

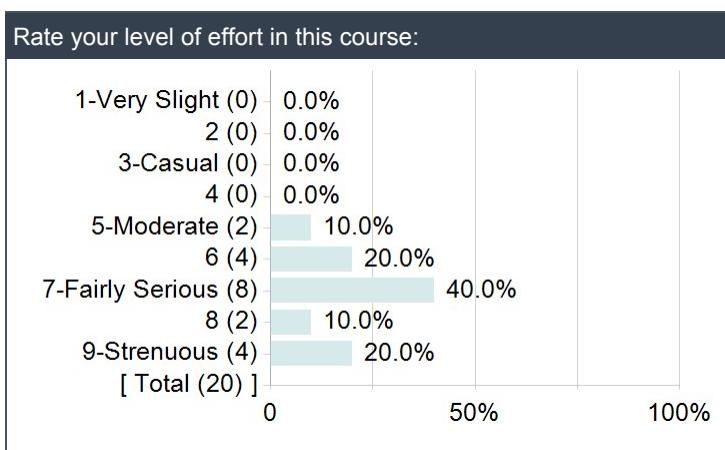
Jun He
 ECON 385-01 Econometrics
 Spring 2021

Raters	Students
Responded	20
Invited	23
Response Ratio	87.0%

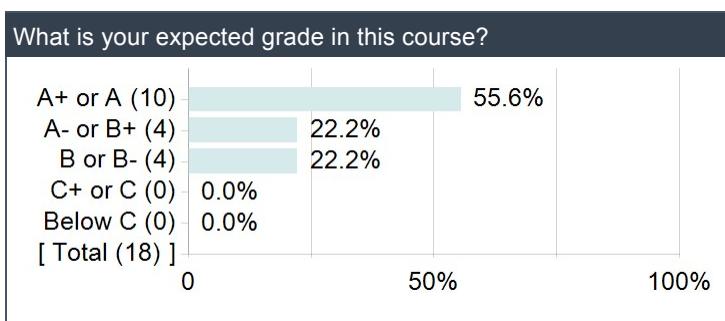
Course Evaluation Form

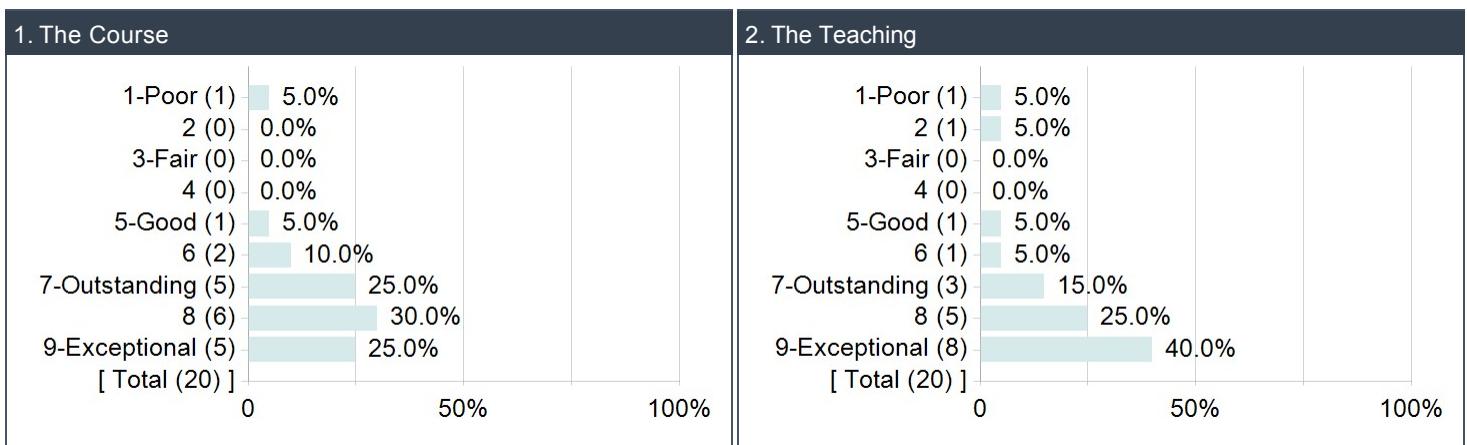
This form is intended to help instructors identify areas of strength and weakness in their teaching. Results are also utilized for the purpose of performance review. Please keep these objectives in mind as you provide your responses.

