

Columbia University: Arts & Sciences

A&S Fall 2022 Standard Evaluation

Course: PSYC 1610 - Statistics for Behavioral Scientists Fall 2022-PSYCUN1610_001_2022_3 - STATISTICS-BEHAVIORAL SCIENTISTS: PSYCW1610_001_2022_3_147745

Instructor: Katherine Fox-Glassman

TA: Yifan Yao, Jacob Edwards *, Wangjing Yu

Response Rate: 27/42 (64.29 %)

1 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of Jacob Edwards (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader) as an instructor, and how might Jacob Edwards's teaching be improved?

| Response Rate | 15/42 (35.71%) |
|--|----------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob was fabulous in being an understanding and informative TA. He was always accessible and accommodating and went the extra mile to help students better understand the material. Jacob has no weakness. He is brilliant in all aspects of statistics, and he can tell you a lot about psychology. Also, he is a god at R Programming. I did not see him make a typo or mislead us once regarding programming. He adds a lot of value to the course by explaining things in a manner that is easy to conceptualize for students who may be struggling. I probably would have quit school and run home crying while living out the rest of my days having nightmares about R programming and ANOVA if Jacob was not such a skilled teacher and practitioner in the subject material being taught in the course. He is fair and just with his grading and holds us to a high standard. He also breaks things down other than statistics and provides a professional level of mentorship, whether it's advice on grad school applications or life in general. The only thing I would suggest is adding an extra rating before Excellent in the "Overall teaching effectiveness scale." simply named JACOB. Jacobs's work ethic, ability to teach and humbleness is not statistically measurable with any mere Ordinal scale. It should be the standard in academia. Jacob has the potential to effectively lead teams in situations that center around complex academic requirements. Leadership involves a level of empathy, self-awareness, and personal sacrifice. During his time as a TA, Jacob demonstrated empathy by providing mentorship to students, practiced self-awareness, and made personal sacrifices by staying in office hours over his required time to assist students whose schedules did not line up. Thanks to Jacob's efforts and KFG's lectures I am 100x more confident in statistics than I was before the start of the semester. Amazing!! Though in the beginning, office hours were a bit scattered and disorganized, but by the end once we got in our flow it was much better. But overall Jacob was an amazing TA, always approachable, extremely friendly and more than willing to stay behind to thoroughly explain all questions. I'm so thankful that Jacob was one of the TAs this semester! I can't do my homework without Jacob. Even if I finished all the homeworks on my own, I still can't be sure whether I did them right, so going to Jacob's TA session became sort of a religion. He is a reliable existence that makes me feel so reassured when I find myself struggling with a homework problem. Excellent. Calm, patient, and always to the point in giving relevant information when the subject matter may be at times confusing. I always looked forward to his sections where initially the labs inspired fear. Very responsive, patient, and understanding! His office hours were absolutely crucial to my success in the course! It was such a blessing to have Jacob as a TA. He is always eager to help explain a concept and will go out of his way to ensure that everyone has what they need to be successful. He teaches by empowering students to answer their own questions, nudging in the right direction, and filling in gaps where needed. Jacob helps makes sure that the material is truly learned and not simply copied or memorized. Jacob is one of the most supportive people I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. He is responsive, encouraging, and highly knowledgeable. I have no critique, and only hope that he feels confident in his success with teaching, as he should! Very helpful and kind to all student. Eager to help everyone to understand what students do not know. He takes time to address all students' questions. He listens to students' needs and tries best to accommodate that. He uses good teaching methods such as drawing things on the board. He also encourages students to learn by trying to make us think, meaning, he doesn't just give answers away. Jacob gets an A+. I feel as though his presence and encouragement in the class greatly helped my learning and sense of ability. It was clear that he cared, which I feel is a rarity. Jacob loves to teach. You can see that every time you ask him a question. he is great at breaking things down and devotes a lot of time to helping students, and has an inordinate amount of patience. Jacob was my lab TA also, and again, he was incredibly helpful. I think Jacob understands that for a lot of these concepts there isn't an intuitive nature on how to go about solving the practice problems. So he doesn't spend his office hours making you guess - his office hours are so helpful in showing you things in detail and walking you through things. Connecting the specific equations in lecture and going about things in R. He treated us like adults and equals not kids looking for the easy way out for our homework. I know other TAs even in this same exact course won't do this for you and it just leaves you with unresolved answers. After Jacobs office hours I always feel more confident in my knowledge of the topic and how to solve future problems which I hope is the overall goal of this course. My only complaint which I know isn't something they can necessarily control but 2/3 of the TAs office hours were on the same day and back to back sessions. Leaving students who have Monday classes limited options to attend office hours for help. Which is really a disadvantage. I wasn't able to attend most of Jacobs office hours and I feel like if I had been my overall comprehension of this course would have been greatly impacted. Jacob's office hours were immensely helpful. (I noted a measurable increase in my grades after I began attending on a regular basis!) He was able to explain the relevant concepts succinctly and clearly, and though his office hours were nearly always full, he always made sure to get to everyone's inquiries about the course content. My experience in this course was definitely made better because of his teaching! Thank you, Jacob and all TAs! Jacob is the BEST!!!! His office hours became an absolutely indispensable part of the course for me and many of my classmates. No question is too small, and Jacob is willing to go through each tiny part of every problem until we all understand, often staying well past his office hours. His positive attitude and enthusiasm for our success was empowering and he is one of the main reasons I am doing well in this class. This class for a TA is incredibly demanding, and he really put in 110% into all of it. I can't even say how much I appreciate his work this semester. Jacob leads great office hours and has nice understanding of the material. He is also familiar with R and explains concepts patiently. | |

2 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of Jacob Edwards?

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | |
|-----------------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|----------|--------|--|--|
| Excellent | (5) | 16 | 88.89% | | 4.89 | | | |
| Very Good | (4) | 2 | 11.11% | | | | | |
| Good | (3) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | |
| Fair | (2) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | |
| Poor | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | |
| | | | | 0 25 50 100 | Question | | | |
| Response Rate | | | | Mean | STD | Median | | |
| 18/42 (42.86%) | | | | 4.89 | 0.32 | 5.00 | | |