

LANIER, BILL

From: CORONADO, RICARDO
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2012 9:31 AM
To: LANIER, BILL
Subject: FW: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

From: CORONADO, RICARDO
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2012 9:31 AM
To: 'Students Enrolled in Fall Philosophy 1304'
Subject: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

Hi, according to our records, you were enrolled in Philosophy 1304-41244 class during the spring semester. We are conducting an inquiry into student complaints related to incidents that occurred while you were enrolled in Philosophy 1304-41244 during the period in which Mr. Paul Derengowski was teaching the class.

We ask that you take a moment of your time to respond to two questions. We ask that you please email your response to me by Wednesday, January 11 at ricardo.coronado@tccd.edu or fax your response to 817-515-0993.

The information you provide us will help us resolve this matter. Your cooperation is appreciated.

1. Did you feel threatened at any time during Mr. Derengowski's class? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel threatened.
2. During Mr. Derengowski's class, did you feel discriminated against based on your religion? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel discriminated against.
3. Any other comments or statements you wish to make.

This communication was also sent to you via US mail to your home address.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Coronado, Ph.D., SPHR
Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources and Title IX Coordinator
1500 Houston Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
817-515-5234 (Office)
817-879-7452 (Cell)
817-515-0993 (Fax)

**Tarrant
County
College
District**



MAY OWEN CENTER
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

1500 Houston Street • Fort Worth, Texas 76102-6524 • 817-515-5234 • Fax 817-515-5350

January 3, 2012

Ms. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. [REDACTED],

We are conducting an inquiry into student complaints related to incidents that occurred while you were enrolled in Philosophy 1304-41244 during the period in which Mr. Paul Derengowski was teaching the class.

We ask that you take a moment of your time to respond to two questions. We ask that you please email your respond to me by Wednesday, January 11 at ricardo.coronado@tccd.edu or fax your response to 817-515-0993.

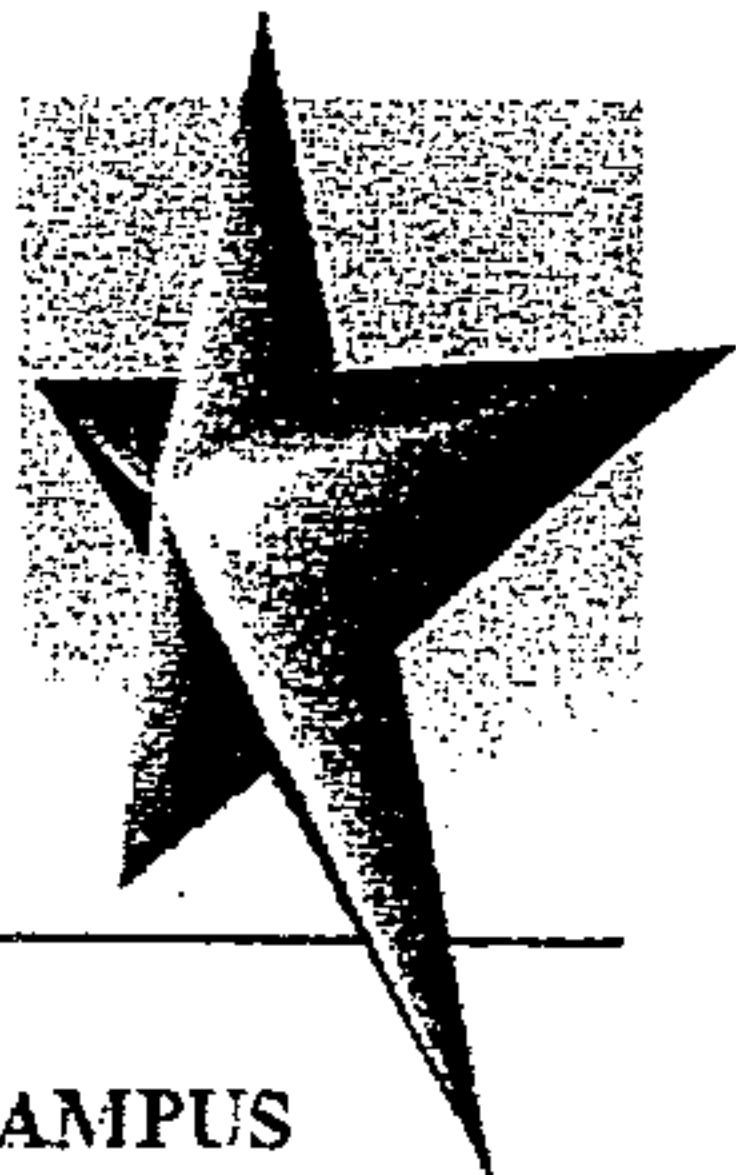
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2. During Mr. Derengowski's class, did you feel discriminated against based on your religion? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel discriminated against.
3. Any other comments or statements you wish to make.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Coronado, Ph.D., SPHR
Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources and Title IX Coordinator

Tarrant County College



SOUTHEAST CAMPUS

2100 Southeast Parkway • Arlington, Texas 76018-3144 • 817-515-3100

December 9, 2011

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED]:

My office has attempted to contact you by phone, and left our contact information at your voice mail, but we have not received a return call.

Therefore, I am contacting you by mail. Tarrant County College is eager to be responsive to you and the students in your Philosophy 1304 class and would like to have your response to the following issues. We hope to bring conclusion to this matter, appreciate your input, and look forward to receiving your written response to the following questions:

1. What was your opinion of Mr. Derengowski's lecture on Islam?
2. Did you believe Mr. Derengowski's lectures and web site were religiously discriminatory in nature?
3. Please describe your behavior during Mr. Derengowski's class; include any behaviors or conduct that may be described as disruptive or abrasive behavior.
4. Were there times when you argued with Mr. Derengowski about the content of his lectures during class and state that he was making false statements regarding Muslims or Islam?
5. Did you ever threaten Mr. Derengowski or anyone else during class?
6. Did Mr. Derengowski create a hostile learning environment for you based on statements he made regarding your religion?

Yours sincerely,

Rusty Fox
Vice President for Student Development Services
Tarrant County College Southeast Campus
2100 Southeast Parkway
Arlington, TX 76018
817.515.3016
817.515.3177 (fax)
Rusty.fox@tccd.edu

TIMS, BEVERLY

From: CORONADO, RICARDO
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 4:31 PM
To: TIMS, BEVERLY
Subject: FW: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2012 11:39 AM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Re: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

Greetings, Mr. Coronado --

Thank you for your long-awaited email. However, I took Professor Derengowski's Phil 1304-41244 in the Fall semester of '11, not the Spring semester.

In response to your questions below:

- 1) The only time I felt a personal sense of threat was on the night of November 8th, 2011, when student [REDACTED] became aggressive and challenging with Professor Derengowski regarding the class that was supposed to be on Islam. The situation with [REDACTED] quickly spiraled out of control to the point where he was yelling, slamming his books, challenging Professor Derengowski's educational background, and making the statement that Islam was the largest religion in the world, and he (Professor Derengowski) "should be scared". Although the threat was made towards Professor Derengowski directly, being in the classroom made me feel uncertain as to what may happen simply by being there. [REDACTED] was, in all ways improper, and his attitude and actions uncertain.
- 2) No, absolutely not. Professor Derengowski made it clear from day one that he came from a Christian world view. However he taught each class, based on the TCC-approved syllabus, fairly and historically. There were no surprises in this class...everyone had the syllabus and knew what subject were coming up when. And in the rare occasions a student did disagree, Professor Derengowski allowed collegiate debate so that we could all learn.
- 3) Yes. I'd like to add that this entire situation is very sad, on so many levels. At the end of the day, I feel like TCC administration dropped the ball by being unavailable, unresponsive to the other students in the class, and responded with a knee-jerk reaction that has impacted everyone involved. This last semester was a terrible one, and based on TCC's actions, I find myself reevaluating my long-term educational goals and where I want to accomplish them. Professor Derengowski is an amazing Professor....I learned so much from him. Dean Munoz should've given some cooling off time and talked to Professor Derengowski afterward - he shouldn't be out of a job. And Professor Mark Austin....it was uncomfortable for him and the students to be thrust in the situation. And Sharon Wettengel....she was put in an impossible position. At the end of the day, Professor Derengowski's syllabus, along with the references to his personal web site, was approved by TCC administrators. At least, according to Sharon Wettengel it was.

I hope that TCC will realize the potential precedent they have set by condoning the actions of two Muslim students and penalizing the remainder of the class. You can still make this situation correct, and I hope you find your way to do so.

Best Regards,

Original E-mail

From: "CORONADO, RICARDO" <RICARDO.CORONADO@tccd.edu>

Date: 01/04/2012 09:31 AM

To: "Students Enrolled in Fall Philosophy 1304" <ricardo.coronado@tccd.edu>

Subject: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

Hi, according to our records, you were enrolled in Philosophy 1304-41244 class during the spring semester. We are conducting an inquiry into student complaints related to incidents that occurred while you were enrolled in Philosophy 1304-41244 during the period in which Mr. Paul Derengowski was teaching the class.

