



# Spring 2021 Individual Report FAS-GOV 1005-Big Data 002

## David Kane

Project Title: **2021 Spring Harvard FAS Course Evaluation**

Course Audience: **9**  
Responses Received: **4**  
Response Ratio: **44%**

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### Report Comments

Note:

The order that the questions appear on this report is not the same as the way the questions were displayed to students. The order has been changed to make the report more readable.

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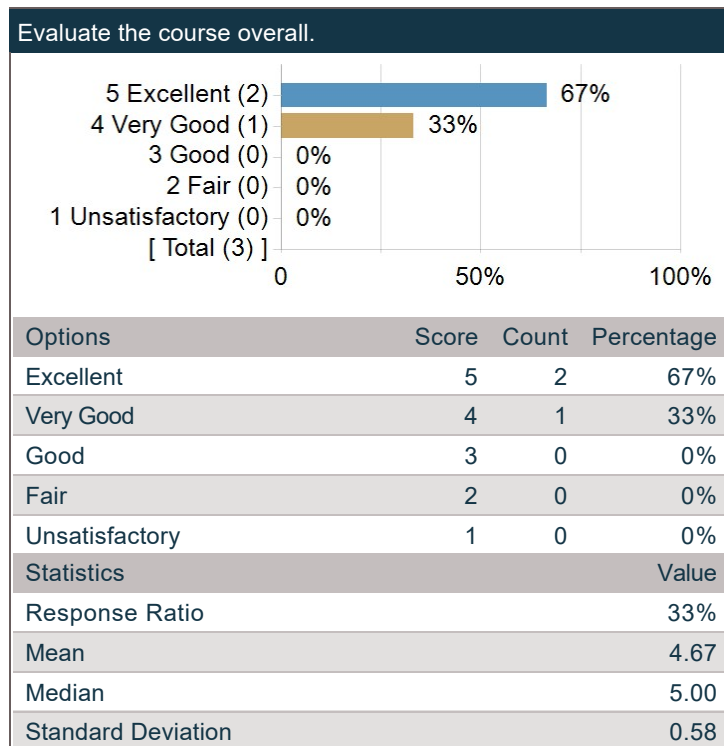
Creation Date: **Thursday, May 27, 2021**

## General Course Questions

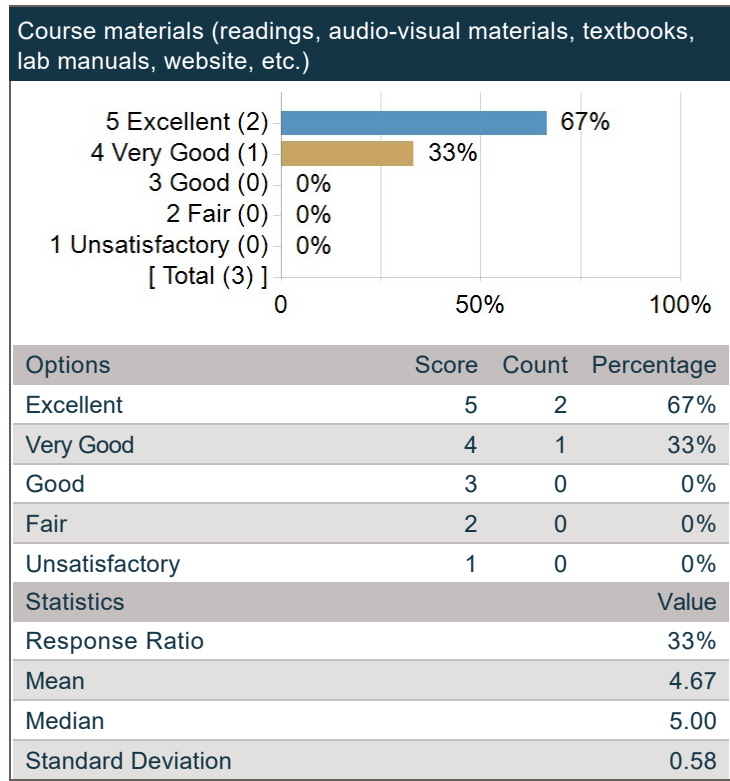
### Course General Questions

	Count	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Unsatisfactory	Course Mean	Dept Mean	Division Mean
Evaluate the course overall.	3	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%	4.67	4.26	4.24
Course materials (readings, audio-visual materials, textbooks, lab manuals, website, etc.)	3	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%	4.67	4.27	4.24
Assignments (exams, essays, problem sets, language homework, etc.)	3	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%	4.33	4.14	4.08
Feedback you received on work you produced in this course	3	67%	0%	33%	0%	0%	4.33	4.13	4.12
Section component of the course	3	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%	4.67	4.23	4.19

