
Report Comments

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A quick transition to remote teaching for Spring Quarter 2020 required Northwestern to re-evaluate how CTEC responses would be shared and used. At the recommendation of the Interim Provost, deans, and Faculty Senate, Spring Quarter 2020 CTECs will not be published to students and may not be used to inform faculty hiring, tenure and promotion decisions. The student feedback contained in these reports is intended to inform instructors and school administrators as they explore ways to improve learning and teaching.

For more information about CTEC Guidelines, please visit our website: <https://www.northwestern.edu/ctec/guidelines>

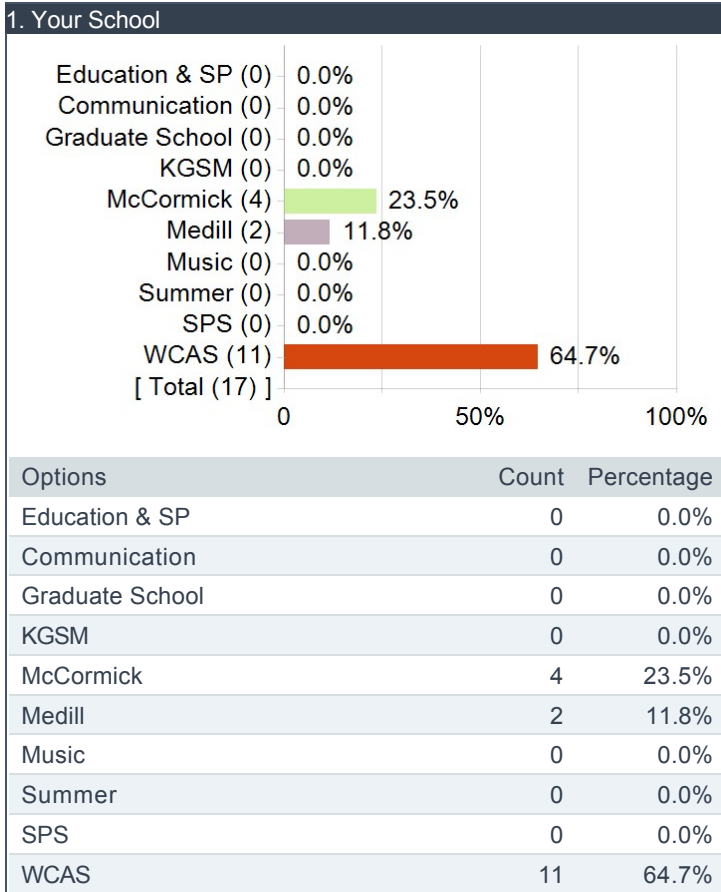
Northwestern University

Course Evaluations

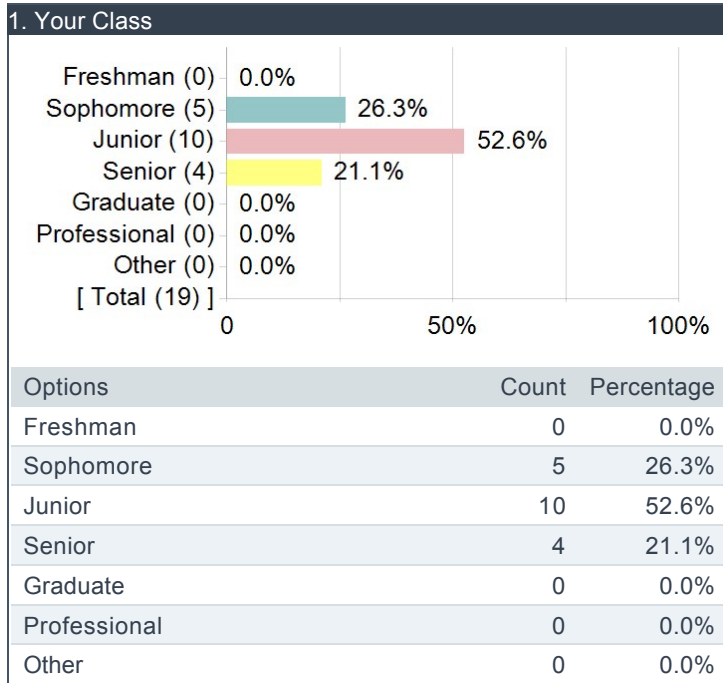
Instructor	Course
Kathleen Coburn	STAT_301-3_21: Data Science 3

