

Individual Teacher Report for 2017S-ITEC-621-010 Predictive Analytics (Grant Fiddymont)

American University Input on Teaching from Students (ITS)

Project Audience 14

Responses Received 13

Response Ratio 93%

Creation Date Sat, Jul 01, 2017

American University Washington D.C.

American University Student Input on Teaching

Interpretation guidelines

All single-response questions are represented by a rating, or Likert-type scale. The value "7" generally represents a "fulfilled" or positive connotation, while the value "1" generally maintains an unsatisfied connotation.

The value 7 may take one of several forms that include:

- Almost Always
- Very Satisfied
- Strongly Agree

The value 1, conversely, may take one of several forms that include:

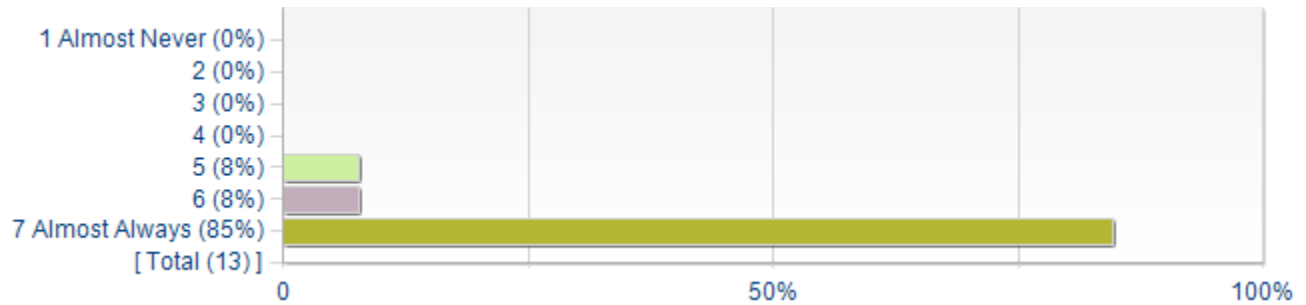
- Almost Never
- Not Satisfied
- Strongly Disagree

Keep in mind that despite completing an evaluation, students were not required to submit answers to every question. As a result, you may notice that the total number of responses is lower on some items than on others. In these cases, the student decided to skip this question. Students also may have skipped the open-ended questions, thus leaving fewer responses in these sections as well.

Teacher	Course
Grant Fiddymnt	ITEC-621-010 Predictive Analytics

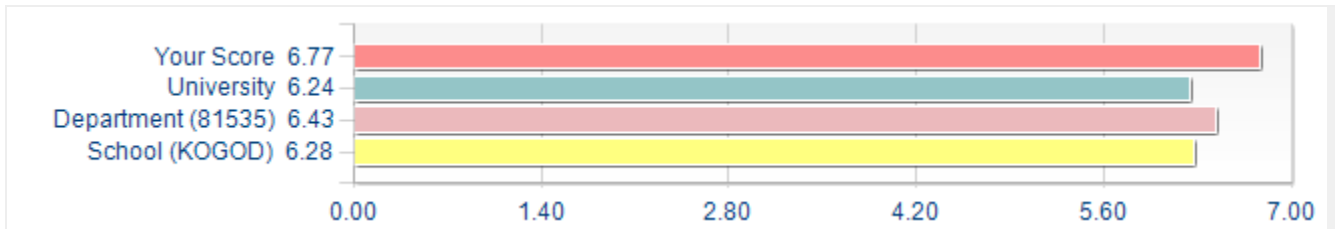
Questions relating to Grant Fiddymnt

The instructor **Grant Fiddymnt** used class time productively.

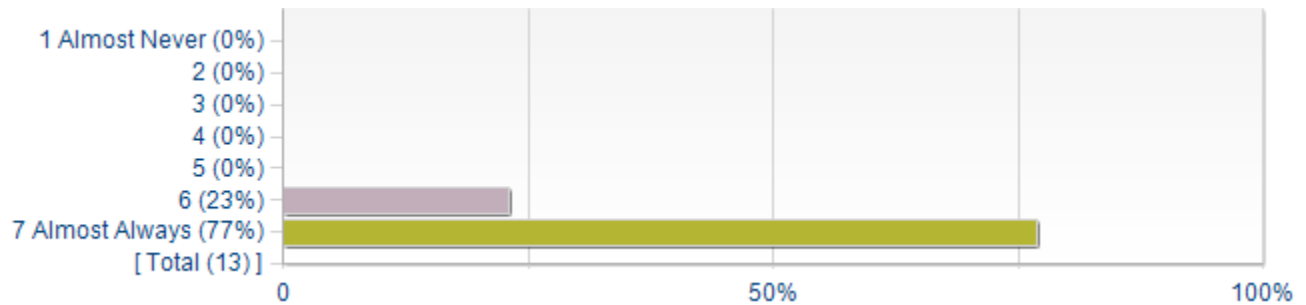


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.77
Standard Deviation	+/-0.60

Comparative Scores:

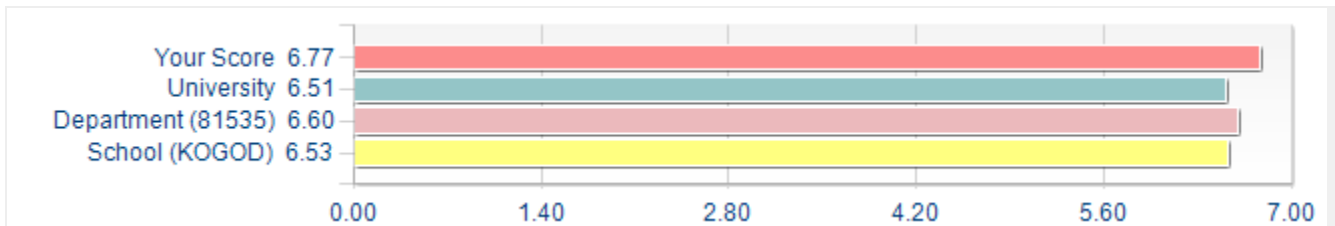


The instructor **Grant Fiddymnt** was open to questions and comments.

