

Hyesung (Hace) Oh  
Teaching evaluations

### Brief descriptions of courses

<b>Descriptions</b>		
<b>Course</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Summary Notes</b>
(1) How did US healthcare become such a disaster? An investigative think tank (PH398) -  Wheaton College Massachusetts  Overall teaching evaluation: 4.8/5.	Spring 2023	Served as the Instructor of Record for an advanced seminar course discussing the complex and often uncomfortable dynamics between healthcare firm profits and patient welfare. I designed the syllabus, invited guest speakers, and taught the course at Wheaton College Massachusetts under the mentorship of Phoebe Chan, Associate Professor and Chair of the Economics department.
(2) Health Care in the US (PHP0310) – Brown University  Overall teaching evaluation: 4.94/5	Spring 2020	Led two discussion sections of 40 students without any additional TA assistance. Put emphasis on group work via discussion-based analytical activities.
(3) Health Economics (ECON1360) – Brown University  Overall teaching evaluation: 5/5	Spring 2021	Served as a TA during COVID-19 pandemic and successfully delivered online-only instruction. Led weekly discussion sections for seven students with heavy Stata programming instruction. Taught and clarified theoretical and empirical economic concepts from lecture sessions. Generated Stata solutions code, graded problem sets, and met individually with students upon request.
(4) Health Economics (ECON1360) – Brown University  Overall teaching evaluation: 4.9/5	Fall 2021	Successfully delivered hybrid (Zoom + in-person) weekly discussion section to a class of 12 students.
(5) Medicare: A data-based policy examination (PHP2410E) – Brown University  Overall teaching evaluation: 4.75/5	Fall 2021	Taught and coordinated the applied data analytics and claims processing component of the course for ten students. Led weekly coding labs/office hours to reinforce analytical techniques discussed in the course. Evaluated students' Stata and SAS code submissions. Assisted students with research question development. I was awarded the School of Public Health's "Excellence in Teaching Experiences Award" for my efforts as a teaching associate in this course.
(6) HSR PhD Stata Camp – Hyesung (Hace) Oh, Meghan Bellerose, and Gray Babbs  Brown University	Summer 2022	Co-instructor with and teaching mentor to Meghan Bellerose and Gray Babbs. I taught applied statistical computing while providing overall administrative Stata Camp leadership. I also led an optional session on the beginner's fundamentals of Stata and co-instructed an optional session with Meghan on flexible programming with Stata.  This was the fourth time I taught the very Stata Camp that I had initially co-designed and started with my colleague Derek Lake during Winter 2020. I also co-instructed the Winter 2021 (with Derek Lake) and Winter 2022 (with Hannah James) sessions. After receiving feedback, we decided to teach the Stata Camp during the summer instead of the winter.

How did US healthcare become such a disaster? An  
investigative thinktank

Wheaton College Massachusetts

Spring 2023

## Wheaton College

Spring 2023, PH 398 Investigation Think Tank Section B01

Instructor: Oh, Hace (Primary)



There were: 5 possible respondents.

	Question Text	N	Avg	SD	PH Avg	Div Avg	Sch Avg	Str Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Str Disagree						
18	Instructor identifies relationships among topics	5	4.8	0.45	4.23	4.23	4.15	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%						
19	Instructor explains new ideas	5	4.8	0.45	3.95	3.95	3.97	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%						
20	Instructor assignments contributed to understanding	5	5	0	3.88	3.88	3.88	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%						
29	Instructor assignments stimulating	5	4.8	0.45	3.36	3.36	3.58	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%						
30	Self guiding	5	4.8	0.45	3.66	3.66	3.76	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%						
31	Instructor encouragement toward achievement	5	4.8	0.45	3.68	3.68	3.68	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%						
32	Instructor skillful in motivation	5	4.6	0.55	3.70	3.70	3.78	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%						
37	Instructor communication understandable	5	4.4	0.55	3.91	3.91	4	40%	60%	0%	0%	0%						
								Most Favor	4	3	2	Least Favor	N/A					
38	Fairness of student work evaluation	5	5	0	4.18	4.44	4.44	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%						
39	Helpfulness of instructor feedback	5	4.8	0.45	3.68	4.28	4.28	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%						
40	Clarity of instructor lectures	5	4.2	0.45	3.74	4.34	4.34	20%	80%	0%	0%	0%						

41	Instructor availability outside classroom	5	4.8	0.45	3.51	4.38	4.38	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%					
42	Instructor receptivity to alternate views	5	4.8	0.45	3.84	4.51	4.51	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%					
43	Instructor intellectually stimulating	5	4.8	0.45	3.56	4.34	4.34	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%					
44	Ability to facilitate class discussions	5	4.6	0.55	3.80	4.33	4.33	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%					
45	Instructor respectful to students	5	5	0	4.44	4.71	4.71	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%					
								Out-standing	4	3	2	Poor	N/A					
46	Overall instructor rating	5	4.8	0.45	3.69	4.48	4.47	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%					
	<b>Follow up --</b>							Tangents	Too Much Lect	Impr. A/V	Read From Notes	Hands On	Group Work	Effect. Tech	Wasted Time	Chatting	Real Life Exp	Other
	Follow Up: How to improve teaching strategies	1						0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%	

### Text Responses

#### Comments about instructor

Hace Oh will be an amazing professor! This course was most certainly the most beneficial, useful, challenging, invigorate course I've taken at Wheaton. Hace made significant efforts to establish relationships with me and my peers, and connected us with senior leaders within with network working across various sectors of health and healthcare.