Rate your level of effort in this course:

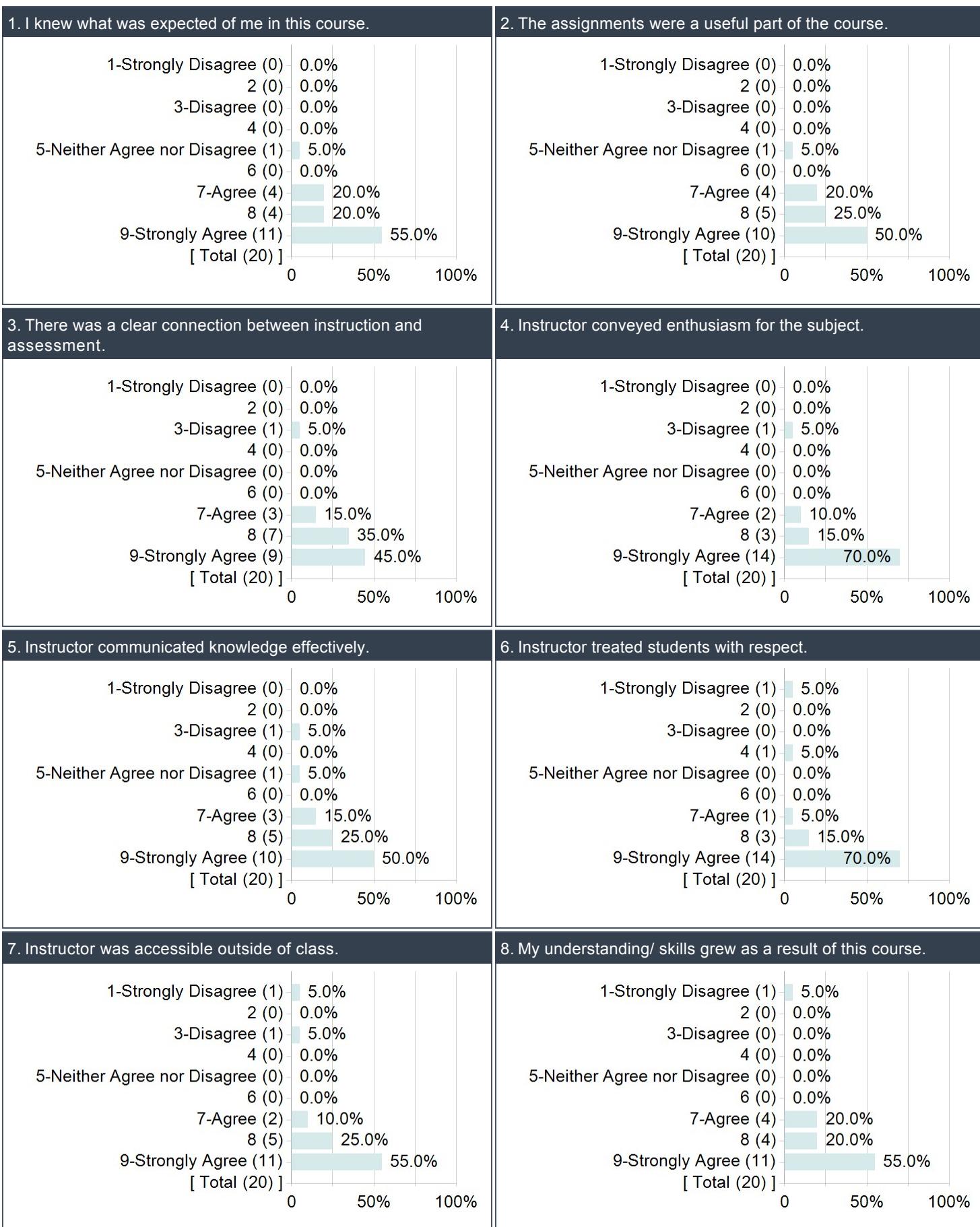


What is your expected grade in this course?



