



SRT Individual Report for SOC 3811 001 Social Statistics (John Warren) - Fall 2020

Project Title: **Student Rating of Teaching - Fall 2020**

Courses Audience: **210**
Responses Received: **91**
Response Ratio: **43.33%**

Report Comments

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Message from the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs

The University is committed to monitoring and improving students' educational experiences. Student Ratings of Teaching (SRT) help to ensure that the student voice is present in fulfilling this mission. We encourage all instructors to incorporate student feedback into your ongoing efforts to improve your teaching and your courses.

How SRT Results may be Used

Evaluations of teaching provide information intended to help improve teaching, and may also be available to assist students in course selection and/or to inform administrative decisions on salary, tenure, and promotion. Specific use of SRT results may vary by campus and/or college as described in relevant university or unit policies.

Resources for Improving Instruction

Tools and tips for improving course instruction can be found on the OMS website (oms.umn.edu/srt), under the faculty section.

Among the available resources is a guide for connecting your teaching practices with the SRT. This guide was created by the Center for Educational Innovation (cei.umn.edu) and provides suggestions for improving instructional practices in relation to SRT items.

About this Report

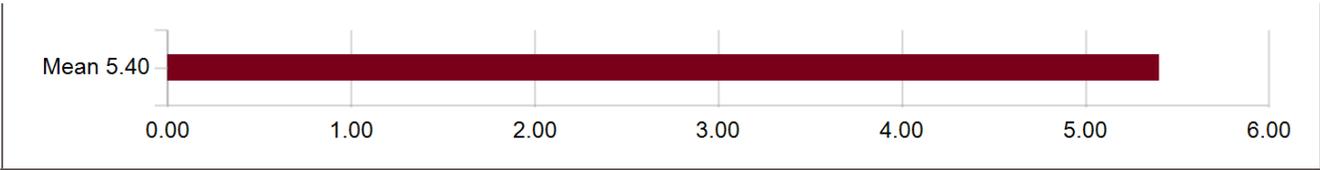
This report contains all ratings provided by the students in your courses who submitted SRT responses. Mean (average) scores are reported as well as the frequency of how often each response was given for each item. Results are provided in the following order:

1. Score graph and frequency graphs for instructor items
2. Score graph and frequency graphs for course items
3. Comments regarding instructor
4. Comments regarding course

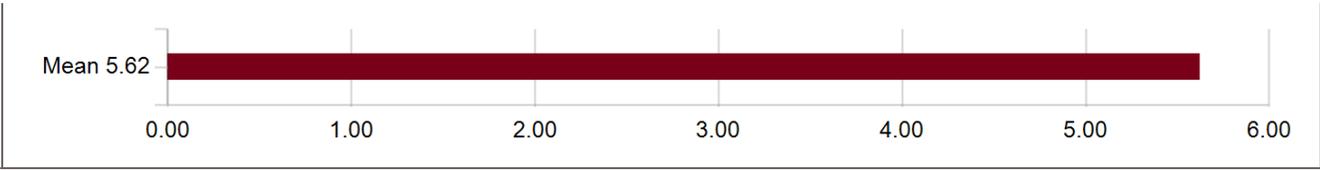
For additional information about evaluation of teaching, please reference the Evaluation of Teaching policy for your campus. The policy for Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, and Rochester can be found here: <http://policy.umn.edu/education/teachingevaluation>.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Ropers
Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs

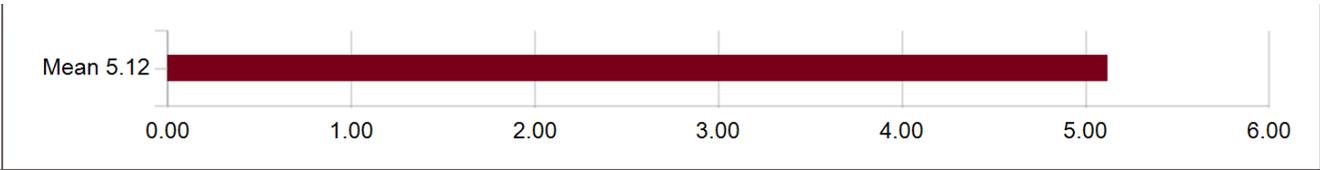
Instructor Items Overall



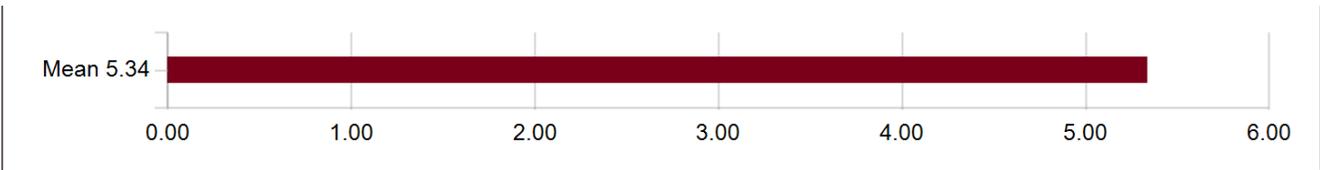
1. The instructor was well prepared for class.