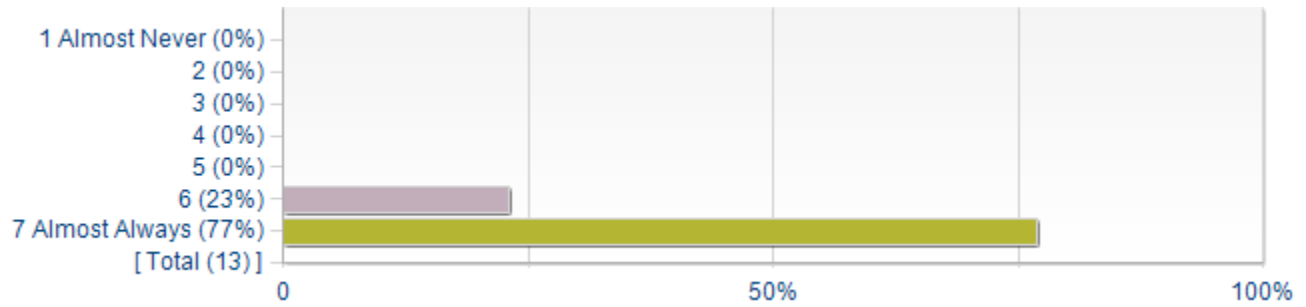


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.77
Standard Deviation	+/-0.44

Comparative Scores:

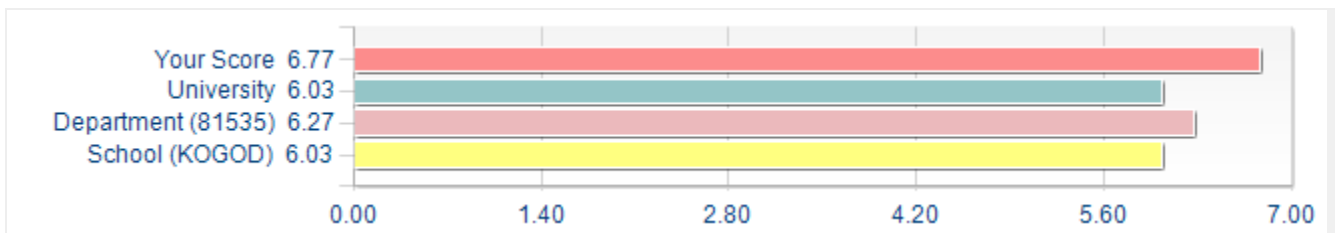


The instructor **Grant Fiddymnt** provided useful feedback on tests, papers, discussions, etc.

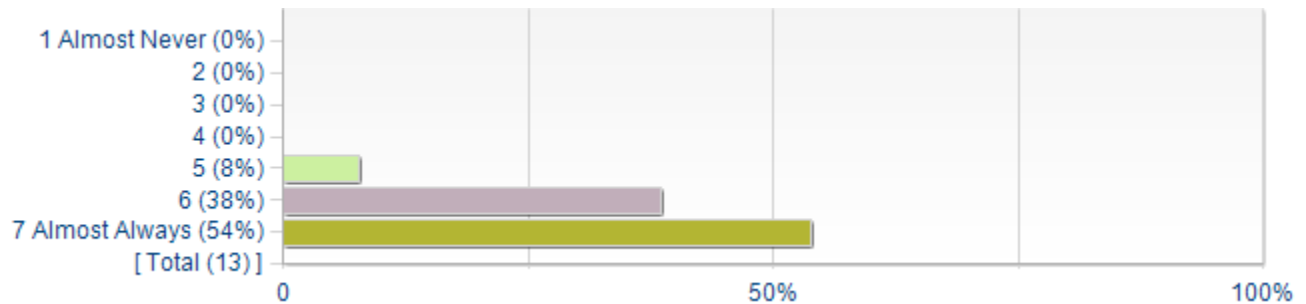


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.77
Standard Deviation	+/-0.44

Comparative Scores:

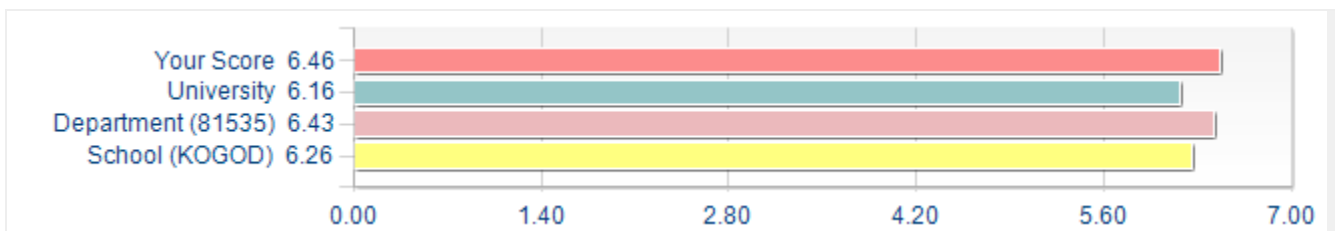


The instructor **Grant Fiddymnt** returned work in a timely manner.

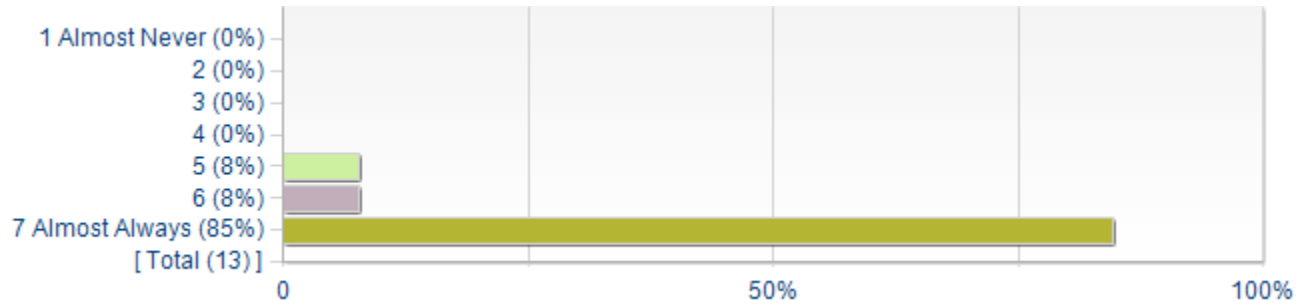


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.46
Standard Deviation	+/-0.66