Please rate the overall quality of:

Please rate the course and the instructor on the following criteria:



Rate your level of effort in this course:

Question	Course				Class Size (20-49)				Division of Course (2)			
	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
Rate your level of effort in this course:	20	7.10	1.25	7.00	3244	6.85	1.63	7.00	3109	7.04	1.45	7.00

What is your expected grade in this course?

Question	Course				Class Size (20-49)				Division of Course (2)			
	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
What is your expected grade in this course?	18	1.67	0.84	1.00	2743	1.74	0.78	2.00	2605	1.63	0.68	2.00

Please rate the overall quality of:

Question	Course				Class Size (20-49)				Division of Course (2)			
	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
The Course	20	7.30	1.87	8.00	3264	7.00	1.65	7.00	3085	7.28	1.62	7.00
The Teaching	20	7.35	2.30	8.00	3196	7.08	1.80	7.00	3063	7.41	1.70	8.00

Please rate the course and the instructor on the following criteria:

Question	Course				Class Size (20-49)				Division of Course (2)			
	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
I knew what was expected of me in this course.	20	8.20	1.11	9.00	3279	7.70	1.50	8.00	3117	7.84	1.44	8.00
The assignments were a useful part of the course.	20	8.15	1.09	8.50	3206	7.73	1.47	8.00	3073	7.91	1.38	8.00
There was a												

Question	Course				Class Size (20-49)				Division of Course (2)			
	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Response Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
clear connection between instruction and assessment.	20	8.05	1.39	8.00	3197	7.74	1.58	8.00	3049	7.95	1.43	9.00
Instructor conveys enthusiasm for the subject.	20	8.35	1.42	9.00	3257	8.29	1.14	9.00	3108	8.42	1.09	9.00
Instructor communicated knowledge effectively.	20	7.95	1.57	8.50	3253	7.74	1.62	8.00	3108	8.01	1.45	9.00
Instructor treated students with respect.	20	8.10	2.05	9.00	3267	8.40	1.13	9.00	3111	8.48	1.05	9.00
Instructor was accessible outside of class.	20	7.85	2.13	9.00	3155	8.07	1.39	9.00	3031	8.22	1.30	9.00
My understanding/skills grew as a result of this course.	20	8.00	1.84	9.00	3242	7.89	1.50	8.00	3080	8.12	1.36	9.00

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the course.

Comments

Professor He did a great job of structuring the course, even in an online format. We progressed from the most simple material to the most challenging material in a format that gave me a much greater ability to understand and comprehend the more challenging material. Additionally, assignments were incredibly useful for understanding the material and gave a great insight into what was needed to be understood for the assessments. Further, the Cengage platform Professor He used for the course was a fantastic complement for the course with its textbook reading and exercises that further reinforced the material.

The course pushed the limits of my understanding of economics. It was a difficult course given the high level of economic and mathematical knowledge required.

This course has challenging material but important theories and concepts. Good, useful, and applicable material for ECON majors

Course is strong for causal inference, but also confusing because there are so many models.

The only weaknesses I found with this course were the consistent dry mathematical proofs in the first half of the course. Although necessary, it became difficult at times to keep up with the concepts on top of the proofs as a result. However, more STATA examples and real life models were used in the second half of the course, making it much easier to understand how to set up the models we learned and how to interpret them correctly. Homeworks were fair and helpful and office hours were beneficial as well.

The course was a unique structure, attempting to quickly cover all the general concepts and theory for the course in just over half the semester in order to be able to focus more on applications of the theory in the second half of the semester. I enjoyed the quick pace of the course, every lecture had clear purpose and direction, and we were able to cover plenty of material quickly, allowing for a more personalized course at the end, where the subject matter was selected specifically from our research topics. I enjoyed this style as well because I find many research papers in economics courses have to be put off till the very end because we the students do not learn enough of the material to proceed with the research until the very end of the semester. However, with this course setup, just over halfway through the semester I already had a strong idea of how my research and analysis was going to take place, and the rest of the semester just included small adjustments that I could make to improve my research.

I am a math major and that means this course should have built on my already very strong statistical knowledge and teach me how to apply it to Econ but it did not. I am left with the same knowledge from my econ 300 class and this is the fault of the teaching and the assessment structure. I love this topic and I dreaded this course not because it was hard but because I didn't learn anything. I am leaving this semester annoyed that I wasted so much time on this course with no reward and likely a subpar grade given the strange grading structure despite my knowledge and effort.