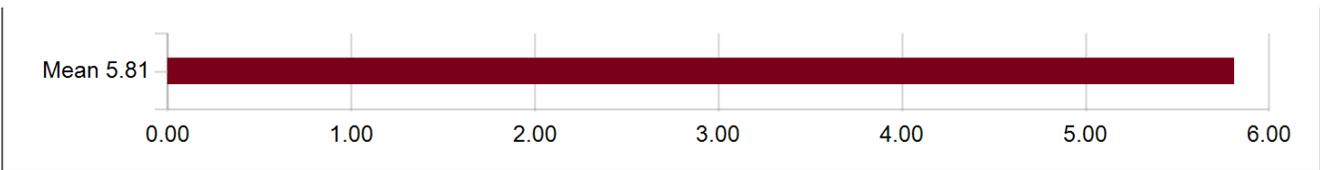
2. The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.



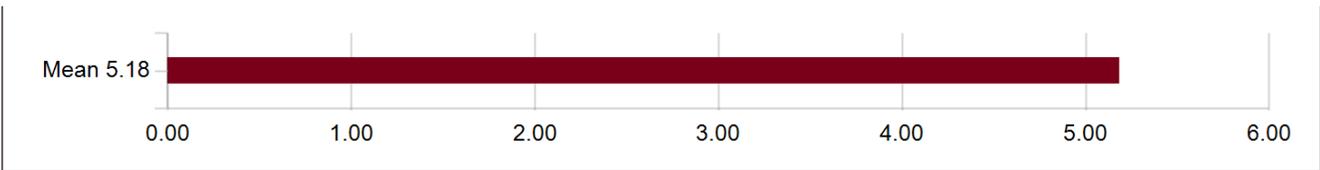
3. Interactions with the instructor helped me learn.



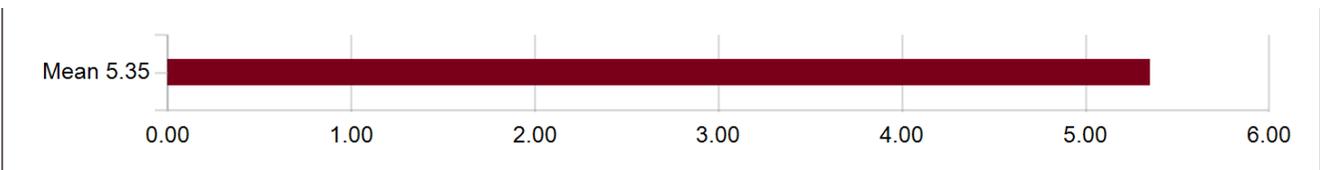
4. The instructor treated me with respect.



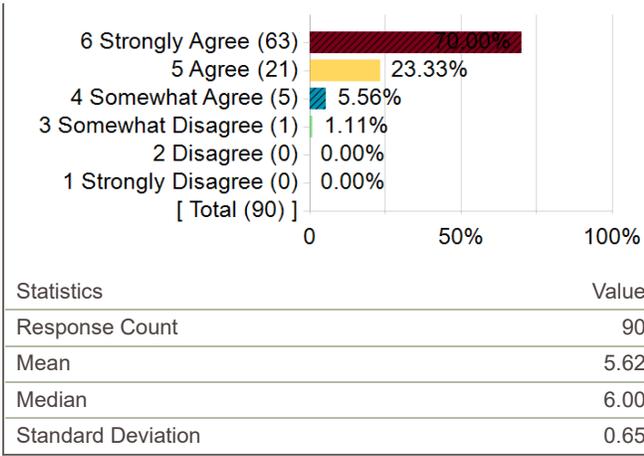
5. The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.



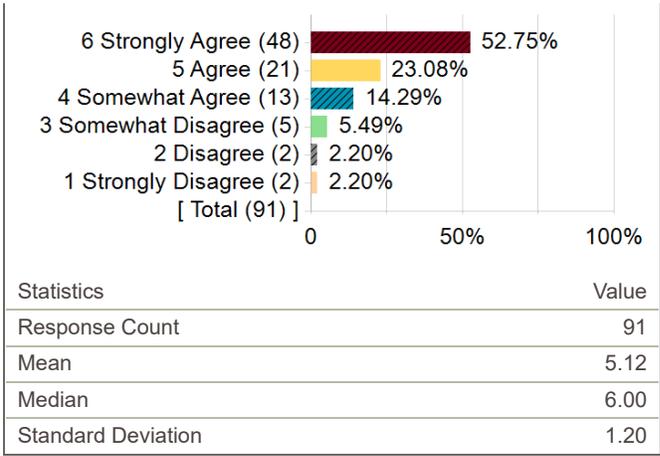
6. I would recommend this instructor to other students.



