

Individual Teacher Report for 2018F-ITEC-621-021 Predictive Analytics (Grant Fiddymnt)

American University Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET)

Project Audience 8
Responses Received 8
Response Ratio 100%

Creation Date Wed, Dec 19, 2018



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:

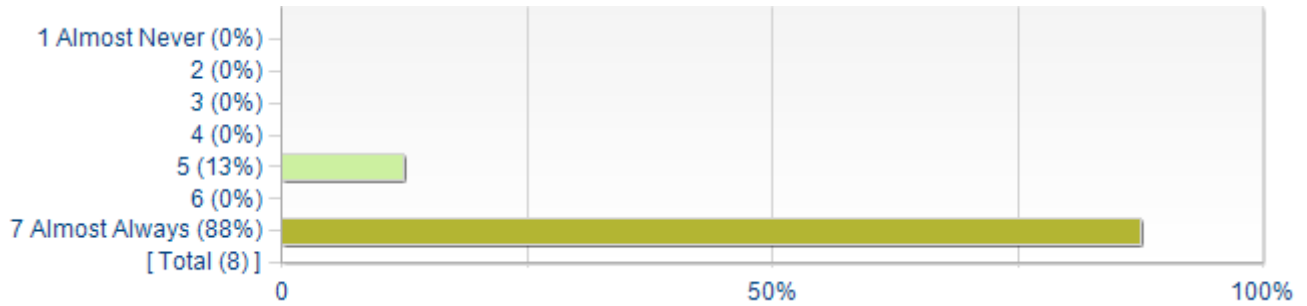
- Almost Never
- Not Satisfied
- Strongly Disagree

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 Fiddymont	ITEC-621-021 Predictive Analytics

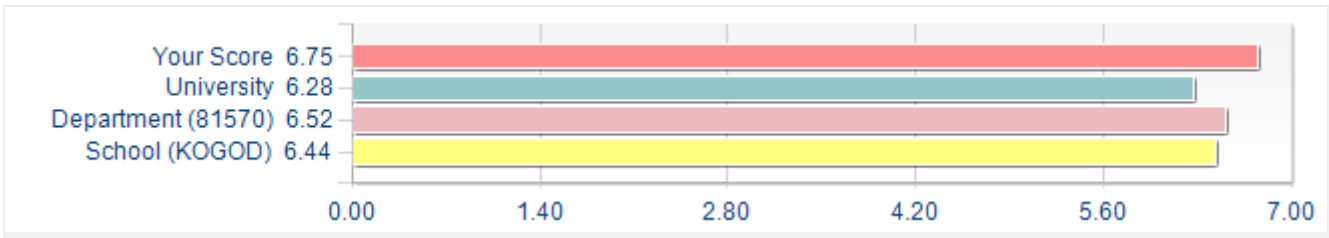
Questions relating to Grant Fiddymont

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

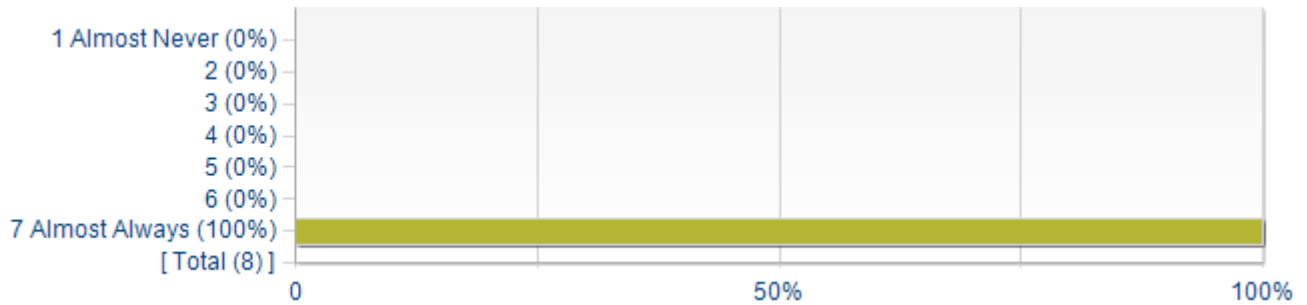


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.75
Standard Deviation	+/-0.71

Comparative Scores:

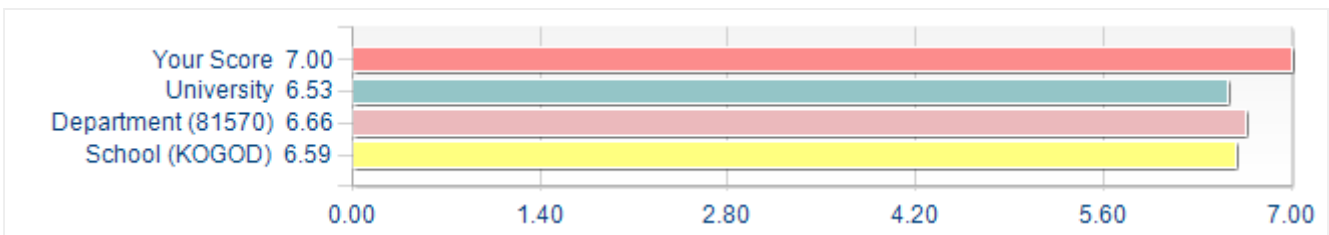


The instructor **Grant Fiddymont** was open to questions and comments.