DEMOGRAPHICS

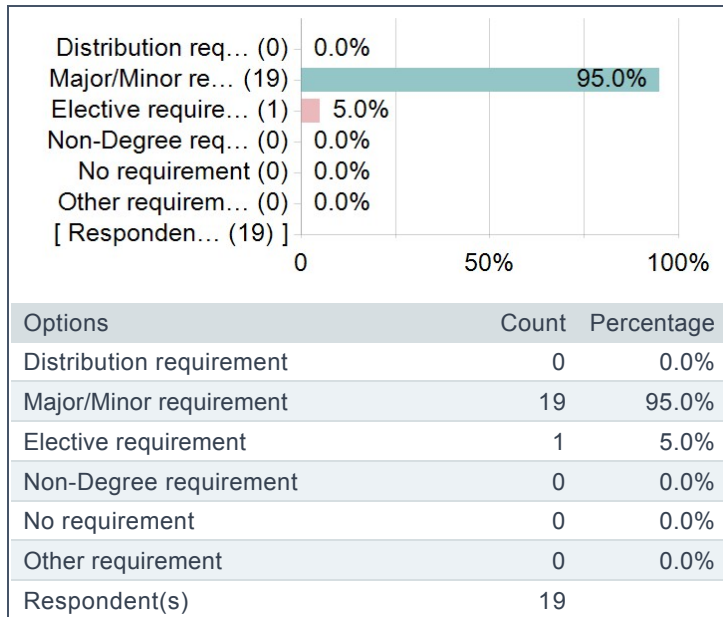
Your School



Your Class

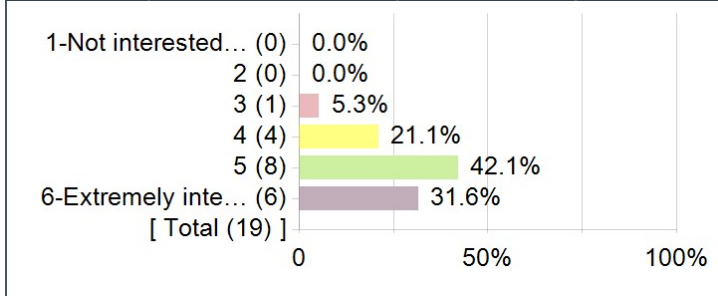


What is your reason for taking the course? (mark all that apply)



What was your Interest in this subject before taking the course?

1. What was your interest in this subject before taking the course?

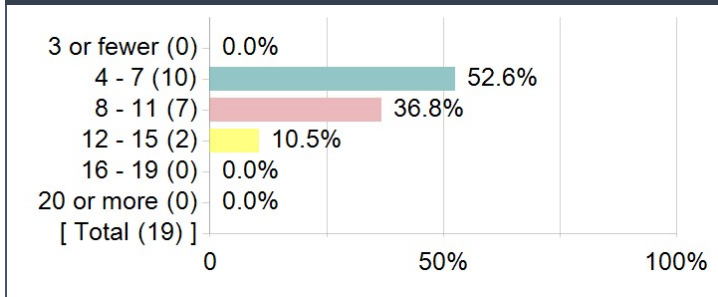


Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not interested at all	0	0.0%
2	0	0.0%
3	1	5.3%
4	4	21.1%
5	8	42.1%
6-Extremely interested	6	31.6%

TIME-SURVEY QUESTION

Estimate the average number of hours per week you spent on this course outside of class and lab time.

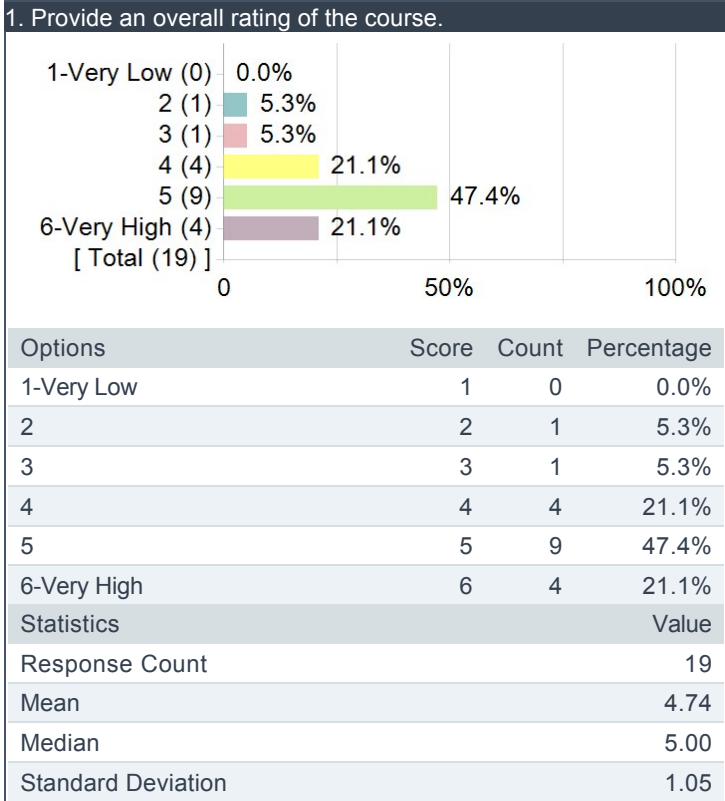
1. Estimate the average number of hours per week you spent on this course outside of class and lab time.