We ask that you take a moment of your time to respond to two questions. We ask that you please email your respond to me by Wednesday, January 11 at ricardo.coronado@tccd.edu or fax your response to 817-515-0993.

The information you provide us will help us resolve this matter. Your cooperation is appreciated.

1. Did you feel threatened at any time during Mr. Derengowski's class? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel threatened.
2. During Mr. Derengowski's class, did you feel discriminated against based on your religion? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel discriminated against.
3. Any other comments or statements you wish to make.

This communication was also sent to you via US mail to your home address.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Coronado, Ph.D., SPHR

Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources and Title IX Coordinator

1500 Houston Street

Fort Worth, Texas 76102

817-515-5234 (Office)

817-879-7452 (Cell)

817-515-0993 (Fax)

LANIER, BILL

From: CORONADO, RICARDO
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 4:29 PM
To: LANIER, BILL
Subject: FW: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2012 3:18 PM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Re: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

I'm not defending Derengowski or trying to slander his name. I just want someone to understand the truth. If this goes on deaf ears and blind eyes well at least I can say I tried.

While in Prof D's class I never felt threatened, discriminated, or belittled based on my beliefs. I'm not a Christian, Muslim, Jew or any of the other major religions he covered. He talked about my belief system, [REDACTED] and told what it was a his thoughts about it. I didn't agree with what he said but I didn't flip out on him.

the night of the incident(s) went like this: He asked us all what we thought about when the words "Islam" and "Muslim" were brought to our attention. There was an awkward silence and people began to list off what they thought. None /hich were Terrorism, Jihad or the like. He began to talk about Muhammad's life and his upbringing and his early careers and stuff of the sort. Well when we slowly but surely got to the section where we were talking about funding his religion, the Muslim students became irate and unruly. Derengowski handled it in an appropriate, calm and professional manner and when his credibility was called into question, he told the students he would bring in his sources so that he would make it clear. The next class we started by him reading his sources and the Muslim students wouldn't have it. They told him his degree was worthless, that he had no clue what he was talking about, and basically slandered him in front of all of us. I personally thought it was uncalled for. If you have a problem with a teacher you should approach them after class. Well after they would stop arguing, he tried to move on and the Muslim students kept asking questions like "Why is this the main focus? It feels like this is all you're talking about." I talked to my fellow classmates and we all agreed there was no focus on this, but more that our Islamic equals just wouldn't let it go. Nothing in his lecture was malicious or insulting.

Derengowski had his belief sets but he never informed them in class. I have a certain set of beliefs but I don't make them known to everyone. He was doing his job and doing it well. The subject was just so touchy that they made a huge deal about it.

Original E-mail

From: "CORONADO, RICARDO" [RICARDO.CORONADO@tccd.edu]
Date: 01/04/2012 09:31 AM
To: "Students Enrolled in Fall Philosophy 1304" ['ricardo.coronado@tccd.edu']
Subject: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

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2. During Mr. Derengowski's class, did you feel discriminated against based on your religion? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel discriminated against.

3. Any other comments or statements you wish to make.

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500 Houston Street
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817-515-0993 (Fax)

LANIER, BILL

From: CORONADO, RICARDO
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 12:13 PM
To: LANIER, BILL
Subject: FW: Investigation Questionnaire

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 11:42 AM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO; satxjunie@aol.com
Subject: Investigation Questionnaire

Dear Mr. Coronado,

I will provide answers to the questions you have sent to me; however; I will in no shape or form take part in the witch hunt that has been enacted against Mr. Derengowski. While I do not agree with the statements made on his personal webpages; it should be said that those comments were never brought into the class room. My disappointment lies with the Administration of TCC and how this situation was handled. You took the word of two people who were threatening and brought about a hostile environment in the classroom when Christianity and the Muslim faith were discussed (direct information read for the Quarn mind you.) and never at any time consulted with the rest of the student body of this class. The situation was handled poorly in my opinion. I enjoyed the class and learned a lot about other faiths until which time the two students who brought the complaint became hostile and disrespectful to Mr. Derengowski while he was teaching. Mr. Derengowski always remained professional in the classroom even when he was being verbally abused by these two students. The same students that your Administration believed and took actions against Mr. Derengowski. It should also be noted, that these same two students took great pride in preening and smiling at the rest of the class after the professor was removed. They were very proud of themselves for being allowed to disrupt our class. To me this shows premeditated reasons for this witch hunt. My opinion is that TCC allowed these students to railroad the Administration with these complaints and the Administration had a knee jerk reaction and tried to placate these students out of fear for the reputation of the facility and then stood by and watched a man be slandered and abused. I am glad that I am nearly finished with the classes I have to take at TCC to graduate because I no longer have any respect for the Administration of this facility.

1. Did you feel threatened at any time during Mr. Derengowski's class? The only time I felt threatened during Mr. Derengowski's class were when Christianity and the Muslim faith were discussed. The male student who filed the initial complaint became hostile in class stating that, "you cannot teach with the Bible as a reference because it is invalid", "you should be teaching from the correct books if you are going to teach", "since you do not know what you are talking about I will bring in someone who can tell the truth" (regarding the Muslim history). The student became loud and harassed the professor to the point that the other students in the class felt we had to come to the defense of our professor. Mr. Derengowski was reading directly from the Quarn at the time of the worst outburst by the male and female student. Of course, I am sure that the male student did not record his outburst or hostile behavior as part of his complaint. After both discussions of these faiths, because I did not agree with the student, I and others, were afraid to walk to our cars by ourselves.

2. During Mr. Derengowski's class, did you feel discriminated against based on your religion? Absolutely not! I not only learned more about my own religion, both good and bad, and I learned about other religions as well. The history, philosophy, and beliefs of each faith were reviewed, pros and cons.

It is my most sincere hope that my honest feedback and opinions will not be held against me as a student of this facility. My only wish is to quietly finish my classes remaining for me to graduate without any interference from the Administration of this facility. If that is not possible, please inform me and I will take my education elsewhere.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

LANIER, BILL

From: CORONADO, RICARDO
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 5:08 PM
To: LANIER, BILL
Cc: TIMS, BEVERLY
Subject: FW: Mr. Derengowski's Inquiry

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:59 AM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Mr. Derengowski's Inquiry

Hello, Mr. Coronado.

I'm [REDACTED] and I was one of the students that was not only in Mr. Derengowski's class this last semester, but was also in class the night of the argument over Islam. Now, to proceed to your questions:

1.) No, I never felt threatened during Mr. Derengowski's class. He might have been very passionate about his subject, (which, in my opinion, is an attractive quality in a professor; I didn't pay for a semester of indifference) but he never made me feel uncomfortable. Mr. Derengowski is a courteous man who never spoke ill of any religion other than his own during his class. He might have had his opinions outside of the classroom -which he's entitled to-, but he never voiced them openly in class.

2.) I never felt discriminated against in any way, form, or fashion. Since the beginning of the class I explained I was a [REDACTED], but that I had very passive religious views. Despite this, however, I never felt I was being 'converted', nor that I was being 'attacked.' I was always the one who had a million questions in class about all religions- even my own- and I was constantly playing devil's advocate. Despite this, Mr. Derengowski explained and answered all my questions with patience and clarity. He went out of his way to bring me and my fellow classmates the sources to back up his statements and not ONCE did he answer a question he didn't know. He simply said he would do the research and respond the next class period.

3.) Yes, there are a few comments I would like to make. At first I, too, felt uncomfortable about the articles I was sent supposedly written by Mr. Derengowski. However, as I've had time to deliberate the situation, I've come to one conclusion: Mr. Derengowski is entitled to any opinions or affiliations outside of the classroom. He NEVER brought those ideas into the classroom, he never tried to convert anyone, and he never openly voiced any 'intolerance' towards anyone's belief. He might have it, of course, but he never voiced it. Everyone has their own opinions. He's a conservative man...and I feel that conservatives are the ones who are discriminated against the most in modern day society. A psychology teacher can openly say in class that homosexuality is acceptable because you cannot choose your sexual preference...and THAT'S okay. I say it because I experienced it. Liberal ideology and opinion is condoned; any efforts to muffle it is called discrimination. However, when a conservative has an opinion, their beliefs themselves are prejudice. This is an evident and terrible double standard which I'm NOT ok with.

If any student had any concerns about Mr. Derengowski's teaching or personal opinion, they should have contacted HIM before making any allegations against him. I've had my own personal issues with his teaching style. However, I've addressed all my questions directly to him and have found clarification and a lot of logic behind his explanations. I think this situation was handled the WRONG way-- by the students AND the administration.

You took the opinions of two students to dictate the entire outcome of the class-- a class of over 20 students! Our opinions were NOT taken into account and we were completely disregarded. This e-mail and inquiry came a month too late.

