Evaluation GESIS Workshops

Introduction to R

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18.10. - 19.10.2021

Participants: 20

19 participants have answered the questionnaire.

Instructor/s

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	0	1	17	
The instructor/s is/are scientifically competent						n= 18.00 mean= 4.94 median= 5.00 SD= 0.24
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	2	3	13	
The instructor/s is/are didactically competent						n= 18.00 mean= 4.61 median= 5.00 SD= 0.70
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Course content

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	0	4	14	
The content of the course was well-structured						n= 18.00 mean= 4.78 median= 5.00 SD= 0.43
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	0	5	13	
The course content was in line with the course description						n= 18.00 mean= 4.72 median= 5.00 SD= 0.46
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	9	7	2	
How do you rate the amount of material covered? Was it…						n= 18.00 mean= 3.61 median= 3.50 SD= 0.70
too little	1	2	3	4	5	too much

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	0	3	15	
The course materials were useful						n= 18.00 mean= 4.83 median= 5.00 SD= 0.38
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Course implementation

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	1	17	0	0	
How do you rate the opportunities for discussion? Was it…						n= 18.00 mean= 2.94 median= 3.00 SD= 0.24
too little	1	2	3	4	5	too much

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	2	14	0	2	
How do you rate the amount of time for practical exercises? Was it…						n= 18.00 mean= 3.11 median= 3.00 SD= 0.76
too little	1	2	3	4	5	too much

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	2	2	11	3	
How do you rate the pace of the course? Was it...						n= 18.00 mean= 3.83 median= 4.00 SD= 0.86
too slow	1	2	3	4	5	too fast

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	1	5	12	
A link between theory and practice was made						n= 18.00 mean= 4.61 median= 5.00 SD= 0.61
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	7	10	1	0	
How do you rate the duration of the course? Was it…						n= 18.00 mean= 2.67 median= 3.00 SD= 0.59
too short	1	2	3	4	5	too long

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	0	4	14	
Overall, how would you rate the digital implementation of the event?						n= 18.00 mean= 4.78 median= 5.00 SD= 0.43
very bad	1	2	3	4	5	very good

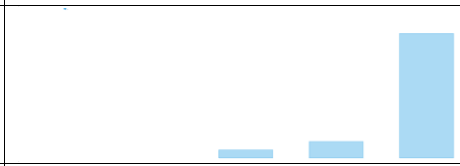
Participants previous knowledge and development

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	8	9	1	
How do you rate the level of difficulty of the course? Was it…						n= 18.00 mean= 3.61 median= 4.00 SD= 0.61
too easy	1	2	3	4	5	too difficult

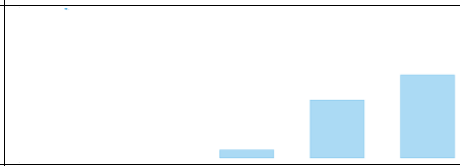
Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	2	6	6	4	
My previous substantial knowledge was sufficient						n= 18.00 mean= 3.67 median= 4.00 SD= 0.97
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	1	5	5	7	
My previous technical knowledge was sufficient						n= 18.00 mean= 4.00 median= 4.00 SD= 0.97
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	1	8	9	
The practical exercises enabled me to apply the treated procedures and methods myself						n= 18.00 mean= 4.44 median= 4.50 SD= 0.62
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	1	2	15	
I learned a lot in the course						n= 18.00 mean= 4.78 median= 5.00 SD= 0.55
strongly disagree	1	2	3	4	5	strongly agree

Overall assessment of the course

Absolute Frequency of answers:	0	0	1	7	10	
How satisfied are you with this course overall?						n= 18.00 mean= 4.50 median= 5.00 SD= 0.62
very dissatisfied	1	2	3	4	5	very satisfied

Open questions

What did you like about the course in particular?

Great material and very competent and friendly lecturers
Covered the major use cases for using R in social science. It wasn't just a generall overview.
It perfectly matched my way of working with data. The structure was just fitting for my personal preference of that. Also both lecturers were extremely fit and capable, almost intimidatingly so. ;) Asking stupid questions was not a problem and everything was adressed in a good way. I learnt what i came to learn - and even more! Also, in contrast to another R course i took vefore corona, this time i feel actually competent in doing at least a few useful things with it and also i feel confident that i have learnt enough to build on it myself from here on, because i have an understanding of some of the principles and i kind of know how to ask (google) the right questions.
you can learn from your on office (digital course)
- competent and nice lecturers - clear structure of the whole course - exercises were difficult, but very elaborated and helpful
the extremely well prepared and competent lecturers, everything was very straight forward planned, the didactic (first lecture then practice) was brilliant
How the teachers prepared and did it - it's a hard topic, but they managed!
organization broad overview touched several topics where we can progress from
Alternation of theoretical input and practical exercises Answering individual questions and solving problems (in breakout sessions, chat, audience) Instructors take into account different levels of prior knowledge
The course offered a great perspective on a new language. Both instructors were very competent and always kept in touch with a rather diverse crowd.
The lectures were very helpful and skilled and the material well prepared and thought-through
The link from theory to practice was excellent

What did you not like about the course?

Level of prior knowledge was very heterogenous. Therefore many questions on simplest problems with coding were raised.
- There was a bit too many exercises and to little explanation beforhand. - It would have also been nice to discuss the solution off the exercies to see how to get there.
It was too much for me. I guess that this was taken out of a course for students, where you have days inbetween to learn functions by heart and you have didactic goals that are going beyond the learning of R, like making students think about problems in a certain way etc. i think those parts should be left out here, as a couse like this has a different audience and timeframe and should have less "didactic layers" in my opinion. I would have structured the exercises differently, with a shallow start for each lesson or maybe with explicitly building up on each other (e.g. you already loaded the variable in excercise one, now we take that, but we add the function that changes its values to make it more interesting in excercise two". so the "mountain" of jst preparing data each time would not be as big. But that is just my personal idea of it and I have become lazy over the years. As student i wouldn't have complained about this, i guess ;)
- English language prevents from asking questions sometimes - 9 h - 18h is a very long time for an online course
speed of theoretical input was very fast (especially at the first day)
The crowd was a bit too heterogeneous.
For me personally it was rather fast and a lot of content covered for someone that never even seen the surface of R before
The pace

Do you have any further suggestions about the course?

Although it takes some time and many do not really like it, a very short round of introduction would have been nice to get a feeling for the direction from which people are coming to this course. Maybe it could also be implemented as short online questionnaire before the course such that the lecturers can present an overview on the composition of course participants
non other than those i already wrote down.
the pace is a little too high, I think it would be better, that these course R is a 3-day-course instead of a 2-day-course
I would have preferred the course to be split into three shorter days instead of two long days
suggestion: split up the course in shorter units (half-days) to be better able to rework, repeat the exercises, try out with the programme with own datasets and to catch up with the input and follow the later chapters e.g. 4x4 hours over one or two weeks (probably more difficult to organize?)
The group was quite heterogenous with regard to prior experience, which sometimes impaired me in my learning process- maybe it make it sense to offer an easier, slower course for absolute beginners as well?

Do you have any comments on the digital implementation of this event?

I am not sure if having breakout-rooms was realy necessary or was different from discussing in plenum.
It was beatifully done and very well executed!
it was a perfect arrangement without loss of learnig level
I loved it so far. Excellent teachers, very good material. I'm am very happy that I could attend it!
Unter den Umständen war es das Beste, was gemacht werden konnte.
Great!