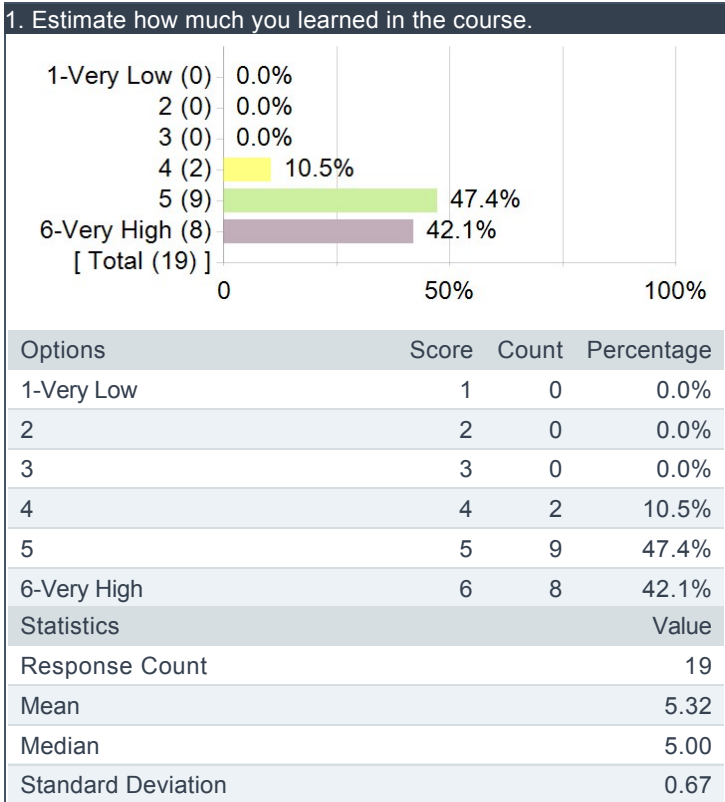
Options	Count	Percentage
3 or fewer	0	0.0%
4 - 7	10	52.6%
8 - 11	7	36.8%
12 - 15	2	10.5%
16 - 19	0	0.0%
20 or more	0	0.0%

COURSE QUESTIONS

Provide an overall rating of the course.

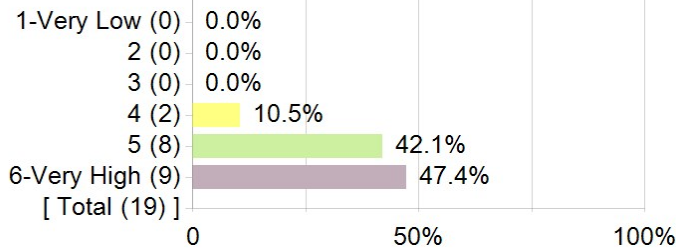


Estimate how much you learned in the course.



Rate the effectiveness of the course in challenging you intellectually.

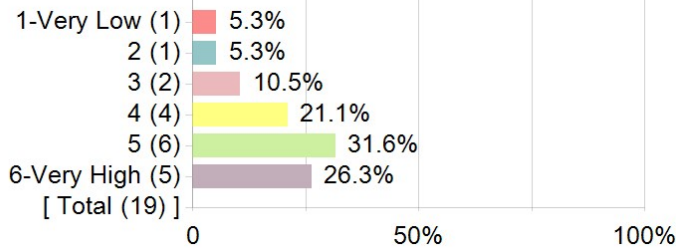
1. Rate the effectiveness of the course in challenging you intellectually.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	2	10.5%
5	5	8	42.1%
6-Very High	6	9	47.4%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			19
Mean			5.37
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			0.68

Rate the instructional materials (texts, audiovisual materials, etc.) used in this course.

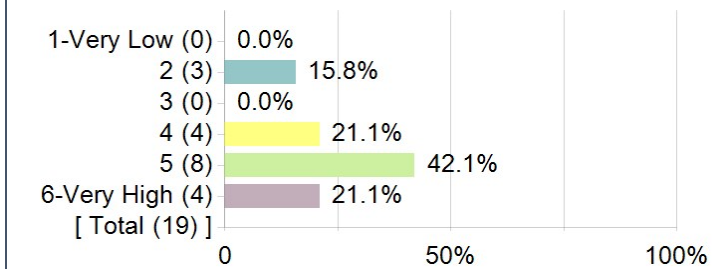
1. Rate the instructional materials (texts, audiovisual materials, etc.) used in this course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	1	5.3%
2	2	1	5.3%
3	3	2	10.5%
4	4	4	21.1%
5	5	6	31.6%
6-Very High	6	5	26.3%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			19
Mean			4.47
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			1.43

Rate how well the organization of the course facilitated your learning.

