

Concepcion, Brandon (DATA C8 LEC 001 Foundations of Data Science (EVAL FOR GSI)) - Summer 2024 (Instructor Version)

Project Title: Summer 2024 Evaluations

Courses Audience: **282**Responses Received: **221**Response Ratio: **78.37**%

Subject Details	
Name	DATA C8 LEC 001 Foundations of Data Science (EVAL FOR GSI)
DEPT_NAME	DATA
DEPT_FORM	DATA
EVALUATION_TYPE	G
First Name	Brandon
Last Name	Concepcion

Creation Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Please note that "Department Mean" for each rating question is calculated using all sections in your department. This may include both Faculty and GSIs depending on whether the department has selected a question item to be used for both.

UNIVERSITY WIDE QUESTIONS (QUANTITATIVE/RATING):

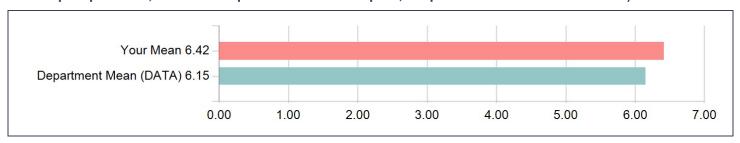
The items in this section are asked across all courses at Berkeley.

The GSI's instructional activities, contributions, and/or feedback enhanced my learning. ("Learning" may include gaining mastery of course content and new skills, exposure to new methodologies and modes of critical thinking, and extending the ability to express oneself on the topics treated in the course.)



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Options	Count	Percentage	
1-Strongly disagree	1	3.03%	
2-Disagree	0	0.00%	
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%	
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	6.06%	
5-Agree Somewhat	0	0.00%	
6-Agree	11	33.33%	
7-Strongly agree	19	57.58%	
Statistics		Value	
Response Count		33	
Mean		6.30	
Median		7.00	
Standard Deviation	Standard Deviation 1.24		

The GSI created an environment in which I could feel included (for example, encouraged multiple voices/perspectives, welcomed questions and critiques, responded to student feedback).



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Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	1	3.03%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	6.06%
5-Agree Somewhat	0	0.00%
6-Agree	7	21.21%
7-Strongly agree	23	69.70%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		33
Mean		6.42
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		1.25

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS:

Items in this section were selected by DATA for inclusion on this evaluation.

The instructor presented content in an organized manner.



The instructor presented content in an organized manner.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	5.88%
5-Agree Somewhat	0	0.00%
6-Agree	12	35.29%
7-Strongly agree	20	58.82%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		34
Mean		6.47
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.79

The instructor developed my abilities and skills for the subject.



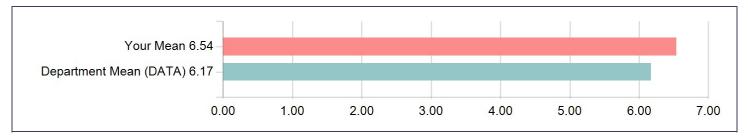
The instructor developed my abilities and skills for the subject.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	5.88%
5-Agree Somewhat	1	2.94%
6-Agree	10	29.41%
7-Strongly agree	21	61.76%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		34
Mean		6.47
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.83

The instructor explained concepts clearly.



The instructor explained concepts clearly.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	5.71%
5-Agree Somewhat	0	0.00%
6-Agree	13	37.14%
7-Strongly agree	20	57.14%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		35
Mean		6.46
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.78

The instructor encouraged student questions.



The instructor encouraged student questions.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	5.71%
5-Agree Somewhat	1	2.86%
6-Agree	8	22.86%
7-Strongly agree	24	68.57%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		35
Mean		6.54
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.82

I would recommend this instructor to others.



I would recommend this instructor to others		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	5.71%
5-Agree Somewhat	0	0.00%
6-Agree	10	28.57%
7-Strongly agree	23	65.71%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		35
Mean		6.54
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.78

What do you think are the strengths of this instructor?

