Teaching evaluations

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The following numbers are **student-based teaching evaluations** of instructor effectiveness at Rice University, including comparisons. The student-based teaching evaluations and comparisons cover all instruction-based courses I have taught since 2015 at Rice University. Please note that **Rice University does not have peer-reviewed teaching evaluations**, hence all teaching evaluations are student-based teaching evaluations. The courses are ordered from most recent to least recent.

Contents

1 Stat 648 at Rice

Course: Stat 648: Graphical Models and Networks.

Contents: An introduction to two popular streams of research in statistics, machine learning, and artificial intelligence: graphical models in low- and high-dimensional settings and random graphs models.

1.1 Student evaluations: 2020, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015

Student evaluations since 2015 on a scale from 1 ("outstanding") to 5 ("poor"): 1.50 (2020), 1.12 (2018), 1.25 (2017), 1.38 (2016), 1.46 (2015).

Please note: The COVID-19 pandemic forced the class to go online in March 2020.

1.2 Comparison

There are no comparisons, because I have developed the course and I am the one and only one who has taught it.

2 Stat 419 + 519 at Rice

Course: Stat 419 (undergraduate-level course) + 519 (graduate-level course): Statistical Inference.

Contents: Introduction to statistical inference based on the second half of Casella and Berger's book *Statistical inference.* The Ph.D. qualifying exam in Statistics at Rice University is based on Stat 519 and I have therefore been in charge of the Ph.D. qualifying exam in Statistics in 2020, 2019, and 2018.

Please note: The courses Stat 419 and Stat 519 are taught as one class, composed of 10-30% undergraduate and 70-90% graduate students, most of them Master's students in statistics. The lectures are the same, but the homeworks and exams are tailored to the undergraduate and graduate level, respectively. The student-based teaching evaluations include both undergraduate and graduate students, and it is impossible to distinguish between teaching evaluations of undergraduate students and graduate students.

2.1 Student evaluations: 2020, 2019, 2018

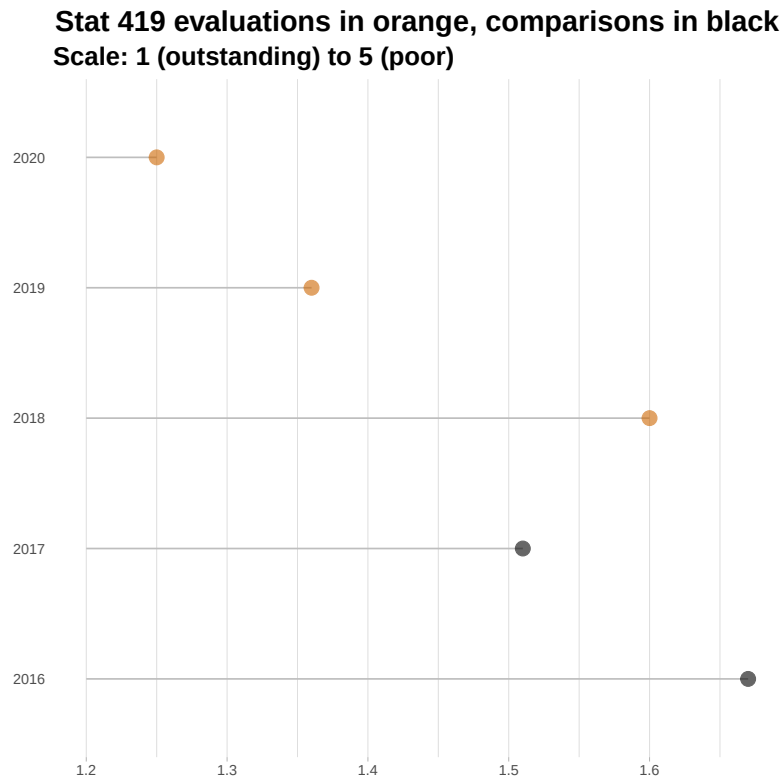
Student evaluations since 2015 on a scale from 1 ("outstanding") to 5 ("poor"): 1.25 (2020), 1.36 (2019), 1.60 (2018).

Please note: The COVID-19 pandemic forced the class to go online in March 2020.

2.2 Comparison

Please see the "Stat 419" plot on the following page.

Student evaluations since 2015 on a scale from 1 ("outstanding") to 5 ("poor"): 1.51 (2017), 1.67 (2016). Please note that the course was first taught in 2016, so there are no comparisons beyond 2016 and 2017.



3 Stat 532 at Rice

Course: Stat 532: Foundations of Statistical Inference I.