CORONADO, RICARDO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 11:53 PM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Re: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

- 1.No I did not feel threaten in Mr. Derengowski's class.
- 2.No I did not feel discriminated against based on my religion.
- 3.I thought Mr Derengowski was a great teacher. He help me to understand religion better. It's because of him, I am open-minded about every different religion.

Original E-mail

From: "CORONADO, RICARDO" <RICARDO.CORONADO@tccd.edu>
Date: 01/04/2012 09:31 AM
To: "'Students Enrolled in Fall Philosophy 1304'" <ricardo.coronado@tccd.edu'>
Subject: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

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Fort Worth, Texas 76102

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817-515-0993 (Fax)

CORONADO, RICARDO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 12:12 PM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Re: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

Professor Derongowski
Philosophy 1304-41244

1. The only time i felt threatened was the day of the incident when [REDACTED] got up to leave the classroom and said "you dont know my power". I dont know what he ment but it made me worry for myself and the class.
2. The two muslim students bashed the credibility of the Holy Bible and Jesus Christ after they could not disprove Mr D's research. They also interupted the lesson multiple times to continue argueing with Mr. D which offended the class and took up our lesson time.
3. I believe the two muslim students took it too far. All they had to do was bring the proof to Mr. D and the class to show that what the professor was teaching is not true. Mr. D did not teach in a hateful way, he taught out of love. I always believed that not all muslims were suicide bombers like they show on tv. But incidents like this one make me think all muslims are capable and willing to hurt people in order to inforce their religion. Mr. D was wronfully persecuted and should be reinstated.

CORONADO, RICARDO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2012 3:28 PM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Re: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class

1. I never felt threatened in Mr. Derengowski's class.
2. Yes, I felt he was biased. Every religion he spoke of he had to go and call it a cult, or tell why it was wrong based on his baptist beliefs. No religion should be spoken of in terms of right and wrong, it's someone's beliefs. This is why I dropped his class.

Original E-mail

From: "CORONADO, RICARDO" <RICARDO.CORONADO@tccd.edu>
Date: 01/04/2012 09:31 AM
To: "Students Enrolled in Fall Philosophy 1304" <'ricardo.coronado@tccd.edu'>
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CORONADO, RICARDO

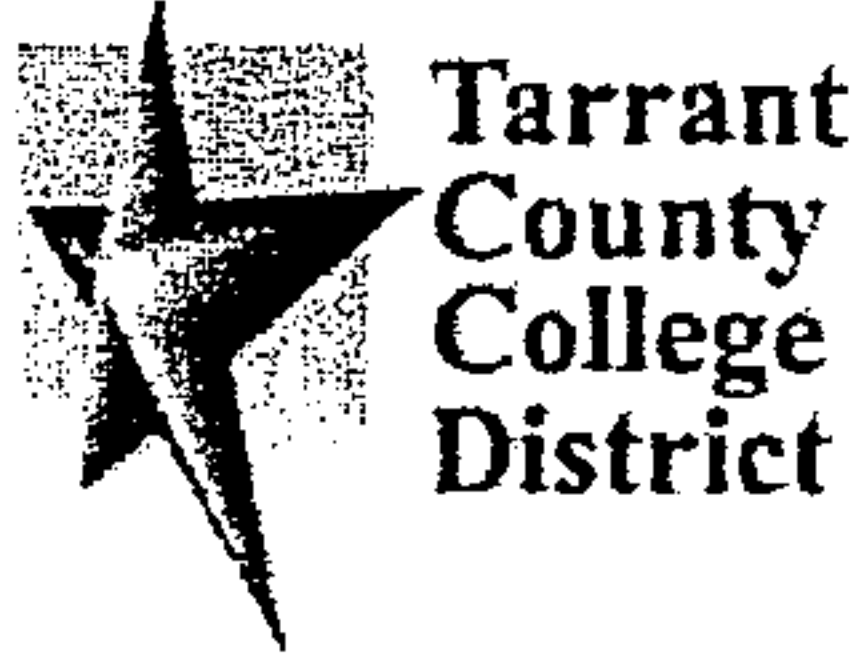
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2012 8:05 PM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Questions Related to Your Fall 2011 Philosophy 1304-41244 Class
Attachments: TCC Questionnaire.docx; Complaint and emails..pdf

Dr. Coronado,

Attached is my response to the questionnaire related to Professor Derengowski's Philosophy 1304-41244 Class. I have attached a copy of the initial Complaint I submitted in November. Thank You

[REDACTED]

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS E-MAIL MESSAGE IS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE.



Student Complaint/Grievance Form

Instructions: A grievance is an educational or personal issue or condition that a student believes to be unfair, inequitable, discriminatory, or a hindrance to his/her education. Students who have a complaint or grievance about their Tarrant County College experience should complete this form and submit it to the campus department where complaint originated. Students should allow 10 business days to receive a written response to their complaint or grievance.

Student Information	
Student Name: ██████████	
Address: ██████████	City/State/Zip: ██████████
Student ID#: ██████████	Semester & Year: . Fall 2011
Home Phone Number: ██████████	Work Phone Number: ██████████
Cell Phone Number: ██████████	Email Address: ██████████
Complaint/Grievance Information 93-5124	
<i>Retaliation against an individual filing a grievance is strictly prohibited and constitutes a violation of college policy which may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal/expulsion.</i>	
Name of individual and/or department against whom the complaint/grievance is filed: ██████████ and ██████████ - students in Religions of the World	
Describe your complaint/grievance in detail. Include date/s of occurrence (be as specific as possible). Attach additional sheets, if necessary, along with any documentation that will help describe and substantiate the complaint. Are there any witnesses who should be interviewed? If yes, list names and contact information. My complaint/concern requires more space than Allowed here. Please see the attached. The incident can be verified by the students in Professor Derengowski's Religions of the World class - Tuesday and Thursday evenings	
Students are encouraged to discuss their concerns and complaints through informal conferences with the appropriate instructor or campus administrator. Have you made an attempt to resolve this complaint or grievance with the individual and/or department involved? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, describe the outcome: (Attach any additional comments, if necessary) The attached email outlines how the issues haven't been addressed by TCC Administration	
What outcome do you hope to achieve after talking to the appropriate college official(s)? Attach additional sheets, if necessary. The policies in the TCC Student Handbook are followed as stated.	

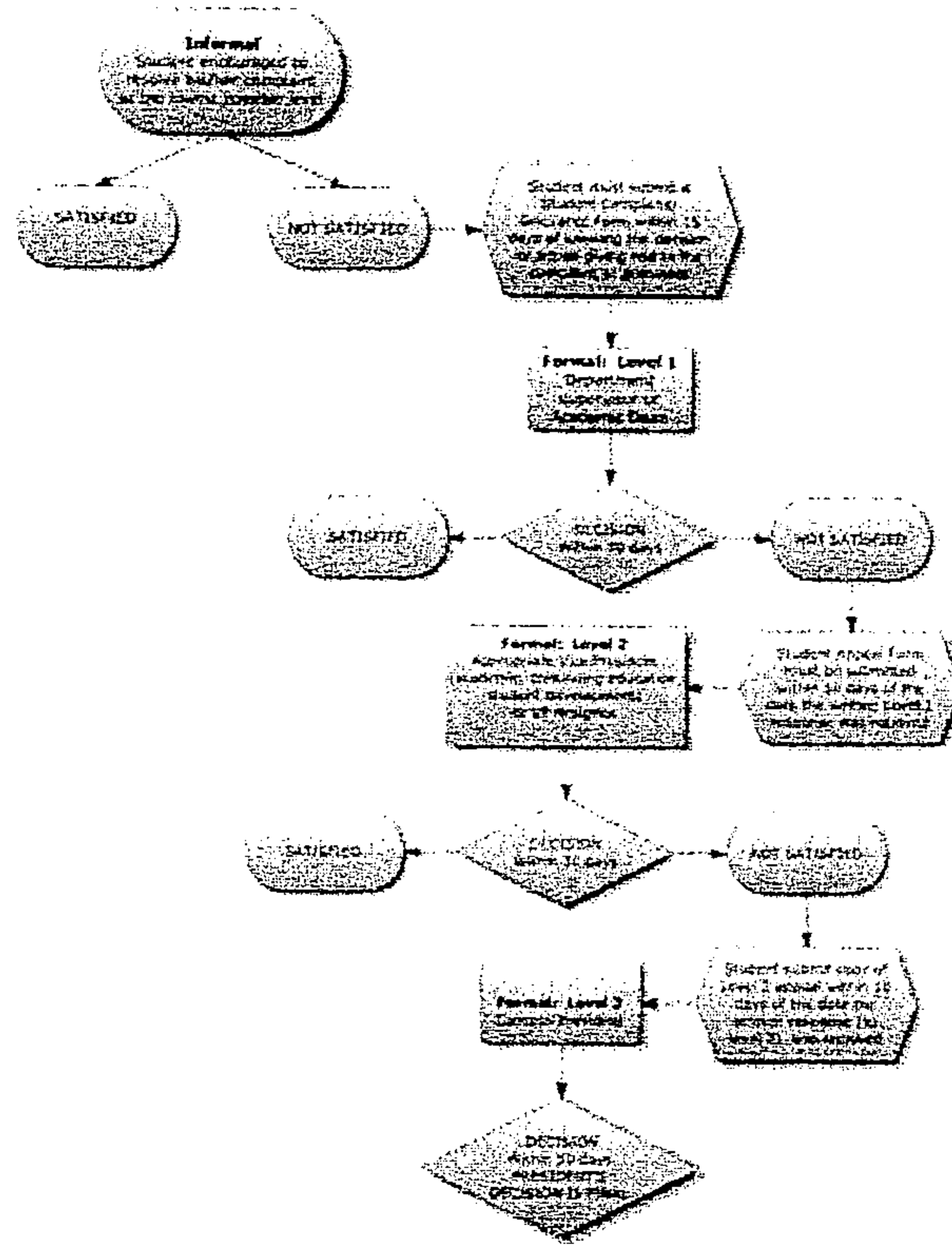
I understand that information contained in the grievance form will be held confidential to the extent possible. Grievance information may be shared with college officials in order to conduct a thorough investigation. I hereby declare that the information on this form is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation of information may result in disciplinary actions, in accordance with college disciplinary policies.