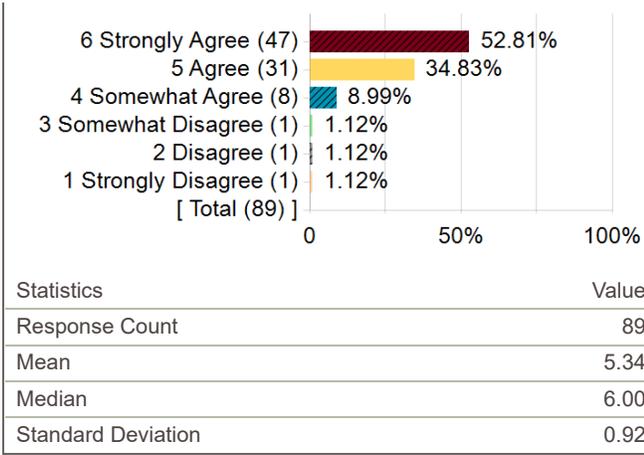
1. The instructor was well prepared for class.



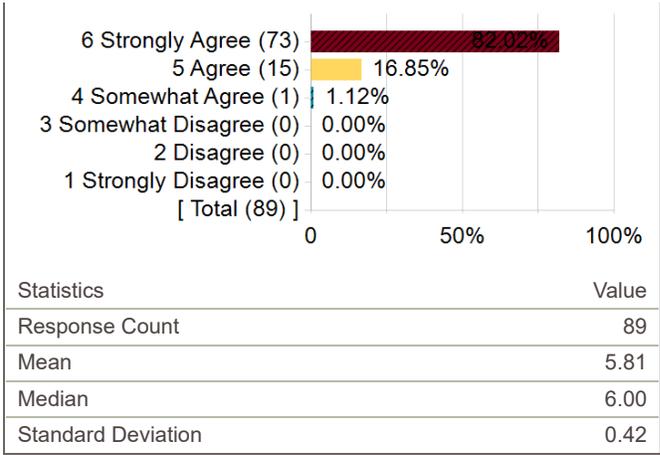
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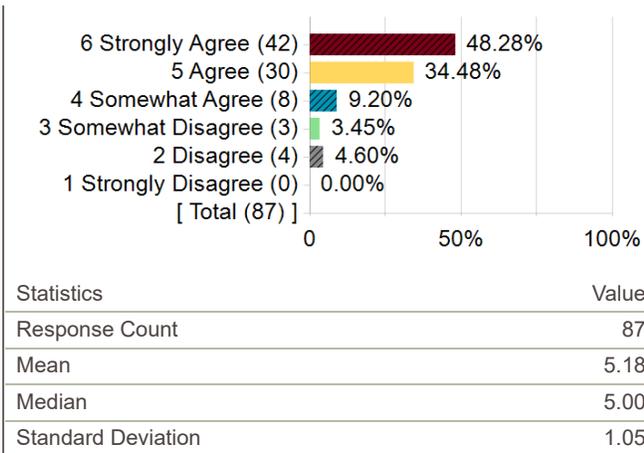
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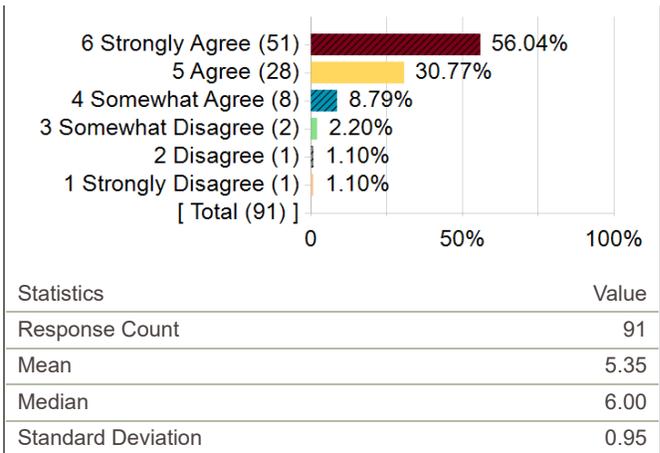
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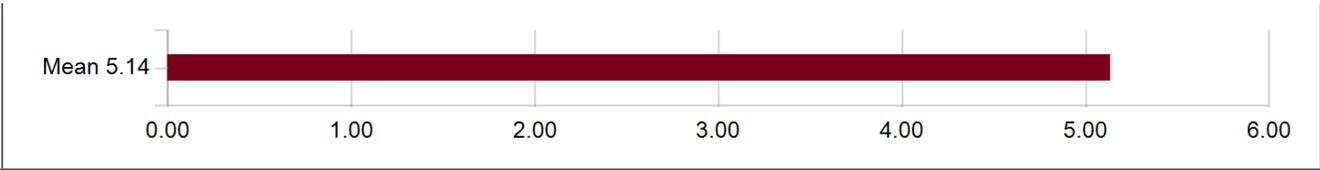
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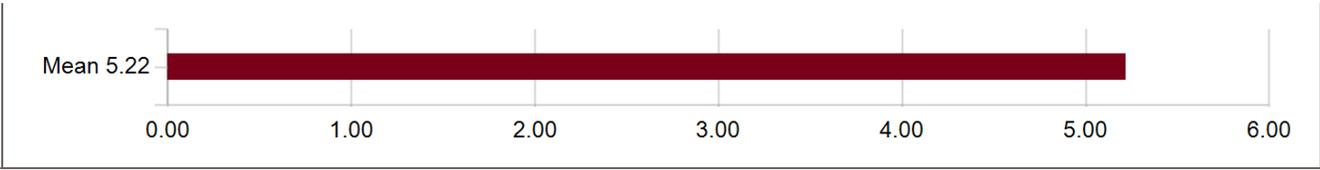
6. I would recommend this instructor to other students.