### Evaluate the course overall.



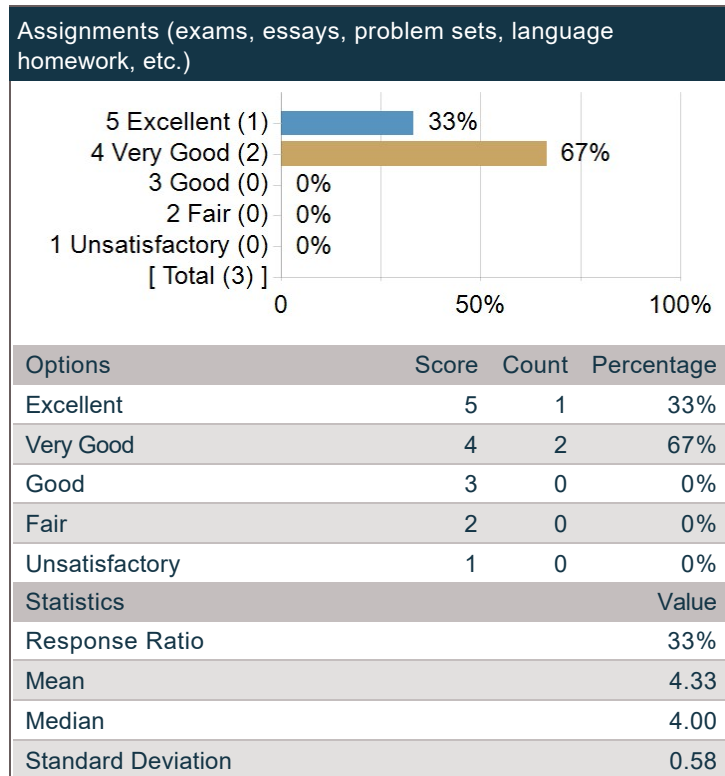
**Course materials (readings, audio-visual materials, textbooks, lab manuals, website, etc.)**



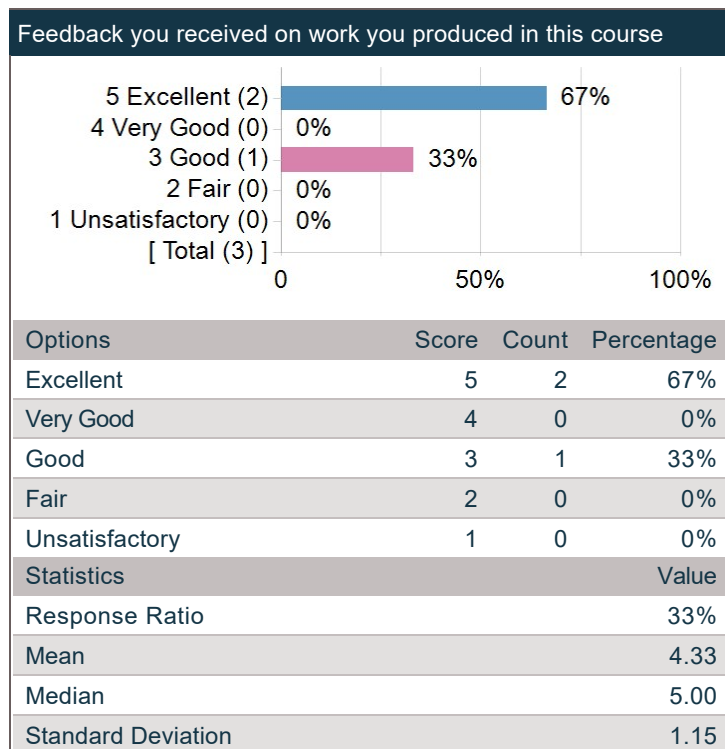
**Add comments about course materials?**

**Comments**  
 Preceptor did a great job of updating the textbook over the course of the semester. The primer itself was extremely helpful and well organized.