Comparative Scores:

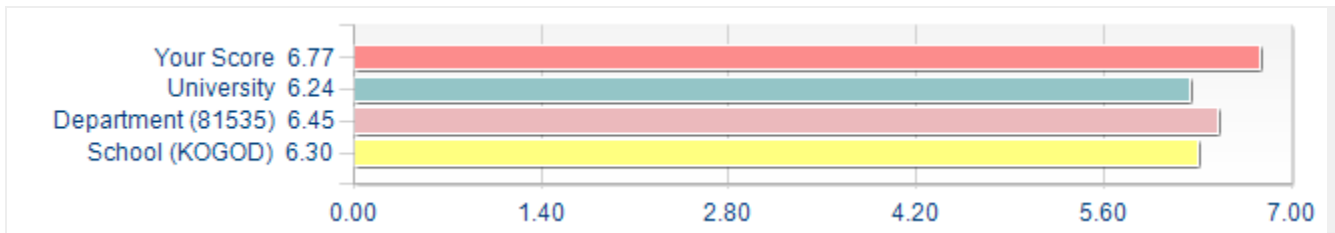


The instructor **Grant Fiddymont** required high levels of performance.

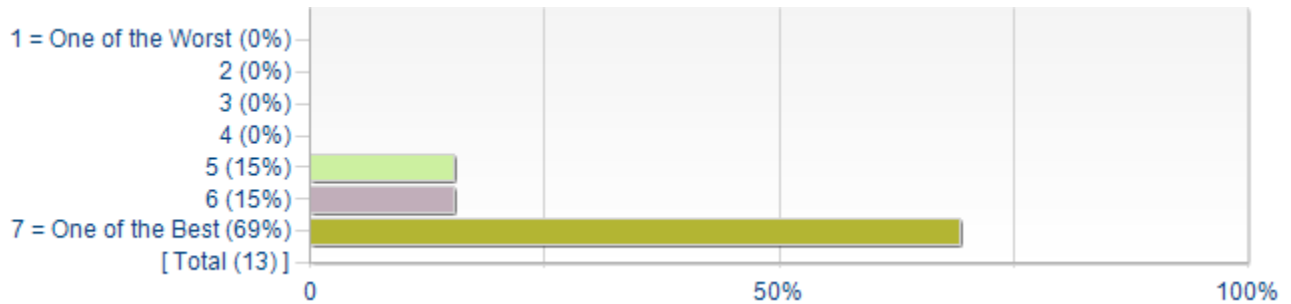


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.77
Standard Deviation	+/-0.60

Comparative Scores:

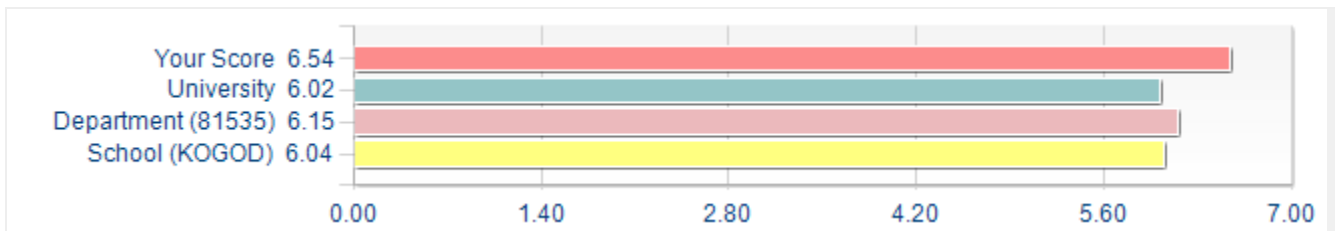


On a scale of one to seven, overall this instructor was...



Statistics	Value
Mean	6.54
Standard Deviation	+/-0.78

Comparative Scores:



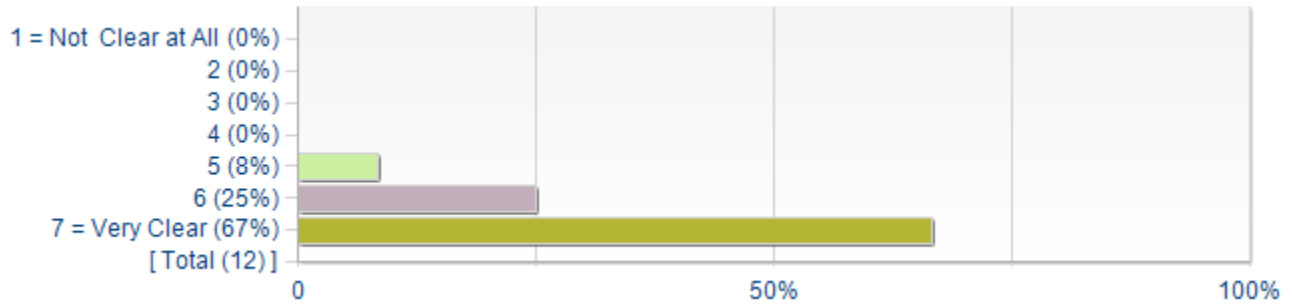
Instructor related questions summary: Top and bottom values

Strengths		
1	The instructor used class time productively.	Instructor 6.77
2	The instructor was open to questions and comments.	Instructor 6.77

Areas for Improvement		
1	The instructor returned work in a timely manner.	Instructor 6.46
2	The instructor used class time productively.	Instructor 6.77

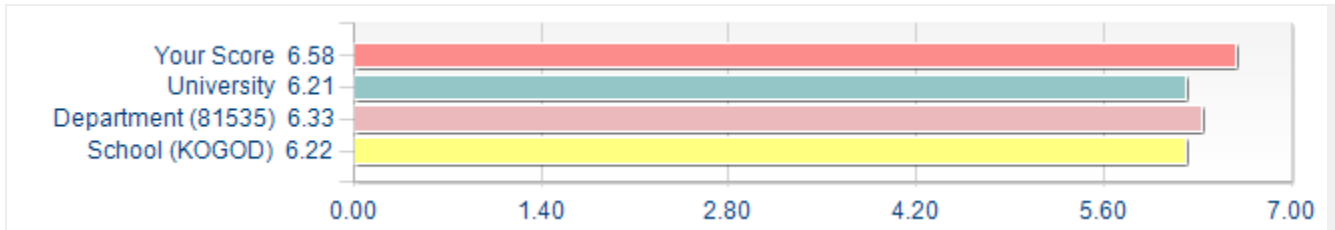
Course Questions

The learning objectives for this course were clear.