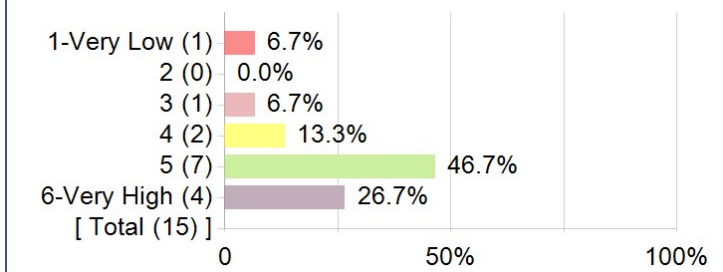
1. Rate how well the organization of the course facilitated your learning.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	3	15.8%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	4	21.1%
5	5	8	42.1%
6-Very High	6	4	21.1%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			19
Mean			4.53
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			1.31

Rate lab/discussion (if present) section's usefulness in learning and applying course material.

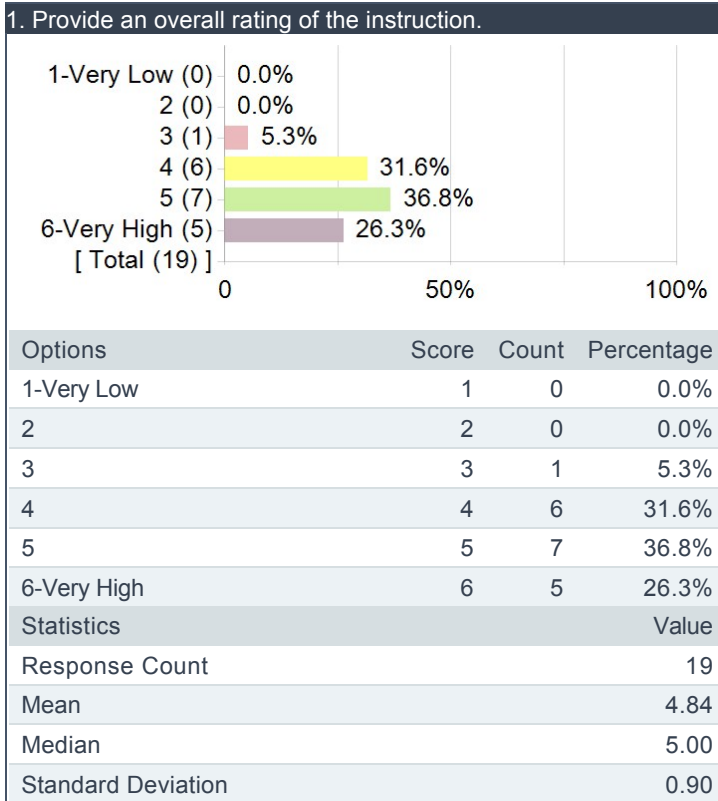
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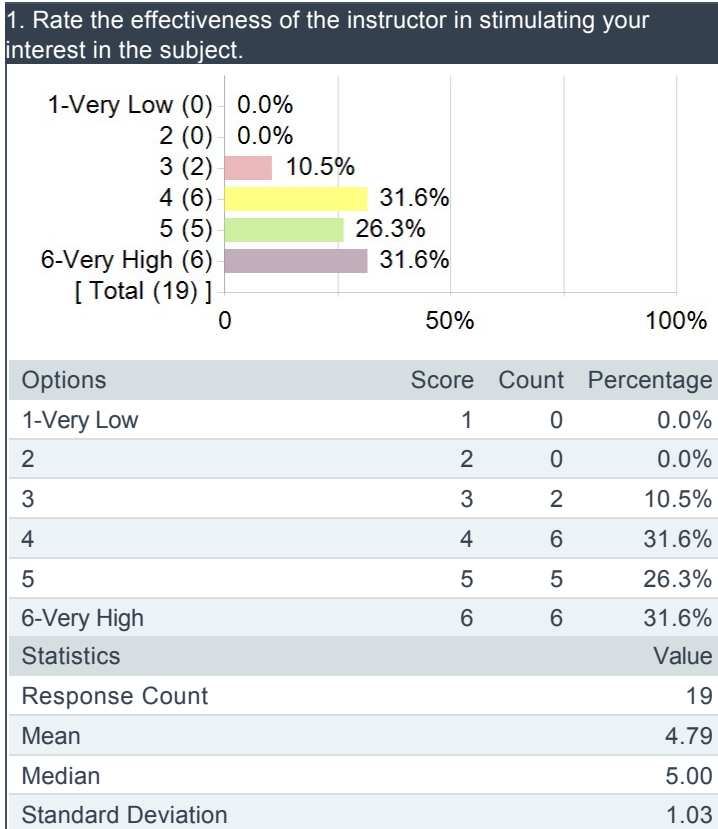
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	1	6.7%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	1	6.7%
4	4	2	13.3%
5	5	7	46.7%
6-Very High	6	4	26.7%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			15
Mean			4.73
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			1.33

INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS

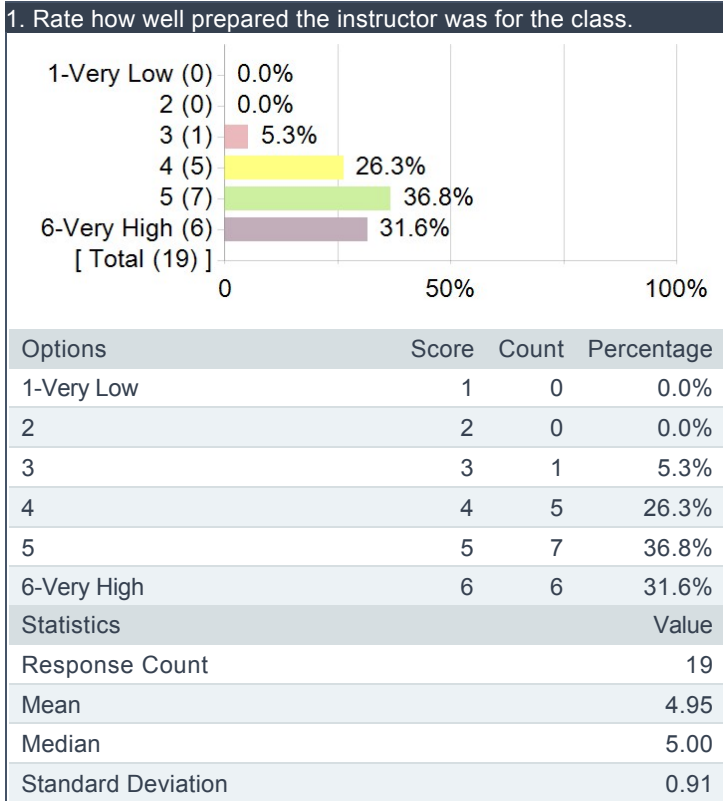
Provide an overall rating of the instruction.



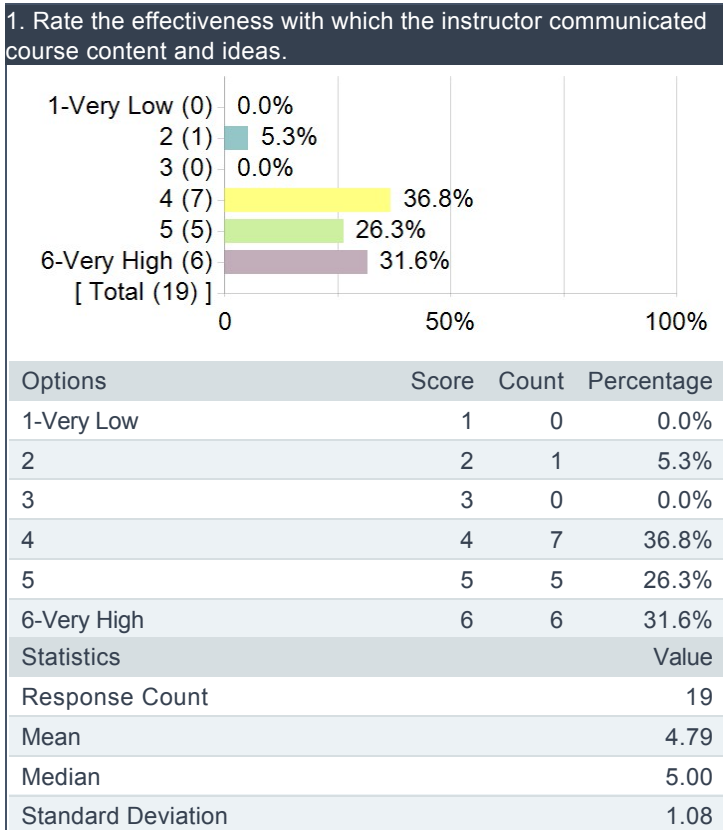
Rate the effectiveness of the instructor in stimulating your interest in the subject.



