

Student Evaluation of Teaching, Fall 2019

Kevin Allen, ECON 400-001 STATISTICS AND ECONOMETRICS

Raters	Students
Responded	58
Invited	240
Response Ratio	24.2%

Overall

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. Overall, this course was excellent.	3.39	4.00	1.10	57	5.3%	17.5%	24.6%	38.6%	14.0%
2. Overall, I learned a great deal from this course.	3.44	4.00	1.08	55	3.6%	21.8%	14.5%	47.3%	12.7%
3. Overall, this instructor was an effective teacher.	3.58	4.00	0.92	57	1.8%	12.3%	24.6%	49.1%	12.3%
4. The instructor was one of the best I have had at Carolina, fully deserving of a teaching award.	2.98	3.00	1.25	57	14.0%	22.8%	26.3%	24.6%	12.3%

Instructor

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. The instructor clearly communicated what was expected of me in this class.	4.09	4.00	0.76	57	0.0%	5.3%	8.8%	57.9%	28.1%
2. I was able to get individual help when I needed it.	3.94	4.00	0.70	51	0.0%	2.0%	21.6%	56.9%	19.6%
3. The instructor evaluated my work fairly.	4.33	4.00	0.64	57	0.0%	1.8%	3.5%	54.4%	40.4%
4. The instructor showed concern about whether students learned the material.	3.86	4.00	0.90	56	1.8%	7.1%	16.1%	53.6%	21.4%
5. The instructor expressed ideas clearly.	3.61	4.00	1.01	57	0.0%	21.1%	14.0%	47.4%	17.5%
6. The instructor showed enthusiasm for the subject matter.	4.11	4.00	0.77	57	1.8%	1.8%	8.8%	59.6%	28.1%
7. The instructor showed enthusiasm for teaching the class.	4.00	4.00	0.78	57	1.8%	1.8%	14.0%	59.6%	22.8%
8. The instructor treated all students with respect.	4.33	4.00	0.61	57	0.0%	0.0%	7.0%	52.6%	40.4%
9. The instructional techniques engaged me with the subject matter.	3.47	4.00	1.21	57	8.8%	14.0%	17.5%	40.4%	19.3%
10. The instructor provided me with helpful feedback on my performance.	3.73	4.00	1.01	55	3.6%	7.3%	23.6%	43.6%	21.8%
11. The instructor handled questions well.	3.81	4.00	0.85	57	1.8%	8.8%	10.5%	64.9%	14.0%
12. The instructor used examples that had relevance for me.	3.82	4.00	0.98	57	5.3%	3.5%	15.8%	54.4%	21.1%
13. The instructor used class time well.	3.53	4.00	1.15	57	7.0%	15.8%	10.5%	50.9%	15.8%
14. The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.	3.70	4.00	0.84	57	0.0%	12.3%	17.5%	57.9%	12.3%

	N	Yes
1. The instructor provided regular assessment of my work throughout the semester.	56	89.3%
2. The instructor held class meetings consistent with the course syllabus and the official schedule published for this course.	56	96.4%
3. Is this a required course for you?	58	1.7%

Course

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. The course challenged me to think deeply about the subject matter.	3.45	4.00	1.05	58	5.2%	15.5%	19.0%	50.0%	10.3%
2. The course material (e.g., coursepack, website, texts) helped me better understand the subject matter.	3.48	4.00	0.97	56	3.6%	14.3%	21.4%	51.8%	8.9%
3. The course assignments helped me better understand the subject matter.	4.00	4.00	0.77	58	1.7%	1.7%	13.8%	60.3%	22.4%
4. This course was very exciting to me intellectually.	3.17	3.00	1.19	58	10.3%	20.7%	20.7%	37.9%	10.3%
5. This course was designed to keep me engaged in learning.	3.27	3.50	1.20	56	8.9%	19.6%	21.4%	35.7%	14.3%
6. The workload was appropriate for what I gained from this class.	3.86	4.00	0.79	57	1.8%	5.3%	12.3%	66.7%	14.0%

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Very Easy	Easy	Average	More Rigorous	Most Rigorous
1. Rate the grading standards of this course compared with others you have taken at UNC.	2.48	3.00	0.75	58	13.8%	25.9%	58.6%	1.7%	0.0%
2. Rate the workload required in this course compared with others you have taken at UNC.	2.26	2.00	0.81	58	20.7%	34.5%	43.1%	1.7%	0.0%

Reported Engagement

	N	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	12+
1. Please estimate the average number of hours per week that you spent outside of class on work related to this course.	57	8.8%	59.6%	21.1%	10.5%	0.0%	0.0%
2. About how many times this semester have you met with the instructor outside of class?	57	68.4%	26.3%	1.8%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%