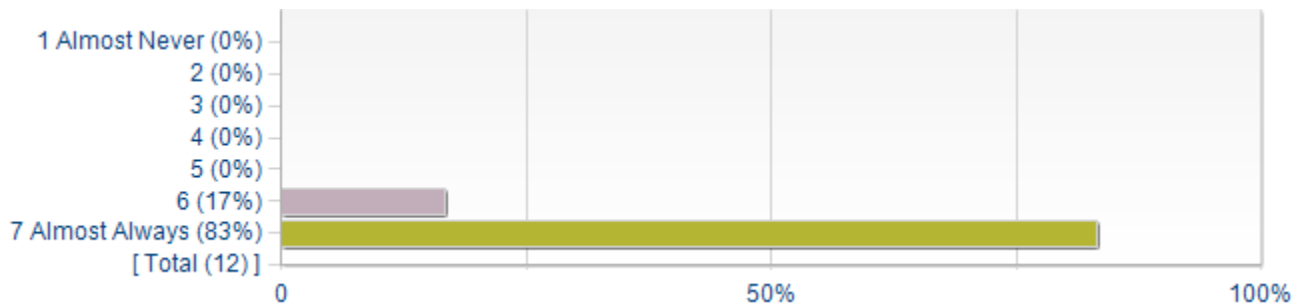


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.58
Standard Deviation	+/-0.67

Comparative Scores:

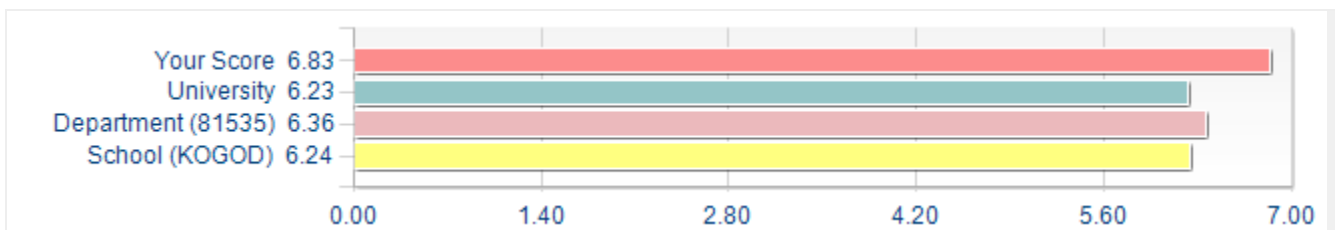


Activities/assignments required for class contributed to meeting the learning objectives for this course.

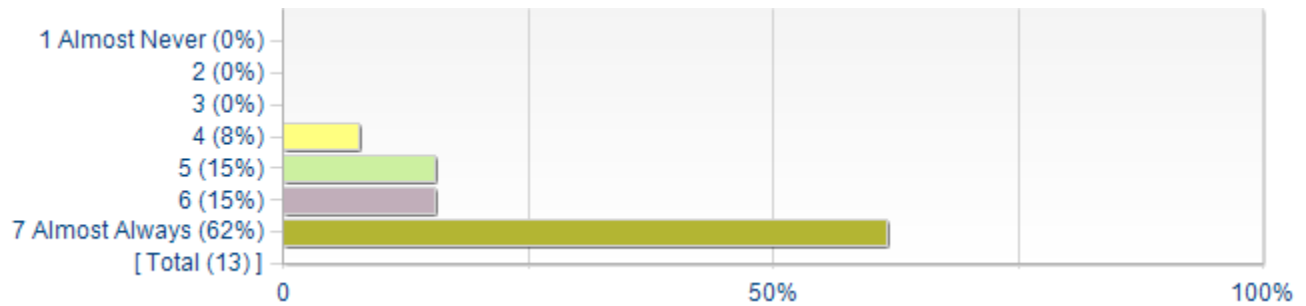


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.83
Standard Deviation	+/-0.39

Comparative Scores:

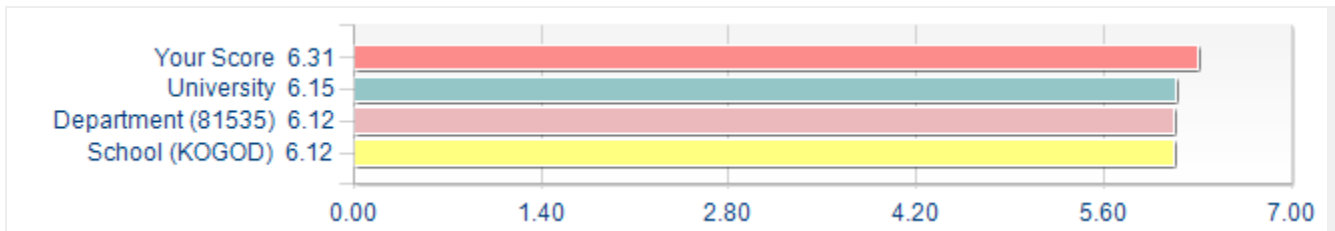


Materials required for this course contributed to meeting the learning objectives.