Signature: ██████████
Student

Date: 11-18-11

Grievance process flow chart and response to incident

(Grievance/Complaint Process does not replace TCC grade, harassment or disciplinary procedures)



For office use only: Action Taken by administrator (Include Level ONE, TWO or other documents):

Grievance was resolved: Yes No

If not resolved, what are the next recommended steps? _____

Administrator signature: _____ Date: _____

Subject : Great Religions of the World - Professor Derengowski

Date : Sat, Nov 19, 2011 07:19 PM CST

From : [REDACTED]

To : SHARON.WETTENGEL@tccd.edu

Letters : Great Religions of the World - Professor. [REDACTED]

Professor Wettengel,

Thank you for addressing Professor D's class Thursday night. I'm still very disgusted with the handling of this situation by the administration of TCC.

In my original email, I stated my safety was of concern after the class was threatened by [REDACTED] stating "you should be scared". My concern has yet to be addressed by TCC administration. Professor D filed a police report with the Campus Police in regards, not only for his safety, but for the safety of his students. I have been discriminated against. Had I been one of the Muslim students would the concern for my safety been addressed? In the Student Handbook under Illegal and or Disruptive Behavior, Item # 4 addresses students being threatened.

I also stated in my original email the continual, disruptive, behavior displayed by [REDACTED], even after Professor D spoke with him and had to stop class numerous times each class. Page 41 of the Student Handbook addresses this situation. Dean Coan and Dean Munoz were both made aware of this - I'm confused why this student is still allowed to attend the class and the fact this student secretly taped the class. This was pointed out at the beginning of the semester recording the class was not allowed per the Student Handbook.

I also find it utterly disgusting a student can send an email, such as the one [REDACTED] sent to the whole class, defaming Professor D's character and still be allowed to attend class when it is clearly stated this is against the student handbook.

In case you missed [REDACTED] email - below is what was sent to the entire class:

Good morning classmates...

I am e-mailing you all some information that you might find interesting, relating to our World of Religions teacher. After the other day in class, I couldn't help but feel that he was teaching my religion of Islam in such a hatred and bias way... And to my findings, he was.... This man has been teaching our class in his point of view, in the way that he thinks it should be...He is not being informative about religions, but rather creating a religious intolerance. This is a philosophy class, he is supposed to be opening our minds and getting us to understand why other people believe certain things...I'm sure some of you have felt that he does slander other religions' beliefs and speaks ill of some as well. I knew me and [REDACTED] were not crazy speaking up against how he was teaching. It wasn't the information and facts we were debating against so much, he was teaching it all wrong, and taking so many things out of context, focusing on the ugly things instead of teaching the actual religion itself.... I will let you all read what our teacher has written about Islam and Mormonism, the two religions he continues to speak out against in our class. I will not be attending this man's class again, and I will be showing the dean of our school. This is not right at all, and a person shouldn't feel discriminated against or violated in such a way in a learning environment as me and [REDACTED] did that day. By the way...He gave us both zero's on our quizzes we fairly earned 6/6 on that day in class, and an absence because we left a few minutes early...We weren't going to sit there any longer and allow him to slander our beliefs the way he was that day... Enjoy:

CAPRO:

This is his own personal website that he created. It is actually listed on the syllabus also, I'm wondering why they did not check it out before hiring him:
http://capro.info/CAPRO%20Home/About_CAPRO.html

Now, on this website, he basically says a lot of the same crap he talks about in class.. He speaks of all the religions and includes sources...Look at the Islamic part of his website.. This shows how he clearly views the religion just by looking at the pictures in the background of the words "ISLAM" with the twin towers and a Muslim child holding a gun... He also refers to this RELIGION as a CULT...along with Atheism, Mormonism, and so on.
<http://capro.info/Cults/Islam/Islam.html>

To further surprise you... This his own blog he wrote in 2009... The very first article clearly shows his hate for Muslims... I was very shocked and sad to read this:
<http://worldview.blogtownhall.com/>

Quoted from blog:

"Third, every Muslim should be profiled, and if caught breaking the law" even if it's spitting on the sidewalk" should be deported or executed, depending on the level of offense. If deported that Muslim should be given the strict order "Don't ever come back! You're no longer welcome here!" If executed, then the rest of the Muslim community can thank Allah for the infidel sending the criminal (not martyr) to his reward. At least the rest of humanity won't have to be concerned about him wreaking senseless havoc in this world anymore."

And here's just some other sites I found where he is a very well-known online and others find his way of spreading hate and bigotry:

<http://www.concordmonitor.com/users/murdock>

<http://onlinebigots.blogspot.com/2007/10/bigot-alert-paul-derengowski.html>

And this one, I found very interesting as this guy, Daniel McCallen is writing a whole blog about how Mr. Derengowski was talking online how he teaches his class, and includes the examples of the mock trials he made us do....Does anyone else find this sickening???

<http://danielomcdellan.wordpress.com/2009/12/26/religious-bigotry-in-a-university-classroom/>

It's unfortunate Professor D's syllabus was nixed by TCC after it had been approved. The religions he had yet to cover in class are Religions of TODAY'S world. Prior to taking Professor D's class - there are religions he covered in class, from the textbook and his studies I had never heard of before. Our classes were taught based on the information in the TCC approved textbook as well as his personal studies. Our tests comprised of information from the text books and his studies. Had the class been taught strictly from the information in the book - it would have been a very boring class and I would have dropped the class. I also appreciate Professor D having the class participate in two mock trials and two field assignments. The field assignments gave me the opportunity to participate in two church services of religions I never would have. The mock trials were taken from actual events covered in the National News. Both events occurred in Texas. I found nothing sickening about participating in these trials. However, I did find it sickening someone serving in the military, by his religion had the right to kill our service men and women. That, Professor Wettengel, is sickening. I paid no attention to the events in the news. The grades received from the mock trials were tests scores. If a student had an issue with the mock trials they should have discussed this with Professor D prior to participating in them.

Asking questions and voicing opinions in a class is how, we as students learn. As it's been stated for many, many years - "Americans are free to practice any religion". By TCC actions in this situation, TCC has proven this just how unjust this thought of many, many Americans is.

I welcome the opportunity to be able to take another class taught by Professor D. TCC has done an injustice to all current and past students of Professor D. Our right to be educated by taking Professor D's class have been violated by the Administration. Professor D never forced his beliefs on any one in the class or influenced us that any religion was better than another.

As I stated above, I'm so disgusted with this situation I have very strong reservations about ever taking another class at TCC.



Original E-mail
From: "[REDACTED]"
Date: 11/17/2011 04:13 PM
To: "WETTENGEL, SHARON"
Subject: Re: [Fwd: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski]

Professor Wettengel,

Thanks for your response. However, you failed to address any of the concerns I addressed in the email. You, as a faculty member, have let me down based on the actions of two very disrespectful students. Had I complained about the way Professor D was teaching Christianity, would the outcome have been the same, or would it have been over-looked? I honestly feel it would have been overlooked by TCC. I am disgusted by this whole situation.

Original E-mail
From: "WETTENGEL, SHARON"
Date: 11/17/2011 04:07 PM
To: "[REDACTED]"
Subject: RE: [Fwd: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski]

t

QlA... [REDACTED]

Sharon Wettengel, [REDACTED]

/ [REDACTED]

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From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 11:42 AM
To: WETTENGEL, SHARON
Subject: [Fwd: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski]

Ms. Wettengel,

Below is a copy of an email I have sent to Dean Coan and Dean Munoz. I have not had a reply from either. Thank you in advance for reading my concerns.