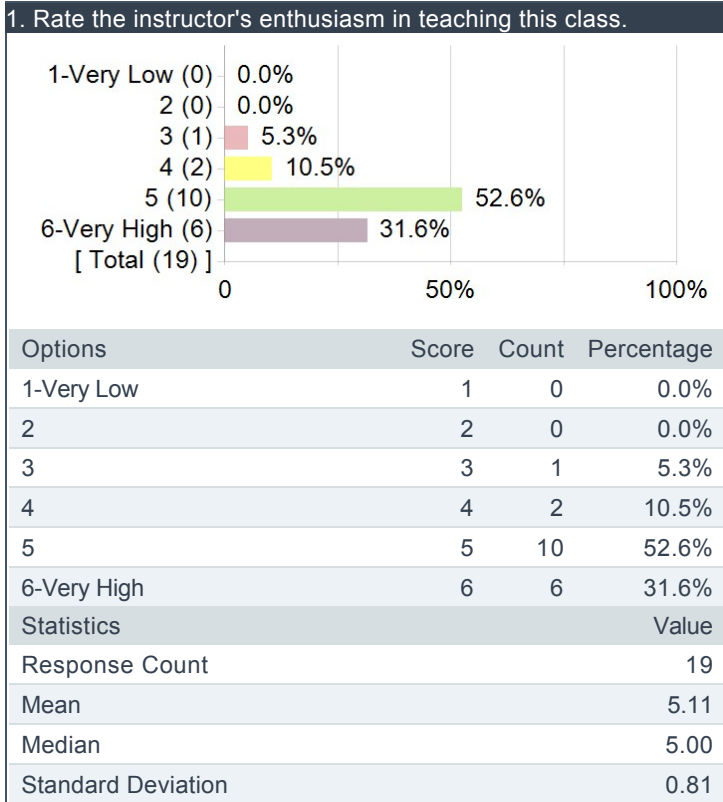
Rate how well prepared the instructor was for the class.



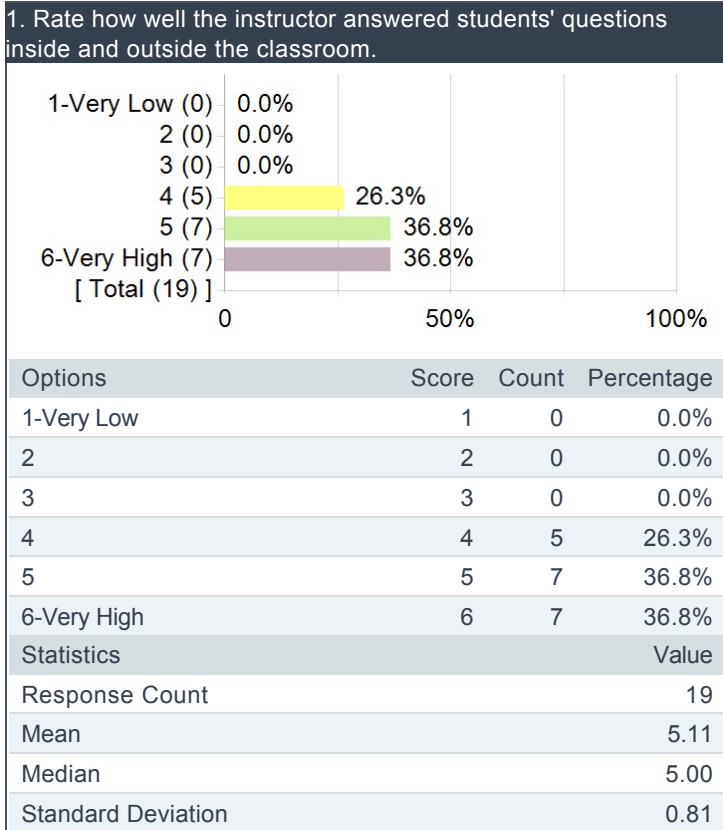
Rate the effectiveness with which the instructor communicated course content and ideas.



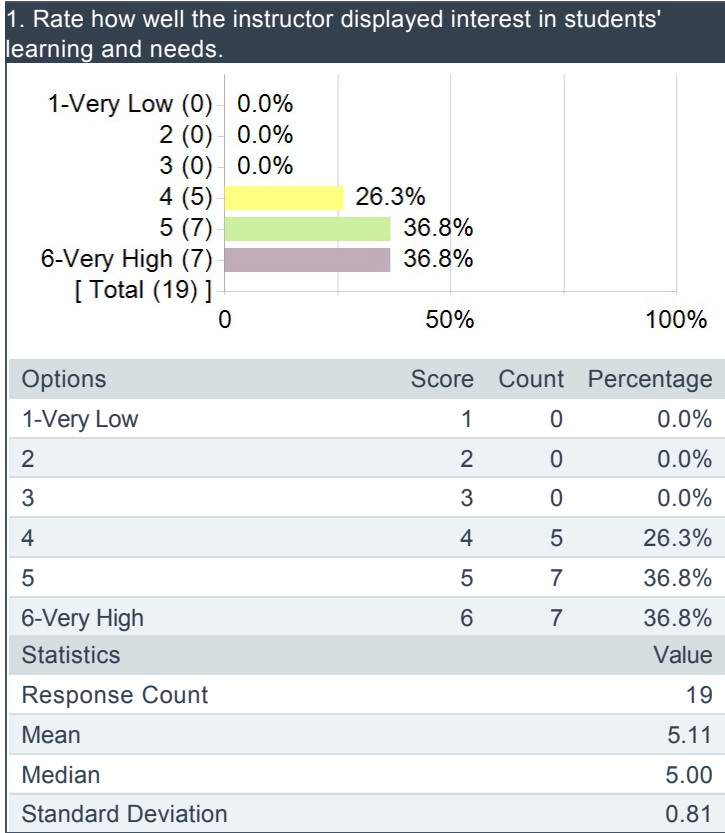
Rate the instructor's enthusiasm in teaching this class.



