

eEvaluate Report - Spring 2020

College of Arts and Sciences

Course: ECON 5253-001

Section Title: Data Science for Economists

Instructor: Tyler Ransom

Total Enrollment: 15

Course Level: Graduate 5000 and up

Section Size: X-Small 0-15

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	4.80000	5	0.44721		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	80.00	42.86	73.47
	DEPARTMENT	4.64286	5	0.86984		28	3.57	0.00	3.57	14.29	78.57		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.36213	5	0.87432	0.50	845	1.42	2.96	9.23	30.77	55.62		
	COLLEGE	4.01199	4	0.98942	0.80	23,434	2.01	4.96	21.44	33.02	38.58		
2. Ability of the instructor to respond to a wide range of questions about the material in this course	INDIVIDUAL	4.80000	5	0.44721		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	80.00	57.14	59.69
	DEPARTMENT	4.75862	5	0.63556		29	0.00	3.45	0.00	13.79	82.76		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.58225	5	0.82002	0.27	845	1.66	1.89	5.80	17.87	72.78		
	COLLEGE	4.28091	5	0.99105	0.52	23,406	1.93	4.76	13.13	23.63	56.54		
3. Instructor's promptness in returning exams and assignments so they could be useful for learning	INDIVIDUAL	5.00000	5	0.00000		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	DEPARTMENT	4.48276	5	0.94946		29	0.00	6.90	10.34	10.34	72.41		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.25118	5	1.06645	0.70	844	3.08	4.74	14.69	18.96	58.53		
	COLLEGE	4.09421	4	1.08915	0.83	23,385	3.15	6.19	17.57	24.27	48.82		
4. Instructor's ability to encourage critical and independent thinking	INDIVIDUAL	4.40000	5	0.89443		5	0.00	0.00	20.00	20.00	60.00	28.57	39.29
	DEPARTMENT	4.48276	5	0.91107		29	3.45	0.00	6.90	24.14	65.52		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.47275	5	0.87157	-0.08	844	1.42	2.96	8.06	22.04	65.52		
	COLLEGE	4.14621	4	1.03070	0.25	23,378	2.24	5.48	17.00	25.98	49.30		
5. Instructor's ability to stimulate continuing interest in the subject matter	INDIVIDUAL	4.60000	5	0.89443		5	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	80.00	57.14	59.18
	DEPARTMENT	4.44828	5	1.05513		29	3.45	3.45	10.34	10.34	72.41		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.37886	5	0.98148	0.23	842	2.26	4.39	9.62	20.67	63.06		
	COLLEGE	4.00561	4	1.15406	0.52	23,367	4.41	7.21	18.24	23.70	46.44		
6. Overall instructor's teaching effectiveness was	INDIVIDUAL	5.00000	5	0.00000		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	DEPARTMENT	4.58621	5	0.90701		29	3.45	0.00	6.90	13.79	75.86		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.37055	5	0.98647	0.64	842	2.73	3.44	10.21	21.26	62.35		
	COLLEGE	4.07064	4	1.11235	0.84	23,371	3.71	6.53	16.72	25.05	47.98		
7. Instructor's management of the course was	INDIVIDUAL	4.80000	5	0.44721		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	80.00	42.86	68.88
	DEPARTMENT	4.65517	5	0.61388		29	0.00	0.00	6.90	20.69	72.41		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.35545	5	0.97985	0.45	844	2.73	3.32	10.19	23.22	60.55		
	COLLEGE	4.15271	5	1.06503	0.61	23,351	2.89	5.64	15.97	24.30	51.20		
8. Amount you learned in this class	INDIVIDUAL	5.00000	5	0.00000		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	DEPARTMENT	4.62069	5	0.82001		29	3.45	0.00	0.00	24.14	72.41		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.24235	4	0.91556	0.83	817	1.71	3.79	11.02	35.50	47.98		
	COLLEGE	3.89534	4	0.98081	1.13	22,072	2.12	5.54	24.53	36.29	31.51		
9. Workload of this course compared to others a similar level	INDIVIDUAL	4.20000	5	1.30384		5	0.00	20.00	0.00	20.00	60.00	71.43	85.64
	DEPARTMENT	3.62069	3	0.97884		29	0.00	6.90	51.72	13.79	27.59		
	SIMILAR_COL	3.60636	3	0.85500	0.69	818	0.86	2.81	50.37	26.77	19.19		
	COLLEGE	3.46198	3	0.86142	0.86	22,081	1.15	6.08	53.35	24.27	15.15		
10. Quality of readings and/or assigned course materials	INDIVIDUAL	4.80000	5	0.44721		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	80.00	71.43	83.51
	DEPARTMENT	4.34483	5	0.85673		29	0.00	3.45	13.79	27.59	55.17		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.21718	4	0.92106	0.63	815	0.98	4.05	15.83	30.55	48.59		
	COLLEGE	3.81232	4	1.03476	0.95	22,038	2.40	7.45	27.91	30.99	31.25		
11. Overall, this course was	INDIVIDUAL	4.80000	5	0.44721		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	80.00	85.71	73.94
	DEPARTMENT	4.57143	5	0.69007		28	0.00	3.57	0.00	32.14	64.29		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.30798	5	0.98371	0.50	815	2.70	3.19	11.90	25.03	57.18		
	COLLEGE	3.98326	4	1.09129	0.75	22,042	3.41	6.66	19.96	28.15	41.83		
12. This course was graded fairly	INDIVIDUAL	4.80000	5	0.44721		5	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	80.00	14.29	31.38
	DEPARTMENT	4.93103	5	0.25788		29	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.90	93.10		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.77641	5	0.60675	0.04	814	0.61	0.98	3.07	10.81	84.52		
	COLLEGE	4.63306	5	0.70661	0.24	22,047	0.59	1.62	4.91	19.62	73.25		

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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. He is the best instructor that I have ever had. The information that I learned in all of his classes was able to get me a software consulting job in a metropolitan area. My life has completely changed by taking Dr. Ransom's courses, and I am forever grateful.
 2. NONE.
 3. None. He has always exceeded expectations.
 4. The greatest course that I have ever taken, and I am going to miss this course greatly.
1. The scope of the material was broad and good resources for each subject were provided. Everything we talked about in class felt practically useful; indeed I used much of it outside of the class during this semester for professional work.
 2. Sometimes it felt that we were just glossing over important parts of the subject we were discussing. There were a number of tools at the beginning that I particularly think I didn't get a good taste in (SQL, for example).
 3. I would suggest a more progressive track for the course, where it feels like each skill builds off the last one. Maybe some of the machine learning problem sets could specifically request students to use Spark, so that skill doesn't go unused. Personally, I used Spark once for the class and have never thought about it again until looking over the course to write this evaluation. Some tools like these could use reinforcement, and I don't think this would increase the workload of the problem sets too much. I would also either go into more depth on the math or scrap it entirely. One day of math just isn't enough to make anything stick. I would suggest keeping the math as a black box or make the entire course more math heavy, including some math questions on problem sets.
 4. I think this course was one of the most excellent and practical I have ever taken. I would recommend this course to any computer science, math, finance, economics (ect) student.
1. great
 2. great
 3. great
 4. great

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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