[Redacted]

Original E-mail
From: [Redacted]
Date: 11/17/2011 08:50 AM
To: barbara.coan@my.tccd.edu
Subject: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski

Dean Coan,

Below is an email I sent to Dean Munoz. As of this email to you I have had no response. Thank you.

[Redacted]

Original E-mail
From: [Redacted]
Date: 11/16/2011 11:10 AM
To: josue.munoz@my.tccd.edu
Subject: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski

Dean Muñoz,
I am currently enrolled in Professor Derengowski's Tuesday/Thursday religion class. Last night (11/15) our class was cancelled. If possible, could you tell me if the Thursday class is

cancelled? I understand if the class is cancelled I will need to sign the roll sheet. My employer reimburses me the total cost of books and tuition based on the final grade I receive in this class. Currently I have a 74.5 - my goal is to raise the grade to a B by the end of the semester. However, I see this goal diminishing with each cancelled class. I am not happy about this!

Personally, I have found Professor Derengowski's class very informative. I have not felt at any time he is personally attacking any specific religion or persuading me to take to heart what is on his website. I take from the class what I want and leave the rest behind. Professor Derengowski has presented the research he has done based on his studies to correlate with the material in the book chosen (not by him) as the **required** material for his class.

I selected this class based on a few factors - 1) the class is one of the required electives under the Associate of Science - Business; 2) I wanted to learn more about the history and beliefs of other religions in the world and 3) I'm tired of small minded people basing their opinions of others religious beliefs based on what they hear in the media and read in the papers and aren't taking the initiative to research the history and beliefs of the religions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say the class has been rudely disrupted all semester by one of the students who walked out of class November 8th. Professor Derengowski has stopped class numerous times each Tuesday and Thursday due to the constant disruption from the "back row". Any time a student asks a question they are interrupted as well. I was interrupted by the student during the November 8th class and informed him in my "mother voice" not to interrupt me while I was speaking. Professor Derengowski has spoken with this "group" of people about their constant interruptions. The evening of the November 8th class, I elected to stay 30 minutes after class - based on the outbursts by the two students in the class - I felt my safety was at stake walking to my car. I understand Professor Derengowski had security walk him to his vehicle that evening. Thank you in advance for reading my concerns. I would definitely take another of Professor Derengowski's classes.

██████████

November 21, 2011

I submitted a complaint, per the information in the TCC Student Handbook, Spring 2011 – to Mr. Rusty Fox regarding the situation that took place in Professor Derengowski's class. I have received very little to no response from the emails, only the political run-around. I have had ONE phone call from Mr. Fox. Except for the phone call, all correspondence has been through emails.

Question 1.

Did you feel threatened at any time during Professor Derengowski's class? If so, please explain including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel threatened. **YES!**

November 8, 2011

Professor D began the first of two lectures on the religion of Islam. Professor D began the class by asking "when you hear the word Islam what do you think of?" One student in the class responded with "the American hostages taken in Iran in 1978." One student referred to the head-dress Muslim women wear and another student referred to the food being delicious. No one in the class made any reference to 9/11.

Professor D asked [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] how well they knew their own religion. They both replied "very well" ([REDACTED] has stated from the beginning of the semester he began studying his religion at the age of 7). Professor D began his lecture on Islam, as he had all the other classes, discussing the history of Islam, the date it started and who started the religion. My notes from the class are as follows (Permission from Professor D was obtained prior to including his lecture notes from the class in this response):

Islam – Emotively driven
Religion of submission

History

- Muhammad (570 – 632 AS)
- Birth– mother gives him up; grandfather and uncle raise him

upbringing

- People of Mecca don't like him
- Marriage– 25 years
 - Khadija– proposed marriage to Muhammad
- Take up to 4 wives

Religious Environment

- Deity
- Idolatrous
- Gnostics– matter evil knowledge to Heaven
- Nestorians– Jesus, God and Man; God spiritual
- Monophysites– 1 physical character
- Allah– one of the Pagan deities
- Angelic beings
- Mohammad meditated for days on his own

Angelic Visitation

- Spiritual retreat
- Meccan/Medinan– Surah (Chapters) lack context – written by people who told him things

Spiritual Retreat

- Gabriel's visit – Muhammad illiterate
- Put strangle hold on Muhammad
- Called to be a prophet
- Demonic counsel
- Quar'anic construction (23 years – after death)
- Muhammad's appeal
- There is only one God

About this time during the lecture, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] became very disruptive and disrespectful towards Professor D and the entire class. Both students began questioning Professor D's qualifications to teach the

class. ██████ stated to Professor D "the books you are using (the Quran and a book written by a Muslim scholar) aren't authentic, you need to use authentic material." Professor D explained to both students he was using their own book, the Qur'an. ██████ stated he had studied with Ph.D.'s and he could bring one of them in to talk to the class on Islam. Professor D stated to him TCC policy didn't allow such.

Meccan Ministry

- Muhammad rejected!
- An uncle's intervention
- Death of Muhammad's uncle (abu-Talib) and wife (Khadija)
- The request from those in Median
- Needed leadership

The Hijrah

- 622 leave Mecca w/abu-Baker – accepted by Muslims
- Became vindictive

Marauding of Mecca

- Muhammad's theocracy – Allah rules
- No separation between church & state
- Plundering policy
- Steal supplies to support Muslims who followed him
- Mecca strikes back

Both students asked Professor D to prove where he got his information from. Professor D told both students he would bring proof to the next class.

Thursday, November 10, 2011

On Thursday, the class began where Professor D left off Tuesday- answering the two Muslim student's questions regarding proof of their Prophet killing people. The moment class started, both students, once again, were very disruptive, rude, and both students interrupted anyone that tried to ask a question or make a comment. Everyone stayed in their chairs; no one was in anyone's face. The majority of the students were asking/telling both ██████ and ██████ to be quiet and let Professor D teach the class, one student told them to be quiet – they paid \$150 for Professor D to teach the class and not listen to them (██████ & ██████). ██████ and ██████ kept interrupting Professor D's lecture with statements "that's not how our religion has been taught"; "this isn't true". Yet – they both stated they knew their religion very well.

Class Notes from November 10, 2011

Marauding of Mecca

Set up around theocracy

- Muhammad's theocracy
- Muhammad's plundering policy
 - Operating caravan – Muhammad orders raid – better to fight and kill on holy day.
- Mecca Strikes back
- Caught wind of being overthrown

Battle of Trench

- Muhammad invades Mecca
- Mecca
- Pleading with people to repent
- Raids caravans for money – nothing in Medina

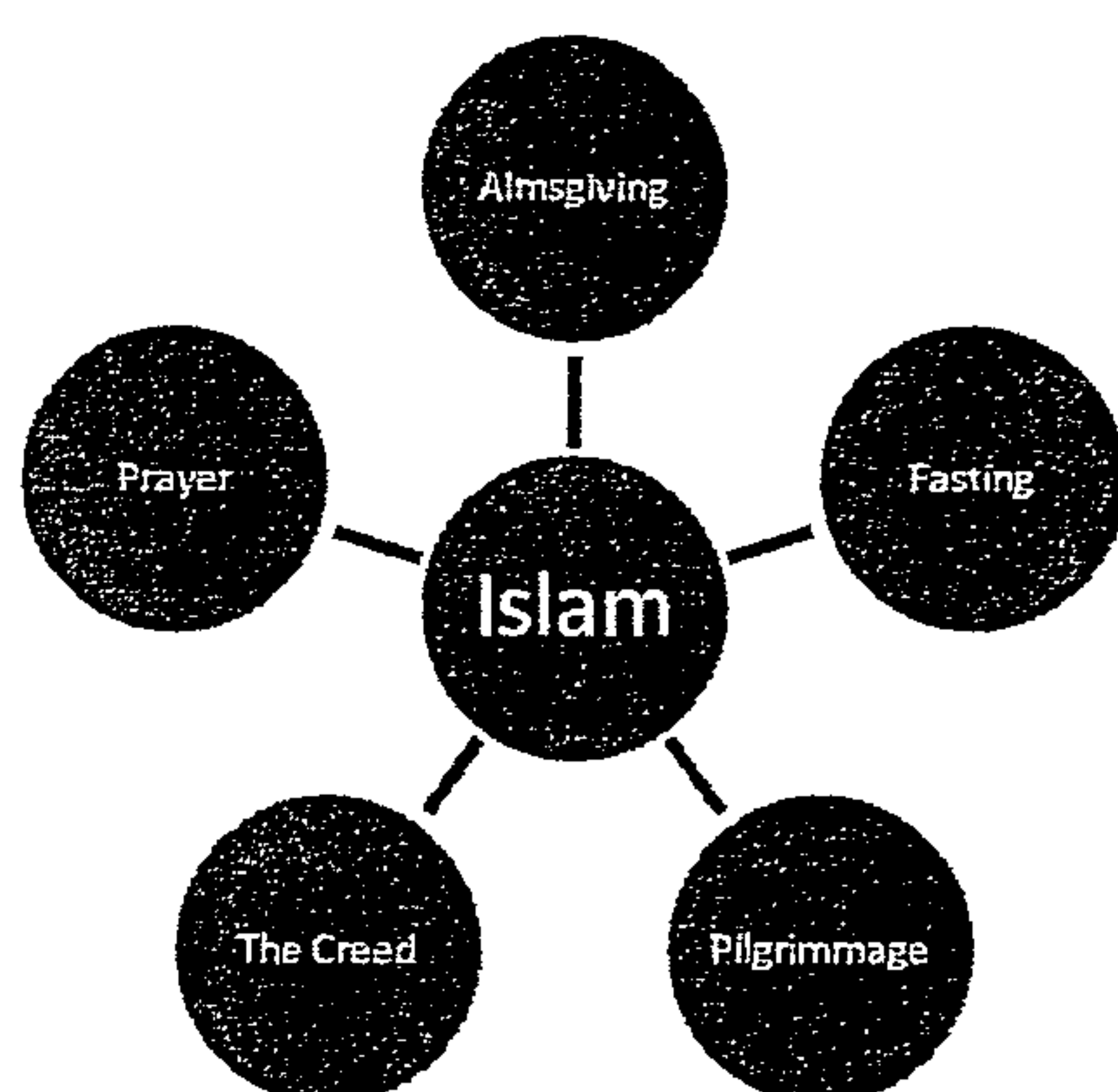
Several of the students attempted to ask both ██████ and ██████ questions about their religion, students even asked why they were being disruptive and rude. No one became disruptive during any of the other lectures in class. I stated to ██████ that over time, religions are changed based on how they are taught. I asked him "Is it possible that what you have been taught has been changed?" I hadn't gotten to the middle of my question when ██████ interrupted me. I stated to him "Excuse me, I'm asking a question, don't interrupt me!"