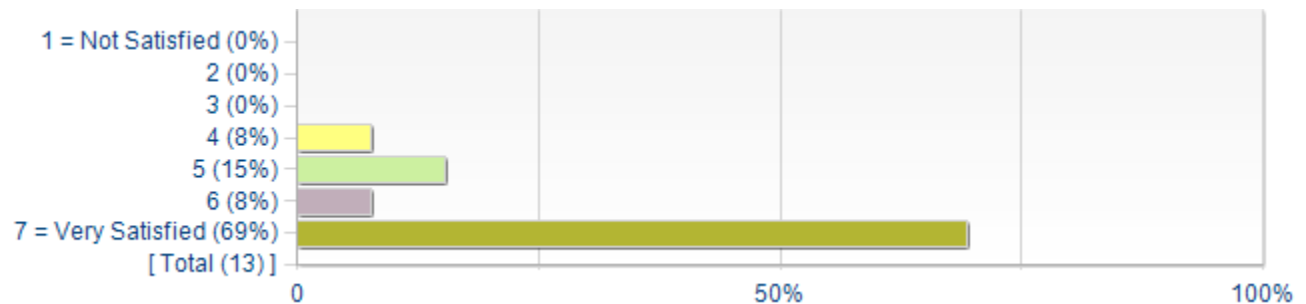


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.31
Standard Deviation	+/-1.03

Comparative Scores:

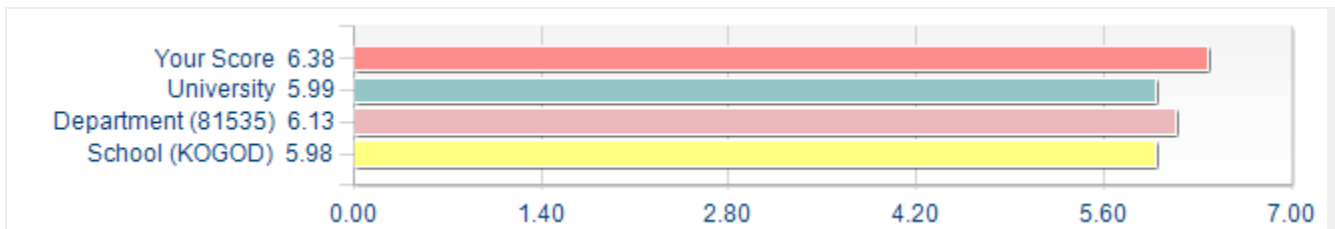


I am satisfied with what I learned in this course.

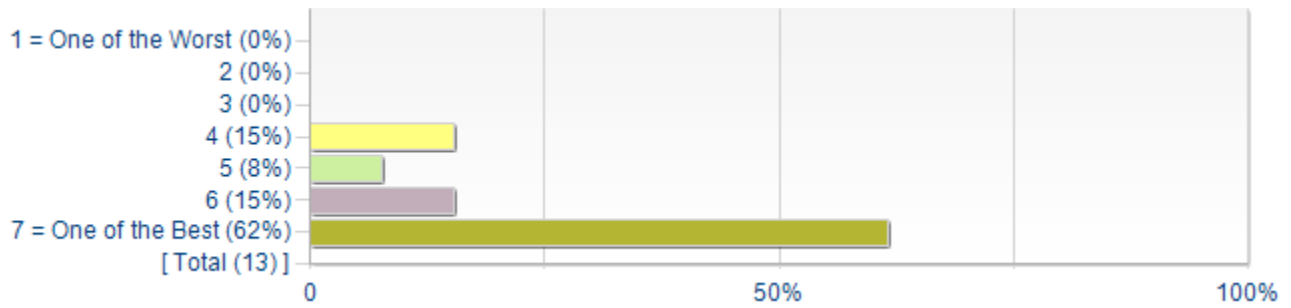


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.38
Standard Deviation	+/-1.04

Comparative Scores:

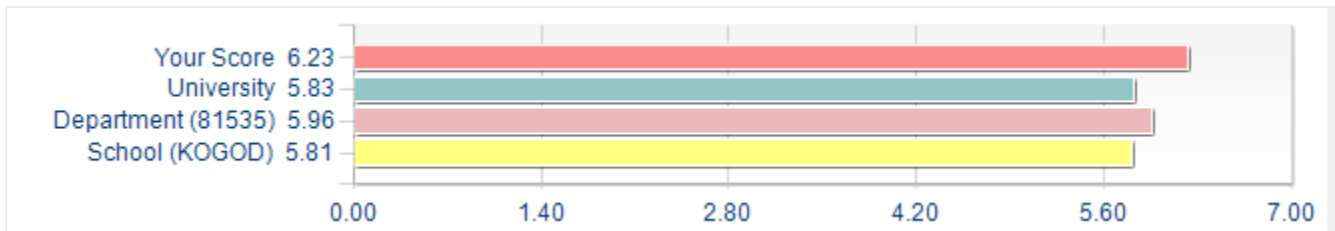


On a scale of one to seven, overall this course was...

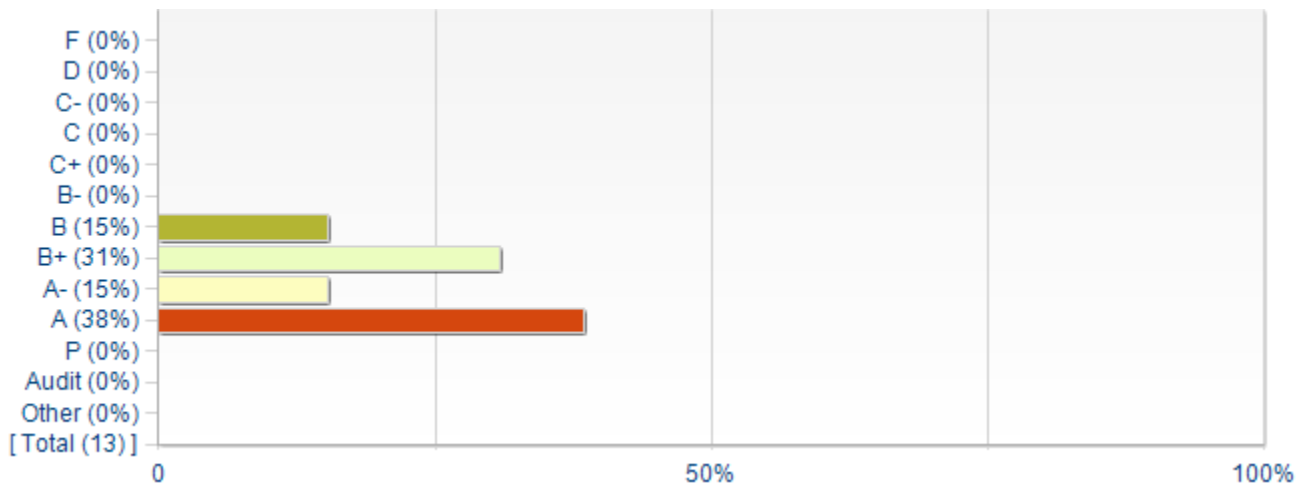


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.23
Standard Deviation	+/-1.17