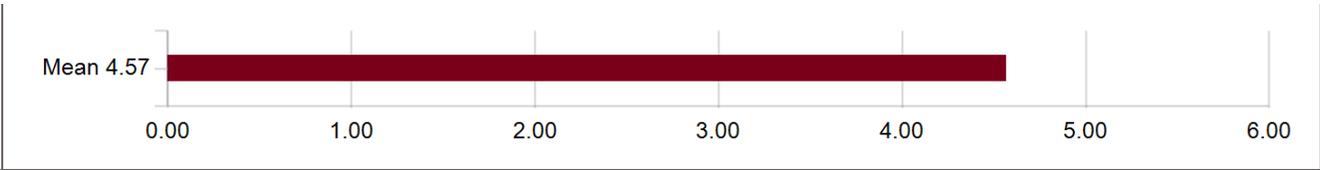
Course Items Overall



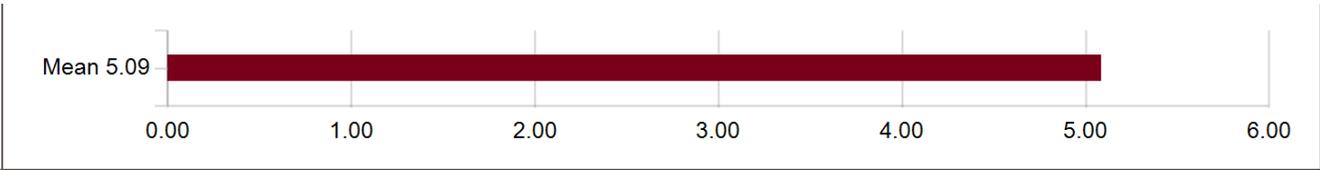
1. I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.



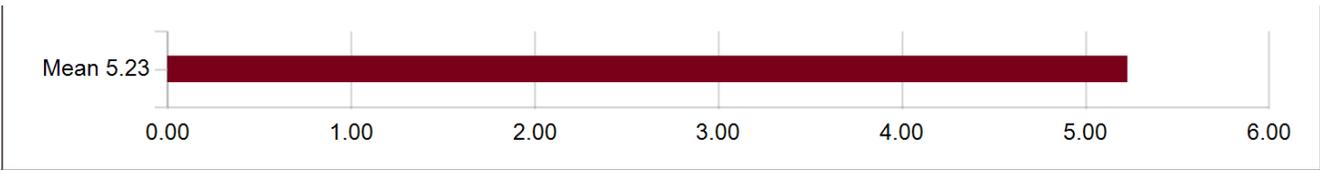
2. My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.



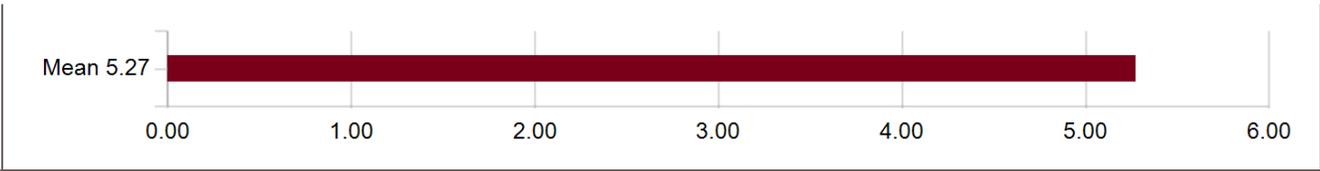
3. Instructional technology employed in this course was effective.