Sharing the weekly agenda for our class discussions was very helpful to keep track of ideas and concepts. It could also be useful to have a notetaker or some way where we could access notes from the lectures - it was sometimes hard to understand/follow along with what was written on the whiteboard

Professor Hace is awesome. I think the small class was perfect for him because he really got to know each of us. I was conflicted at times because this class was not a requirement for me so I felt at sometimes I shouldn't prioritize it, but Hace somehow held us to such high standards that I really wanted to meet them. I think he will be a great professor, and I really hope he continues to build relationships with his students outside of classwork and gets to know their lives outside of it because I think it works in his favor.

The one thing I would improve for this instructor was that his handwriting was sometimes hard to read which made it hard to follow what was going on sometimes

I thought the instructor showed a lot of enthusiasm and passion for healthcare in this course. I think it transferred into the students motivation to want to be engaged and learn in class. I really enjoyed this course and learned a lot.

**Follow Up: Comments on teaching strategies**

I think handwriting was hard to read sometimes, maybe more power points? Then again, I think power points sometimes lose people's attention.

Health Care in the US (PHP0310)  
Brown University  
Spring 2020

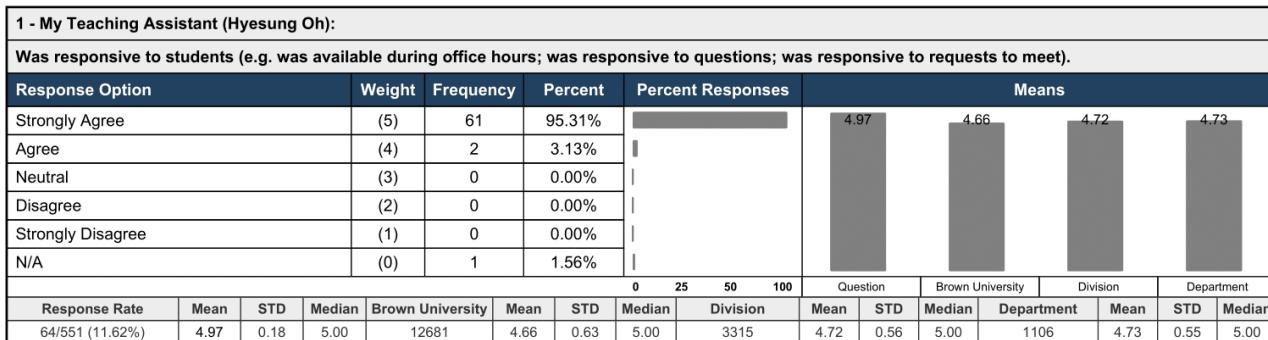
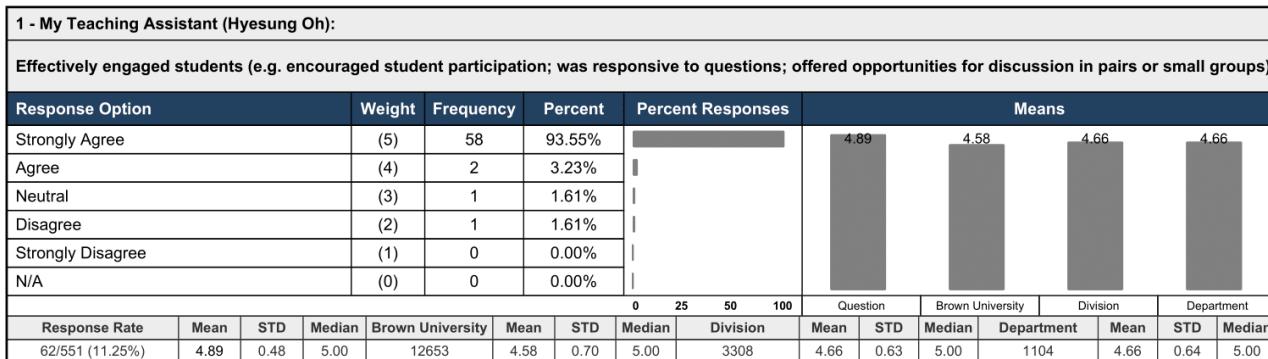
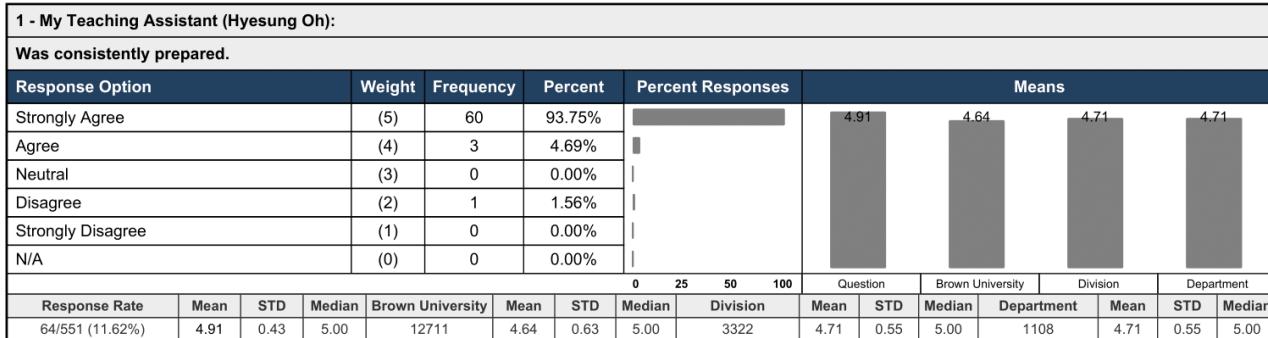
**Brown University**  
**Spring 2020 Course Feedback**