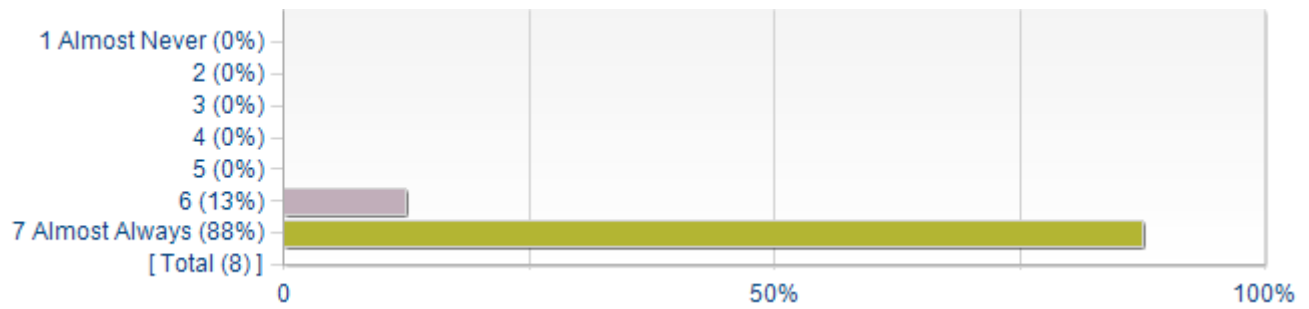


Statistics	Value
Mean	7.00
Standard Deviation	+/-0.00

Comparative Scores:

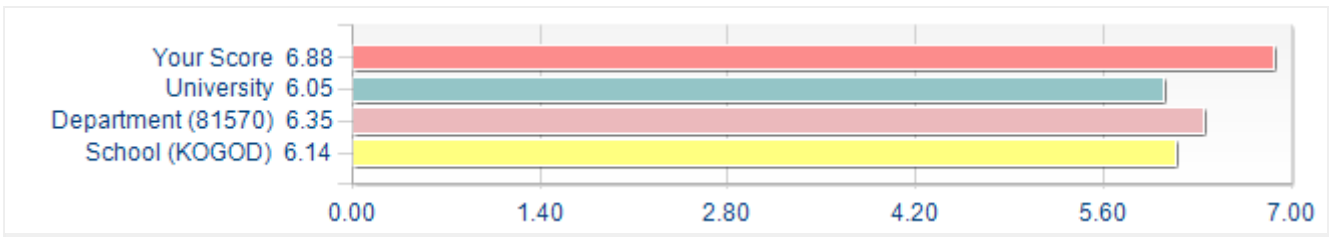


The instructor **Grant Fiddymont** provided useful feedback on tests, papers, discussions, etc.

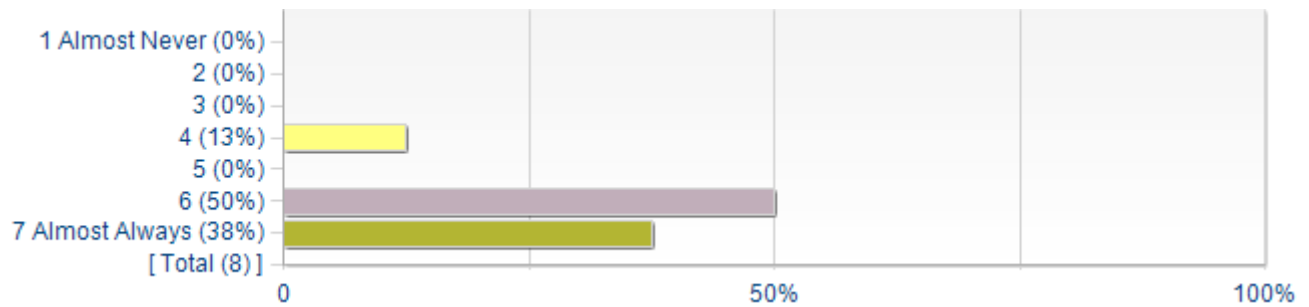


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.88
Standard Deviation	+/-0.35

Comparative Scores:

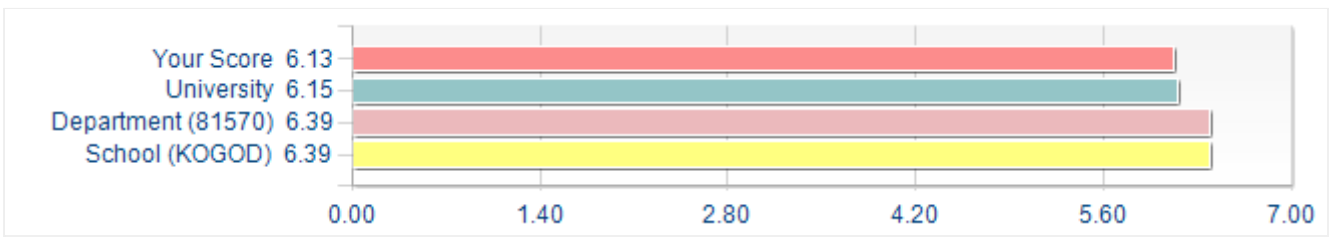


The instructor **Grant Fiddymont** returned work in a timely manner.