Expected Grade

	N	A- or A	B or B+	C+ or B-	C- or C	F or D	Pass	Fail	H	P	L
1. What grade do you think you will get in this course?	58	82.8%	13.8%	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Diversity and Inclusion

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. The diversity of my classmates enriched my learning in this course.	3.79	4.00	0.74	38	0.0%	2.6%	31.6%	50.0%	15.8%
2. I increased my ability to work on a team with students from different backgrounds and perspectives.	3.61	4.00	0.89	38	0.0%	10.5%	34.2%	39.5%	15.8%
3. This course exposed me to points of view different from my own.	3.74	4.00	0.85	39	0.0%	7.7%	28.2%	46.2%	17.9%
4. I became more aware of multiple perspectives on issues of diversity.	3.72	4.00	0.86	39	0.0%	7.7%	30.8%	43.6%	17.9%
5. The instructor, Kevin Allen, valued the diversity of life experiences among students.	4.05	4.00	0.73	42	0.0%	0.0%	23.8%	47.6%	28.6%
6. The instructor, Kevin Allen, saw cultural and personal differences as assets.	4.00	4.00	0.80	42	0.0%	2.4%	23.8%	45.2%	28.6%
7. In-class activities were organized to value the diversity of life experiences among students.	3.74	4.00	0.79	39	0.0%	5.1%	30.8%	48.7%	15.4%

Open-Ended Responses

Comments on Overall Assessment of This Course.

Comments

After taking STOR 155 and PLCY 460, no new material was gained from this class

too easy

really wanted to learn in depth topics but i think they changed this course to cover only the basics

Course was well put together

Professor Allen really helped me become more confident in statistics. He taught familiar concepts in a new way. He is empathetic and always willing to help. However, I wish there were more homework assignments and practice questions.

I really struggled to be engaged and found the work to be rather confusing.

Great course

Great.

I really enjoyed the course and learned a ton from it. The powerpoints were well presented and all the information was very clear and concise and made it a lot easier to learn.

It's really hard to find out what are the important concepts and how will they be tested. Until I have the practice problems before each exam I can finally know what exactly we should have learned. The course material is easy but the lectures are just him reading the slides. We NEED more practice, at least more than four homework assignments for a whole semester (exclude three practice exams).

This course sucked. It was a continuation of STOR 155 and a waste of my time.

Good class, taught STATA which was very useful

Very easy. Minimal homework, easy to study for exams. This class was not on the same level as I am used to within the Econ department

This course was very easy for someone who understood the content in STOR 155 and STOR 113. If you didn't do well in STOR 155, you won't do well in this class, likewise, if you don't have a grasp on derivatives, you won't understand a majority of the content. I think lectures are pretty boring regardless, whether or not I understand the content. In this case, I understood all of the content until the last unit. I came to every single class and did very well, but I'd expect that someone who did well in STOR 155, 113, and likes data would do well in this course without having to come to class. Many people probably had an opposite experience than I did, so I don't want this to be a blanket statement for everyone. But I think that this class could be offered in an advanced format to people who did well in 155 and 113, so they could skip through the majority of the topics before the first exam, and then learn about the alternative models (last unit) as a longer lesson and add additional content. Again, some people probably had a hard time, but two options would be great!

Shit was soooo easy

It is really a booster for GPA

Really like the way Allen teaches 400. It is clear he cares about the learning of his students in ways most ECON professors don't.

Unorganized and the material for exams was unclear.

yes

The class was disorganized

course was easy, but informative

Wonderful class and great professor!

The course was very engaging and interesting. I enjoyed learning about STATA and the different programs on there.

Comments on Overall Assessment of This Instructor.

Comments

I found him to be very disorganized which was very frustrating. I also thought that the lack of a course schedule on the syllabus was confusing as well, because I never knew what I needed to have with me in class. He was nice and he clearly enjoyed teaching the class, but I really struggled with his teaching style.

Good.

Dr. Allen is a great professor and I really enjoyed taking his course. His enthusiasm was evident and he always worked hard to make sure the content was relevant to us as economics (and for me also as a policy) majors and so it made learning the content much more engaging and interesting. His real-life experience added a lot of detail to the course and he was also always willing to share with us.

Comments

Please give us more chances to practice materials taught in class and post the grades for the exams on time.

Although the material was interesting, I found class time to not be productive at all for myself and the majority of my classmates. The majority of class periods were spent working on STATA, which we cannot use on exams. The purpose behind devoting so much class time to the use of this program is unknown to me. In the earlier sections of the class when we did a significant amount of calculations, I believe it would be way more helpful for the professor to work out the problems by hand step by step. Simply having the process on the slides did not show how or why these numbers were determined and made it difficult to understand if I hadn't previously learned the material. Although I greatly appreciated the professor posting the slides online so I could follow along in class, I didn't gain anything from sitting in the class that I couldn't gain from looking at the slides independently, therefore I think there should be more in class information that will motivate students to go to class and understand the material to a higher level.