**Course:** Spring2020PHP0310S01: PHP0310 Spring20 S01 Health Care in the United States-S01

**Instructor:** Ronald Aubert,Ira Wilson

Swata Alagar, Navya Baranwal, Morgan Brinker, Jill Chen, Jessica Eskander, Shekinah Fashaw, Rahma Ibrahim, Nicholas Jones, Roshini Kalagara, Viknesh Kasthuri, Mauricio Lopez Mendez, Paige Martin, Maya Mundada, Hyesung Oh \*, Jasmine Powell, Sasha Raman, Grace Reed, Alyssa Rust, Cara Sammartino, Joshua Tharpe, Kathryn Thompson, Megan Tran



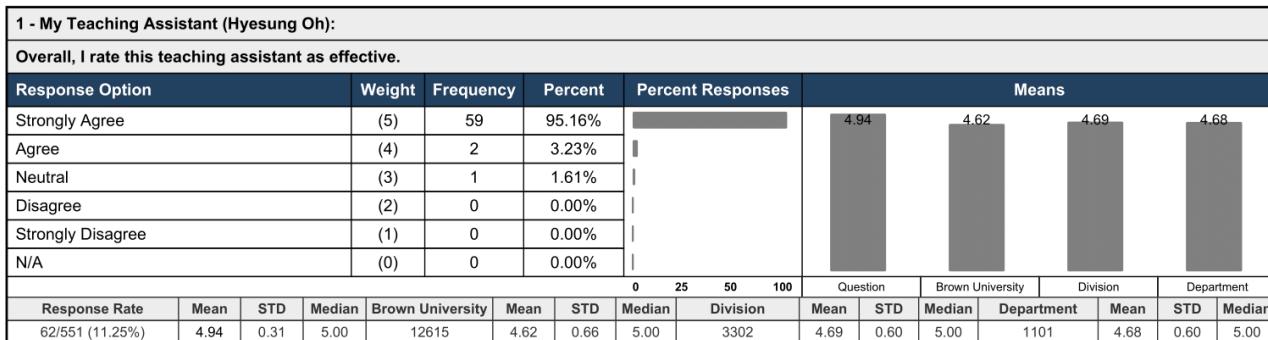
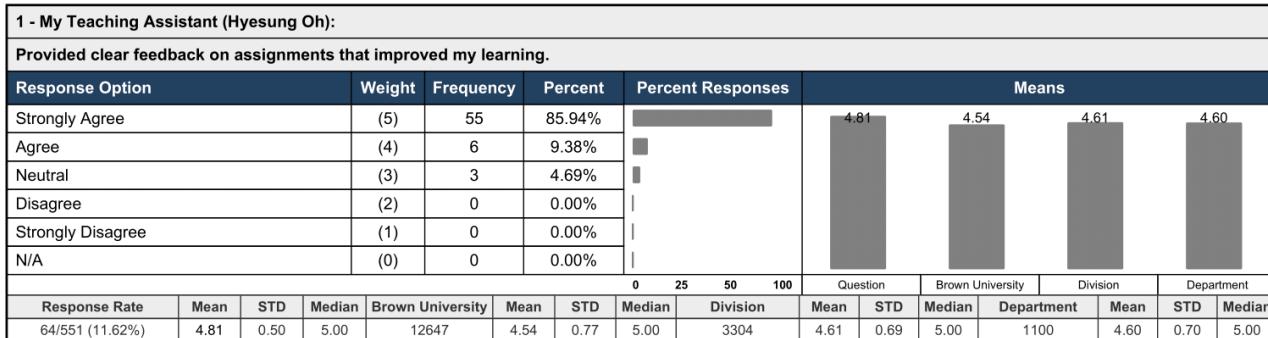
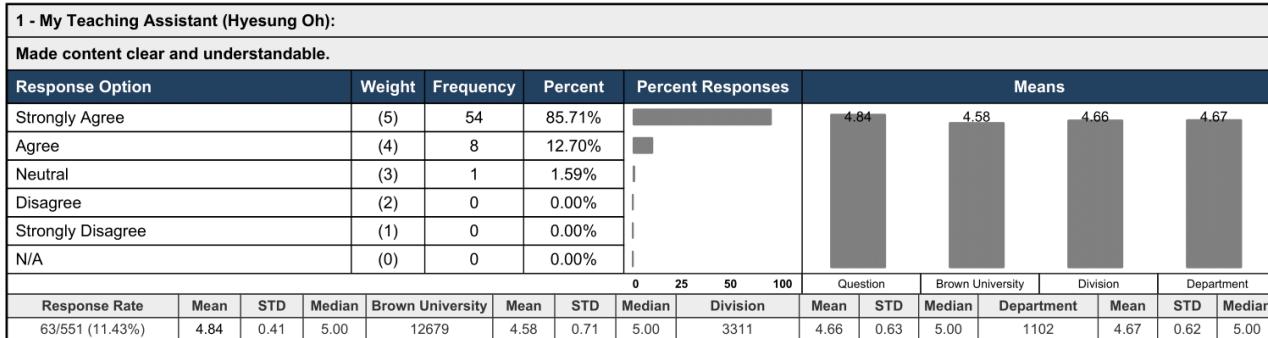
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<b>2 - What has been particularly effective about Hyesung Oh's approach to teaching in this course? How did this TA contribute to your learning after the course transitioned to remote learning?</b>	
<b>Response Rate</b>	45/551 (8.17%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He was very open with his own experiences and was clearly excited to teach students at Brown. We had a large section, so it was difficult to have complete engagement. Nonetheless, he was very supportive and encouraging.</li> <li>• Hace was particularly engaging and made sure to connect with each of his students in order to make sure that we all understood the material and were enjoying the course as a whole</li> <li>• Even after transitioning to remote learning, he made himself very available by email and offered to meet with all of us whenever we needed to.</li> <li>• he was very good</li> <li>• Hace was a phenomenal TA - in section we went over that week's assignment and then usually did an activity he designed that was related to the concept. After we transitioned to remote learning, he still held office hours during section and emailed us important info and reminders.</li> <li>• He was really nice and relatable! Made an effort to be funny and talk with the students.</li> <li>• He was super open to questions and was very helpful. He responds to emails super fast and was very understanding about the transition.</li> <li>• I thought Hace did a great job TAing this course because he presented everything clearly and was incredibly dedicated to the students. He was always accessible even after going online and I think that was valuable for many of us.</li> <li>• He brought in content that he had learned through his own experiences/education, which reinforced our learning. He was always happy to answer questions and was always well-prepared for section.</li> <li>• He was so nice and welcoming to all students. He tried to really make sure we learned the material and were enjoying the class. He made an effort to get to know each and everyone of us which I think is a testament to his passion for teaching others and for the subject!</li> <li>• He is so inspirational and really made deep connections with his students. He even reached out a lot with remote. learning.</li> <li>• He was the best TA, he made section engaging and informative.</li> <li>• He brought his knowledge of health economics to our section and was highly prepared to answer any questions, he also motivated all of us.</li> <li>• Hace was great!</li> <li>• Amazing TA who was very knowledgeable about the subject.</li> <li>• Unique ways to approaching the subject matter.</li> <li>• He was very engaging during section and made sure every question, thought, or concern was addressed efficiently and effectively. He made sure that we understood the material and provided additional learning resources to help foster our learning throughout the course, which was very helpful. His positive and motivating attitude made learning the material that much more interesting!</li> <li>• He is clearly so knowledgeable about the subject material; he is also very empathetic and understanding of students' extenuating circumstances throughout remote learning. VERY KIND TA.