Comments

Explaining everything clearly, demonstrating concepts in a simple and fun way, engaging and relating with students while teaching

Great interaction with students, relatable

N/A

n/a

Excellent GSI, great at explaining concepts. He was a highlight of the course.

Bing does a great job facilitating our lab sessions. His slides are always very organized and informative. When I'm feeling uncertain about a certain topic, coming to lab always helps me get a better understanding of it. Overall, Bing does a great job at teaching and helping us learn the concepts.

N/a

Friendly and cool guy. Encourages students to engage in lecture

Explains very well.

n/a

N/A

N/A

10/10 instructor, keeps us engaged in the section and answers questions clearly. 10/10 guy too. Bing for president.

The presentations were always visual, clear, and engaging. I especially enjoyed the icebreakers at the start as they developed a strong sense of community during the lab. Moreover, Bing's explanations of topics and answers to questions were extremely important in my overall understanding of the course material.

He was good at keeping the class engaged by having fun icebreakers, cool slides, and facilitating a nice environment that felt natural. His slides and mini–lectures were also very helpful, and it was where I was able to learn the topics the most, even if it was a quick summary. He was an overall great UGSI who cared for our academic success in the course, and it was great having him for labs and discussions.

Understands how to explain the material in an accessible manner.

Patience.

I liked how friendly he was and supportive of students!!

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N/A

Giving examples and elaborating on the topics

well-organized

Bing was an amazing instructor during discussion and lab. I was often excited to go to section because he always kept it a fun environment. Approachable, chill, and very knowledgable. Since I was unable to attend many lectures, he essentially taught me the entire course through lab and it was super effective. I'd definitely recommend him to other students/courses.

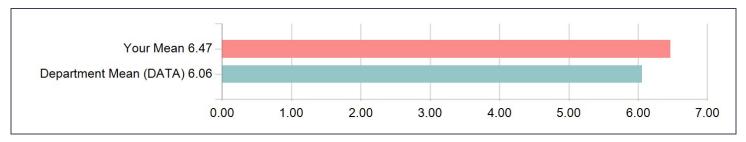
They were nice

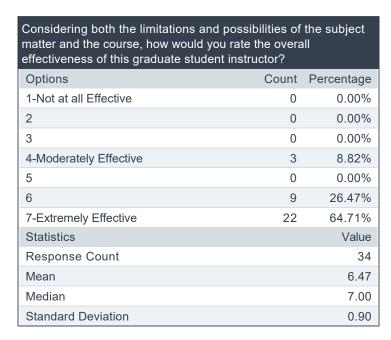
This instructor was absolutely excellent it shocked many of us students that this was his first time instructing. The mini-lectures and explanations for the lab worksheets were expertly done. The slides used for both effectively demonstrated the concepts and the instructor did a good job at answering questions. It is no doubt that Instructor Concepcion's skill contributed to us having the highest median score for the midterm exam, and I expect the same result for the upcoming final exam.

N/A

He is a charismatic tutor who used a good blend of humour and pop culture references to make the environment in the class a lively and conducive one for learning. He has an outstanding ability to capture the attention of the class and commands good speaking skills which makes paying attention in his sections easy. He is very articulate when clarifying any questions asked about the subject material. His teaching aids (ie. slides) were very well—made and it was evident that significant time and effort was put into preparing for each section. I cannot speak highly enough of him, I think he has been outstanding and his classes were a joy to be in.

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?

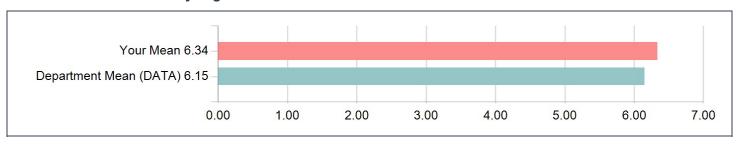




DEPARTMENT PROVIDED COURSE QUESTIONS:

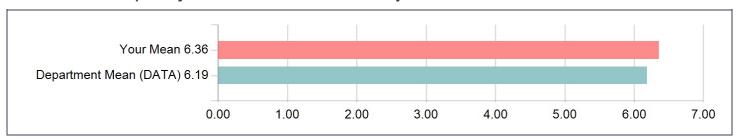
Items in this section were selected by DATA for inclusion on this evaluation.