**Assignments (exams, essays, problem sets, language homework, etc.)**



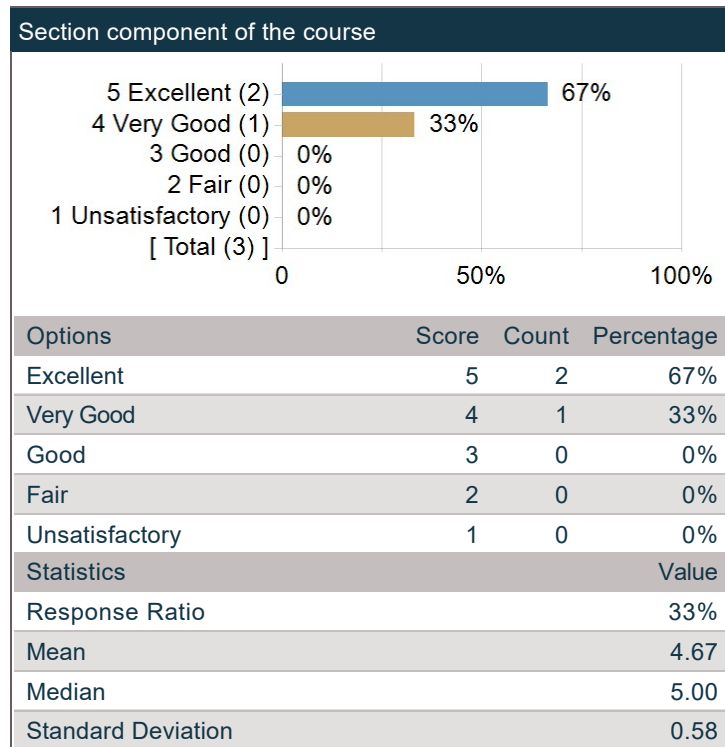
**Feedback you received on work you produced in this course**



**Add comments about course feedback?**

**Comments**  
 There were a lot of opportunities to received feedback through office hours and tutorials. The accessibility of the teaching team was definitely one of the most valuable aspects of this course.