The course covers a lot of stuff in econometrics. However, if there is one thing I think prof. could do is to have two exams for the whole course. That is, one exam for the first half–semester, and the other for the second half–semester. When I talked to some of my classmates, some of them feel that without having the exam for the second half–semester, they are not learning that hard and did not pay a lot of attention to the advanced econometric methods covered during the second half–semester.

The course was well structured and all techniques were taught in an organized manner. It was easy to build upon prior knowledge and expand on it.

The course settings prepare us many useful tools of econometrics for further economic study. The knowledge on stata is helpful.

Strengths: this course covers a lot of interesting and useful topics.

Weakness: no weakness in the design of the course

Professor He is an excellent lecturer and makes every effort to encourage student participation and ensure understanding. He uses real-world examples to make the data more interesting and has created a top–tier course, one of my favorites at Wesleyan.

Good overall.

Excellent course

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the teaching.

Comments

Professor He deeply cares about his students and that they are understanding the material. It is obvious in class that this is true. He also is very passionate about the material, making the class much more engaging. He was always available when I desired to discuss my research paper or understand any of the material from the course. Lastly, Professor He wonderfully used real-world examples and examples from our research papers to explain the concepts in class that would be assessed.

Professor He did a very good job of explaining very difficult math and economic concepts. He did a great job of assisting students individually and giving personal examples while in class that made the subject easier to understand. I would gladly take another course with him again.

Professor He was amazing this semester. He cared about each and every one of his students. Was flexible, wanted to help, and made the material digestible and relatable for as difficult as the topics were. He was a great addition to the ECON department this year and it would be a shame if he was not considered for tenure

The teaching is funny and interesting, but not all examples are inherently helpful (the professor tried some examples with anime and some with sports, but sometimes the example may require even more understanding to see what the person in the anime or in the sport did in the first place). I think normal examples first will at least set the foundation for the understanding, if the fun examples are going to stay.

Professor He poured his heart and soul into teaching this course, and it showed. He was dedicated to providing any help and any resources he could for the students, and it really allowed me to learn the material properly and without stress seeing as he was available for office hours if need be. He was very friendly in office hours and class as well. I also LOVED his use of sports examples throughout the class, and it is clear that he knows what he is talking about both with the topics in econometrics and the examples he uses from law and economics and sports economics. He would be perfect for teaching a sports economics course next year.

The professor was very organized and thorough in his lectures. He did well to present theoretical topics in a logical and concise manner that made complex topics understandable. Further, he made effort to incorporate student interests in his teachings, especially during the latter part of the semester, when he focused on catering the subject to specific concepts that would come up in our research. I thought that was a unique method that no other professor had done throughout my time here at Wesleyan. Lastly the professor was always quick to respond to any emails or questions and was flexible with meeting outside of office hours to accommodate my schedule.

He tried... zoom is hard... but I learned nothing and I tried very hard to learn but there was much too much use of the textbook that was ineffective and not enough of a structure in lecturing. I never knew what was expected of me in terms of effort, participation, and what knowledge I should be accumulating on a weekly basis. also, he was full of excuses, never accessible in class and rude by email. I would tell friends to stay away from this professor.

Prof. He is one of the most caring and responsible professors at Wesleyan. He conveys the material effectively and always think about things from students' perspective. Plus, he is really humble and always wants to do better for the students, so he usually wants us to give him some comments. Accordingly, he will adjust his plan to cater to the students' needs and meet the expectations of the students. Also, he is really passionate about the material, so he always brainstorms with students and develops students' critical thinking. I always feel the chemistry in the class is a great part. The discussion led by him usually facilitates students' deep thoughts and this really helps me deepen my understanding.

The teaching was pretty clear throughout the course. I thought that using students' research projects as examples during the course helped us understand how to apply statistical tools into actual research. However, there was a pretty big imbalance in which students' research was being used as examples.

Professor He is very kind and helpful in sharing his knowledge with us. The examples he raised illustrate the course knowledge well. His office hour is also very informative. The teaching quality is good.