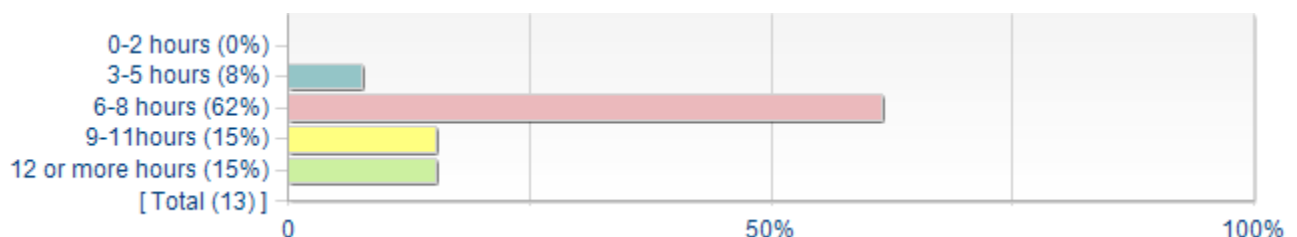
Comparative Scores:



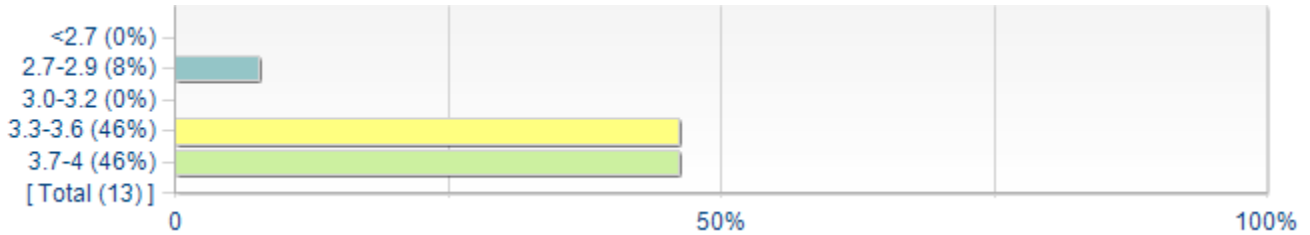
What grade do you expect in this course?



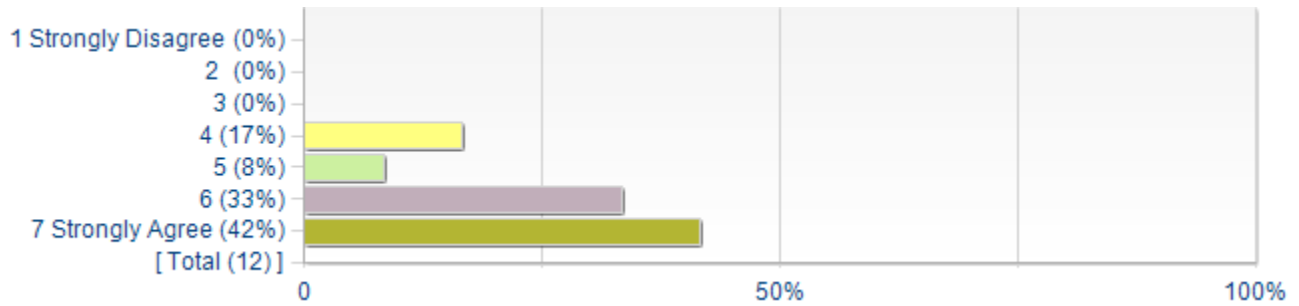
Indicate the average number of hours per week you worked on assignments and studied for this course



Estimated cumulative GPA. First semester students should leave this blank

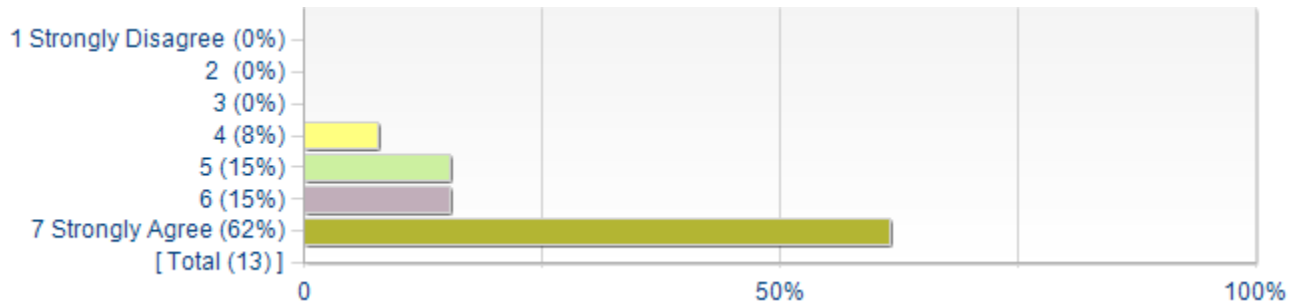


I gained a good understanding of concepts and principles in this field.