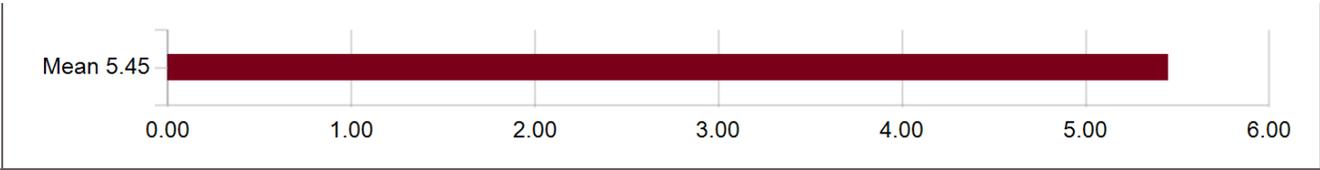
4. The activities in this course supported my learning.



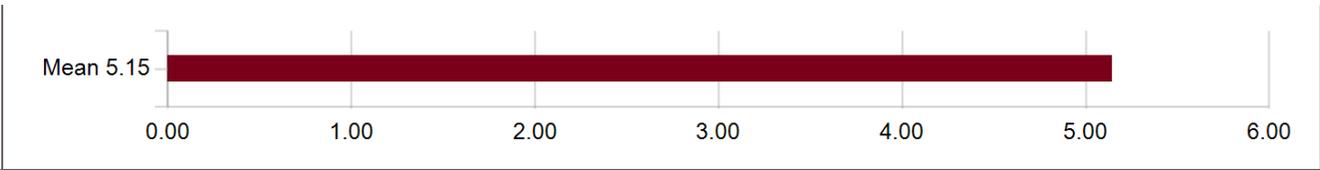
5. The amount of effort needed to be successful in this course is reasonable.



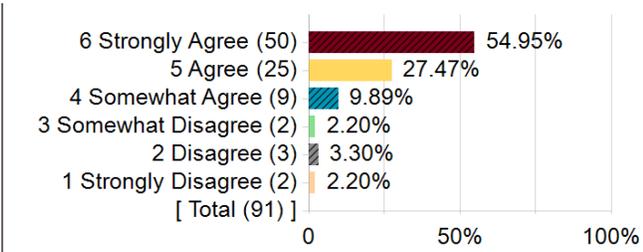
6. The grading standards for this course were clear.



7. I would recommend this course to other students.

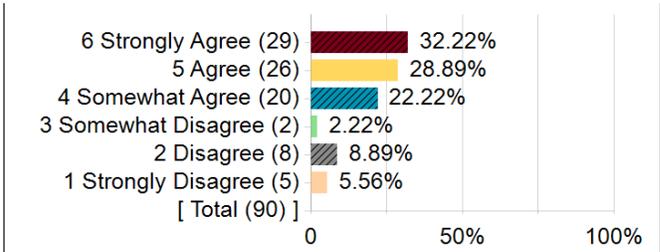


1. I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.



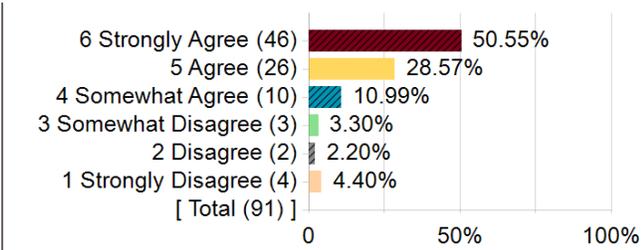
Statistics	Value
Mean	5.22
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	1.16

2. My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.



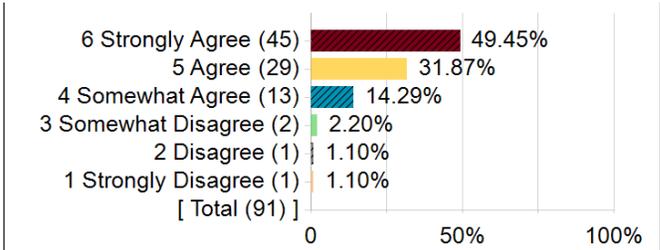
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.57
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.47

3. Instructional technology employed in this course was effective.



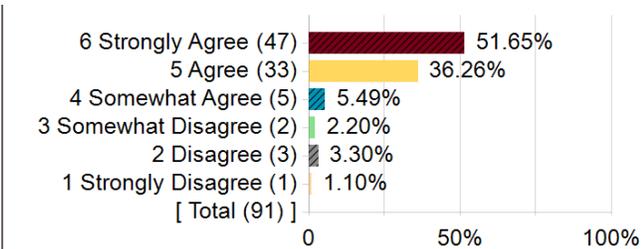
Statistics	Value
Mean	5.09
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	1.29

4. The activities in this course supported my learning.



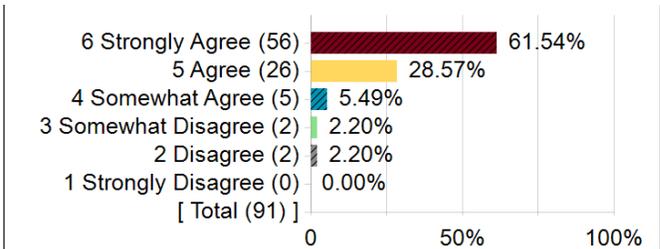
Statistics	Value
Mean	5.23
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.98