He doesn't seem very engaging and the class was mostly review. But overall not bad

Very nice and knowledgeable professor, although the class material was unclear at some points.

Kevin was an awful teacher. He made it hard to engage with the material and the lectures. I have never been more disinterested in a class whatsoever. He made this class a waste of my time, but I had to take it for my major and had no other choice. I hope I never have another Econ class with him again.

Enthusiastic and knowledgeable about course material, but lectures could be more engaging and practice-based.

New professor, did pretty well i guess. Kept the class engaged and handled questions well

When Professor Allen first arrived, I was excited because his subtle humor and anecdotes were aligning with the content perfectly and it was very helpful. I think Professor Allen is a great instructor but might just need to adjust to the school and North Carolina a little bit more. I think that his teaching style is a little bit dry, and when content is dry, I check out mentally. A little bit more excitement during lectures and allowing more of his personality to show through would be a great change. People want to come to class more often if they know that they enjoy the teaching style of the professor. Professor Allen definitely has it in him, and sometimes allows his personality to come through, but I'd love to come to a class where I know I'll be learning in an exciting way!

He seems like a nice guy but he needs to realize that he is not at Kentucky anymore. UNC kids are blessed with multiple brain cells. We want to learn and be challenged.

Such a kind professor! He gave us a lot of practices!

Very good teacher. Clear that he thinks from the perspective of a student when creating course material. Easily one of the most fair professors I have ever had. Very clear that he has a real passion for making sure students understand the material. Really like personal examples he includes in class, they help my understanding.

He was very knowledgeable about the material and used real-world examples to help us better understand the concepts which were very helpful.

Dr. Allen is very knowledgeable, however I found that he was a bit disorganized with class materials. Not enough homework to do in order to be on top of the material. Practice test n 2 was not accurate of what the exam was like. Overall I had a hard time being engage. However Dr. Allen was always willing to help if needed and he showed passion and interested in teaching us

good instructor, easy material

Excellent instructor teaching effectively!

Dr. Allen is very professional and makes coming to class fun. He takes the pressure off of learning by using jokes and real-life examples of the material we learn.

Often unable to provide clear responses to questions. I found myself more confused when trying to listen to answers during lecture compared to solely reading the slides. The way Professor Allen designed exam questions, I felt like I was at a disadvantage if I had a conceptual understanding of material compared to just the ability to memorize practice exam questions.

very nice

Professor Allen was great and able to connect with students, which made the class more enjoyable.

Kevin was a good instructor who evaluated work extremely fairly. I feel like I learned a great deal from him.

Extremely helpful and explains concepts clearly.

Kevin's lectures were a bit dry and not always engaging. However, he was very available to his students for help as needed. He made the material understandable.

Comments on: The Instructor Provided Regular Assessment of My Work Throughout the Semester. (Comments)

Comment

- Good.

- 4 homework assignments for a semester. I can't know whether I understand all the materials taught until I get the practice problems before the midterms.

- tests took an inordinate amount of time to be graded

- few assignments outside of exams

- 3 hw assignments

Comments on: The Instructor Held Class Meetings Consistent With the Course Syllabus and the Official Schedule Published For This Course. (Comments)

Comment

- There wasn't much of a course schedule to begin with.

- We don't even have a schedule. The syllabus only tells us the date of midterms (he also postpone the second midterm). I asked him would he post a schedule at the beginning of the semester and he said he would, but it has been a whole semester and we never saw a schedule.

How Did the Diversity of Your Classmates Contribute to Your Learning in This Course?

Comments

NA

n/a

Allowed me to talk with and connect with people of different backgrounds.

Professor Allen encouraged working with classmates on poll everywhere questions together.

The class diversity was evident in class discussions as we discussed the usefulness of econometrics in today's world.

N/A

Varied.

It didn't

.

This is a lecture course, I don't usually find lectures to be particularly beneficial to diversity-based learning.

can we please chill with the diversity garbage

yes

people from different backgrounds were able to share experiences

I met many new students. We were able to collaboratively help each other with any difficult material and share our own techniques for solving problems.

How Might the Class Climate Be Made More Inclusive of Diverse Students?

Comments

NA

more group activities

It was very inclusive

N/A

no further suggestions

I think there could be more discussion of life experience when considering research questions.

No idea.

It's fine

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can we please chill with the diversity garbage

yes

less emphasis on gender binary in statistics

This class was very inclusive of all backgrounds. I think it was very nice that Professor Allen had a lecture reviewing derivatives. This is very helpful for students like myself who haven't had math courses in a long time.