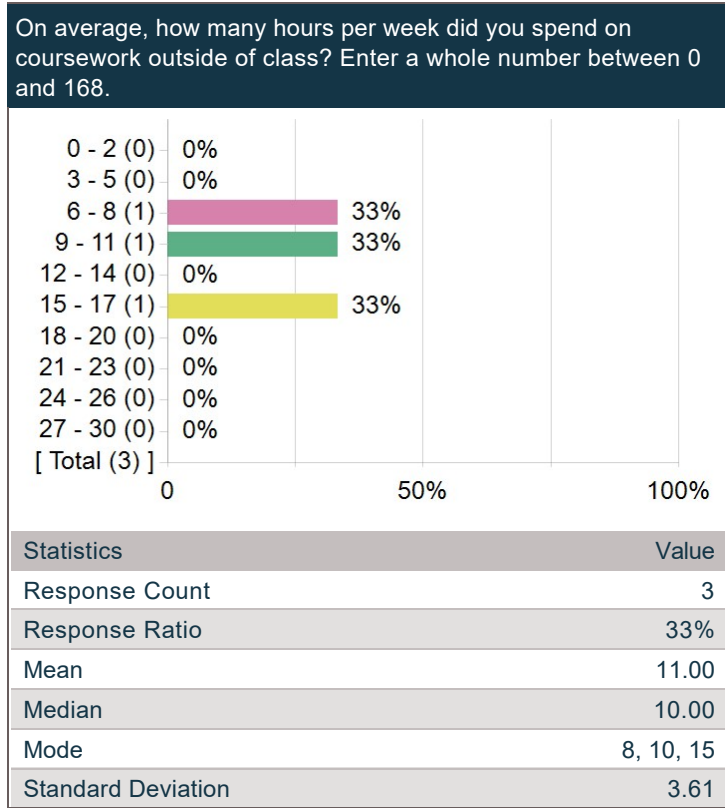
**Section component of the course**



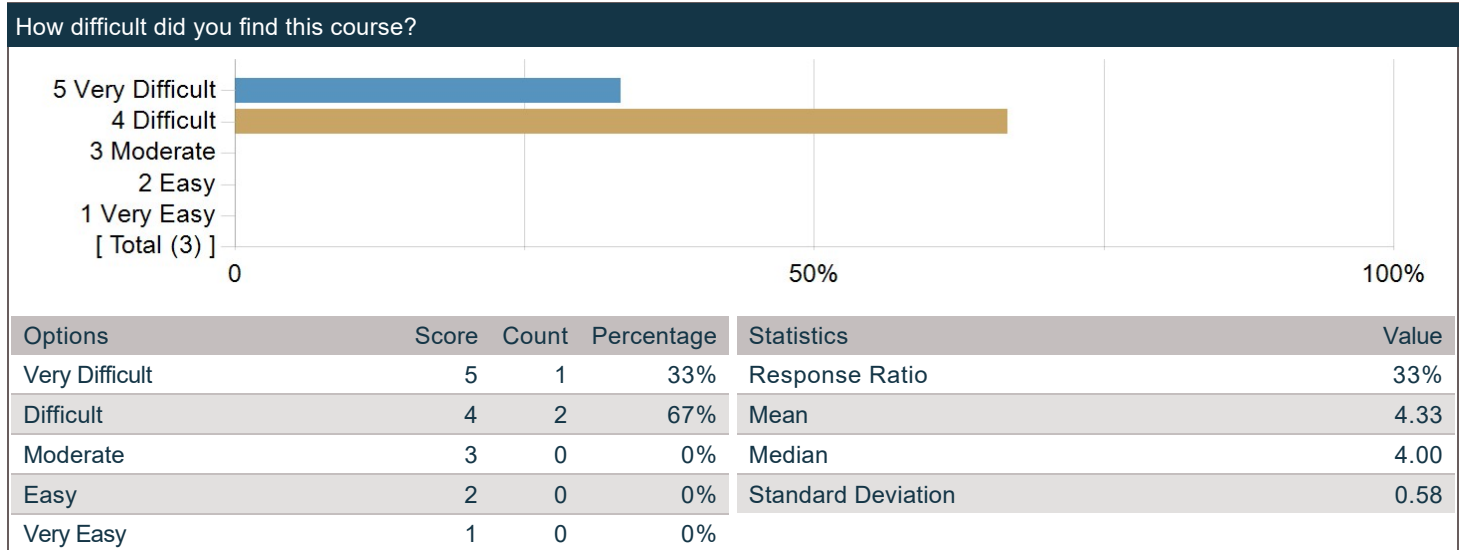
## Requirements - What did this course require of you?

On average, how many hours per week did you spend on coursework outside of class? Enter a whole number between 0 and 168.

Frequency chart and mean excludes students who answered 31 or more hours.