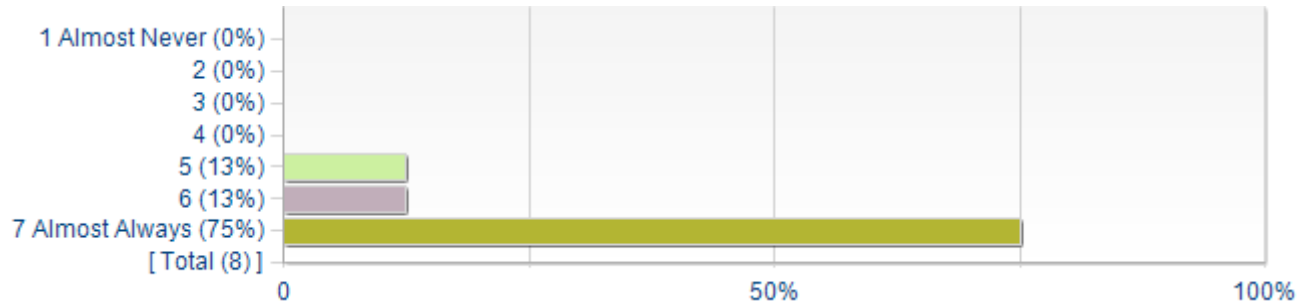


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.13
Standard Deviation	+/-0.99

Comparative Scores:

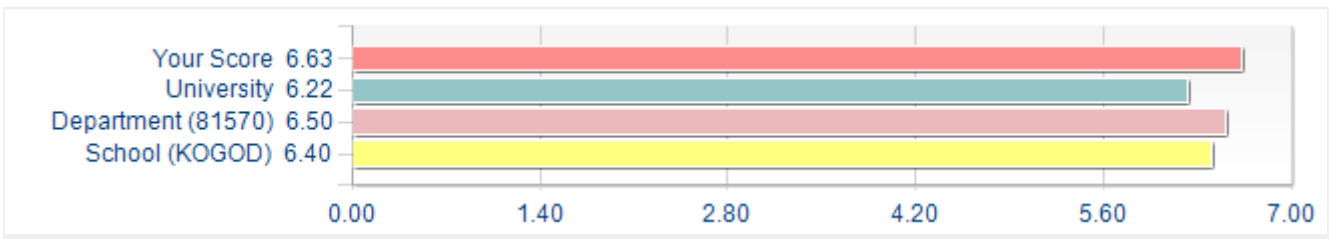


The instructor **Grant Fiddymt** required high levels of performance.

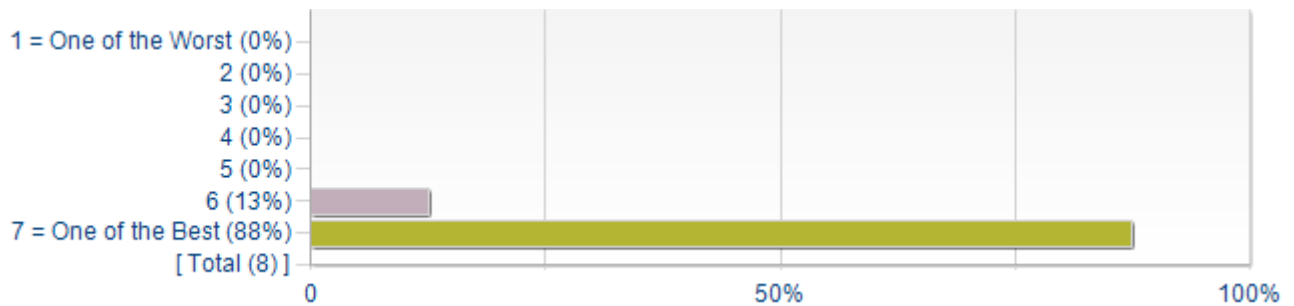


Statistics	Value
Mean	6.63
Standard Deviation	+/-0.74

Comparative Scores:

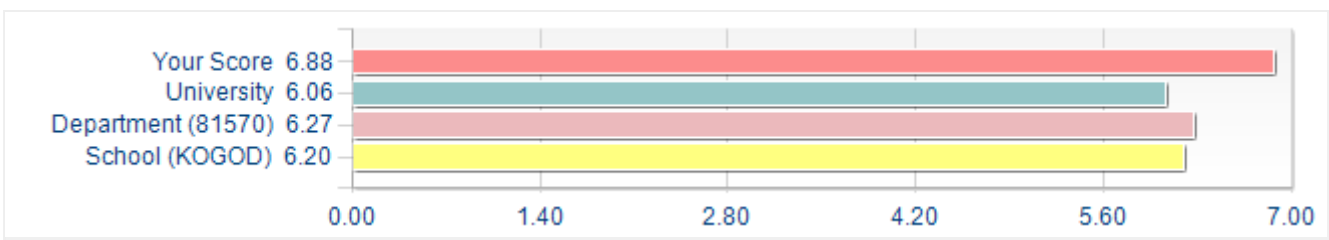


On a scale of one to seven, overall this instructor was...



Statistics	Value
Mean	6.88
Standard Deviation	+/-0.35

Comparative Scores:



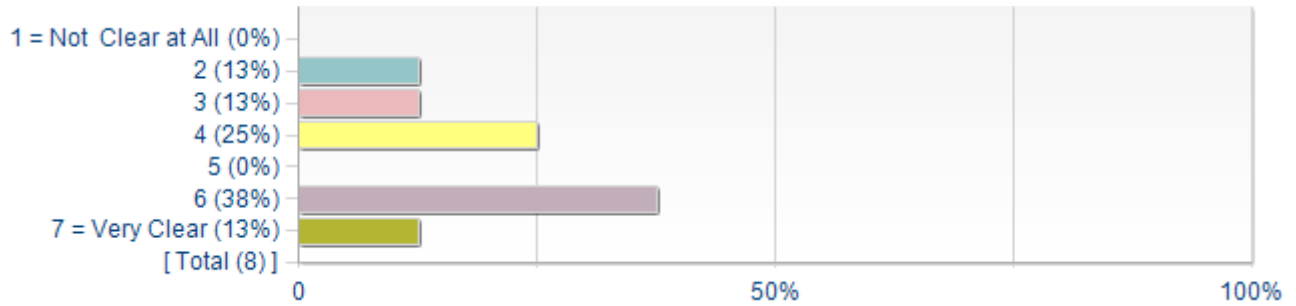
Instructor related questions summary: Top and bottom values