5. The amount of effort needed to be successful in this course is reasonable.



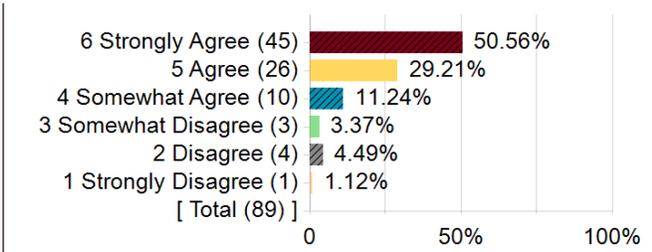
Statistics	Value
Mean	5.27
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	1.03

6. The grading standards for this course were clear.



Statistics	Value
Mean	5.45
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	0.87

7. I would recommend this course to other students.



Statistics	Value
Mean	5.15
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	1.15

What did the instructor do that most helped your learning?

Comments
learning and cancelling stata
Professor Warren was very understanding and made the courseload a lot more manageable which helped me do well in the class. He showed throughout the semester that he really did care for his student's performance which I really appreciated especially for this semester.
I liked how he did the flipped classroom model, so we could get more practice with the teacher present.
Professor Warren presented the material clearly and made class engaging by utilizing examples and participation from students. I normally don't enjoy math but he made me want to learn about statistics.
Provided many lecture videos.
Really cared about our learning. He allowed questions at anytime during zoom, he explained the material in many different ways so we all understood. He made me feel secure when I was asking questions, explaining from the early ideas to the more complex ideas. I felt really secure discussing my downfalls in math and statistics in general. Plus he was very understanding throughout the semester in that we were cushioned with different assignments so that we can still succeed in class even if we did not get great grades on every test.
Recorded lectures and extended office hours were extremely helpful
He was open to answer questions
Professor Warren always made sure he answered everyones questions and he was very flexible.
Provided examples
Very helpful and covered a lot of information
I really appreciated the problem set keys and being flexible during the pandemic
The pre-recorded lectures were very helpful and so was the external course webpage. it made the layout of the class easier to access in my personal opinion
Watching pre-lecture videos before class, which helped me understand the material beforehand and use it in practice problems in class.
He was very respectful and committed to helping his students learn. Not all teachers are as motivated as he is. He actually wants us to get something out of this class, which makes learning more motivating and fun.
Many worksheets
Warren was always willing to answer questions and work through examples. He was available by e-mail and was also at his office hours. Despite having a large class, he took the time to learn who students were. This helped to alleviate some of the stress that comes with online classes.
He had problem that went along with all new material, seeing something new worked out in class makes it way easier to grasp.
It was clear Dr. Warren was doing everything possible to help us succeed during online learning.
He presented the material clearly.
Recorded the lectures so that we were able to watch them at our discretion.
Example problems and how he got there
I liked the format of the class and having to complete worksheets helped me stay on top of the class
Showed tons of examples.
Practiced a lot with us
Very clear teaching style and course structure.
the practice worksheets that aligned with synchronous sections.
Implemented constructive feedback when presented
The recorded lectures were really helpful, it was nice to be able to go at my own pace and become familiar with the material before the synchronous class session. I also think the worksheets and problem sets really encouraged interaction with the material and helped me solidify concepts and processes.
He was aware of the difficulty of taking a semester of class during a pandemic and adjusted the work load accordingly. He was careful to make sure that we wouldnt feel overwhelmed by this classes workload while still providing ample opportunities to practice the class material
Made concise lecture videos applying real life concepts.
He posted pre lecture recorded videos of the topic and held lecture.
Whenever something was unclear to us, he completely changed the way in which we were taught, or the subject matter.
I LOVED the flipped classroom aspect of the class. It allowed me to grasp the concepts multiple times and go at my own pace. First time I've really enjoyed a math class
He was very open to feedback and communicative and really cared about his students learning. Reviews for exams were also helpful and it was really easy to get your questions answered.
Rob was extremely flexible around coursework which helped me focus on learning rather than my grade
The lectures before hand and the lectures synchronously.
He had a lot of open time for office hours which made him very flexible

