

Fall 2007  
THEO-1300-E THEO-3300-E  
Teach of Catholic Church  
Smith, Randall Brian

**UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS**  
**STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF COURSE & TEACHING**  
**COMMENTS**

**1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.**

Learning more in depth about  
faith and ourselves.

**2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?**

The amount of reading assigned  
everynight.

**3. Other general comments:**

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COMMENTS**

1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

Better reading skills !!

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

Nothing

3. Other general comments:

Great course. Not what I expected but very good.

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COMMENTS**

- 1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.**

*Learning about myself and what really makes me happy.*

- 2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?**

- 3. Other general comments:**

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great at enforcing time management.  
great at learning about who we  
are / want as people / personal goals.  
great energy and positive attitude  
towards topics.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

3. Other general comments:

keep the quizzes! great for  
forcing students to learn  
exam material.

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COMMENTS**

**1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.**

Everything

**2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?**

Not rant on so much when asked a question.  
Just get straight to the point.

**3. Other general comments:**

one of the best teachers I've had in my  
life.  
You're awesome.

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

everything

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

Not much. amount of reading is reasonable. the only reason  
I would get mad is when I lose track of time & fall  
behind. it was not so much his fault. maybe assign  
lighter readings

3. Other general comments:

you're one of the best teachers  
I have. you care about each  
student.

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

Got students to think about subject matter  
talking about sin was very interesting

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

More focus on read material in class

3. Other general comments:

Very knowledgeable on course material  
great collection of writings in reader; very  
subjects addressed in course were consistently relevant  
interesting and worth looking at.

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

*I liked the fact that Dr. Smith challenged us because in the end it was very rewarding.*

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

3. Other general comments:

*Great teacher — he was always passionate and engaging. I loved every minute. I would take his class again in a heart beat, and in fact, I am taking his Intro. to Sacred Scriptures next semester.*



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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

The reading Guides are excellent. They not only helped with studying for exams but were really helpful in ~~understand~~ understanding the reading.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

3. Other general comments:

Very good class discussions. Wish we didn't take so long to get in to them. Lots of disruptions in beginning of class period. Waste of useful time in waiting on students to arrive.

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*I learned the broad scope of theological issues and how they apply to life.*

- 2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?**

*In some classes too much time was spent on quizzes.*

- 3. Other general comments:**

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**2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?**

Not so many long readings because we ~~can~~ don't have  
time to read all of them.

**3. Other general comments:**

You have been a great professor.

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This course provided me with a new perspective on  
Catholicism ~~that~~ <sup>for which</sup> I am most appreciative.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

I wouldn't change anything.

3. Other general comments:

Wonderful course ... very influential

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Learning how to think critically about  
a vast number of reading quest. #

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

To be given a ~~5~~ notice further  
in advance of the quizzes for the  
reading.

3. Other general comments:

The instructor was very detailed in his  
knowledge of the course material. It was  
very difficult to keep up with all of  
the assignments.

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

I liked how some of the things he talked about relate to real world events or happenings. How some of the material encouraged us to think "outside the box," but didn't see how some of it relates to catholicism.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

The instructor talks really fast. Maybe he should just be a little more relaxed, and leave time to allow the material to sink.

3. Other general comments:

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

Questioning myself. Not much else.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

Less material to read. Way too much work for a core class. I did not want to take. Class was not useful to my academic career.

3. Other general comments:

Good teacher but assigned entirely too much reading.

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Gaining a better understanding of my own religion and the views it is based on.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

I would be more selective about the reading, not really meaning that it would necessarily have to be cut down, but I do think some readings were ineffective compared to others.

3. Other general comments:

I really enjoyed the C.S. Lewis reading; more Christianity, I thought it provided a diff more clear way of looking @ things



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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

The most valuable learning experiences I have gained from this course and my Pro. was from the different reading assignment and most of all from a lively, motivational and knowledgeable about the subject when giving lecture.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

- Less reading

3. Other general comments:

Excellent Professor. He would be fantastic for Priest candidate.

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

Almost all the readings were worthwhile  
It should be noted that I can't  
remember the specifics of any bad  
readings (or maybe I just edited  
them from my mind)

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

A more convincing link between  
the reading + theology.  
A greater sense of purpose

3. Other general comments:

OK class

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

I really didn't learn anything. The professor claims to encourage an open discussion but he does not allow room for argument.

He will not answer questions he does not agree with.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

There is way too much material that was completely unrelated to the course. He did not respect the fact that his students had other classes they were responsible for. The class was required to be responsible for extreme amounts of work and not enough time.

3. Other general comments:

The professor singles out students and gives them a hard time.

I did not enjoy this class. I am not prepared for the next class. ~~This is not~~

Considering that this class applies to the core, I am extremely unprepared.

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Learned more about the Catholic ideals of faith.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

Prof. Smith is very good at what he does.  
It would be nice if he could incorporate  
more "stuff" geared toward younger students.

3. Other general comments:

Spread readings out more evenly over the semester.

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analyzing life's decisions in so many perspectives and religious issues

**2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?**

The amount of quiz questions for a quiz - please ~~cut them~~ shorten them.

**3. Other general comments:**

Please shorten the readings and the questions for the quizzes

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1. List the most valuable learning experiences you have gained from this course and this instructor.

This class helped me not just have better understanding of myself but also better understanding of people around me.  
P.S. It helped me to make one more step closer to God.

2. What would you change about this course and/or this instructor to make them more effective?

Maybe, instead of giving 2 exams, he should consider the possibility of giving 4 exams, so that it would be easier on students' overloaded brain. Smaller portions absorb better.

3. Other general comments:

As much he gives, as much he wants it back!  
Prof. Smith is hard but just.  
He has a gift to convey his knowledge in an outwardly perceptible form.