

## **Teaching Reflections Fall 2012**

During the term I was teaching Intro, Mass Communication and the Honours Seminar (which was not evaluated as there were only 2 students and thus anonymity could not be assured).

### **1101-002**

I felt very good about the Intro class as I felt we really connected (a position supported by student comments) and the course remains my favourite to teach. I am so fortunate to be able to introduce my students to the wonderful world of sociology.

### **3345-01**

While the student comments were certainly solid, I disappointed myself in a few areas. First, I scheduled the evaluation for the day after a major assignment was due and only about a third of the students were able to complete it. I will be sure to schedule evaluations with assignment due dates in mind. Second, I felt like I was skating through the whole term in this class. My lectures were not as current or as well-organized as I would have liked (due to many factors, some of which I was certainly in control of, some others, not so much). Third, I don't think I was as clear in my expectations on the article summary assignment as I should have been. In my delivery this Winter I am going to work hard to address each of these concerns.

### **5110**

I really enjoyed working with students as they began their honours theses. While one student ultimately decided to not continue in the seminar, I feel very good about what I was able to help the other 2 students achieve. Both students are well on their way to preparing first-rate undergraduate honours theses.

Unfortunately, the department has decided to discontinue 5110 and 5120 which I believe is a huge mistake. I fear that future students will not get the support and guidance they deserve, or should expect. Too bad, I know in my heart that we had one of the preeminent honours programs in the country and now, we are at best, mid-field.

This was a tough term for me. Hopefully my career will evolve in ways where I can once again be inspired by the colleagues and students around me.