</li> <li>• He was very passionate about the material and was engaging with students. He was very approachable and made it a point to get to know his students which was appreciated. He was very good at communicating once the course was online.</li> <li>• Hace was great in OH as he was always able to explain complex topics very clearly. Hace also had very engaging sections before the pandemic happened.</li> <li>• He did very well.</li> <li>• He was such a great TA! Really made the material engaging and was a mentor and a TA for me.</li> <li>• He has simply been one of the kindest, hardest working, and most helpful TAs I have had at Brown. I could not think of a single area where he could possibly improve.</li> <li>• He was very enthusiastic and welcoming to group discussions and ideas. After the transition to online he sent constant emails with the reminder to contact him whenever we needed help</li> <li>• It was extremely interesting to look at a lot of our healthcare topics through more of an economic lens. It was also nice having a TA that had a much broader background since as a PhD student as opposed to an undergrad TA. He was very relatable and connected information from outside of the course</li> <li>• Always made sure to communicate clearly with students during section, was consistently available for office hours, answered all questions during section, stayed in touch via Canvas with updates, feedback on assignments, and reflections on section discussions</li> <li>• Used lots of examples and made sure we understood</li> <li>• Best TA Ever</li> <li>• Hace was the best!! He made it clear that he cared about all of his students, and left nice personalized messages on all of our section assignments. He fostered a safe academic environment.</li> <li>• Very passionate about material and very eager to help students</li> <li>• He was an extremely nice person and was very knowledgeable about what he was teaching us.</li> <li>• Hace was always prepared for section and he always asked very thought provoking questions. His consistent use group work helped me learn about other people and broaden my view of the world. He also made a point to personally know every individual in his section, which speaks to the fact that he was an excellent TA. I genuinely gained a lot from his feedback and I am glad I was in his section.</li> <li>• Hace used his experience in both business and public health to create exercises that allowed us to practically apply what we were learning in class.</li> <li>• He often emails us and was always there for us, offering help and explaining concepts</li> <li>• Hyesung was great about relating the prompts in section (such as pharmaceuticals or advance healthcare directives) to his own personal experiences and often placing topics in a real world context is very helpful. He also offered a lot of really good advice and talked about his career quite a bit prior to Brown which was really insightful!</li> <li>• He enjoyed the material</li> <li>• He was really enthusiastic about the material and was genuinely happy to see us succeed and learn. After the course transitioned to online learning, he consistently checked in with us to make sure that our needs were accommodated.</li> <li>• he was very helpful and patient</li> <li>• Hace significantly improved my learning experience. He effectively engaged our discussion section every time we met and actively tried connecting with us throughout the semester (even during remote learning). He excelled at running discussions and encouraging a lot of different students to contribute, and he was also very eager to meet one-on-one. Having Hace as a TA really allowed me to understand the material and feel better supported in this huge lecture.</li> <li>• He was extremely accommodating.</li> <li>• He had very clear explanations for the concepts and often brought in real-world examples. His positive feedback and encouragement made it easier to contribute to the discussion in section.</li> </ul>	