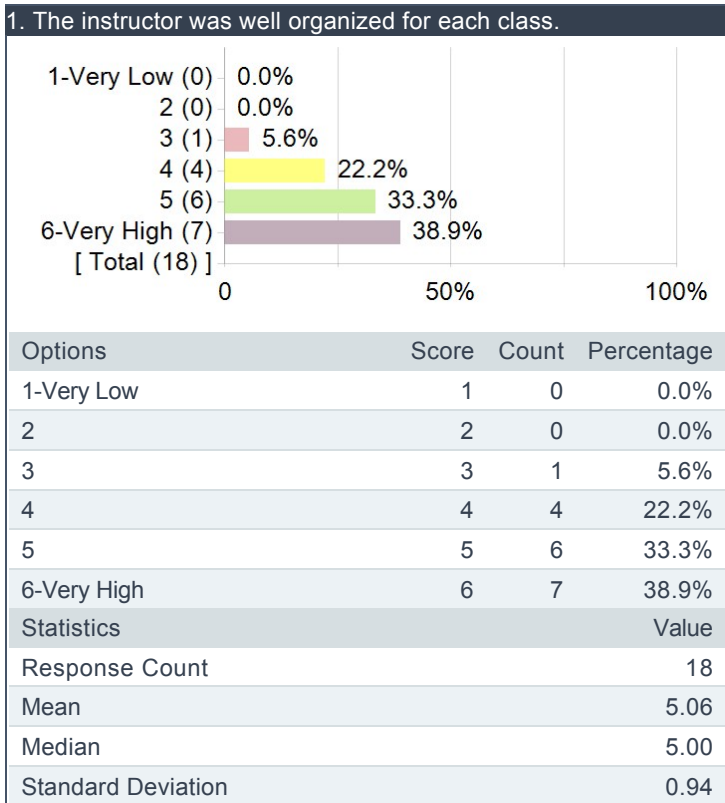
Rate how well the instructor answered students' questions inside and outside the classroom.



Rate how well the instructor displayed interest in students' learning and needs.

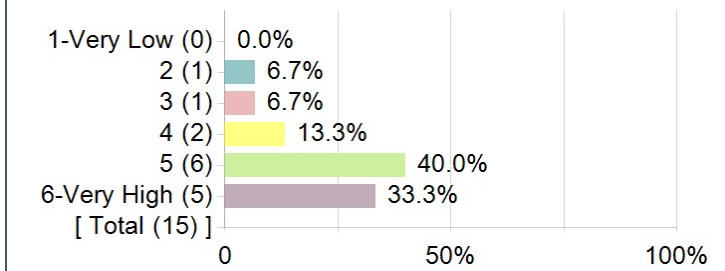


The instructor was well organized for each class.



How well do you think this course transitioned to an online learning environment? [Katie]

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Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	1	6.7%
3	3	1	6.7%
4	4	2	13.3%
5	5	6	40.0%
6-Very High	6	5	33.3%
Statistics	Value		
Response Count	15		
Mean	4.87		
Median	5.00		
Standard Deviation	1.19		

OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Did the course help you learn? Why or why not?

Comments
yes
Awesome and interesting class
I definitely learned from this class but the labs were way too challenging especially without having the ability to go to office hours and work one-on-one with the professor or other students. The entire class was behind on labs, the data science competitions and the final project because the content was so challenging.
Yes. because this is a new topic for me
The readings helped a lot
Yes. The weekly labs and how they are all tied together really helped solidify my understanding, combined with the competitions and final project
Labs were great in applying textbook reading
YES. labs were informative and stimulating!

Please summarize your reaction to this course focusing on the aspects that were most important to you.

Comments
it was much harder than the last two quarters
Super interesting material and I think I learned a lot
I really only like the data science competition because of the leaderboard system. I'm super competitive so it was fun to see my name rising on the leaderboard. This was like the only assignment I was actually motivated to work on though.
Incredibly fast paced class
The office hours were really helpful and I really like the course
The difficulty of this class is severely ramped up compared to the previous two classes in the sequence. With that being said, however, I still enjoyed this class overall because I learned tons. The amount of information they covered can feel a bit overwhelming at times and the assignments are quite time-consuming, but the instructional team was always willing to help and be flexible. If you've enjoyed the Data Sci sequence so far, you'll enjoy this class.
The competitions were a nice touch – definitely helped me getting used to them in case I ever want to join in the future
Class is great in transitioning from data analysis to machine learning.
6 labs, 2 competitions, 1 final project. labs def took longer than first and second quarters, but data science manual definitely helped. well taught class!! TAKE IT

What are the primary teaching strengths of the instructor?