## How difficult did you find this course?

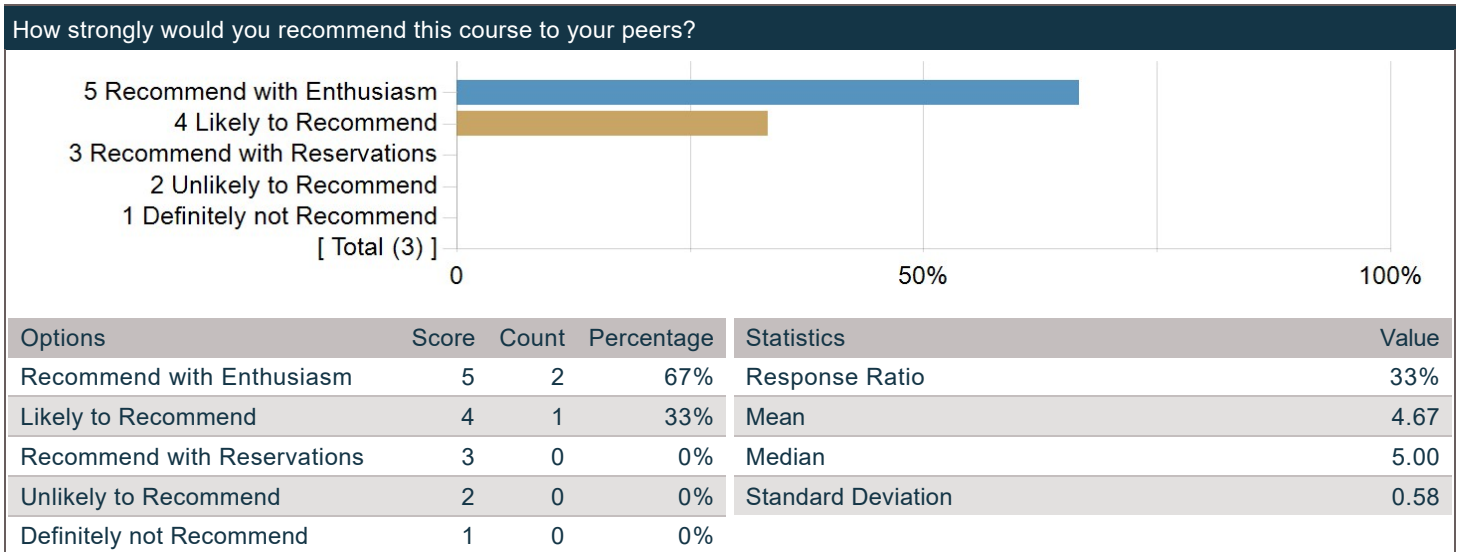


**What was/were your reason(s) for enrolling in this course? (Please check all that apply)**

Options	Count
Elective	3
Concentration or Department Requirement	0
Secondary Field or Language Citation Requirement	0
Undergraduate General Education Requirement	0
Expository Writing Requirement	0