One of the students stated to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] "in Tuesday's class, Professor D started the class by asking each of us what we thought of when we heard the word Islam. Your behavior right now is exactly what I think of when I hear the word Islam and your behavior right now is very scary." After that statement – [REDACTED] stood up, bolted for the door and as he was leaving stated "You should be scared!" The class could tell Professor D was taken aback by the actions of these two students. Everyone looked around the class at each other with looks on their face, like – did this really happen in our class? After [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] left class – Professor D finished his lecture.

Muhammad's reform

- Accept what he had to say
- Muhammad's sudden death
- Abu-Baker– 1st of 4 caliphs
- Koran Koran– 18 years after Mohammad dies
- Umar – 3rd caliphs

Five Pillars



Many of the students stayed 30-45 minutes after class discussing the disturbance that took place during class. We discussed the behavior of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I stayed 30 minutes after class; I felt unsafe leaving class and walking to my vehicle. I apologized to Professor D for the tone I used in responding to [REDACTED] when he interrupted me. Professor D said thank you and not to worry about it. Prior to leaving the campus, Professor D filed a report with campus police for the safety of his students and himself. Campus police walked Professor D to his vehicle.

[REDACTED] disrupted Professor D's class continually. It wasn't uncommon for Professor D to stop class 3-5 times each class due to [REDACTED]'s disruptions. On one occasion, Professor D spoke to [REDACTED] before class started regarding his constant disruptions. After being spoken to, [REDACTED] continued to disrupt the class.

Question 2

During Professor Derengowski's class, did you feel discriminated against based on your religion? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel discriminated against.

Answer

No. Professor Derengowski lectured equally on all religions. There was no bias towards any specific religion. He taught each religion neutrally.

Question 3 – Any other comments or statements you wish to make

Answer - Yes!

The first day of class Professor D gave us information on his educational background, reviewed the syllabus, and explained what was expected of each person and how he would be teaching the class. If any of the students had issues with the class, they should have addressed those issues with him privately at the beginning of the semester, not when there was five weeks left.

November 12, 2011

Through Camus Cruiser, ██████ sent the entire a class a false email slandering Professor D. I was never offended by Professor D's comments related to the ██████ religion. I lived in an area ██████ for 10 years that has a large ██████ population. Professor D's comments related to the ██████ religion, I've heard them before. I was looking forward to the class on ██████. I wanted to ask questions related to comments I've heard about this religion. I "cruised" Professor D's website – did it offend me? No. Professor D started his website before he was hired by TCC. The information contained on his website is based on the thirty years of studies in the religion field. The class on ██████ was nixed when Professor De resigned. ██████ states in the blog she was on the Islamic defense for the Fort Hood mock trail. **Incorrect – ██████ was one of 4 judges in the first mock trail. The other judges were ██████, ██████, ██████, and ██████.** After ██████ sent her defamating email to the entire class, she logged into a ██████ blog (<http://danielomcclellan.wordpress.com/about/>) and trashed Professor D. Below is the ██████ "anonymous" post:

- *anonymous*
November 13th, 2011 at 4:59 pm

Hello Daniel,

I am a student in Paul Derengowski's World Religions class that you have blogged about...I am a Muslim and have been violated in the way he is teaching these religions. He completely bashes the Mormon and Islamic religions..Me and another Muslim student spoke up against him as we quickly realized he was teaching Islam in such a horrible way, and proving our beliefs wrong in front of the whole classroom. He also made us do the mock trials and had me and the other student on the side of Islamic defense, as well as the Mormon mock trial, in which I was also on defense. I put his name on google, and so many inappropriate pages showed up where he is bashing these religions..I am taking them to the dean of our college, and I just thought you should know this.. He is an evil man! Teaching the students the wrong things about other religions.

November 15, 2011

Professor Munoz addressed the class – stating the class had been cancelled for the evening and all students needed to sign the roll sheet to receive credit for that night and to return on Thursday.

November 17, 2011

Professor Whettengel addressed the class and introduced the professor chosen to finish the class– prior to this class – I had received an email from Professor D stating he had resigned. I forwarded Professor D's email to the entire class.

I point blank asked Professor Whettengel "Was Professor D's syllabus approved by TCC prior to the beginning of the semester?" Her response "yes." One of the students asked Professor Whettengel to explain why Professor D wasn't in class. She stated she couldn't. At that point, another student informed the class she had received an email from Professor D stating he had resigned. I have since learned from another student in the class, both ██████ and ██████ gave each a "high 5" when they heard Professor D had resigned.

I lost all interest in this class after Professor D resigned. Professor D made the class interesting and formative. It's very obvious Professor D loves enlightening others from his studies. I would have dropped the class had it not been for the way Professor D taught the class.

The last 5 weeks of the class were completed with Mark Austin. A professor, who admitted to the class, he was not qualified to be teaching the class. I believe Mark did the best he could under the circumstances. He (Mark) definitely lacks the "flair" for teaching Professor D has. The night Professor Whettengel addressed the class she stated "we want the class to move forward, not backwards." That explains why the class had to back-track and cover the first three chapters of the book – which Professor D had already done in previous lectures. Professor Whettengel was asked if the class was going to study the religions on Professor D's syllabus, we were told no.

Below are a few of the emails I have sent to TCC personnel as well as the deflating email [REDACTED] sent to the entire class.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 11:42 AM
To: WETTENGEL, SHARON
Subject: [Fwd: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski]

Ms. Whettengel,

Below is a copy of an email I have sent to Dean Coan and Dean Munoz. I have not had a reply from either. Thank you in advance for reading my concerns.

[REDACTED]

Original E-mail
From: [REDACTED]
Date: 11/17/2011 08:50 AM
To: barbara.coan@my.tccd.edu
Subject: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski

Dean Coan,

Below is an email I sent to Dean Munoz. As of this email to you I have had no response. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Original E-mail
From: [REDACTED]
Date: 11/16/2011 11:10 AM
To: josue.munoz@my.tccd.edu
Subject: Great Religions of The World - Paul Derengowski

Dean Muñoz,

I am currently enrolled in Professor Derengowski's Tuesday/Thursday religion class. Last night (11/15) our class was cancelled. If possible, could you tell me if the Thursday class is cancelled? I understand if the class is cancelled I will need to sign the roll sheet. My employer reimburses me the total cost of books and tuition based on the final grade I receive in this class. Currently I have a 74.5 -

my goal is to raise the grade to a B by the end of the semester. However; I see this goal diminishing with each cancelled class. I am **not** happy about this!

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[REDACTED]

Below is an email sent to Professor Whettengel after she addressed the class November 15, 2011:

Professor Whettengel,

Thank you for addressing Professor D's class Thursday night. I'm still very disgusted with the handling of this situation by the administration of TCC.