Strengths: Professor He tried really hard to explain difficult ideas of Econometrics and his homework problems are well-designed.

Weakness: I think Professor He is not good at teaching and sometimes he can't explain things well.

Professor He is comfortably the best lecturer I've experienced here and has made a difficult subject very digestible and easy to understand. I cannot think of anything I would change in his course. His teaching has been exceptional

Instructor treated students with respect, and the course is engaging.

However, it would be more friendly if fewer examples about basketball....I really know nothing about basketball. It was fun to hear about it though.

Somewhat distant and unapproachable

Do you have any other comments? Feel free to clarify the reasons for particular ratings above or comment on anything else not yet addressed.

Comments

Professor He is an incredibly kind man who cares very much about economics. He also loves teaching and cares about every single student in his class.

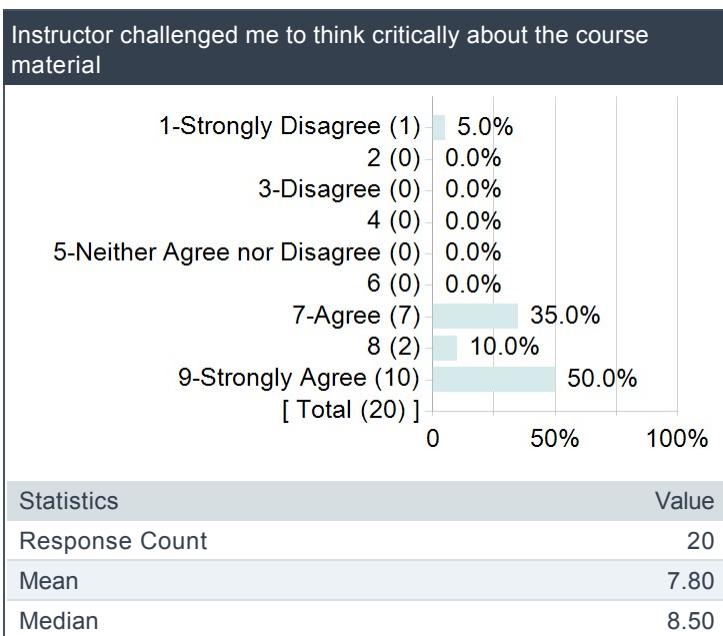
Let Professor He teach Sports Economics! He definitely knows what he is talking about, and the class itself would be SUPER interesting and a big hit at Wesleyan. He demonstrates so much passion towards the things he teaches, and dedication to helping his students learn and improve. He deserves to teach whatever classes he wants at this school for a long time.

Professor He is likely my favorite Professor I have had during my time here. As he is a visiting professor, I cannot recommend him to the university enough.

