

eEvaluate Report - Spring 2018

College of Arts and Sciences

Course: ECON 5970-001

Section Title: Data Science for Economists

Instructor: Tyler Ransom

Total Enrollment: 17

Course Level: Graduate 5000 and up

Section Size: Small 16-25

Question	Level	Mean Response	Median Response	Standard Deviation	ZScore	Responses	Percent #1	Percent #2	Percent #3	Percent #4	Percent #5	Dept Rank	College Rank
1. Extent to which the instructor contributed to your learning	INDIVIDUAL	4.76923	5	0.43853		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.08	76.92	100.00	96.15
	DEPARTMENT	4.48387	5	0.72438		31	0.00	0.00	12.90	25.81	61.29		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.13807	4	0.95174	0.66	507	1.78	3.94	0.95174	16.77	33.73		
	COLLEGE	3.94302	4	1.01649	0.81	30,873	2.59	5.73	21.93	34.29	35.46		
2. Ability of the instructor to respond to a wide range of questions about the material in this course	INDIVIDUAL	4.92308	5	0.27735		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.69	92.31	100.00	94.23
	DEPARTMENT	4.61290	5	0.71542		31	0.00	3.23	3.23	22.58	70.97		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.37945	5	0.93676	0.58	506	1.58	4.55	8.89	24.31	60.67		
	COLLEGE	4.20411	5	1.03748	0.69	30,851	2.62	5.32	13.99	25.15	52.92		
3. Instructor's promptness in returning exams and assignments so they could be useful for learning	INDIVIDUAL	5.00000	5	0.00000		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	DEPARTMENT	4.58065	5	0.84751		31	0.00	6.45	3.23	16.13	74.19		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.22727	5	1.06693	0.72	506	3.36	4.94	13.04	22.92	55.73		
	COLLEGE	4.01217	4	1.13054	0.87	30,812	3.96	6.89	18.89	24.51	45.75		
4. Instructor's ability to encourage critical and independent thinking	INDIVIDUAL	4.69231	5	0.48038		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.77	69.23	100.00	76.92
	DEPARTMENT	4.64516	5	0.55066		31	0.00	0.00	3.23	29.03	67.74		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.34190	5	0.95425	0.37	506	1.78	4.35	10.47	24.70	58.70		
	COLLEGE	4.03890	4	1.07459	0.61	30,797	3.02	6.39	18.59	27.70	44.31		
5. Instructor's ability to stimulate continuing interest in the subject matter	INDIVIDUAL	4.69231	5	0.63043		13	0.00	0.00	7.69	15.38	76.92	100.00	86.54
	DEPARTMENT	4.32258	5	0.90874		31	0.00	3.23	19.35	19.35	58.06		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.17097	5	1.05364	0.49	503	3.38	3.98	16.10	25.25	51.29		
	COLLEGE	3.90273	4	1.19191	0.66	30,761	5.51	7.89	19.66	24.71	42.23		
6. Overall instructor's teaching effectiveness was	INDIVIDUAL	4.84615	5	0.37553		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.38	84.62	100.00	90.39
	DEPARTMENT	4.38710	5	0.84370		31	0.00	0.00	22.58	16.13	61.29		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.17296	5	1.05615	0.64	503	3.38	4.37	15.11	25.84	51.29		
	COLLEGE	3.96584	4	1.15819	0.76	30,794	4.79	7.28	18.25	25.91	43.77		
7. Instructor's management of the course was	INDIVIDUAL	4.76923	5	0.43853		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.08	76.92	100.00	88.46
	DEPARTMENT	4.29032	5	1.07062		31	0.00	9.68	16.13	9.68	64.52		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.17262	5	1.09216	0.55	504	3.17	6.94	12.50	24.21	53.17		
	COLLEGE	4.03194	4	1.11287	0.66	30,777	3.73	6.65	18.03	25.86	45.73		
8. Amount you learned in this class	INDIVIDUAL	4.92308	5	0.27735		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.69	92.31	100.00	100.00
	DEPARTMENT	4.48387	5	0.76902		31	0.00	0.00	16.13	19.35	64.52		
	SIMILAR_COL	3.97006	4	0.96390	0.99	501	2.40	3.19	23.95	35.93	34.53		
	COLLEGE	3.82888	4	0.99537	1.10	28,781	2.39	6.15	26.79	35.54	29.13		
9. Workload of this course compared to others a similar level	INDIVIDUAL	3.53846	3	0.77625		13	0.00	0.00	61.54	23.08	15.38	50.00	50.98
	DEPARTMENT	3.58065	3	1.05749		31	0.00	12.90	45.16	12.90	29.03		
	SIMILAR_COL	3.53493	3	0.83742	0.00	501	0.80	4.39	51.10	27.94	15.77		
	COLLEGE	3.41992	3	0.86338	0.14	28,784	1.34	6.81	54.63	22.96	14.26		
10. Quality of readings and/or assigned course materials	INDIVIDUAL	4.61538	5	0.50637		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.46	61.54	100.00	98.04
	DEPARTMENT	4.22581	5	0.99028		31	0.00	9.68	9.68	29.03	51.61		
	SIMILAR_COL	3.87174	4	1.00978	0.74	499	1.80	8.02	23.25	35.07	31.86		
	COLLEGE	3.66101	4	1.05649	0.90	28,738	3.14	9.43	31.35	30.33	25.74		
11. Overall, this course was	INDIVIDUAL	4.84615	5	0.37553		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.38	84.62	100.00	96.08
	DEPARTMENT	4.38710	5	0.91933		31	0.00	6.45	9.68	22.58	61.29		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.09036	4	1.05095	0.72	498	2.61	6.22	16.67	28.51	45.98		
	COLLEGE	3.85749	4	1.12664	0.88	28,762	4.15	8.10	22.43	28.52	36.81		
12. This course was graded fairly	INDIVIDUAL	4.92308	5	0.27735		13	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.69	92.31	100.00	76.47
	DEPARTMENT	4.87097	5	0.56225		31	0.00	3.23	0.00	3.23	93.55		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.70683	5	0.65188	0.33	498	0.40	1.41	4.22	15.06	78.92		
	COLLEGE	4.53497	5	0.78330	0.50	28,742	0.78	2.36	6.46	23.37	67.03		