The course was effectively organized.



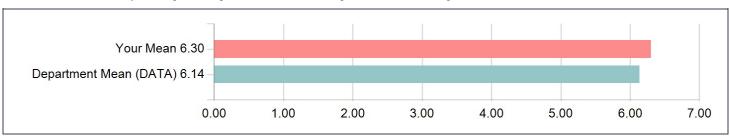
The course was effectively organized.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	3	3.49%
5-Agree Somewhat	11	12.79%
6-Agree	26	30.23%
7-Strongly agree	46	53.49%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		86
Mean		6.34
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.83

The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.



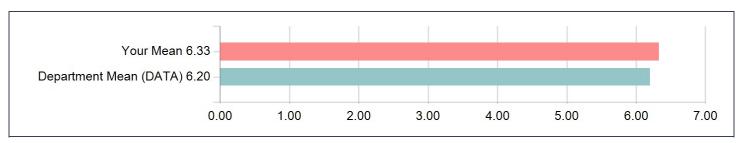
The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	2.41%
5-Agree Somewhat	8	9.64%
6-Agree	31	37.35%
7-Strongly agree	42	50.60%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		83
Mean		6.36
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.76

The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.



The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	0	0.00%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	3	3.57%
5-Agree Somewhat	10	11.90%
6-Agree	30	35.71%
7-Strongly agree	41	48.81%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		84
Mean		6.30
Median		6.00
Standard Deviation		0.82

I would recommend this course to others.



I would recommend this course to others.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	1	1.16%
2-Disagree	0	0.00%
3-Disagree Somewhat	1	1.16%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	3	3.49%
5-Agree Somewhat	6	6.98%
6-Agree	27	31.40%
7-Strongly agree	48	55.81%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		86
Mean		6.33
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		1.03

What did you like about the course?

Comments
It's a good introductory data science course, I like their own independent datascience package and how everything is done in Jupyter notebooks
I liked the demos and table functions
N/A
na

Comments

The amount of resources and support. The variety of topics & examples.

very interesting topic

Everything. I feel well prepared for future coursework and look forward to declaring a DS minor.

This is where you will gain a very in-depth understanding of table manipulation, forecasting, and classification concepts through demonstrations and assignments.

I like how this course caters to students of different backgrounds in data science and acts a good introduction to the topic overall. I also like the amount of resources offered for students in this course.

How things are organized and labeled clearly.

I liked how even though the course was very fast paced, you always have a support system and help whenever you need it.

This was genuinely the most well–organized course I've taken at Berkeley so far. Staff are super approachable and helpful, and the material is broken down so effectively. This was my first exposure to any type of coding, but I felt like I wasn't in over my head due to the way the course was organized and the veritable army of staff who are always ready to help. I would recommend this course to everybody, regardless of major or interests!!

Data

The assignments were fun.

Lots of great context for each topic, including common mistakes and misconceptions.

The lab worksheets were helpful for relearning and applying what was learned during lectures.

I learned a lot of python

I liked how we used real world data.

This course created a newfound interest for me in statistics. Thanks to the case studies conducted throughout the homework assignments and projects, the course was quite fun.

It was extremely organized and the Ed was very well run.

It is exactly as advertised. I felt well prepared for the exams.

Introduced data science perfectly.

The lab worksheets were very helpful in having the students understand the concepts and its applications better, and also helped prepare for the exams. The structure of lab was also nice, allowing students to ask questions and get the help they need for homework and that day's lab from the UGSI and TAs present.

The concepts are nice and really gives an introduction to data science.

I love it.

more than enough of resources and helps

I like how well the skills learned here can be applied to my research.

She helped me a lot during the tutoring session.

It's an introduction course so it really starts from the basics which I like. Step by step, we are able to learn more about the data science module, whether that's through lab, lecture, or homework. Everything builds off the previous concept which I also enjoy. The people/staff are also very nice and genuinely care about you. They are super approachable and active on Ed if you have any questions.