Strengths			
1	The instructor was open to questions and comments.	Instructor	7.00
2	The instructor provided useful feedback on tests, papers, discussions, etc.	Instructor	6.88

Areas for Improvement			
1	The instructor returned work in a timely manner.	Instructor	6.13
2	The instructor required high levels of performance.	Instructor	6.63

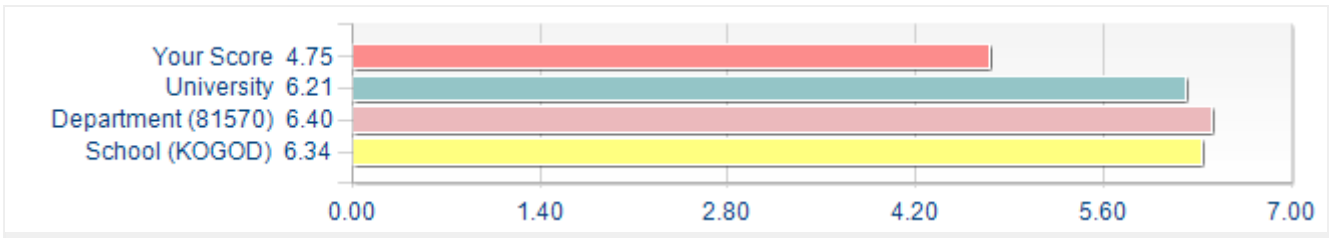
Course Questions

The learning objectives for this course were clear.

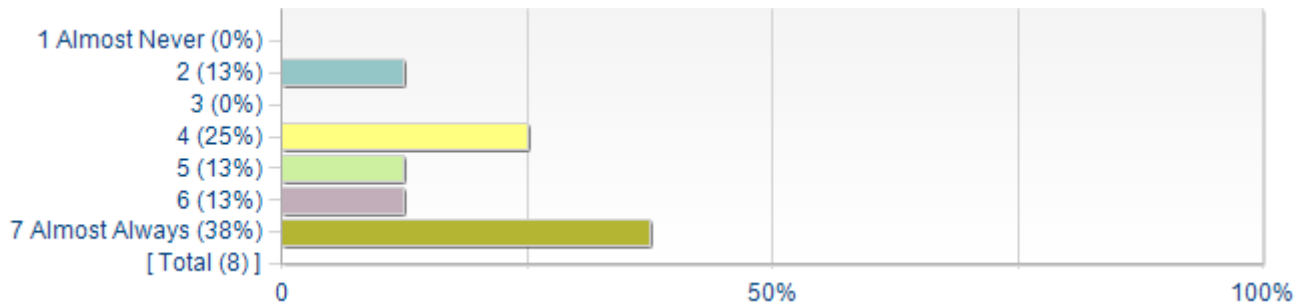


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.75
Standard Deviation	+/-1.75

Comparative Scores:

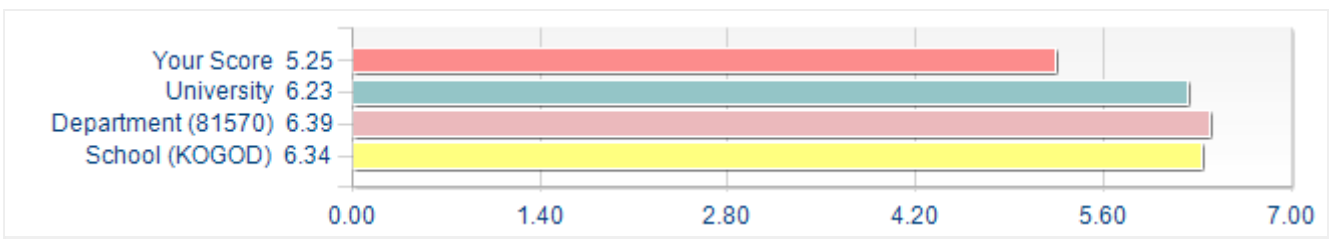


Activities/assignments required for class contributed to meeting the learning objectives for this course.

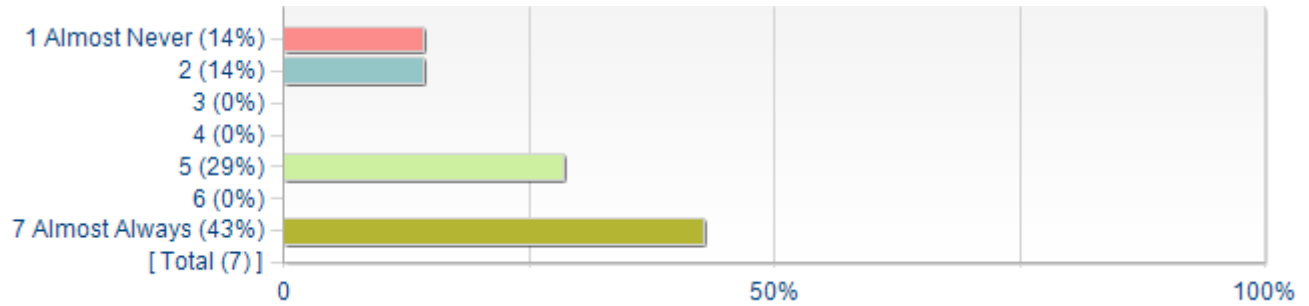


Statistics	Value
Mean	5.25
Standard Deviation	+/-1.83

Comparative Scores:

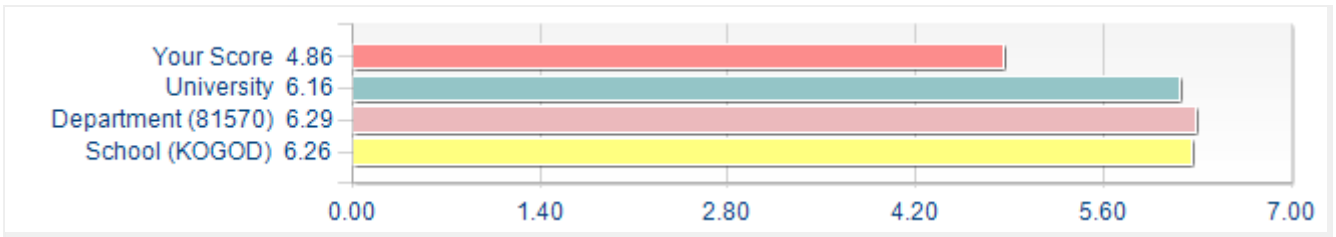


Materials required for this course contributed to meeting the learning objectives.

