

Summary of Selected Teaching Evaluation Items

	Sociology 2820: Methods of Data Collection			Sociology 2830: Methods of Data Analysis	
	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Fall 2008	Fall 2008	Spring 2009
<i>Selected Evaluation Item:</i>	<i>Mean Point Value (and Standard Deviation) of Five-Point Scale: Highly Agree (5) to Highly Disagree (1)</i>				
1. Rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness.	4.5 (0.6)	4.1 (0.8)	4.3 (0.8)	4.4 (0.8)	4.7 (0.5)
2. Rate the overall quality of this course.	4.3 (0.8)	3.8 (0.8)	4.2 (1.0)	4.1 (0.7)	4.4 (0.8)
5. The instructor seemed well prepared for classes.	4.7 (0.5)	4.6 (0.7)	4.8 (0.5)	4.7 (0.6)	5.0 (0.2)
6. The instructor promoted an atmosphere conducive to work and	4.7 (0.6)	4.4 (0.7)	4.4 (0.9)	4.6 (0.8)	4.8 (0.5)
8. The instructor was a good classroom leader.	4.9 (0.3)	4.4 (0.7)	4.5 (0.8)	4.5 (2.0)	4.8 (0.5)
9. Was the instructor able to explain difficult material to your satisfaction?	4.6 (0.6)	4.0 (0.8)	4.5 (0.9)	4.3 (1.1)	4.5 (0.7)
15. The instructor motivated me to do my best work.	4.4 (0.8)	3.9 (0.9)	4.2 (1.0)	4.4 (0.7)	4.6 (0.7)

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Examples of Student Comments for Course Evaluations

Sociology 2820 Methods of Data Collection

<i>What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?</i>		
Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Fall 2008
<i>The major strengths of the instructor would be his ability to engage the students, recognizing when some needed to work harder than others and then applying different teaching methods to ensure that all the students are getting the most out of the class as possible.</i>	<i>Michael really knows his stuff and he really likes to teach, but assigned too much work.</i>	<i>Engaging instructor.</i>
<i>The instructor explained material very well. He was methodical in the way he explained things which made the difficult material easily interpreted.</i>	<i>Good speaker.</i>	<i>Strengths: Instructor obviously knew what he was talking about and presented material in an interesting way - helped me to pay attention.</i>
<i>Let's face it, somewhat boring information, but he made it fun and I ended up really enjoying the class.</i>	<i>Weakness: does not curve grades on exams, even when the average is a C/B.</i>	<i>Could be a great, relatable teacher, but let certain students take control of class at times. Too relaxed, too much of a friend doesn't demand correct respect.</i>

<i>What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?</i>		
Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Fall 2008
<i>The fact that he didn't do exams in the class, doing a research proposal was an effective tool at teaching.</i>	<i>In-class assignments force you to show up for class.</i>	<i>The straightforwardness and the environment of the class.</i>
<i>I thought it was helpful to apply concepts to a research proposal.</i>	<i>Learning correct ways to conduct research.</i>	<i>PowerPoint for notes.</i>
<i>Learning and completing the entire process of the research proposal instead of only testing our knowledge on the subject.</i>		

<i>What do you suggest to improve this course?</i>		
Fall 2007	Spring 2008	Fall 2008
<i>Add a test and eliminate a paper to ensure that everyone understands.</i>	<i>Non-cumulative final exam.</i>	<i>Better study guides for exams.</i>
<i>Notes provided on e-learning as to keep up with the amount of information given.</i>	<i>The only thing I would suggest is a better way to prepare student for the exam, like a better study guide or something.</i>	<i>It is a little scary that exams affect the grades so much.</i>
<i>I think PowerPoint presentations distract from lecturing, especially when so detailed. Students seems to be scrambling to copy notes instead of listening. I personally found the notes too detailed to be useful for the lectures. Maybe bulleting main points only then using lectures to explain them further would help.</i>	<i>The work load was a little too much for a 2000 level 3 credit course causing not enough time to study lecture materials.</i>	

Examples of Student Comments for Course Evaluations

Sociology 2830 Methods of Data Analysis

<i>What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?</i>	
Fall 2008	Spring 2009
<i>Good teacher, easy to understand, motivated me to do well.</i>	<i>Created a very friendly atmosphere and always willing to help.</i>
<i>Notes were detailed and specific. A great help when doing homework.</i>	<i>He is passionate about what he teaches and it shows! Very well at explaining things.</i>
<i>The instructor seemed to know everything about stats, but not a lot about interpersonal skills. He sometimes seemed unsure of himself and jumped around a lot.</i>	<i>Michael is an excellent instructor, however he is stuck teaching material we don't want to learn. He is awesome at motivating us and trying to get us to enjoy statistics.</i>

<i>What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?</i>	
Fall 2008	Spring 2009
<i>All of it. It was very hard, which is good.</i>	<i>The outlined notes were very helpful especially with the example problems to follow.</i>
<i>I actually learned some math! This is my worst subject.</i>	<i>First statistics course I ever understood.</i>
	<i>The way material is presented, the take home equations for exams, and the print-off fill in the blank notes.</i>

<i>What do you suggest to improve this course?</i>	
Fall 2008	Spring 2009
<i>SPSS isn't explained very well for homework.</i>	<i>Lose SPSS or less of it.</i>
<i>Explain more in detail. This course is difficult and I believe that printing off the notes and filling them in is not effective.</i>	<i>More time spent with SPSS help. It got confusing around Chapter 10.</i>
<i>Keep up with the graphs and the notes.</i>	<i>The stats book is not helpful and hard to understand.</i>