**Brown University**  
**Spring 2020 Course Feedback**



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- I loved how enthusiastic Hace was and how much he seemed to care about us. Our section on end of life care was particularly impactful when he shared a story about one of his friends, and I really appreciated him being open with us like that.
- Hace has been a great TA. During our in-person sections, he took time to explain concepts to us and was always open to questions. He was also understanding when people did not necessarily want to raise their hand, especially when discussing sensitive topics. I also think he did great as a guest lecturer, as his presentation was informative, but also incorporated jokes and first-hand experience.
- He went above and beyond by designing activities for section that enhanced our understanding of the course material. he was very encouraging and available throughout in person and remote learning. He also encouraged discussions, which greatly facilitated my learning.
- He was very engaging in discussion sections, which was very effective for my learning.

**Brown University**  
**Spring 2020 Course Feedback**



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<b>3 - What specific advice would you have for Hyesung Oh about changes that might enhance your learning? Do you have any advice specific to this teaching assistant regarding teaching in the remote learning context?</b>	
<b>Response Rate</b>	34/551 (6.17%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Given the size of our section, I think that he did the best that he could do.</li> <li>• Hace did a fantastic job engaging all of his students - the only change might be to tweak some of the activities in section to make them more understandable for students with all levels of background knowledge (some were kind of confusing to learn in a short amount of time).</li> <li>• Not really much to say here. He was always available, responded quickly, and overall a really awesome person.</li> <li>• Nothing really, he was great!</li> <li>• I have no advice; he did a great job.</li> <li>• I do not have any specific advice, he's a great TA!</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• No advice, his hours spent helping us were amazing</li> <li>• Literally nothing, I learned so much from him.</li> <li>• Slightly more structured discussions</li> <li>• Nothing particular!</li> <li>• None. Well done.</li> <li>• Focusing more on specific course content.</li> <li>• I believe he did a great job!</li> <li>• None--I thought he led section meetings flawlessly. He also gave fantastic feedback on section assignments.</li> <li>• He did very well.</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• No he was perfect</li> <li>• I would not advise changing anything. I loved when he would give personal feedback on our section assignments as opposed to just reading them. It made me feel like he actually knew every one of us, despite having 2 sections.</li> <li>• Nothing. He was a great teacher</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• I don't have any. Hyesung was so helpful, and listened to every request I had.</li> <li>• I would have liked to use a bit more of section time to review confusing class concepts.</li> <li>• I do not have any advice, as he was a great TA.</li> <li>• I think that maybe going over the section assignments more thoroughly in the class period may increase topic understanding.</li> <li>• Nothing</li> <li>• I don't have anything specific to add. Perhaps group people into smaller groups of 3-4 instead of larger ones so that everyone can speak?</li> <li>• Restructure sections in a way that would make our learning more effective. Because there were always so many people in my sections, participation was difficult.</li> <li>• please do not make us move seats in a small classroom just let us work with people around us it would be much more effective</li> <li>• Nothing for in person! I wish we had had more opportunities for keeping up the regular discussion section during remote learning, but I understand how that was not feasible with everyone being in such different situations.</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Sometimes, the exercises we did in section weren't explained as well as they could have, like when we drew DAGs.</li> <li>• He could send out more readings directly relevant to the section material</li> <li>• I dont have any recommendations.</li> </ul>	