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Question

1. What were the strong points of the course?
2. What were the weak points of the course?
3. What should the instructor do to improve their teaching?
4. What is your overall opinion of this course?

Comment

1. Covered a lot of data science information very quickly, but still with a decent understanding. There was a lot of exposure to different modeling, coding, and data techniques. The class materials provided through github were highly extensive (thank you).

2. Ransom could get better at the 'entertaining' element of teaching.

3. See number 2.

4. Very good, a little dry at times, but perfect for prepping students for a career in data science/analytics.

1. This course was freaking amazing! Dr. Ransom knows this topic extremely well and was able to convey the advanced topics to us effectively. He was extremely personable and able to work with us one on one any day of the week with his open-door policy. I was extremely grateful for his ability to work with us in developing insight into the techniques and methods used in machine learning algorithms and data science. I would recommend this course to everyone in the program and would advise that he teach a level 1 of this course in the Fall and a level 2 course in the Spring covering more advanced topics in data science for economists. In all of my interviews, I was able to draw valuable connections between his class and practical business solutions to employers. The firms I spoke with were very interested with our work in the class and wanted to hear all about it. This is the first class that I enjoyed tremendously and was able to talk to employers about. I felt extremely valued as a candidate after having taken this course.

2. There were none, Dr. Ransom did an excellent job.

3. Dr. Ransom should do nothing else to improve his teaching style. He was well-spoken and well-informed and able to discuss high difficulty topics with ease. The numerous home works were very good as they were teaching us something new each problem set.

4. 10/10, would recommend to everyone.

1. Taught a lot of relevant material. A very broad intro to relevant stuff for data scientists to know. Helped point me in the direction of what I want to learn more about.

2. Sometimes got into the weeds a little too much, but I might not feel that way if I had a deeper math or econometrics understanding/background.

3. NA

4. Extremely useful, very enjoyable, great learning environment and a good group of people to work with.

1. I really liked the weekly homeworks. They weren't too hard or too long, but they gave us a nice way to apply what we were learning in class which really helped me learn it.

2.

3.