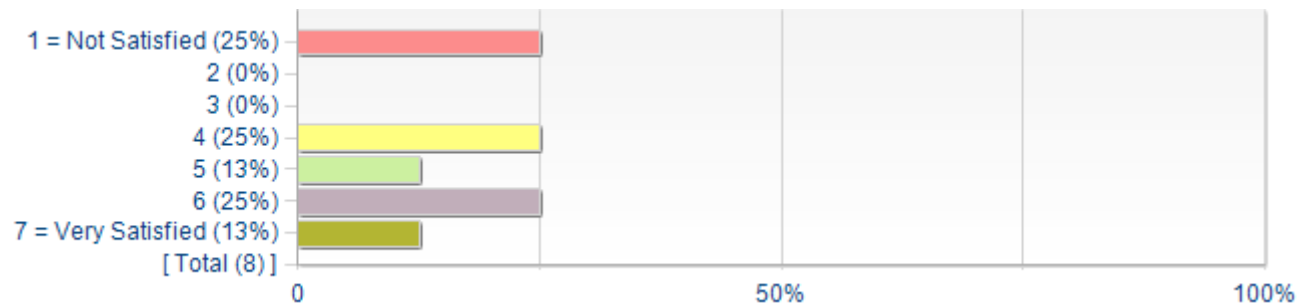


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.86
Standard Deviation	+/-2.48

Comparative Scores:

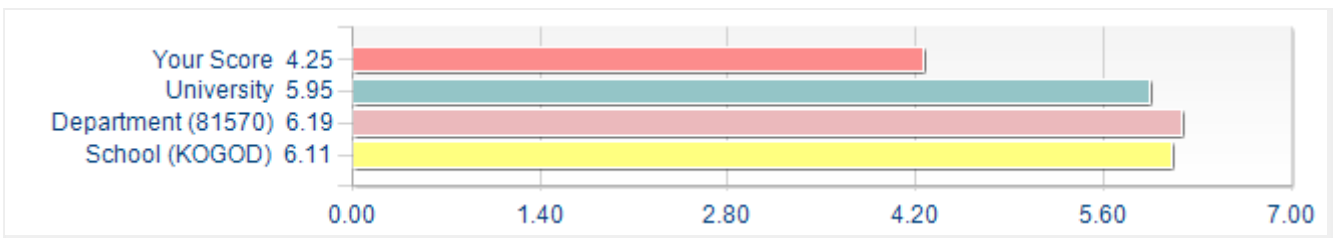


I am satisfied with what I learned in this course.

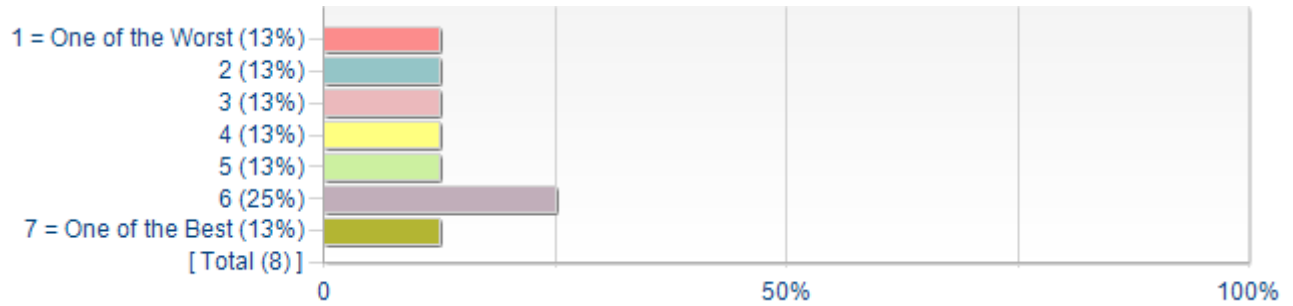


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.25
Standard Deviation	+/-2.25

Comparative Scores:

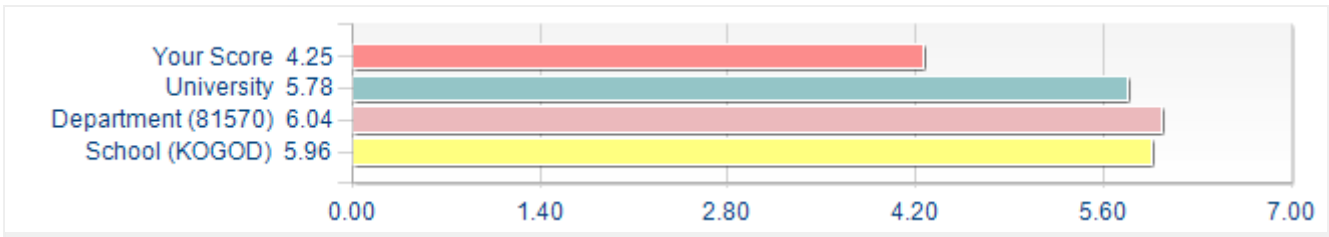


On a scale of one to seven, overall this course was...

