Q11 - Suggestions and comments about the course content:

Faculty: French, Michael T

Response Rate: 50.00% (6 of 12)

I really wish that we had gotten further in the course material. I was really looking forward to learning about panel data.

I liked that we started the class with an example. They were fun and entertaining. However, it did eat up a lot of time that we needed to cover more topics.

While I am glad that you made using STATA optional, I am glad that it was encouraged. I know have a better understanding of the program and even like it more than SPSS.

- The course was quite rigorous but was extremely effective. The exams and project contributed to my learning of the material.

- I wish we had more class time !!!! I wanted to learn everything that you had in your syllabus !!
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A good overview of econometric methods. It would be helpful if a more basic text accompanied Wooldridge to provide simpler explanations of the topics and methods. The powerpoints were very helpful, and having them in advance made it easier to pay attention to the verbal explanations (rather than having to write furiously).

The course content was appropriate and interesting. The assigned book was appropriate. The examples used in class were helpful to understand abstract concepts. The behavioral economics lessons were especially enjoyable. The research project was really helpful because it allowed us to apply statistical techniques.

If this was a two semester course, it would be perfect because it would allow us to cover additional material.

Suggestions:
(1) I think by all means necessary more lectures must be devoted to LDV regression topics.

(2) From my experience and from what I have heard from fellow students in my statistics classes (this class and in the ones I took in the past) using graphics (figures, plots, drawing on the board) is very helpful for grasping statistical concepts. Maybe more graphics should be added to the lectures.

Q12 - Suggestions and comments about the instructor:

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Very willing to meet with us. The extra study sessions are very useful!

Knows the material and is able to present it in a way that is not too hard, or too dumbed down for the students.

The professor was very dedicated to the class and held review sessions and worked with groups outside of class time which was very much appreciated.

You are great !! You made statistics fun !

This instructor effectively communicates his expertise in this subject, is patient, cares about students, very organized and precise -- overall, OUTSTANDING. He constantly linked the topics to current research, which made every class something to look forward to. He also made time to meet with students throughout the semester to discuss final projects and provide guidance. He expects a lot from students, which can be overwhelming at times, but the way he applies pressure and the support he provides through the process encourages us to work hard and learn the material very well. He is also very inclusive and makes sure all students have an opportunity to participate in discussions, ask questions, and keep up in the class.

Dr. French makes a difficult subject as comprehensive and enjoyable as possible. he is always available to meet with students. One of the better instructors I've had.

Hi Michael,

Thanks for a great semester. I enjoyed coming to your class every week. You have a special gift for creating an open classroom environment, where any questions and discussion are welcome and appreciated.

Instructor was very thorough in his explanations and took the time to answer any and all questions. Review sessions were very helpful and much appreciated. Instructor is a fantastic teacher and I only wish he taught more statistics courses within the department. This has been the most interesting/stimulating class I've taken in the department so far. I feel that I really gained a comprehensive understanding of the material.

Suggestions:
(1) It is very important that all students understand the material. However, some of the questions students ask may take the class off topic. I would recommend that (if question requires a lengthy answer) the students should be asked to write these questions down and ask them at the end of the class or during the help sessions.

(2) Break is important, but maybe limit it to 5 minutes. This works in other classes.

(3) Students should be asked questions in class more often. Often times people have same misunderstandings. Asking questions would clear these up.

Q13 - Additional comments:

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Several points I would like to make:

1. The $100 to meet the deadlines is a great idea. However, it was a bit frustrating that those people who did not pay the money were able to meet with you before those who did. I understand that the money did not mean that we could meet with you and others couldn’t. However, at times, the contract felt pointless while waiting to speak with you about the project.

2. I really think that this class needs to be in 2 parts. Due to the wide range of knowledge base, a lot of the class (about 1/2) was review for me. It would be nice to have a lower level class for those who haven’t had stats before. OR begin the this course as is, (because a review is always nice) and have a part 2 class that picks up where this course ends. I know that in my research, I am more likely to use this skills than SEM, so I think the proposed class will be more beneficial for me, personally.

3. At the beginning of the year, this was the class that I feared the most. However, I must say, that this ended up being my favorite class of the year hands down. :)

4. I was also nervous about using an econ book. But besides a slight change in language from the Healey book that I am used to, there were no differences. This book is a great resource.

But, please note, that for those who bought this book 2nd hand, a lot of the resources that come with the book (data sets, answer keys) are not accessible. Only those who bought the book new have access to this. Perhaps you could post things things for the students. - just a thought.

- The behavioral economics anecdotes were great!!
- Thank you!