Foreign Language Requirement	0
Pre-Med Requirement	0
Divisional Distribution Requirement	0
Quantitative Reasoning with Data Requirement	0

**Recommendations - Would you recommend this course?**

**How strongly would you recommend this course to your peers?**



**Evaluation of Instructors**

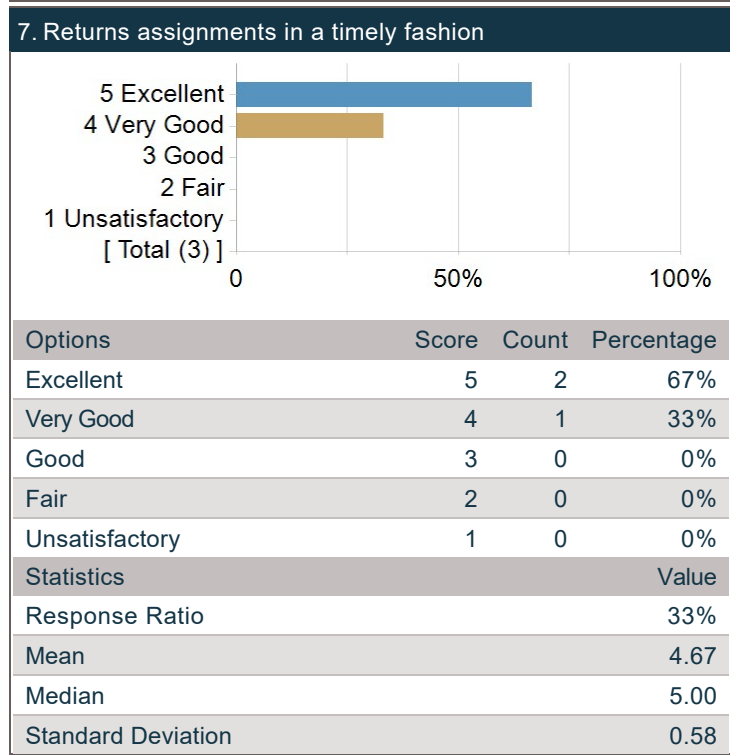
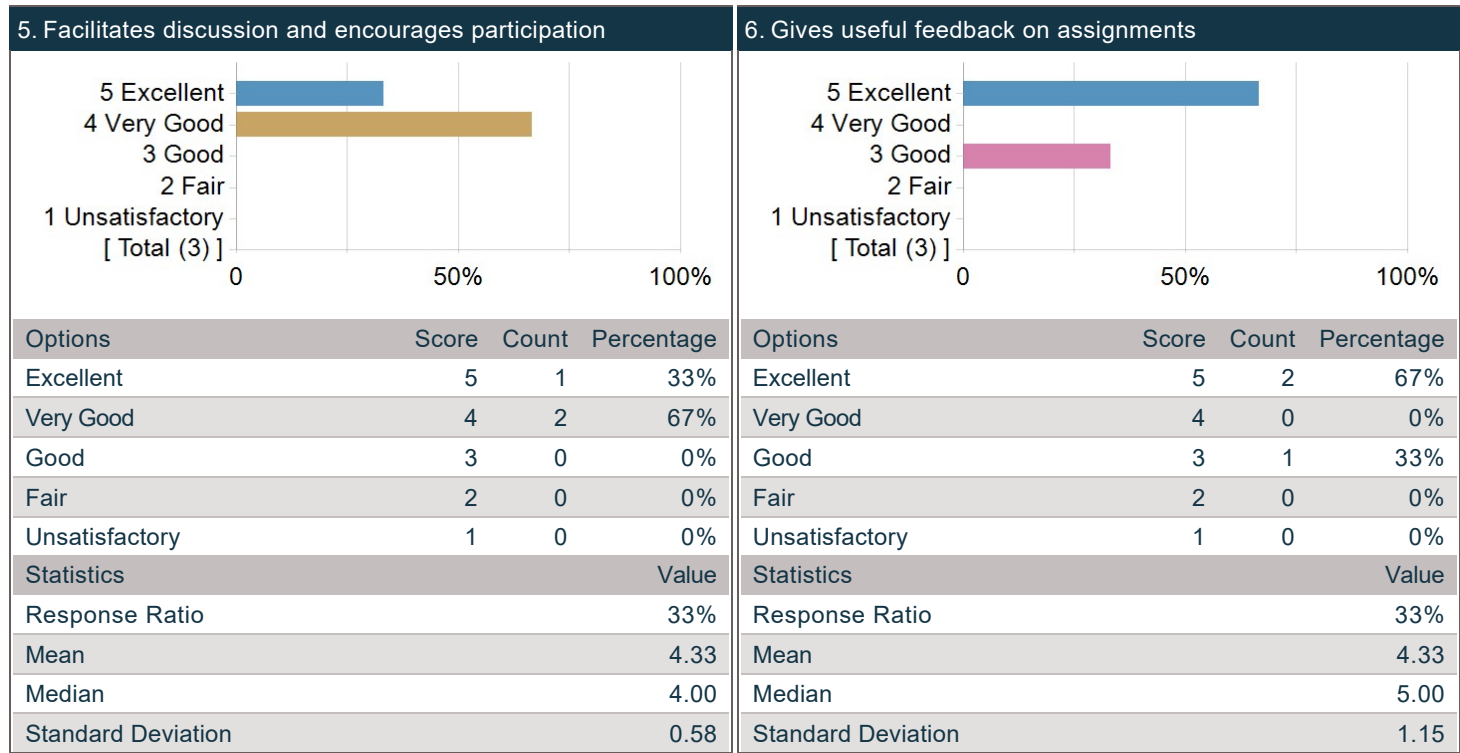
**General Instructor Questions**