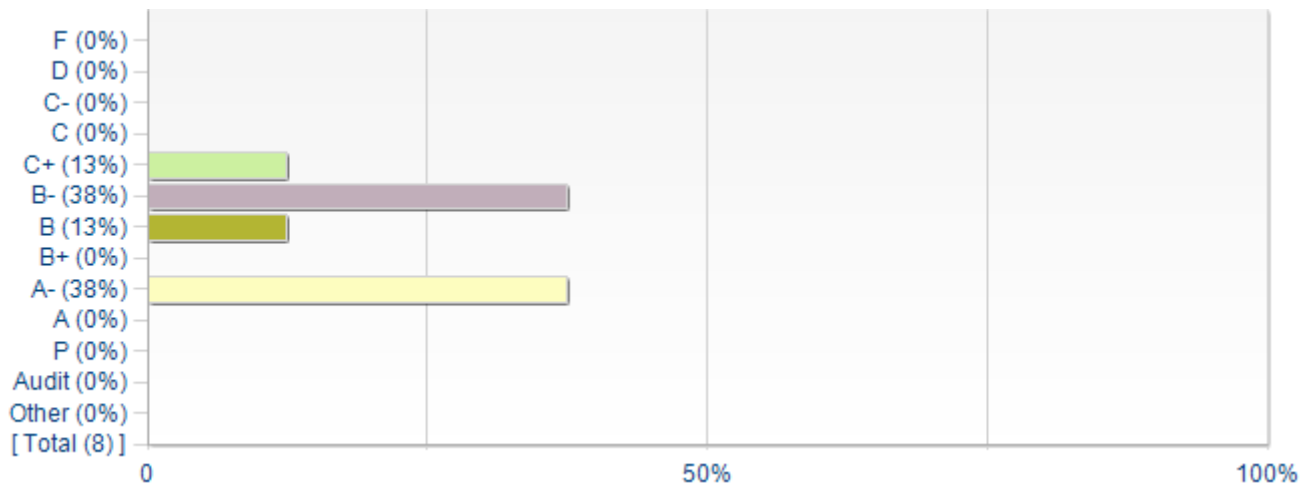


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.25
Standard Deviation	+/-2.12

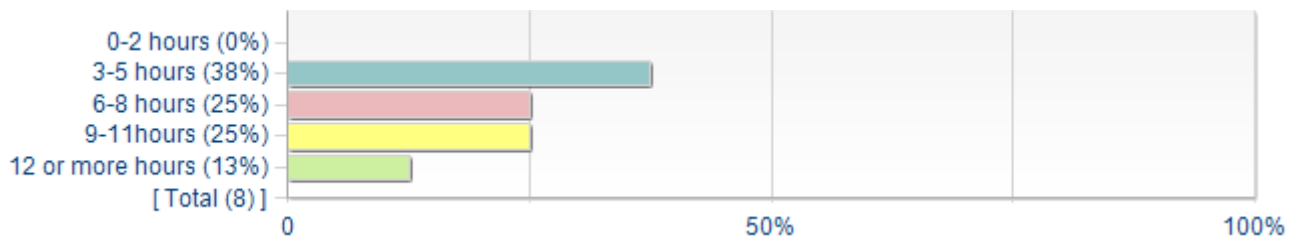
Comparative Scores:



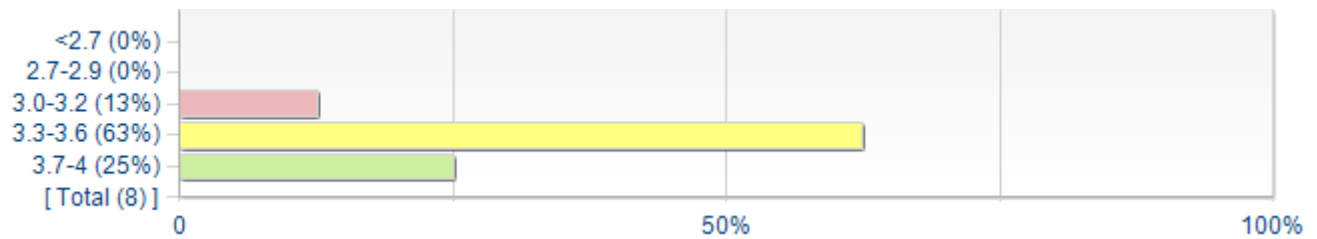
What grade do you expect in this course?



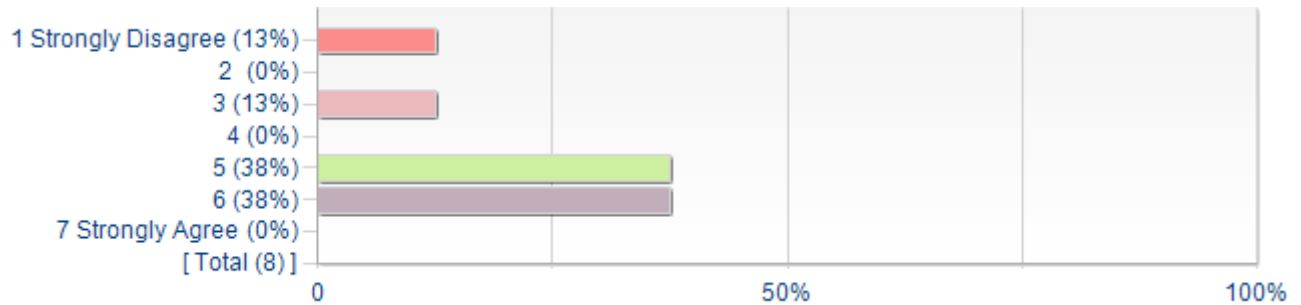
Indicate the average number of hours per week you worked on assignments and studied for this course



