

Some student evaluations of my course “Divided Cities”, 2008-9 academic year

- Tom is a very passionate lecturer who obviously feels very strongly towards inequalities. I have really enjoyed this course.
- The lectures were extremely interesting and I enjoyed going to all of them. The readings too were enjoyable and really related to what we were learning in that lecture.
- The whole course was excellent. Hands down the best course I have taken at university. The lectures were very interesting and engaging.
- Highly stimulating and extremely interesting.
- This is what I came to University for; relevant, engaging, timely, critical, stimulating. A great course - nice to have a lecturer who evidently feels passionately about the subject.
- The lectures were delivered in such a way that made the course content appear to be extremely compelling. They were a pleasure to attend.
- Easily the best course I have ever done at university, and is what I would call 'real human geography'.
- Loved it.
- The lectures were enthusiastically delivered which has to be a first for my time at University. Tom was clearly passionate about his subject and that is all that is needed to make students take notice. A really great course to end my time at Uni with. It was obvious that Tom had spent a great deal of time and effort putting together the course and the DVDs were a valuable aid to learning as were his personal photographs and experiences.
- The lectures were very well delivered and very interesting. By far the best options course I have done during my time at Edinburgh University. Thank you. Brilliant.
- I really enjoyed the lectures. Tom's enthusiasm is spot on and infectious. It was wonderful to come to a class and feel like someone was passionate about their subject - I genuinely looked forward to lectures. The use of films was also really really good - they made excellent points and helped people connect with the material more I think. I also found reading whole books (Bourgois, Kotlowitz) really inspiring and they made me remember why I do geography and why it's important.
- I liked the fact that the course material is very relevant to contemporary debates surrounding for example welfare and punishment. This gives a rather 'unheard' viewpoint in some respects and increased my understanding of some

of these problems. It also spurred me to learn, and engage more with political debates at UK level, following the criticism of neo-liberalism; this is certainly been beneficial for myself and not something which is achieved (in my opinion) by any other university option course. In addition I liked the fact that I came out hating Dick Cheney more than when I began the course; I didn't think this was possible, and for this I thank you!