Health Economics (ECON1360)  
Brown University  
Spring 2021

**Brown University**  
**Spring 2021 Course Feedback**



**Course:** Spring2021ECON1360S01: ECON1360 Spring21 S01 Health Economics-S01

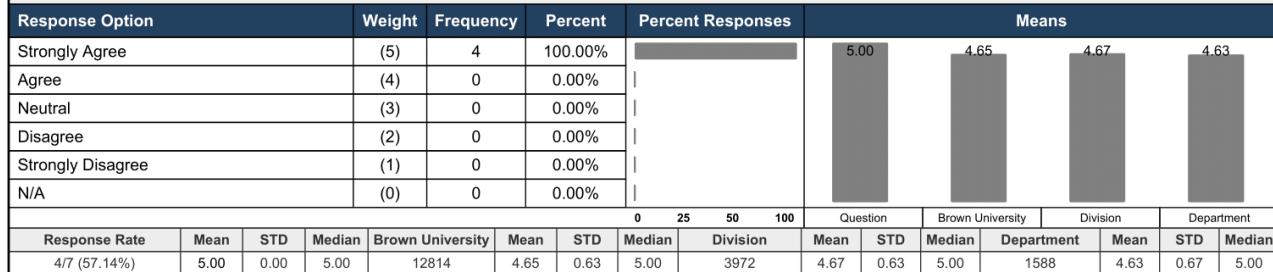
**Instructor:** Daeho Kim

**TA:** Hyesung Oh \*

**Response Rate:** 5/7 (71.43 %)

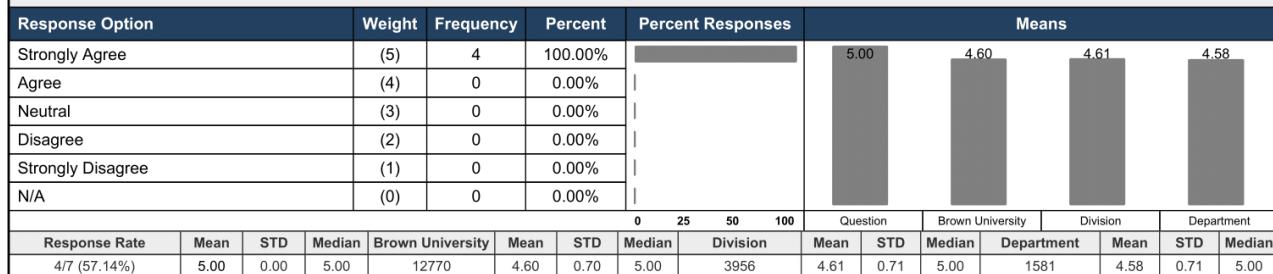
**1 - My teaching assistant (Hyesung Oh):**

was consistently prepared.



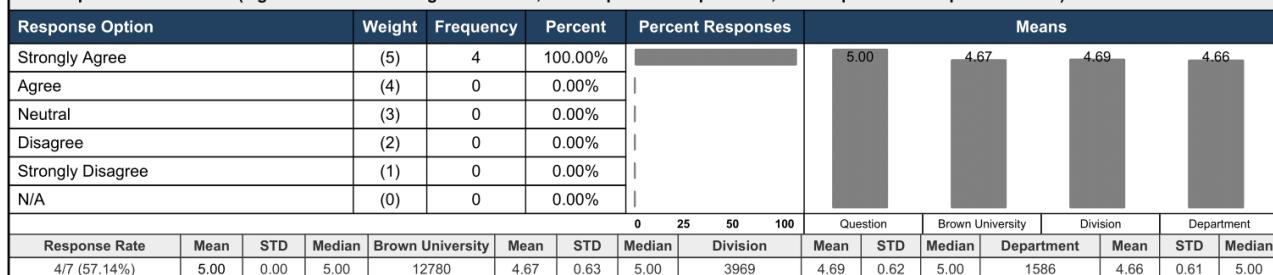
**1 - My teaching assistant (Hyesung Oh):**

effectively engaged students (e.g. encouraged student participation; was responsive to questions; offered opportunities for discussion in pairs or small groups).



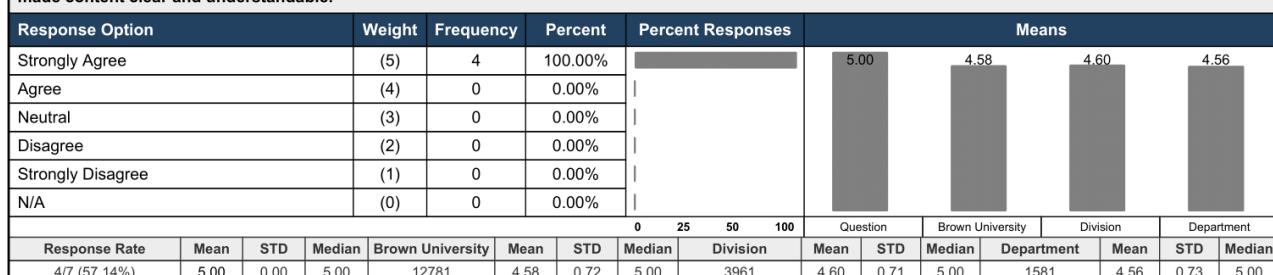
**1 - My teaching assistant (Hyesung Oh):**

was responsive to students (e.g. was available during office hours; was responsive to questions; was responsive to requests to meet).



**1 - My teaching assistant (Hyesung Oh):**

made content clear and understandable.



**Brown University**  
**Spring 2021 Course Feedback**



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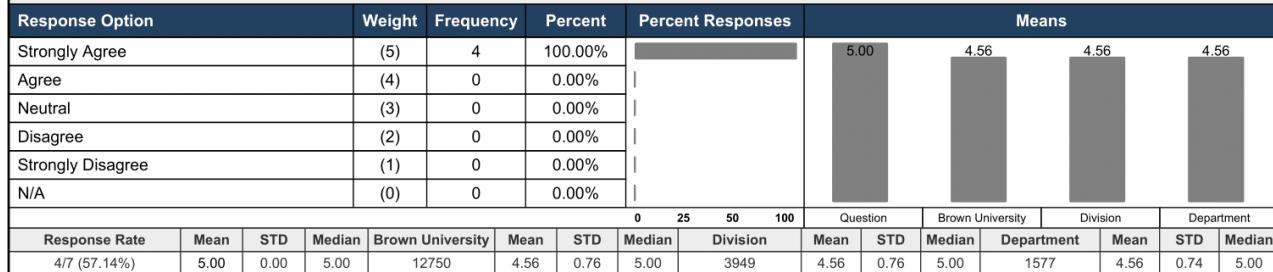
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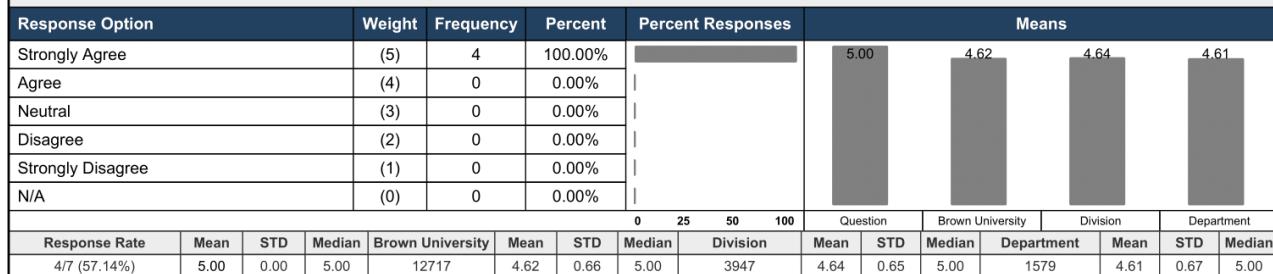
**1 - My teaching assistant (Hyesung Oh):**