Estimated cumulative GPA. First semester students should leave this blank

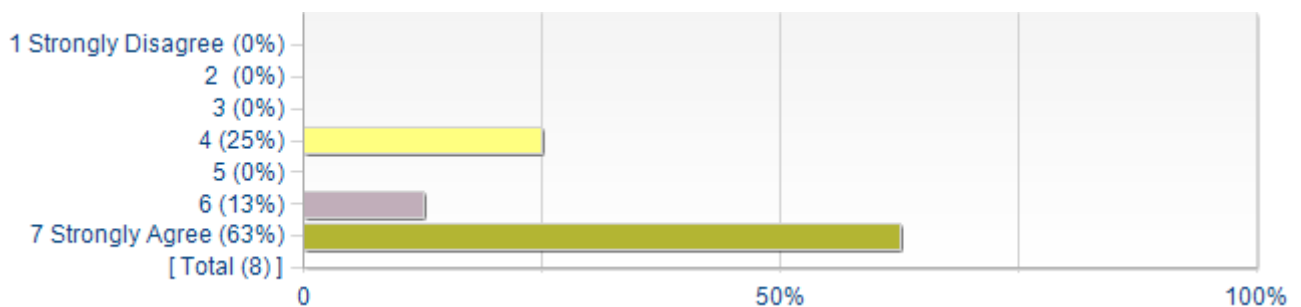


I gained a good understanding of concepts and principles in this field.



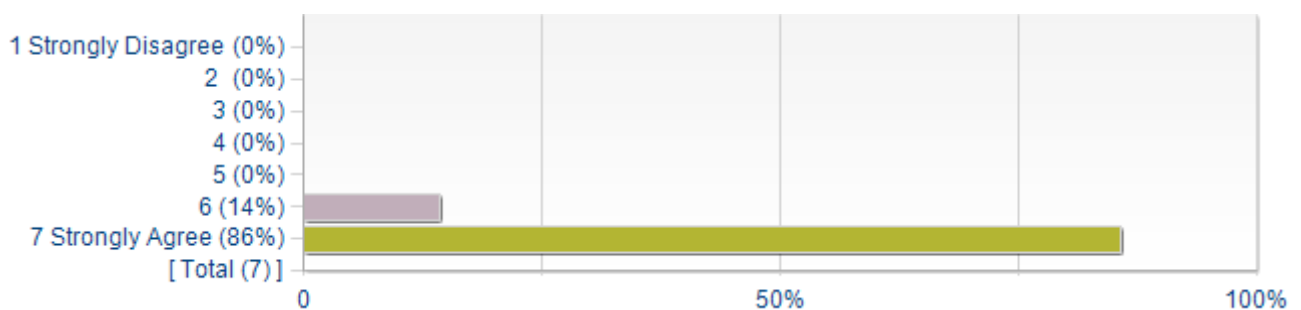
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.63
Standard Deviation	+/-1.77

The instructor stresses important points in lectures or discussions.



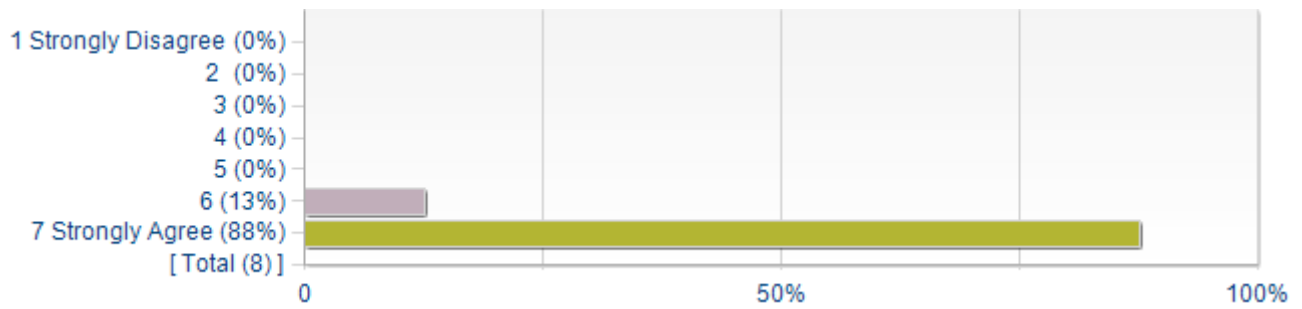
Statistics	Value
Mean	6.13
Standard Deviation	+/-1.36

The instructor is enthusiastic.



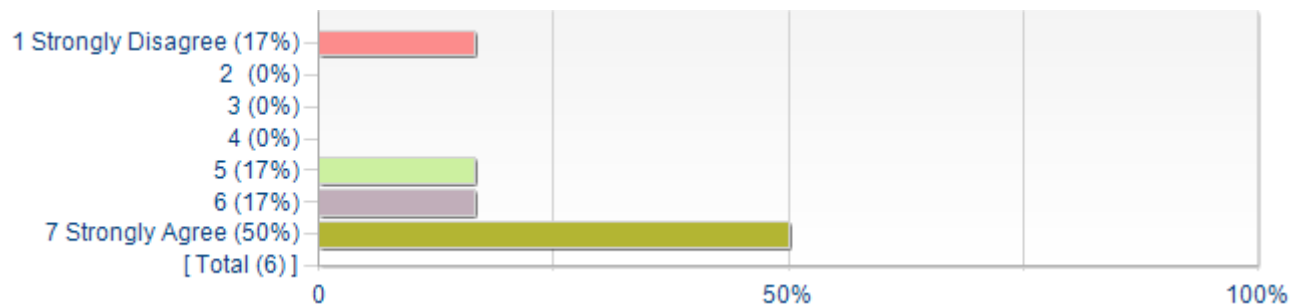
Statistics	Value
Mean	6.86
Standard Deviation	+/-0.38