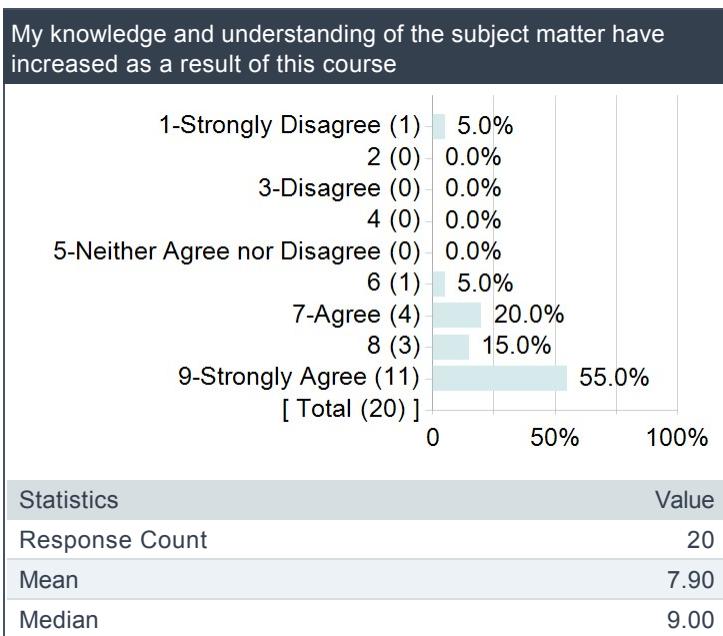
None

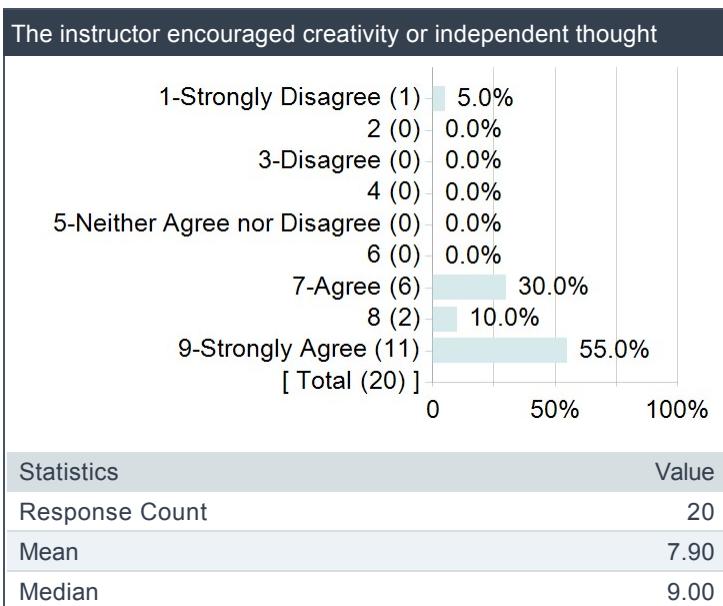
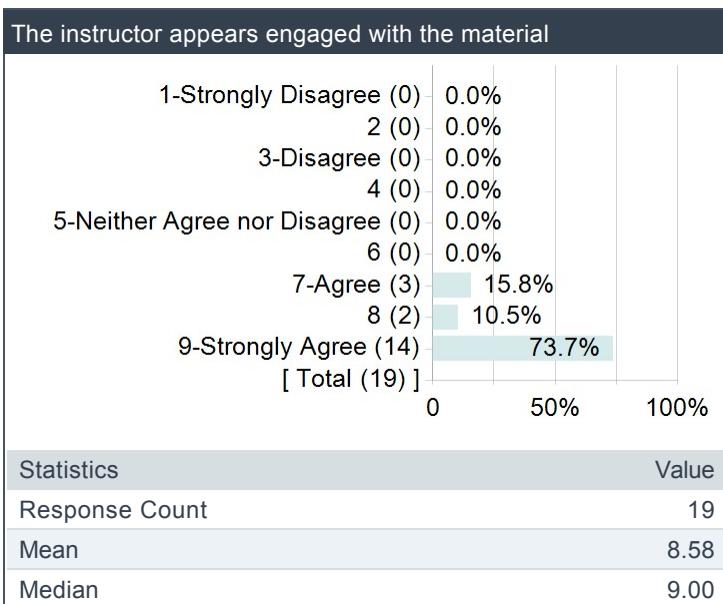
Instructor Selected Questions

