independent scholar: 1 (12.5%)

Other: 1 (12.5%)