	Count	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Unsatisfactory	Instructor Mean	Dept Mean	Division Mean
Evaluate your Instructor overall.	3	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%	4.33	4.59	4.57
Gives effective lectures or presentations, if applicable	3	33%	33%	33%	0%	0%	4.00	4.48	4.49
Is accessible outside of class (including after class, office hours, e-mail, etc.)	3	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%	4.67	4.48	4.49
Generates enthusiasm for the subject matter	3	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%	4.67	4.61	4.60
Facilitates discussion and encourages participation	3	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%	4.33	4.56	4.51
Gives useful feedback on assignments	3	67%	0%	33%	0%	0%	4.33	4.42	4.48
Returns assignments in a timely fashion	3	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%	4.67	4.31	4.48

**Instructor**

1. Evaluate your Instructor overall.					2. Gives effective lectures or presentations, if applicable				
<p>5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Unsatisfactory [ Total (3) ]</p>					<p>5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Unsatisfactory [ Total (3) ]</p>				
Options	Score	Count	Percentage		Options	Score	Count	Percentage	
Excellent	5	1	33%		Excellent	5	1	33%	
Very Good	4	2	67%		Very Good	4	1	33%	
Good	3	0	0%		Good	3	1	33%	
Fair	2	0	0%		Fair	2	0	0%	
Unsatisfactory	1	0	0%		Unsatisfactory	1	0	0%	
Statistics				Value	Statistics				Value
Response Ratio				33%	Response Ratio				33%
Mean				4.33	Mean				4.00
Median				4.00	Median				4.00
Standard Deviation				0.58	Standard Deviation				1.00
3. Is accessible outside of class (including after class, office hours, e-mail, etc.)					4. Generates enthusiasm for the subject matter				
<p>5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Unsatisfactory [ Total (3) ]</p>					<p>5 Excellent 4 Very Good 3 Good 2 Fair 1 Unsatisfactory [ Total (3) ]</p>				
Options	Score	Count	Percentage		Options	Score	Count	Percentage	
Excellent	5	2	67%		Excellent	5	2	67%	
Very Good	4	1	33%		Very Good	4	1	33%	
Good	3	0	0%		Good	3	0	0%	
Fair	2	0	0%		Fair	2	0	0%	
Unsatisfactory	1	0	0%		Unsatisfactory	1	0	0%	
Statistics				Value	Statistics				Value
Response Ratio				33%	Response Ratio				33%
Mean				4.67	Mean				4.67
Median				5.00	Median				5.00
Standard Deviation				0.58	Standard Deviation				0.58





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## General Course Questions - Comments

**What were the strengths of this course? Please be specific and use concrete examples where possible.**

Comments
You will learn how to code with R through daily practice. There's clear weekly structure of assignments and class. Lots of support – one on ones with TF, Slack channel, Zoom study groups and office hours. Preceptor was receptive to feedback and adjusted the workload and due dates when necessary.
Gaining hands-on experience in R and big data. Practical projects and advice. Learning the overview and basics of R.
I learned a lot through this class. The combination of tutorials, problem sets, and exams exposed me to different types of big data. Each assignment taught me how to clean, wrangle and finally plot my findings.

**How could this course be improved? Please use concrete examples where possible and provide constructive suggestions.**

Comments
Would have been helpful to have more practice in R Shiny throughout the semester since that's what our final project was housed in and it felt like a steep learning curve since I was used to always coding in Rmd files.
A more organized manner of organizing information (maybe a "Helpful Links" page?)
I think that the course has a lot of assignments which is good, but was also a bit overwhelming. I would have liked to receive the answers to the tutorials in some way. I think that the problem sets were very useful in reinforcing what we were learning, but I think the same idea could have been achieved by having one due every other week as opposed to nearly every week.

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## Requirements Comments - What did this course require of you?

**In your opinion, what preparation or background is necessary to take this course?**

Comments
I was glad that I had taken a foundational statistics course before, but it is not necessary to be successful in this course.
No background necessary!
Honestly, the preceptor taught it as if you had no background. I had no background in coding whatsoever and feel like I did well.

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## Recommendations Comments - Would you recommend this course?

**What would you like to tell future students about this class? (Your response to this question may be published anonymously.)**

Comments
Great class for learning to code in R and learning some foundational Bayesian statistics. I took it as a graduate student and it dramatically increased the scope of jobs I could apply for (data analyst, research analyst, etc). It was quite time-consuming since you're learning a technical skill; however, you will learn it well.
Recommend taking this class if you have any interest in research, data, or studying a social problem through data. It was very helpful for finding RAships and the Preceptor has a lot of helpful advice.
This is a great class for students who have no background in programming but want to learn about data analysis.

**What did you take away from your experience in this course? What did you learn? How did this course change you?**

Comments
I feel confident that I can conduct independent statistical analysis in R now. More importantly, I feel like I have the tools to continue to teach myself new coding skills.
I learned a lot about how to modify and edit data. It was interesting to learn how to visualize and represent data. There was less math than I expected, which was a very pleasant surprise.
I learned how to clean, wrangle, and plot data. How to create and interpret linear regressions. How to use linear regressions to then build predictive models. I also learned the importance of asking for help and using my peers as resources. This course showed me that I do have quantitative skills and reminded me of the importance of leaving one's academic comfort zone.

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**Instructor Comments**

**Please comment on this person's teaching. (Your response to this question may be published anonymously.)**

Comments
So I have to admit that I was a bit hesitant to take this course due to the incident that occurred last Fall. I'm glad I took the course with David Kane. He was extremely enthusiastic about the subject and had a great sense of humor which made even the more challenging content fun. I was a bit wary of cold calling, but he did it in a way that never made you feel guilty for not knowing an answer— instead he framed it as an opportunity to learn from your peers. I appreciated his dedication to teaching and his accessibility outside of the classroom. I once needed help on a problem set at 11:30 PM and he hopped on zoom to help me.