Instructor challenged me to think critically about the course material

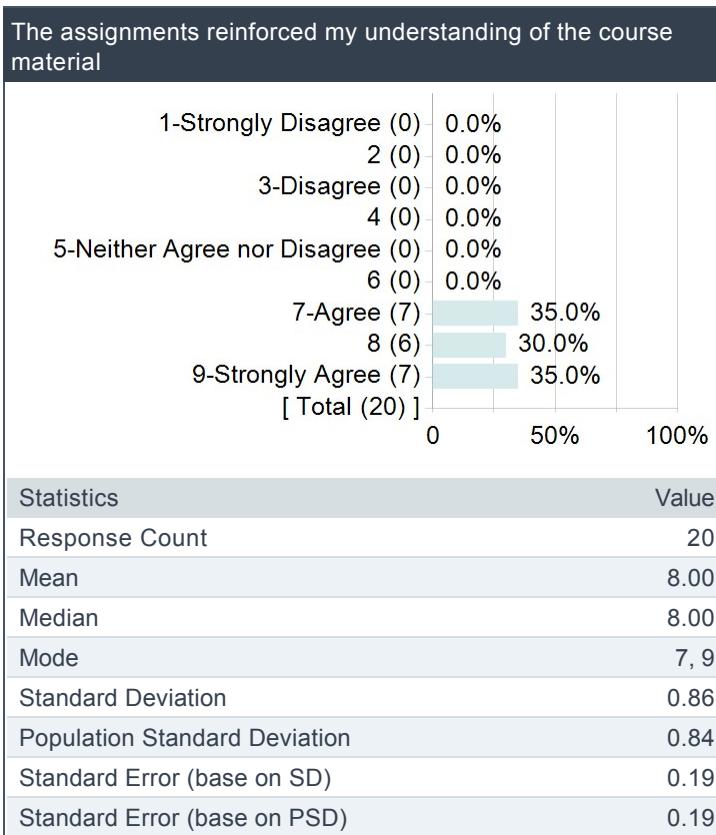


My knowledge and understanding of the subject matter have increased as a result of this course

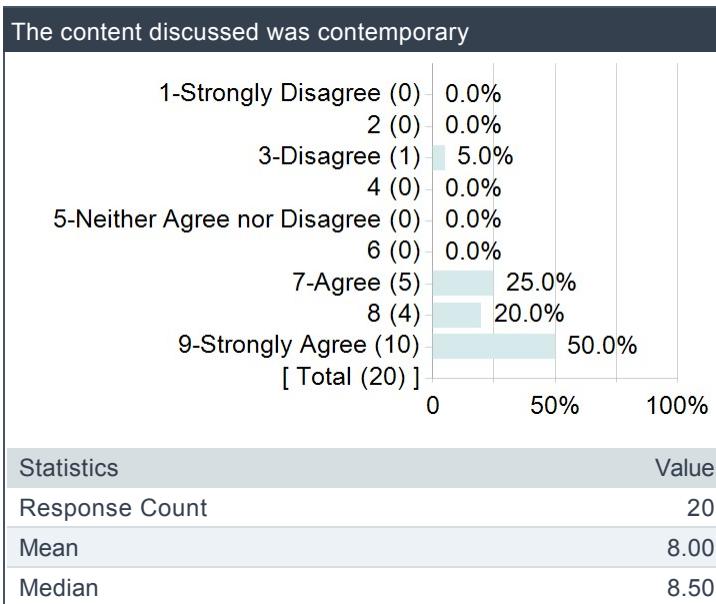


The instructor encouraged creativity or independent thought**The instructor appears engaged with the material**

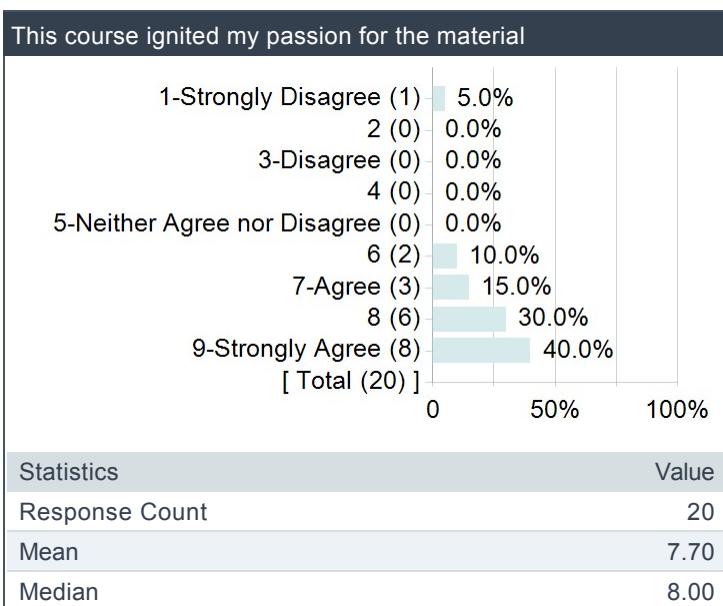
The assignments reinforced my understanding of the course material



The content discussed was contemporary



This course ignited my passion for the material



How did you grow intellectually as a result of this particular course?