4. It was one of the best courses I have had in a long time. Dr. Ransom was always willing to help students and was very approachable. I also liked how class never felt rushed. He knew how much time he had in class and used it well to get what he wanted to teach that day done, and left time for questions and anecdotes without the class feeling like we had run out of time.

1. Organization of the material was excellent. This really helped develop my learning as well.

2. There really weren't any. Dr. Ransom came prepared to teach every day and was always helpful when we had any questions. Also, he was ALWAYS available in his office which was really helpful, as this class is filled with coding assignments.

3.

4. I loved it and really enjoyed the material. I learned a lot with such little coding experience coming in.

1. Learning git and command line was very useful. There was a learning curve but I was able to grasp it.

2. Some of the home works were a little easy.

3.

4. Really liked it! Dr. Ransom is very open to office hours, always able to drop by and chat about whenever.

1. The code

2. The math

3. Tyler Ransom is a great teacher and was very patient with a novice in data science like myself. If there was anything I would recommend for this class, it would be a prerequisite to register for it. A prerequisite would allow students to get the most out of this course.

4. The course was challenging but very rewarding.

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1. Great lectures Answered each question in detail Homework followed along with lectures Tons of valuable resources provided
2. Sometimes too many side conversations in class
3. I thought the lectures and the teaching style were great
4. Extremely applicable and I'm excited to apply all of this new knowledge in industry
1. The structure of the course and the willingness of Dr. Ransom to go above and beyond to help, add clarification, and explore questions. I love Dr. Ransom's engaging lectures, knowledge of the subject, and personality - he really made what could have been a boring course fascinating and practical. The homeworks were very well structured to reinforce the material and teach us new concepts.
2. To be honest, this is the best class I've taken in the entire Economics department across 4 years.
3. Engage quieter students faster and more often early on.
4. Best class I've ever taken at OU. Dr. Ransom is the best teacher I've ever had in the Econ department. He's also my second favourite professor personally, after my one true love Aparna Mitra. Give this man a raise and tenure immediately.
1. The class touches upon an innovative topic that is becoming more important in our times, and as such, the class incorporates interesting assignments, exposes us to new tools, and inspires students to continue self-learning since we are provided with the foundational knowledge on Data Science. Professor Ransom is very knowledgeable, and will help you out a lot without causing stress on the students when the material is complicated. At the same time, it is nice to feel encouraged through comments on assignments in Canvas.
2. Not specifically related to the class, but the Economics program should emphasize the importance of econometrics and good understanding of mathematics and statistics within the required courses in the program. The class would have been much more insightful had most of the students been encouraged to take more of these classes, because some did, though the knowledge gap among students was evident.
3. More in-class examples of Data Science tools, though these were not absent throughout the semester. I would just prefer more.
4. Excellent course, would totally recommend.
1. The practicality of class.
2. not enough time to cover all of the topics deeper
3. I thought the class was ran well
4. a fantastic course that is one of the most beneficial courses someone the econ department can take.
1. Excellent tie in of economic principles with data science practice.
2. Not enough cross-language programming experience
3.
4. Excellent course. Great introduction to data science
1. It was an excellent overview of machine learning and economics.
2. It was graded easily, which isn't a problem for an elective. It should be required curriculum for the MA.
3. N/A
4. It should be core curriculum.

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Response Key

1. Extent to which the instructor contributed to your learning	1 = Far Below Average, 2 = Below Average, 3 = Average, 4 = Above Average, 5 = Far Above Average
2. Ability of the instructor to respond to a wide range of questions about the material in this course	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
3. Instructor's promptness in returning exams and assignments so they could be useful for learning	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
4. Instructor's ability to encourage critical and independent thinking	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
5. Instructor's ability to stimulate continuing interest in the subject matter	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
6. Overall instructor's teaching effectiveness was	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
7. Instructor's management of the course was	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
8. Amount you learned in this class	1 = Far Below Average, 2 = Below Average, 3 = Average, 4 = Above Average, 5 = Far Above Average
9. Workload of this course compared to others a similar level	1 = Far Below Average, 2 = Below Average, 3 = Average, 4 = Above Average, 5 = Far Above Average
10. Quality of readings and/or assigned course materials	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
11. Overall, this course was	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
12. This course was graded fairly	1 = Never, 2 = Seldom, 3 = Occasionally, 4 = Usually, 5 = Always