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	6.88
Standard Deviation	+/-0.35

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	5.50
Standard Deviation	+/-2.35

Questions relating to Grant Fiddymont

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

Comment
It doesn't enhance the experience or take away from it.
I provided me with the flexibility to work and study.
Ability to collaborate with people across all spectrums
Was able to study at my own pace
Allowed me to watch videos multiple times if necessary
I didn't. With my learning style, i believe i needed more hand holding to better learn the r script material.
You are able to bring together a wide diverse student population that aren't tied to a specific geographic region.

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

Comment
Not much of it was helpful for this course.
They were quite useful when combined with other online resources.
Professor did a great job of utilizing all resources and making sure people had what they needed
it was good to watch videos and go over what was learned in class
The course materials were poorly put together. They do not teach R script properly.
It all directly applies to truly knowing how to do business analytics outside of an academic environment.

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

Comment
Nothing specifically on-line.
course could be broken out into two parts, one for R only and another for statistics and R
Introduce R sooner into other classes.
I have an older iPad that doesn't have the latest iOS software. As a result I am unable to download the AU app to this iPad, which would have been nice.

What were the strong points of the instructor Grant Fiddymont?

Comment
He's very good about maintaining an open line of communication for questions. He also listened to our pain points when it came to the homework.
He is very understanding, patient and clearly sets expectations.
Grant has a great understanding and knowledge base of the material. He did an awesome job of explaining this complex topics in a way that everyone could understand.
Clear explanations and his patience walking through some of the more difficult concepts
He was willing to help and explained difficult concepts in a simplified way.
He has real-world experience and was able to speak to that and apply it in class. He also brought out the important points that were most relevant to the class. He was also very willing to help out with any questions we had regarding homework.
He has extensive knowledge in R
Professor Grant Fiddymont is a fantastic instructor. This class is my first exposure to R and he did a great job of breaking down the complexities of R and predictive analytics into a two-hour class that I really enjoyed attending each week.

What were the weak points of the instructor Grant Fiddymont?

Comment

Could be a bit more responsive, especially during finals.

He can be sometimes a little short on explanations related to more in-depth topics.

I think overall, the course just lacks some definition and is widely different from the other Analytics courses.

Not really any weak points, but at the beginning of the class when first using R pulling documents directly into R through GIT hub was extremely challenging

None! He Rocks!

I think he should practice teach R code into layman terms.

None.

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

Comment

Professor Fiddyment is doing a great job, keep it up.

I think that the instructor was excellent, he is extremely knowledgeable and is able to get through most (if not all) of the material every week.

Provide more insight on what to be expected from students for the term project as well as the final.

I would skip telling students to download course materials from Github as I think for most it probably just confused them.

Dive into r code further rather than the power point slides.

Perhaps assign the course projects earlier in the class. Since many, if not all, of the the students took ITEC 620, we are familiar with the descriptive analytics and could begin working on the project earlier.

What were the strong points of the course?

Comment

It gave me an introduction to R.

Contents is very powerful and RStudio is very useful.

These are useful concepts to understand and go a long way in the workplace

Learning coding language R

Good high-level overview of predictive analytics.

None

Professor Fiddyment did a great job of breaking down the complexities of R and predictive analytics into a two-hour class that I really enjoyed attending each week.

What were the weak points of the course?

Comment

This is entirely too much material to be covered in one 10-week course. First, I don't feel that our statistics pre-requisite came even close to preparing me for this class. It would be nice to have two courses, one devoted to the modeling methods as a continuation of statistics and then another class devoted to R so we could actually become proficient in the language. I simultaneously took a 10-week course on Python; I feel way more comfortable using Python for analysis than I do R.

The project can be a little ambitious without proper guidance.

I felt the way they were framed within the course wasn't extremely applicable to real world application

Not having enough time to fully get immersed in the course work.

There is too much material for students with no programming experience. They are learning both R and statistics at the same time.

This course did not do a good job of teaching R. I had to google everything.

Just how much weight R is placed on this course, yet there is absolutely no exposure to this complex computer language prior to this class.

Please share any suggested improvements for the course.

Comment

Completely change it.

Smaller, more frequent assignments or recommended problems to work on to help students increase their understanding of the models, methods and how they are used in RStudio. RStudio is cumbersome, even on powerful computers. There are other free solutions for working with R like R Tools for Visual Studio, which can be an add-on for Visual Studio Community (free). Also it would be nice if the course or the instructor provided more highlights regarding the concepts or processes that are needed for the project.

Introduce R in an earlier course.

The videos after week 3 were trash. They speak to r script in theory do not show the necessary steps to achieve the intended result.

ITEC 621 is really two classes in one. The first part of the class is graduate level predictive analytics, and the second is a graduate class in R. I seriously recommend that American University removes ITEC 670, Database and Big Data from the analytics program and instead substitute it with a class in R. AU truly has done its students a disservice by introducing R so late in the program. Next, there must be synchronization between ITEC 620, Business Insights through Analytics and 621. If removing 670 is too difficult a recommendation to implement, which I realize it almost certainly is, then in 620 is where R MUST be introduced. I know 620 is for MBA students, but there needs to be breakout video lecture series in R tailored to the analytics students. For example, please take a look at lecture 2.6.2 Measures of Variability Excel Demonstration in ITEC 620 and instead of the lecture discussing Excel, replicate it and discuss R.