Lab, lecture and homework are well-organized.

There are many times during the week for students asking any questions both on Ed and during OH.

All course staffs are great!! They helped me walking through many problems.

Very hands on and exploratory.

I just really appreciated how smoothly the course ran and how many resources were made available to students. Seeing a class of this scale provide significant opportunities and help to students is nice to see. I thought lectures were very effectively delivered and did a great job balancing the more abstract, theoretical statistics concepts with the practical programming skills.

Really interesting problems discussed in lecture and opened my eyes into data science case studies and how it has impacted the world. I've definitely felt inspired to continue data science as a career path.

The balance between coding and theory

the demos

Good content

interesting content. life-related problems to solve is interesting.

What, if anything, do you think would improve the course?

Comments

Spreading out the pace of projects a bit more (maybe have more smaller projects rather than 2 big ones? Or at least release project 2 a bit earlier than right before the final)

using pandas and other standard libraries rather than proprietary ones

N/A

na

The structure of lab section; having to do the lab within the second hour takes away focus from the lab worksheet.

Releasing labs, homework, emails, and feedback. Many times, homework would be released a day or two late. Many times, they would release the homework at 10 pm which is pretty much an entire day late, and not give an extension. The first email about the labs were released before the first day of class and closed the google forms by then. I wish they cancelled lab 1 and just let us know IN CLASS about the email.

I'm not sure how to alleviate the problem of fast pace in a summer course, but I know the timing of homework releases presented a challenge for myself and other students. We need more time to work the assignments and labs.

I think this class is perfect.

I would improve this course through making the lectures less demo-based and have more explanation on topics.

To improve the course, I believe it would be beneficial to provide more guidance on which topics are likely to be emphasized in the final exam each semester. This could include periodic updates or reviews from the instructor highlighting key areas of focus. Additionally, offering more practice exams that reflect the current semester's emphasis would help students better prepare for the final. These changes would help ensure that students can allocate their study time more effectively and address any areas where they might feel less confident.

More worksheets for extra practice on the different subjects we learn in class would be very helpful.

I don't think that there is much that can be done to improve this course — a little bit more delving into the theoretical statistical background before the first midterm could be nice, as I feel like I only had context for some of the answers due to AP Stats in high school.

N/A

n/a

Seriously examine the consistency of language. It is incredibly frustrating to be asked for specific language as a student, and marked down for not use the specific language, but then see that the course itself is not fully consistent in using this specific language.

I don't think there's much to improve with lab sections.

I think there could be more walkthroughs

N/A.

No major improvements could be made.

Nothing

It would have been nice if the UGSIs were able to take more time on the lab worksheets, going more in depth when explaining the concepts. However, this was difficult to do since it was usually a lengthy lab worksheet with not a lot of time to go over it. Other than that, I thought that lab was helpful and a great way to review the topics covered in lecture.

Allow students to use out-of-course knowledge instead of limiting them to use class contents only.

NA

none

There was one or two times when the lab was ahead of the lecture or the other way around which made things a bit confusing but it was manageable. Other than that, I think this course is awesome and doing a great job!

Maybe the solutions to lab and homework can be seen promptly after the due date, allowing students to quickly identify any mistakes they may have missed.

Nothing

I think having formal small groups in our discussion sections would be nice, since people don't really talk to each other or help each other with the discussion worksheets.

Very hands on learning and lots of help provided

Using pandas instead of the datascience library would be more practical and useful for the real world.

Less hw

nothing

Comments

A practice final

providing more HW extensions

What advice would you give to another student who is considering taking this course?

Comments

Do lab notebooks early so you can get checked off early and not have to sit an hour in lab session

Do practice midterms / finals

N/A

na

Ask for help, it only gets more complex.

check your emails, and ask many questions.

Attend every lecture and lab; be present during and do your due diligence before each section; ASK questions as often as possible. This is a course for curious people who want to learn!

In any case, work hard on assignments to gain more experience and understanding of implementation.

I would tell them to not get behind in the course since it is pretty fast paced.