In my original email, I stated my safety was of concern after the class was threatened by [REDACTED] stating "you should be scared". My concern has yet to be addressed by TCC administration. Professor D filed a police report with the Campus Police in regards, not only for his safety, but for the safety of his students. I have been discriminated against. Had I been one of the Muslim students would the concern for my safety been addressed? In the Student Handbook under Illegal and or Disruptive Behavior, Item # 4 addresses students being threatened.

I also stated in my original email the continual, disruptive, behavior displayed by [REDACTED], even after Professor D spoke with him and had to stop class numerous times each class. Page 41 of the Student Handbook addresses this situation. Dean Coan and Dean Munoz were both made aware of this - I'm confused why this student is still allowed to attend the class and the fact this student secretly taped the class. This was pointed out at the beginning of the semester recording the class was not allowed per the Student Handbook.

I also find it utterly disgusting a student can send an email, such as the one [REDACTED] sent to the whole class, defaming Professor D's character and still be allowed to attend class when it is clearly stated

this is against the student handbook. In case you missed [REDACTED] email - below is what was sent to the entire class:

Good morning classmates...

I am e-mailing you all some information that you might find interesting, relating to our World of Religions teacher. After the other day in class, I couldn't help but feel that he was teaching my religion of Islam in such a hatred and bias way... And to my findings, he was.... This man has been teaching our class in his point of view, in the way that he thinks it should be...He is not being informative about religions, but rather creating a religious intolerance. This is a philosophy class, he is supposed to be opening our minds and getting us to understand why other people believe certain things...I'm sure some of you have felt that he does slander other religions' beliefs and speaks ill of some as well. I knew me and [REDACTED] were not crazy speaking up against how he was teaching. It wasn't the information and facts we were debating against so much, he was teaching it all wrong, and taking so many things out of context, focusing on the ugly things instead of teaching the actual religion itself.... I will let you all read what our teacher has written about Islam and Mormonism, the two religions he continues to speak out against in our class. I will not be attending this man's class again, and I will be showing the dean of our school. This is not right at all, and a person shouldn't feel discriminated against or violated in such a way in a learning environment as me and [REDACTED] did that day. By the way...He gave us both zero's on our quizzes we fairly earned 6/6 on that day in class, and an absence because we left a few minutes early...We weren't going to sit there any longer and allow him to slander our beliefs the way he was that day... Enjoy:

CAPRO:

This is his own personal website that he created. It is actually listed on the syllabus also, I'm wondering why they did not check it out before hiring him:

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Now, on this website, he basically says al ot of the same crap he talks about in class.. He speaks of all the religions and includes sources...Look at the Islamic part of his website.. This shows how he clearly views the religion just by looking at the pictures in the background of the words "ISLAM" with the twin towers and a Muslim child holding a gun... He also refers to this RELIGION as a CULT...along with Atheism, Mormonism, and so on.

<http://capro.info/Cults/Islam/Islam.html>

To further surprise you...This his own blog he wrote in 2009...The very first article clearly shows his hate for Muslims... I was very shocked and sad to read this:

<http://worldview.blogtownhall.com/>

Quoted from blog:

"Third, every Muslim should be profiled, and if caught breaking the law—even if it's spitting on the sidewalk—should be deported or executed, depending on the level of offense. If deported that Muslim should be given the strict order "Don't ever come back! You're no longer welcome here!" If executed, then the rest of the Muslim community can thank Allah for the infidel sending the criminal (not martyr) to his reward. At least the rest of humanity won't have to be concerned about him wreaking senseless havoc in this world anymore."

And here's just some other sites I found where he is a very well-known online and others find his way of spreading hate and bigotry:

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And this one, I found very interesting as this guy, Daniel McCallen is writing a whole blog about how Mr. Derengowski was talking online how he teaches his class, and includes the examples of the mock trials he made us do....Does anyone else find this sickening???

<http://danielomcclellan.wordpress.com/2009/12/26/religious-bigotry-in-a-university-classroom/>

It's unfortunate Professor D's syllabus was nixed by TCC after it had been approved. The religions he had yet to cover in class are Religions of TODAY'S world. Prior to taking Professor D's class - there are religions he covered in class, from the textbook and his studies I had never heard of before. Our classes were taught based on the information in the TCC approved textbook as well as his personal studies. Our tests comprised of information from the text books and his studies. Had the class been taught strictly from the information in the book - it would have been a very boring class and I would have dropped the class. I also appreciate Professor D having the class participate in two mock trials and two field assignments. The field assignments gave me the opportunity to participate in two church services of religions I never would have. The mock trials were taken from actual events covered in the National News. Both events occurred in Texas. I found nothing sickening about participating in these trials. However, I did find it sickening someone serving in the military, by his religion had the right to kill our service men and women. That, Professor Whettengel, is sickening. I paid no attention to the events in the news. The grades received from the mock trials were tests scores. If a student had an issue with the mock trials they should have discussed this with Professor D prior to participating in them.

Asking questions and voicing opinions in a class is how, we as students learn. As it's been stated for many, many years - "Americans are free to practice any religion". By TCC actions in this situation, TCC has proven this just how in just this thought of many, many Americans is.

I welcome the opportunity to be able to take another class taught by Professor D. TCC has done an injustice to all current and past students of Professor D. Our right to be educated by taking Professor D's class have been violated by the Administration. Professor D never forced his beliefs on any one in the class or influenced us that any religion was better than another.

As I stated above, I'm so disgusted with this situation I have very strong reservations about ever taking another class at TCC.

████████████████████
Emails sent/received to/from Mr. Fox – I have received nothing but the political run-around from Mr. Fox.

From: ████████████████████
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2011 4:05 PM
To: 'FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES'
Subject: RE: Student Complaint/Grievance Form

Thank you for your response. I was basing my question from your response in the November 30th regarding the 10 day time-frame Yes – I remember the phone call and was a bit puzzled why I would be asked such a question. I had/have no reason to withdraw the complaint. I'm pretty adamant about the complaint regarding the situation.

From: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES [mailto:RUSTY.FOX@tccd.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2011 3:56 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: RE: Student Complaint/Grievance Form

[REDACTED]

Since the matter does now involve our district office, I would ask for your patience as we work quickly to resolve this matter.

Within the initial 10 day period, I did speak with you by phone, notified you that the matter had been referred, and asked if you still wanted to pursue the complaint at that time. You asserted clearly that you did want to proceed. I made our district office aware of that intent.

I am working daily with our district office, and hope to have you a response soon.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2011 3:49 PM
To: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES
Cc: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: RE: Student Complaint/Grievance Form

Mr. Fox,

Based on the information in your email from November 30th, I have not received a response to the complaint filed with TCC November 16, 2011. Not counting the 23rd and 24th of November as part of the 10 day time-frame (due to the Thanksgiving holiday) today is the 11th day since you acknowledged receiving the Grievance. Do you have any information? Thanks.

[REDACTED]

From: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES [mailto:RUSTY.FOX@tccd.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:28 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: RE: Student Complaint/Grievance Form

The complaint has been forwarded to Dr. Ricardo Coronado, our Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, who is the college's Title IX Officer.

His office will have the final say on the matter. However, I will work to have my response ready for him, and assume that a response will be given to you within the 10 days, as listed on the form.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2011 8:18 AM
To: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES
Subject: RE: Student Complaint/Grievance Form

Mr. Fox,

Quick question – yesterday when we spoke you stated the complaint I submitted was being sent to the District Office. Does the 10 days indicated on the Grievance flow chart still apply or is there a new timeline? Could you tell me whom at the District Office is the complaint being forwarded to? Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES [mailto:RUSTY.FOX@tccd.edu]
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2011 1:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Student Complaint/Grievance Form

[REDACTED]:

I am in receipt of your complaint form. You will have a response/decision from me within the 10 days indicated on the *Grievance flow chart and response to incident*.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2011 8:46 AM
To: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES
Subject: Student Complaint/Grievance Form

Mr. Fox,

Please see the attached Student Complaint/Grievance Form related to issues in Professor Derengowski's Worlds of Religion Class – 2011FL-PHIL-1304-41244. Thank you in advance for your attention to this situation.

From: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES [mailto:RUSTY.FOX@tccd.edu]
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2011 11:13 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Update of progress

[REDACTED]:

The college wants to make you aware of the status of your complaint. We will respond as soon as practical, but at this time we are still attempting to interview key people involved. Thus, we do not anticipate completing a response to you until we have all of that information. Because this potentially concerns multiple issues and areas of responsibility, your patience and understanding of the complexity of this matter, is appreciated.

You were thorough in your written complaint, and my assumption is it includes all the details you wanted considered. Additionally, I believe we've spoken about the matter by phone. However, if you still feel the need to review your complaint in person, simply call my administrative assistant at 817.515.3015, and she'll set us an appointment for early next week.

Rusty Fox
Vice-President for Student Development Services

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2011 11:16 AM
To: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES
Cc: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: RE: Update of progress

Mr. Fox

You and I have not spoken on the phone regarding this matter. The only conversation you and I have had on the phone was when you called asking if I still wanted the complaint submitted. That is the ONLY conversation you and I have had. No one has spoken to me over the phone for specifics in this matter.