Comments
knowledge of the subject, making it interesting
Helpful in class
Katie is so sweet and really wants to help. She is always there to take a stab at whatever problem you're struggling with.
Professor Coburn is an exceptional instructor who is genuinely interested in the success of her students.
Coburn was not the actual professor.
Office hours and willing to help
Helpful, approachable and knowledgeable
GREAT PROF! lots of enthusiasm for the subject :D

What are the primary weaknesses, if any, of the instruction?

Comments
Less lectures than I would have liked but more than there have been in the past
She sometimes didn't know how to answer questions or help with certain problems.
None
Same as above.
N/A
Can be a little unclear when explaining complex concepts
n/a

Can you offer suggestions for improvement?

Comments
Maybe explain how the models work on a more granular level. It didn't feel like I fully understood boosting and neural nets
NA
None
Same as above.
N/A
None
n/a

What (if anything) did you like about the online learning experience? [Katie]

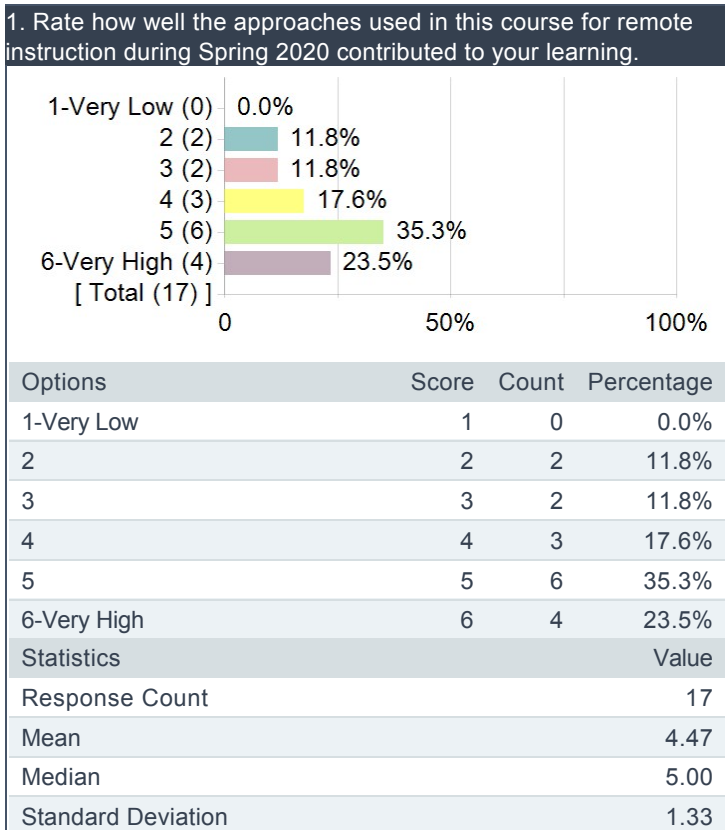
Comments
Nothing really. Online classes totally suck but this was very good for an online class
Did not enjoy it. It was hard to focus and do work when you were in breakout rooms the entire time.
Love it
Recorded lectures – in case we miss a class or if we want to revisit a concept
not an ideal experience altogether, but the STAT 301 instructors really put the best effort forward to transition the class entirely online

If this course were to be held online again in future, what would you change about its implementation? [Katie]

Comments
it was the same amount of work as it would have been in person, but it was online and during a stressful time so this class really stressed me out
Don't hold classes online.
More structured class time.
More live coding so we know how to build, and especially tune, the models!!!
N/A
More spread out assignments – a lot of things were due towards the end so current implementation seemed backloaded
this is more of zoom functionality, but being able to see the breakout rooms and hop from one to another ourselves would be helpful

REMOTE LEARNING

Rate how well the approaches used in this course for remote instruction during Spring 2020 contributed to your learning.



Which aspects of the remote instruction helped contribute to your success in this course? Please explain.

Comments
live coding
This course was conducive to remote learning. I thought it was well organized and the professors did a good job
Breakout rooms seemed like a helpful idea, but the TAs were really not that qualified to be helping us with the material we learned.
None.
The recorded lecture
The lectures in the reading were very helpful
We could share screen if we have any problems with our code
plenty of Q&A time during class, office hours were accessible. Campuswire was very helpful

Which aspects of the remote instruction could be improved? Please explain.

Comments
literally everything else
Get rid of remote instruction? It sucks across the board. With that said, this was good for an online class
I wish there was more working through labs. There were a lot of things that I had to learn on my own that could've easily been taught in class and would've eliminated a lot of stress. I also posted on campus wire several times and got no response.
More live coding would have been much appreciated. We were simply told to follow the workflow and when we did that we lost points for not including things that we were never told to include in the first place!
N/A
Going over more of the reading on the lecture would have been helpful
None
if anything, instructors/TAs being more active on campuswire. besides that, nothing rly