Just practice*1000000

It is a very fun course with an engaging staff, you learn a lot about data science and can always have help readily available to you.

Actively try to complete the worksheets during section instead of waiting for the GSI to go over the answers, because they are really helpful! Also, the textbook is a really valuable asset that I don't think I utilized enough in the beginning/middle of the course.

N/A

Stay caught up on the material.

Triple check all specific language with multiple staff members. You don't want to get marked down on a test because you used wording directly from the textbook or a staff response, and it turned out that you were not using the expected wording.

Attend lab sections, they really help with learning the topics especially if you weren't able to attend lecture.

Attend your labs

Study and review frequently

Enjoy the many applications of data!

Read the textbook and look at the lecture slides if you can.

Initial knowledge of coding is not necessary.

Use all class resources like ed discussion.

I would tell them to go in with a mind to learn more and to not be afraid to ask questions, because the staff there are always willing to help.

Having a basis in Python will definitely help.

NA

read the textbooks

Please enroll

Going to the lab and tutoring sessions help a lot.

Take this course! It's an introduction course so you will start from the ground up. The homeworks and labs are super fun as you get to apply data science to real world issues and scenarios. The course staff and people are really cool; they want to see you grow and succeed.

If you're interested in the field of data science, you should definitely try this course! Taking this course will give you a clear understanding of how data is processed, and the knowledge covered (programming, statistics) is very practical.

Study hard

Just stay on top of lecture material and don't be afraid to ask questions.

Attend discussion/lab and submit assignments early for EC.

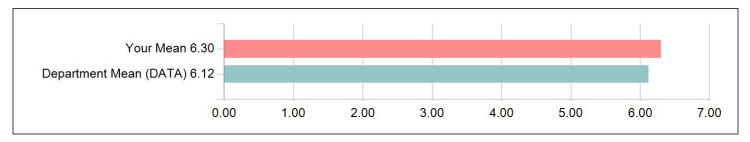
Learning some coding beforehand as it makes the course a lot easier

go to office hours

Study hard.

do more past exams, listen to lectures carefully

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?

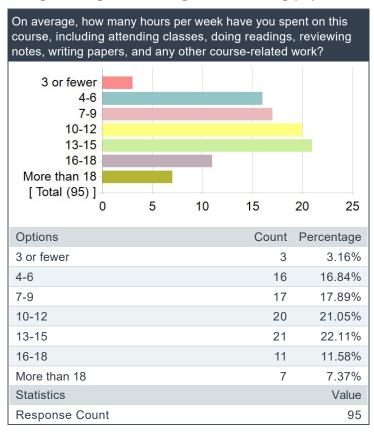


Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?					
Options	Count	Percentage			
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%			
2	0	0.00%			
3	0	0.00%			
4-Moderately Effective	2	2.38%			
5	11	13.10%			
6	31	36.90%			
7-Extremely Effective	40	47.62%			
Statistics		Value			
Response Count		84			
Mean		6.30			
Median		6.00			
Standard Deviation		0.79			

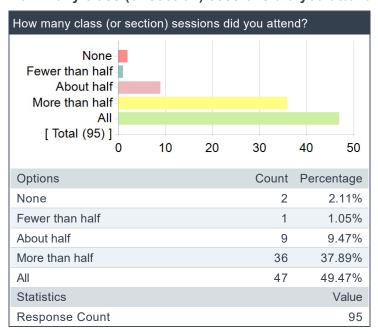
DEPARTMENT PROVIDED STUDENT INFORMATION QUESTIONS

Items in this section were selected by DATA for inclusion on this evaluation.

On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?



How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?



How satisfied were you with your effort in this course (or section)?

How satisfied were you section)?	ou with your	effort in thi	s course	e (or
1-Not at all 2 3 4-Somewhat 5 6 7-Very [Total (94)]				
0	10	20	30	40
Options			Count	Percentage
1-Not at all			0	0.00%
2			0	0.00%
3			3	3.19%
4-Somewhat			10	10.64%
5			21	22.34%
6			35	37.23%
7-Very			25	26.60%
Statistics				Value
Response Count				94