CURE Course Assessment

The final step in creating and teaching the course you redeveloped through Mellon Initiative funding is providing a written assessment at the conclusion of the semester when it was first taught.

Please use this form to submit your assessment regarding your CURE, including feedback on course structure, content, and future improvements.

Congratulations on teaching your CURE course for the first time!

Course title *

Religion in the United States

Instructor(s) *

Tarango

When did you teach the CURE course for the first time (semester and year)? *

Spring 2020

How many students were enrolled in the course? *

60

Please describe the CURE project. The description should include the research question(s) the class addressed, the types/methods of research, how much time the class spent on the CURE during the semester, how the results of the research were disseminated, and how students were evaluated. *

In the last section of class, students will be responsible (in groups) for selecting the primary sources and teaching the class on the assigned topic. Students will research and select one or two primary sources (these sources can be print or digital media) ahead of time (which I will distribute to the students) and then in the group give a lecture/presentation on their topic. In order to do this, they will have to research their topic, compile a bibliography of scholarly secondary sources, choose their primary sources, and then teach class on their topic. Each group will have half a class period (25 minutes) to complete their mini lecture. Students will be graded on their creativity, their accuracy of information, and their presentation. Each group has to turn in a detailed annotated bibliography before their presentation (I will give a handout on how to do this) and a reflection paper explaining their role in the group, and how the presentation was conceived and completed. This is truly a group project so any group who "divides" up sections of the project will be marked down.

The idea behind this project is to think about the last three decades of American religion and the topics that are covered/not covered by typical course textbooks. In essence, you will be creating your own course textbook focusing on your chosen primary sources. All information that students present this week can also be on the final exam so these presentations will serve as class sessions where students who aren't presenting are expected to take notes.

In order to ensure that students prepare for this with plenty of time, the Annotated Bibliography is due March 30th. (I will give instructions for that and it must have 4-6 scholarly sources and 2-3 primary sources (of which you will chose 1-2 for the class to review before class). A copy of your presentation lecture notes/Powerpoint/however you decide how you are going to run class for 25 minutes is due on April 15th, so that everyone has their lectures prepped before the student lecture section. The reflection paper should be 2-3 pages and turned in on the day of the presentation.

Which aspects of the CURE were most successful? *

I had to cut the project out of the class because of going online in March. The students were very stressed about doing group work virtually and they had no access to the library. I plan on bringing the project back once the pandemic is over

Which aspects of the CURE did not work as intended?

I had to cancel the project because of going online and the students not having access to the library

What improvements (if any) would add to the success of this CURE? *

Well, I'm gonna have to try it again when the pandemic is over

If possible, please upload the syllabus and CURE project description/prompt/assignment given to the students.

⟩∙ Religion in the U...

Please leave any additional comments here.

The students were initially excited at the project opportunity, but losing a week of class and having to go online made it impossible to implement. This project needs library access and was just too difficult to modify in the midst of a mid-semester switch to online. I will bring it back, but only once things are settled and I know students have regular library access.

This form was created inside of Trinity University T-mail.

Google Forms