[REDACTED]

From: FOX, RUSTY SE Campus SDES [mailto:RUSTY.FOX@tccd.edu]
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2011 11:36 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: RE: Update of progress

[REDACTED]:
Your complaint was quite thorough, and you've even included copies of previous discussions with other campus personnel, related to the issue.

In your written complaint you make three distinct accusations:

1. The students [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] violated student handbook policy by continually disturbing class.
2. That Ms. [REDACTED] defamed Professor Derengowski with an email to the class.
3. (Though not mentioned on the complaint form), by copy of emails, an indication that you were concerned for your safety, specifically because of a statement you accuse [REDACTED] of making, when you accuse him of stating to the class, "you should be scared."

You also clarify that the outcome you hope to achieve specifically, is:

- "That TCC will adhere to their policies set forth in the Student Handbook on the issues I've addressed."

To consider this matter, I am working with the academic administrators involved, the campus police, and district administration. We are reviewing any/all records of disruptions in the class if any exist, reported by anyone including instructor and/or students. I am working with our Title IX Coordinator and HR personnel to refer the accusation of defamation for their investigation. And though listed last here and not part of your formal complaint, my first actions were to explore the safety issue, beginning by working directly with the police that were involved that night, then reviewing records or reports related, to include any reports of concerns made by instructor or students, if any.

If you sense that I have not read your statements correctly, and that a discussion in person would help to clarify matters, I am willing to schedule an appointment to speak with you, if you like. Is there something you wish to discuss, that was not covered in your written complaint?

Mr. Fox,

As I stated on the complaint form, the complaint box wasn't big enough to hold the information and the emails were attached.

Item 1 – Student [REDACTED] is the student continually disturbing the class – not [REDACTED]. In the email dated November 19, attached to the complaint form – the 3rd paragraph states "I also stated in my original email the continual, disruptive, behavior displayed by [REDACTED], even after Professor D spoke with him and had to stop class numerous times each class. Page 41 of the Student Handbook addresses this situation. Dean Coan and Dean Munoz were both made aware of this - I'm confused why this student is still allowed to attend the class and the fact this student secretly taped the class. This was pointed out at the beginning of the semester recording the class was not allowed per the Student Handbook.

Item 2 – A copy of the email [REDACTED] sent to the entire class was attached to the complaint form.

Item 3 - Also stated in the email dated November 19th, sent to Professor Whettengel, the 2nd paragraph states "my safety was of concern after the class was threatened by [REDACTED] stating "you should be scared". My concern has yet to be addressed by TCC administration. Professor D filed a police report with the Campus Police in regards, not only for his safety, but for the safety of his students. I have been discriminated against. Had I been one of the Muslim students would the

concern for my safety been addressed? In the Student Handbook under Illegal and or disruptive behavior, Item # 4 addresses students being threatened. "

As you may be aware – I was interviewed by the editor of The Collegian. After reading the second article on Professor D – I sent an email to [REDACTED] outlining the lies stated by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in the article (included below):

[REDACTED],

I read the newest article on Professor Derengowski last night. The Collegian has done the best job reporting the information. However, I was a little irritated with the information given by the Muslim students.

1. The first lie in the article "A lot of people said 'terrorist,' and '9/11' and all that," she said.? [REDACTED] - One mention was made of the American hostages Iran took in 1979 and no one said 9/11. There were may have been five comments made - I don't consider that "a lot".
2. "We did not threaten the teacher, nor did we cause any disruption," she said. "We were rightfully debating the information he was giving." Really - then why did the male Muslim student say "You should be scared" as he abruptly left the classroom. And if no disruption were created why did half the class stay afterwards to discuss the disruption?
3. Another lie told by the female Muslim student - "Do employers not research people's personal Facebook pages when looking to hire them? Did TCC not do the same with a professor who is trusted to touch such sensitive subjects with a proper and respective manner?" Professor Whettengel stated the night she addressed the class that "yes a background check was done on Professor Derengowski".
4. Another lie told by the female student - Derengowski didn't use the textbook to make the Islam lesson, the female Muslim student said. – I have information highlighted in the text book Professor D gave us during the class as well as notes he gave us on the history of the book.

The professor that took over the class has stated "this textbook is biased". Thanks for letting me share this information with you.

As you stated below - this information was sent to Dean Munoz and Dean Coan – copies of those emails dated November 17, were also attached to the complaint form. I know other students in the class have completed and submitted complaints to you as well regarding this situation. I will be at TCC Tuesday at 5:30 taking the final for Professor D's class. I can meet with you after that.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

- 1. Did you feel threatened at any time during Mr. Derengowski's class? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel threatened.**

Yes, I never experienced in my entire life as an ESL student to see and hear someone threatening a teacher in class only in Prof. Derengowski class, it's something new for me and it's traumatizing. Our class has been terrorized. To be honest [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] acted like a radical Islam. All religion has flaws and past history of violence no religion is exempted from this.

On the night of Nov. 8 were going over the history and life of Prophet Mohammed. [REDACTED] humiliated Prof. D in class after he read/quoted some scripture from Quran and his other reference. He raised his voice, slam his table a few times, and worse of all he demean Prof. D's educational background according to him he's not qualified to teach his religion because Prof. D was ignorant about Islam. I felt sorry for Prof. D; [REDACTED] showed no respect at all to his teacher and classmates while he's at TCC campus.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] emphasize in class that Prof. D was taking everything out of context from Quran and he was falsely teaching Islam. And [REDACTED] said to Prof. D "do you think we will just sit here without saying anything. Why are we talking about this? Why not focus on the good things about Islam." They never let Prof D finish his sentence without constant interruption how rude! And before [REDACTED] left the class he said to Prof. D he should be careful they left together and slam the door.

When Prof. D didn't show up for the next class after the mock trial Dean Munoz took our attendance for that evening I saw [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] giving each other a high five and smiling from ear to ear a little celebration from their end; while the rest of the class were wondering what's going on. I told my seatmate named [REDACTED] "I bet it's about [REDACTED] email that she send to everybody in class." Their behavior on the night of Nov. 8, 2011 ground for disciplinary action according to TCC school policy. How

they acted in class was uncalled for, it's very barbaric and hideous. I was very offended I didn't pay for my class to be sabotage by other people.

2. During Mr. Derengowski's class, did you feel discriminated against based on your religion? If so, please explain, including specific actions and comments which caused you to feel discriminated against.

No I never felt discriminated; Prof. D never imposed his belief on me. He always lay out the facts nothing more nothing less he always uses references related to every religion that were going over in class. He always came in class prepared with stock pile of books as his references which I really admire. He's not bias nor showed any prejudices towards other religion or student.

3. Any other comments or statements you wish to make.

I took this class with an open mind everyone has different belief and practices. But this whole brouhaha from two simple minded student mess up the entire class. I was hoping and looking forward to learn Mormonism, Jehovah's Witness, Occultism and Atheism from Prof. D. I love everything in his syllabus.

His class helped me to understand other religion especially when I went to do my field assignment. And if you're concern about Prof. D's website I'm an adult I take it as a grain of salt whatever he wrote in his website doesn't offend or affect me that is his opinion I have my own opinion he's entitled to it and I'm entitled to mine. Whatever he believes doesn't distort my personal belief. His freedom of speech is protected by US Constitution and no one should be feeling threatened because he share what's on his mind.

What I hope from all this brouhaha something positive and good will come out. I hope TCC will stand up for the truth and will have the backbone to discipline these students who violated the TCC school policy.

Enforce the school policy if no one from your end can enforce the appropriate disciplinary action I suggest might as well abolish the school policy it's meaningless after all. [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] was not the only student in that class or the only taxpayer of Tarrant County. TCC failed to think the best interest for the rest of the students we were put aside and was force to accept the administration decision. TCC showed great weakness, lack of training and ignorance in handling this type of problem. I think the administration needs a revamp from top to bottom. Thank you very much for reading this letter.

LANIER, BILL

om: CORONADO, RICARDO
Sent: Thursday, December 01, 2011 1:44 PM
To: LANIER, BILL
Cc: TIMS, BEVERLY
Subject: FW: Thank You

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:24 PM
To: CORONADO, RICARDO
Subject: Thank You

Mr. Coronado,

I would like to thank the TCCD administration for their position on Mr. Derengowski. Many of my friends, as well as my brother, [REDACTED], had taken his world religions class and complained about his overly biased views. Everyone is entitled to their opinion until they cross the boundary of subjectivity into the land of overt criticism. I have been dying to take this class but I refuse to take it if he teaches it. The students are paying to learn about World Religion in general, not World Religions According to Mr. Derengowski.

Once again, thank you so very much, and I hope this email has reached the proper avenue.

Thank You.

Current TCCD Student,
[REDACTED]