Contents: Measure-theoretic statistical theory based on the first few chapters of Shao's book *Mathematical Statistics*, including an introduction to measure-theoretic probability, martingales, martingale-based concentration inequalities, and other concentration inequalities.

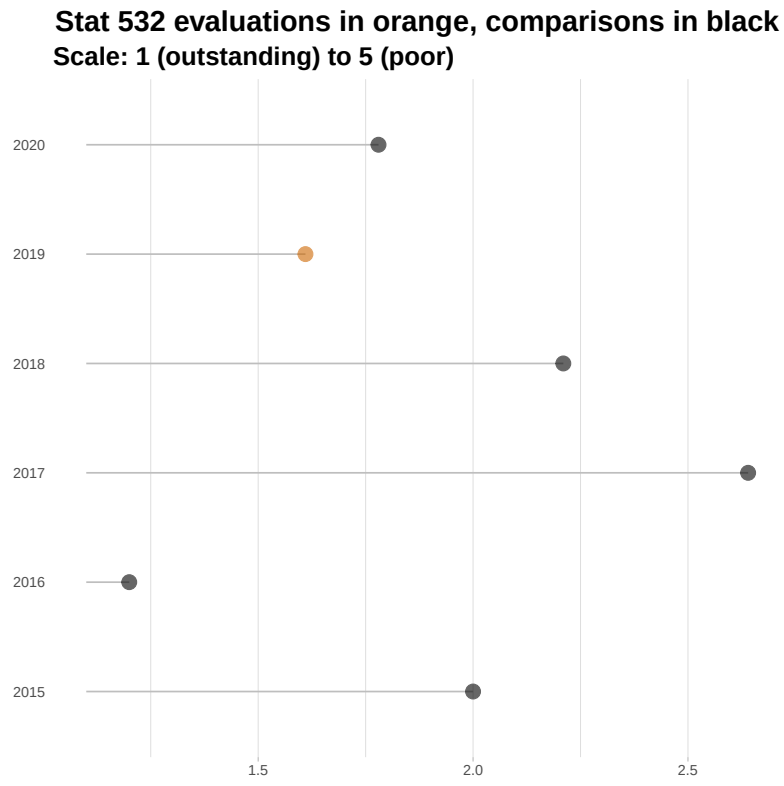
3.1 Student evaluations: 2019

Student evaluations since 2015 on a scale from 1 ("outstanding") to 5 ("poor"): 1.61 (2019).

3.2 Comparison

Please see the "Stat 419" plot on the following page.

Student evaluations since 2015 on a scale from 1 ("outstanding") to 5 ("poor"): 1.78 (2020), 2.21 (2018), 2.64 (2017), 1.20 (2016), 2.00 (2015).



4 Stat 310 at Rice

Course: Stat 310: Probability & Statistics.

Contents: A calculus-based introduction to probability and statistics.

4.1 Student evaluations: 2016, 2015

Student evaluations since 2015 on a scale from 1 ("outstanding") to 5 ("poor"): 2.73 (fall 2016, section 1), 2.17 (spring 2016, section 1), 2.61 (fall 2015, section 1).

4.2 Comparison

Please see the "Stat 310" plot on the following page.

Student evaluations since 2015 on a scale from 1 ("outstanding") to 5 ("poor"): 1.16 (fall 2020, section 1), 2.85 (spring 2020, section 1), 1.21 (fall 2019, section 1), 3.27 (spring 2019, section 1), 1.08 (fall 2018, section 1), 2.59 (spring 2018, section 3), 3.37 (spring 2018, section 2), 3.06 (spring 2018, section 1), 3.04 (fall 2017, section 3), 3.00 (fall 2017, section 2), 2.69 (fall 2017, section 1), 3.00 (spring 2017, section 4), 2.09 (spring 2017, section 3), 1.16 (spring 2017, section 2), 2.62 (spring 2017, section 1), 3.31 (fall 2016, section 4), 3.17 (fall 2016, section 3), 4.11 (fall 2016, section 2), 2.59 (spring 2016, section 4), 1.51 (spring 2016, section 3), 1.08 (spring 2016, section 2), 1.71 (fall 2015, section 3), 3.78 (fall 2015, section 2), 1.13 (spring 2015, section 2), 2.24 (spring 2015, section 1).

Please note: Stat 310 has been taught by a large number of instructors, including teaching-track and tenure-track faculty, junior and senior faculty. Different sections were taught by different faculty members, hence the student-based teaching evaluations vary across sections in each of the semesters.