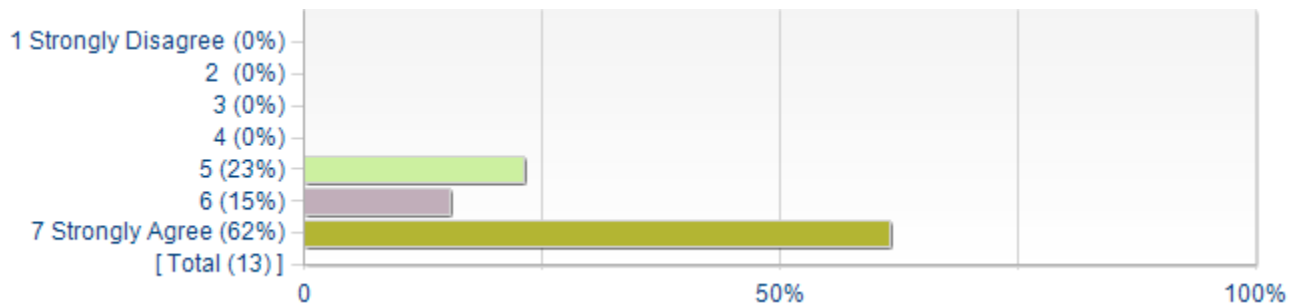
Statistics	Value
Mean	6.00
Standard Deviation	+/-1.13

The instructor stresses important points in lectures or discussions.



Statistics	Value
Mean	6.31
Standard Deviation	+/-1.03

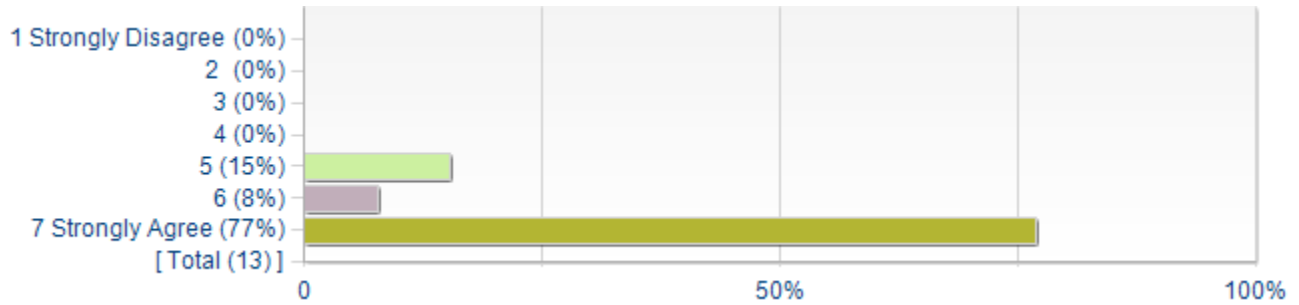
The instructor uses class time productively.



Statistics	Value
------------	-------

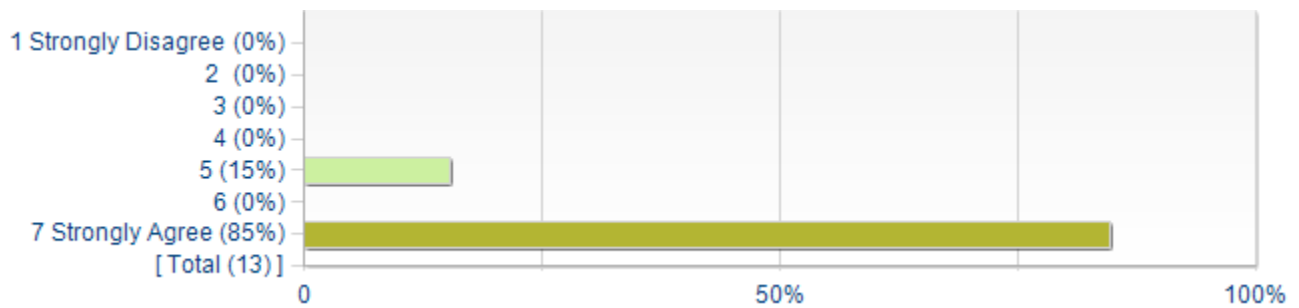
Mean	6.38
Standard Deviation	+/-0.87

The instructor is enthusiastic.



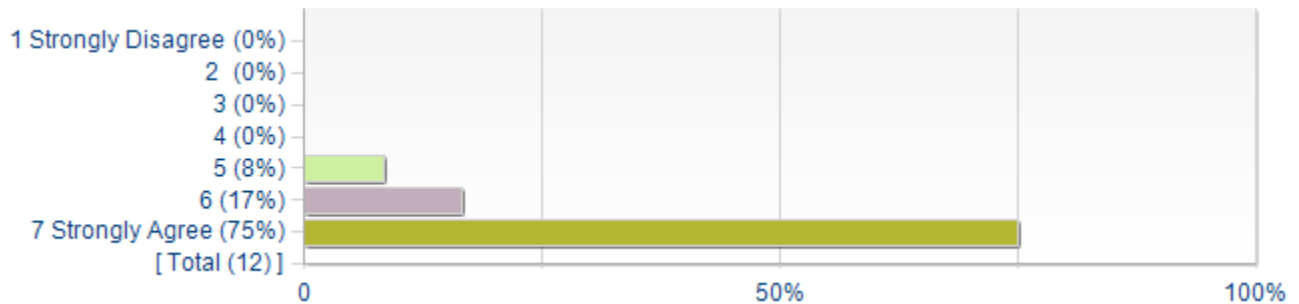
Statistics	Value
Mean	6.62
Standard Deviation	+/-0.77

The instructor maintains an atmosphere of good feeling in the class.



Statistics	Value
Mean	6.69
Standard Deviation	+/-0.75

Based on my experience in this course, I would consider taking additional on-line courses in the future.



Statistics	Value
Mean	6.67
Standard Deviation	+/-0.65

Questions relating to **Grant Fiddymment**

In what way did taking an on-line class enhance your educational experience

Comment
ability to take the course from remote location
Very diverse group of classmates, more than I expect an in-person class would have had.
Better fit my work schedule.
I work full time and do not have the time to attend in class sessions
IT allowed me to be able to continue to work full time and still learn everything I would in a normal classroom with the added benefit of flexibility.
Flexibility
I learned new concepts and how to use a new software program.
Save me the time of driving to and from school and finding parking.