provided clear feedback on assignments that improved my learning.



**1 - My teaching assistant (Hyesung Oh):**

Overall, I rate this teaching assistant as effective.



**2 - What has been particularly effective about Hyesung Oh's approach to teaching in this course?**

Response Rate | 3/7 (42.86%)

- I personally think Hyesung (Hace) effectively reinforced concepts relevant to the material discussed in lecture through weekly sections involving stata. In addition to providing examples of stata code to teach relevant concepts, he equips students with helpful resources to further encourage independent learning. During sections he encourages student participation, sharing of knowledge, and questions and comments so that he can provide assistance where/when necessary.
- So kind so informed and helpful
- His iPad and dual screen set up was very helpful with the nature of the course. He also provided a lot of useful additional reading material which helped with our research projects.

**3 - What specific advice would you have for Hyesung Oh about changes that would enhance your learning?**

Response Rate | 3/7 (42.86%)

- I appreciate Hace's approach to facilitating sections less formally as it allowed me to participate without fear of being incorrect. I don't think I have any comments for change as Hace taught in way that took into account the different backgrounds of stata knowledge and he always allowed students to turn to him as an additional source for help.
- None
- N/A

Health Economics (ECON1360)  
Brown University  
Fall 2021

**Brown University**  
**Fall 2021 Course Feedback**



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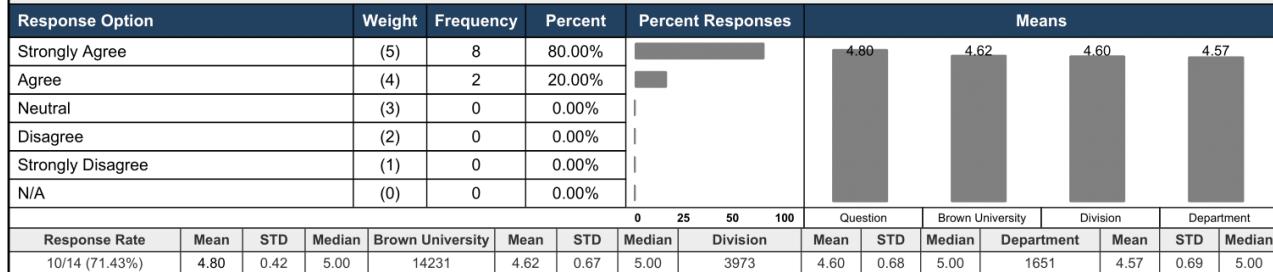
**Instructor:** Daeho Kim

**TA:** Hyesung Oh \*

**Response Rate:** 12/14 (85.71 %)

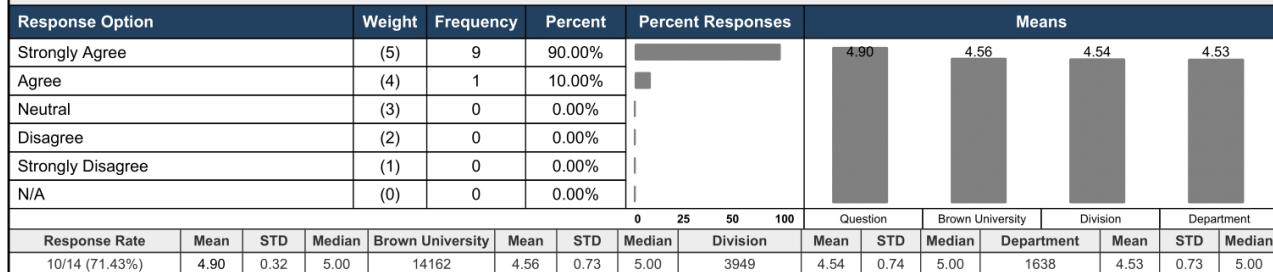
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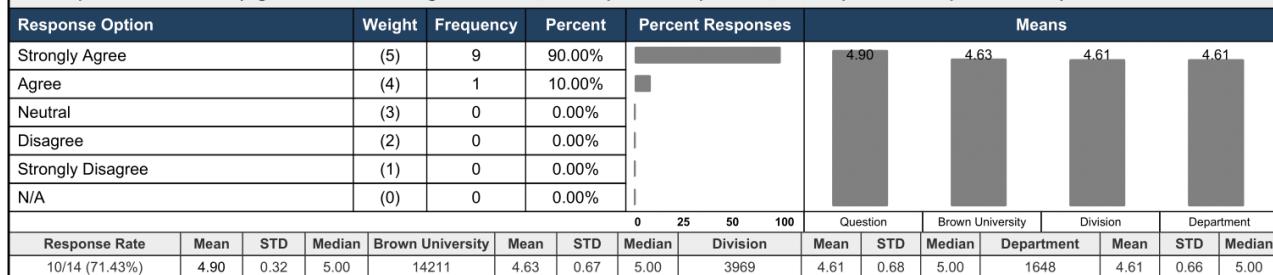
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effectively engaged students (e.g. encouraged student participation; was responsive to questions; offered opportunities for discussion in pairs or small groups).