Comments
Posting typed out answer keys to worksheets, problem sets, and tests. He was also very nice and understanding.
he was very clear with his instruction
Recorded lectures always had examples of every type of problem we would do, so you could do the problem with the video
He was prepared for class and was a understanding professor during Covid which was nice
He offered lots of time for questions and took the stress of the pandemic into account when creating assignments, exams, etc.
Appreciated short reviews of relevant previous material at beginning of lectures
His lectures were concise and organized in a meaningful way, and he had resources available to help
He provided many ways to learn and posted the lectures and materials in advance so you can get ahead for class, he was also pretty good and describing the material at hand.
He always had lessons uploaded days and even a week before which gave a good amount of time to watch the videos. In class he answered all questions and went over certain parts again if people were confused. He always invited people to office hours to receive any help needed.
He was responsive, always available if we had questions, and also took feedback on his teaching throughout the semester and changed his styles to accommodate our requests
The recorded lecture videos were the most useful in helping to understand the course material.
he went into more in–depth explanations during lecture
great recorded lectures! easy to follow and not boring
Make accommodations for students when technology was not working for students, clear lecture videos, likes answering questions students have about class material. Plenty of opportunities to reach out for help.
HE thoroughly explained each topic and didn't move on until we understood the topic
I enjoyed the pre–recorded lectures because I could really take my time with them and go at a speed that is best for me. It really helped me get the most of out the lecture material.
Super accommodating and switched things in class around to help us succeed.
Going over examples in class was obviously helpful. I liked that Prof Warren 'forced' us to work on problems in small groups because the students were able to learn from each other and figure out what we were doing wrong with the help of peers.
Posting answer keys for worksheets and problem sets.
Discounted assignments that were broken and provided answer keys to homework
He would go over sample problems thoroughly every synchronous session, and was flexible with assignments that students were struggling to access like STATA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Warren is extremely organized and highly responsive. It was initially confusing to me to have both Canvas and his personal website be places to find course content – and to need to figure out what was located where – but I got used to it. • Having 2 synchronous lectures, 2 asynchronous lectures, a problem set, and a lab every week is a LOT. I can't imagine adding STATA work into that too – grateful Warren read the room and decided not to have us do STATA and ultimately cancelled the last 3 problem sets.
Office hours were helpful
He was very open to helping students out and provided both video lectures and a zoom lecture.
He did a great job of staying in contact with the students and let us know what was expected from us in the class, making accommodations when needed.
He was thorough and offered extra time to ask questions and receive help. Allowed for students to really learn the material by allowing notes, didn't test memorization, tested ability to apply the information.
Recorded lectures
Effectively used technology while teaching over zoom.
I felt that the open note exams were extremely helpful, especially with Zoom. I also appreciated the format of his personal website, as it provided lots of extra information such as an equation "cheat sheet" and extra sources that further explain the material.
His online lectures for this class were super helpful for understanding this class and the synchronous classes were also very informative and he made stats easier to understand, he always made sure every student's question was answered.
Recorded the Lectures to look back on
allowed for a flipped classroom and an option for the course to be asynchronous. Exams being open note and unlimited time was also extremely helpful and allowed me to make sure I knew the information
Directions in syllabus was very clear about what assignments I had to turn in and what the grading is.
The recorded lectures are clear and effective– I learned well from them.
go through examples step–by–step in class
examples
Very clear during his in person and recorded lectures.
Made us put our cameras on, so we could actually discuss with our peers in the breakout rooms. It made asking questions easier.
Professor Warren was very involved with his students. He created a lot of materials to ensure they were learning and had anything they needed during these odd and difficult times. He was very accommodating throughout the semester.

What suggestions do you have for improving the course?

Comments
more in class examples
Nothing
I liked the problem sets, maybe instead of the worksheets.
N/A – I very much enjoyed this course!
Go over problems slower during lectures
NA
I don't really see the point in having labs. I learned most if not all of the material from the lecture videos and the zoom meetings.
N/A
I didn't like having to watch a lecture before lecture. Rob sometimes seemed rushed because he didn't want to keep us for the full class time. You also seemed kind of hostile at points, I can't describe it but you weren't always approachable.
I honestly wish we didn't have Pre-recorded lectures, lectures, and Lab. It was so much time to commit to all 3 especially when we have the course load for other classes. But I do understand, if it were in-person classes, it wouldn't be set up this way
Go through tougher problems during lectures together as a class and clearly explain it before we try another one like it with our group or on our own.
Probably more practice problems. Since it's a math class, I wish there were more practice problems.
More examples problems, work though an example before having students attempt one on their own.
none
I've no suggestions for the teacher, rather the university. Allow students to download programs, such as STATA, instead of requiring a proxy use. This will prevent the servers from overloading when a large class attempts to access the program at once.
The pre recorded lectures were sometimes hard to hear due to the recording location, so making sure the audio is better in the future.
none!
If STATA assignments were integrated, it would be nice to have more practice/lectures on this since coding is quite difficult.
If this class was in person, we would only have had two lectures a week. We essentially had four lectures a week and were doing twice as much work under pandemic circumstances.
More example problems that are similar to the test.
I wish the problem sets would have been extra credit because I still wanted to complete them after they were cancelled. Also, on days that the asynchronous videos were super long, it would have been nice to have a shorter class. I just felt sometimes the videos got long and I was spending a lot of time outside of class working on stuff.
None!
None
Nothing, perfect course!
N/A
More feedback on work?
I wish that STATA worked for us, maybe there is another program that works better in the future.
Not move as fast
exam study guides!
Adjust assignments for remote learning ahead of time so that expectations are clear
None in particular. Rob was a great teacher and made learning online as stress free as possible. Thank you Rob for all you do!
I feel like sometimes questions weren't answered clearly.
Do not do flipped learning. It was very confusing and hard
Going through every problem and writing down all of the math and calculations.
none
A lot of the time he didn't exactly explain how to do examples which made our worksheets and tests difficult because I often felt a little lost. It was also hard not having a textbook because I didn't have a book to fall back on when a lecture was confusing.
nothing, this class was excellent and student-friendly
I suggest having a better statistical program or have better instructions on how to use the statistical programs, also if this class was in person it would stimulate learning as it is hard to keep attention to a lecture on statistics and by being lost you can lose a grasp of the whole topic.
The only recommendations I have is to sometimes slow down. In certain lessons there is a lot of material, so sometimes it hard to keep up and keep track of everything. Also, for the last test unit, It might be nice to have a day of review like with the second and third exams, but office hours are open, so theres still the ability to ask questions.
Having more organized synchronous classes.
I wish we didn't learn via video, i'm very bad at learning that way