Comments
I believe I've grown in thinking about causality, not just correlation and association. Beyond just the methods, the ways in which a social scientist displays causality is where I grew intellectually through this course.
I grew in my understanding of the overlap between math and economics.
I learned how to create narratives and explain why we need to justify controls for our models.
I struggled with the content in this course but I don't think it is because of the professor's teaching. I did my best to remember the different scenarios and the reasons, strengths, and weaknesses of each of the causal models.
My causal inference brainstorming skills grew more in this course than in any others.
Although I've had much experience with statistical courses at Wesleyan prior to this course, Econometrics allowed me to take a deep dive into different causal inference models (some of which I had no prior knowledge of). I now feel so much more like an expert in statistical methods than I did before this course, and am confident that I can interpret most statistical models easily and check the assumptions well.
I thought this was the first course I had taken that really pushed me to think critically about research and go beyond basic analysis in order to gain more from the research, specifically when trying to create causal inferences.
No
I think more important than the material itself is Prof. He really helps me to think critically and creatively. The material is definitely an important part; however, what benefits me more is during office hours, we brainstorm a lot. This is how he helps me come up with my topic for the research. He is so careful and patient and he has a great passion for teaching, helping students, and refining our ideas.
The course allowed me to learn about different types of empirical research topics and which statistical tools can be used for different types of research and different areas of economics.
I learned to relate actual problem into models, and learned related knowledge to deal with issues that might occur to the data (e.g. reverse causation, omitted variable bias).
I learned Econometric tools and my skills in STATA have grown as well.
This course has been incredibly interesting as it explains many of the statistical methods seen in previous classes through papers that were never explained. To now understand most of these methods to some degree makes the task of reading economics papers much less daunting.
with more knowledge

How do you feel about this topic as a result of taking this class?

Comments
I greatly enjoyed this topic as a result of taking this class. I have not decided, but it is quite possible that I use these methods to write a thesis next year.
I feel as if this topic has many real world applications.
I feel much more confident in my understanding and mastery of Econometrics where before this class I felt uneasy and scared of this field.
I am honestly still not confident. Although I am mostly comfortable with executing the models themselves, I know I have to try to keep memorizing the reasons and which one intuitively will fit the data.
I am encouraged to bring the discipline of the econometric progression in determining a causal relationship to my future research and analyses.
I am very invested in using my Econometrics knowledge in my future career. It aligns with the type of work I intend to do beyond college, and so for that reason it has been one of the most helpful courses I've taken at this school.
I feel strong about econometrics now. I understand the core principals of what it takes to analyze and assess causal relationships and the limitations of the research if not done properly.
Like my knowledge is the same after 300 and it needed to grow given I am writing a thesis. I feel behind in the major and like I wasted one of my credits and a lot of my time on a class that has offered me functionally nothing.
I learned so much! I believe the material and methods I've learned from this class will not only benefit the future econ classes I'll take at Wesleyan, but also benefit my whole career.
I feel strongly passionate about the material taught in the class, and Prof. He worked very hard to ensure that the passion was maintained and strengthened throughout the semester.
I feel better equipped with knowledge on econometrics, and I am more prepared to apply them on further economic research.
I feel it gets more interesting but well-unraveled.
This class has greatly increased my attitude towards econometrics. I was nervous entering this class as I had heard it was a difficult subject but the lecturing and out-of-class assignments have done an incredible job breaking it down into something very useful, manageable, and easy to understand.
more enthusiastic

Comment on one important thing you learned during this course

Comments
The most important thing I have learned during this course is how to write a strong argument depicting causality in the social sciences. It is important to justify everything I do to ensure causality and that the reader understands what I am trying to prove.
I learned the importance of understanding how to analyze and understand data properly.
One important thing I learned was how to justify our models and how important causal inference is.
I know different models (fixed effects, random effects, Difference in Difference) will have different assumptions and the data they operate on may take different shape (DiD requires specific dummies and a control group)
I learned new models and the instances where they are appropriate beyond the scope of what I have learned in past Economics courses that deal with statistical analysis, namely difference in difference models, fixed effects regressions, event history models, and the usage of instrumental variables.
I learned in depth about difference in difference models, event history models, and fixed effects, all of which are crucial to understanding statistical methods and being able to confidently analyze research questions with causal inference approaches.
Again how to truly tackle causal inference in research.
No doubt: Causality!
The course emphasized the need for statistical research to be conducted in a step-by-step manner.
The most important thing I learned is to think critically (provide your reasoning when doing research), and build my research model incrementally.
How to write a causal inference paper.
planning a final paper