To what extent was the format--assigned readings, class discussion board, on-line assignments, group projects, etc.--useful to your learning

Comment
the class built on it self very well, from basics to a real world project
I enjoyed how this class was structured, taking us through the analytics cycle and going in depth on the various models that are available to address business questions, whether they are quantitative or classification.
Being able to learn and apply what I learned in so many formats really helped improve my command of the material.
Good. I enjoy the online lectures, etc. For the first three classes of this program, online was great. This class was a bit more hands on and I often got stuck/frustrated with the format as I had to reach classmates and the professor via email when I had questions (often). The delay time in email makes homework take much longer than an in-person class where I see the professor more frequently.
The assigned readings were helpful
The online assignments were the most helpful form of practice in the they forced us to really practice coding in R. homework
We had a lot of collaboration time in class which was helpful to better understand the material. Working in a group is always a good way to clarify ideas and get different perspectives on the material.
It helped me by using different forms of learning to help explain the subject matter.

In what ways could the on-line offering be improved to increase your learning

Comment
No suggestions.
There seemed to be a lot of technical problems - much moreso than other semesters - which ended up a distraction to the learning process
The course was dry overall so nothing much could have improved the learning. It was hard to enjoy the material which is no fault of the professor.
This course could have been more collaborative, since the skill level some people have on some of this stuff varies widely.
n/a
more collaboration with the students/professor.

What were the strong points of the instructor **Grant Fiddymment**?

Comment

Real life insight and technical skills

Prof. Fiddymment used our class time wisely with review of R scripts from lectures and then with breakouts, which were extremely helpful. He was approachable and very knowledgeable. Prof. was willing and able to assist students with projects, HW and general questions to ensure we were understanding concepts taught in class. I understand he is a first-time professor, although you would never guess unless you told us!

He's knowledge of the issues and his ability to engage with us and answer our questions. He was generally always available by email or during office hours to answer questions.

I will note personally, that he was very accommodative of my work schedule, allowing me to take the final early as I was flying to Europe.

Positive learning environment - even though this course had some very difficult material, several students I'd seen struggle in other classes were successful and contributing. Great job of relating the course content to practical business applications, sometimes that can get lost with some of the real conceptual topics.

Very Knowledgeable

Helped outside of class twice.

He was efficient and organized with his lectures

He was very knowledgeable about the course material based on his experience in the field.

very demanding, forcing you to really practice with the concepts for better learning compared to other instructors.

- Quick response, always offers to help and provides MEANINGFUL feedback, which is the best!

Grant Fiddymment was always available via email, class or office hours. He had great feedback to improve the work quality.

I could tell he was very knowledgeable about the subject. He was also willing to help when I needed it. I could tell he was eager and excited to teach this subject and likes teaching in general.

What were the weak points of the instructor **Grant Fiddymment**?

Comment

NA

I don't have any.

None immediately come to mind, one of the best instructors in this program!

Slow at responding on weekend. Being a grad student and working full time, I have to do most of my work on the weekend so when questions cannot get answered it messes up my timing.

He was a good professor overall

Sometimes the work became overwhelming, even while only taking one other class.

Nonw

No powerpoint with his interpretation of the material.

I feel like he had a hard time explaining things in a way that made it simple for someone who is very new to this subject and using R (me). There were helpful resources I found that helped me throughout the course, and I don't know how I would have done in the course had I not found those resources. This is a very difficult subject matter that takes someone who is very good at explaining things to help make sense of it.

Please share any suggested improvements for the instructor **Grant Fiddymment**.

Comment

Perhaps use two monitors to teach (so that students can be seen when reviewing lessons in R studio). *Common issue with professors, may need to suggest to all professors in online programs*

Individual Teacher Report for 2017S-ITEC-621-010 Predictive Analytics (Grant Fiddymnt)

Overall, Professor Fiddymnt was by far my favorite professor to date, making ITEC 621 my favorite class in this program thus far.

The breakout sessions were very valuable, but there didn't seem to be much variety in the group assignments. Not sure if this was due to the chat software or the instructor, but I think it would have been beneficial to get mixed around with other students.

More discussion on why we are writing code or the ways that code can be used, as opposed to just showing code and saying "this is how we do a ggplot", for example.

A slide or powerpoint with his interpretation of the material covered in class available to students.

Try to think of this subject as someone who is brand new when explaining it to students.

What were the strong points of the course?

Comment

Ability to use R studio a powerful tool with real world application

Packed with information! It was amazing to walk away with so much applied knowledge of R & predictive analytics.

Learning R and going more in depth into all of the models and the analytics cycle.

Extremely high quality in every regard, I can say without hesitation that every student had the resources available for a high end learning experience. I also liked that appropriate attention was allocated to refreshers from previous courses.

NA

A lot of information.

The information of tools to help derive answers

I feel like a better asset to companies because of the skills I learned in this course (mainly R).

I liked learning more about R and interpreting data.

It is a very important and interesting subject. I can see how it is applicable to the career path I want to take.

What were the weak points of the course?

Comment

Packed with information! Lectures were a very long (almost by 2x other courses), but necessary to conceptually understand course content.

None to provide.

There seemed to be great variance in the workload from week to week. Most weeks required about 4-6 hours, but I can think of a couple in particular that were 10+. Considering most students in this program are working professionals, getting bombed with a heavy week like that can make things extremely difficult.

NA

Again, a lot of information. This was good and bad as we had access to so much, but not enough time or instruction. Between 2KSB videos, knowledge checks, reading, assignments, ITEC 621 Scripts review, and Lynda, I couldn't keep up.

The course was too code heavy for beginners

Again, sometimes overwhelming.

Short time on R resulting in a steep learning curve.

I think I needed to learn R much more. I was given 1 weeks worth of class and some scripts to try and figure it out (with the help of the professor), and I felt that I spent most of my time trying to figure out how to code R correctly rather than learn the important skill of being able to interpret the data and know when to use certain models/testing methods.

Please share any suggested improvements for the course.

Comment

This was my favorite class of the MS in Analytics program to date. I felt like I really learned useful material and learned

how to code.

I think it would be beneficial to add a First Draft of the Term Project as a deliverable. Then students can use the feedback to develop a better end product.

NA

n/a

Provide more resources to learn R.