Comments
perhaps keeping problem sets for the whole semester or not having them graded all semester. either way, the consistency of one or the other would probably be better
Finding balance. There were times where I felt overwhelmed in that there was so much to do in the week (2 pre-class lectures, 2 synchronous lectures, 1 synchronous lab, a problem set, 2 worksheets, and some weeks exams). But I think Prof Warren noticed that and adjusted the class accordingly during the second half of the semester. Perhaps making the all pre-class lectures be under 40 or 30 minutes and alternating assignments where problem sets and exams don't occur at the same week (which maybe only happened once or twice) would be good. I think individually all the responsibilities were very conducive to my learning, but all of them at once could sometimes get overwhelming. Finding a good balance where we're being challenged but not overwhelmed would be good, and I think Prof Warren found that towards the end of the semester. All of us at the U are trying to figure out this first online-only semester, so I understand having to figure out what works :)
Less assignments..there are already many tests for this course. Towards the middle of the semester, I think he began to notice that students were overwhelmed and got rid of some assignments which was appreciated.
I think this course was beautifully organized and so easy to learn and follow. If I HAD to say something I would improve I would say maybe going over the problem sets after they are due to see if theres anything the students particularly struggled with (but also students can figure out what they did wrong themselves by using they keys)
None
Make an effort good lord
I have none
Neeraj makes things more confusing when he speaks because he makes a lot of mistakes and it just makes things harder to understand. He also will talk over Prof. Warren, but Prof. Warren is far more knowledgeable, so it doesn't make sense for Neeraj to try to explain something that Prof. Warren will undoubtedly explain more clearly.
Improve technology wise. For example the situation with STATA at the beginning of the semester.
I can't think of anything, I really enjoyed this course!
I think the course was very well organized given the current circumstances and would recommend this professor to other students.
None
Have some requirement for people to participate in class. I found that sometimes it felt like I was the only one in class paying attention because no one else would speak up.
I know you re-use past exams, but providing ones that will not be used would be helpful when preparing for tests. I found that the wording changed dramatically between assignments and exams, which made it hard to determine what I was supposed to do.
None Professor Warren made a great class
Maybe make the videos before class a little shorter or more direct
nothing! I thought that getting rid of the STATA assignments was a great move and allowed me to focus more on the material presented in class and lab
I hope this isn't harsh because I'm sure he was doing his best but my TA was frankly kind of incompetent- he was so slow going over material and he just didn't explain things well and struggled to answer questions. Because the class was so large, it felt key to be able to rely on your TA for help and I just didn't feel that I could. I wish there'd been more careful selection because I felt hindered by that lack of a resource. Again, I don't mean to be unkind and I appreciate his effort!
working out problems with STATA if possible.
n/a, would be better in person of course
Hopefully it gets to taught in-person next time its taught, so they can use stata and get a deeper understand of larger data sets
Not much. All concerns that came up over the course of the semester from STATA access issues to personal emergencies were addressed and resolved in a very short time. The live discussions sections were awesome! Overall, this was a great course, but I would say this course could have EITHER used a pre-recorded lecture OR a live Zoom lecture, not both. It was odd and took up a lot of extra time having both versions. The pre-recorded lectures were EXTREMELY useful, but I don't know that they should have been MANDATORY by a SPECIFIC time in ADDITION to attending the scheduled Zoom lectures in order to get attendance credit. Honestly, I found the pre-recorded lecture far more useful than the live lecture and having solely those pre-recorded lectures and the live weekly discussions with our TA would have been more than sufficient.