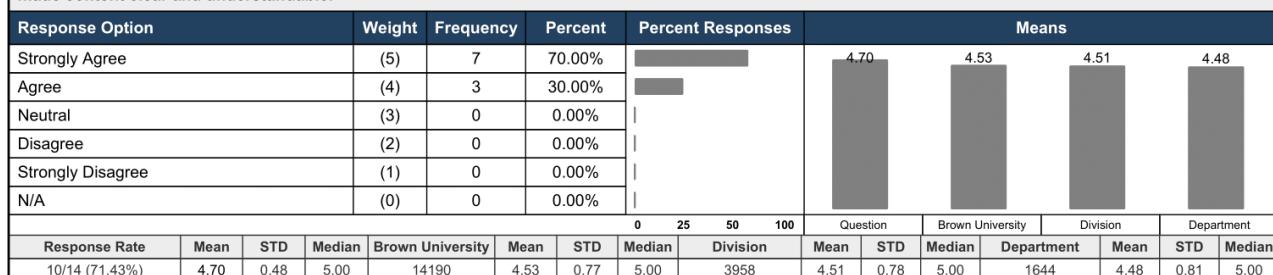
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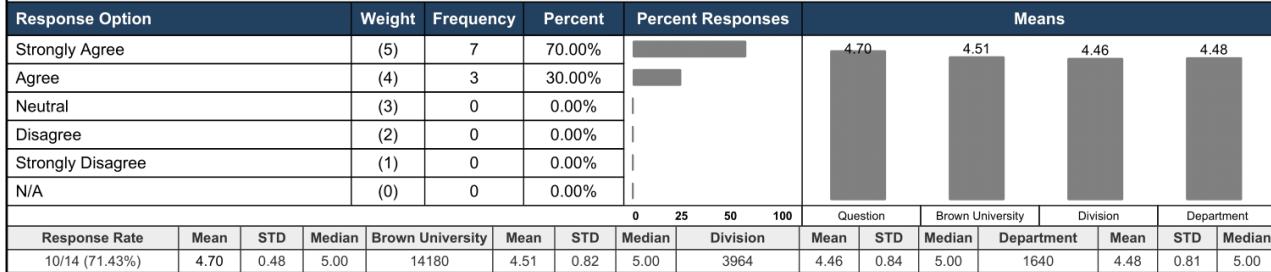
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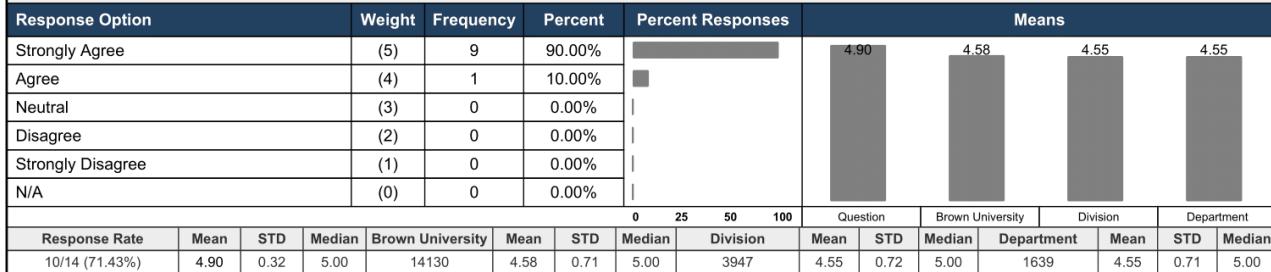
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provided clear feedback on assignments that improved my learning.



**1 - My teaching assistant (Hyesung Oh):**

Overall, I rate this teaching assistant as effective.



**2 - What has been particularly effective about Hyesung Oh's approach to teaching in this course?**

Response Rate | 7/14 (50%)

- Hace devoted a lot of time to answering student questions and providing feedback
- Hace is superbly communicative and provides great feedback. He is great at explaining content and welcomes all questions.
- Very clear and understanding, best TA I've ever had
- Hace is great at explaining what we need to know for pssets and helping to guide us through them. Always very responsive to questions
- He's very welcoming and eager to answer questions and I never felt like any question was too dumb to ask.
- I appreciated how many Stata tools and commands he taught us, and the focus on empirical design in TA sessions and the problem sets was a nice complement to what was discussed in lecture.
- Very available to email and get accessible during hours

**3 - What specific advice would you have for Hyesung Oh about changes that would enhance your learning?**

Response Rate | 5/14 (35.71%)

- Some of the programming was a little complicated but I think he figured it out toward the end of the semester and scaled back a little bit. But the assignments still require Stata knowledge so maybe a more basic approach from the beginning?
- N/A
- None, he does a great job.
- Especially on the TA sessions before exams, it would be helpful to do kind of an open session where people can email questions ahead of time or ask during section. I felt like sometimes we would review content that most of us were already comfortable with.
- Office hours somewhere on the main campus might have been easier to attend, but not a big deal

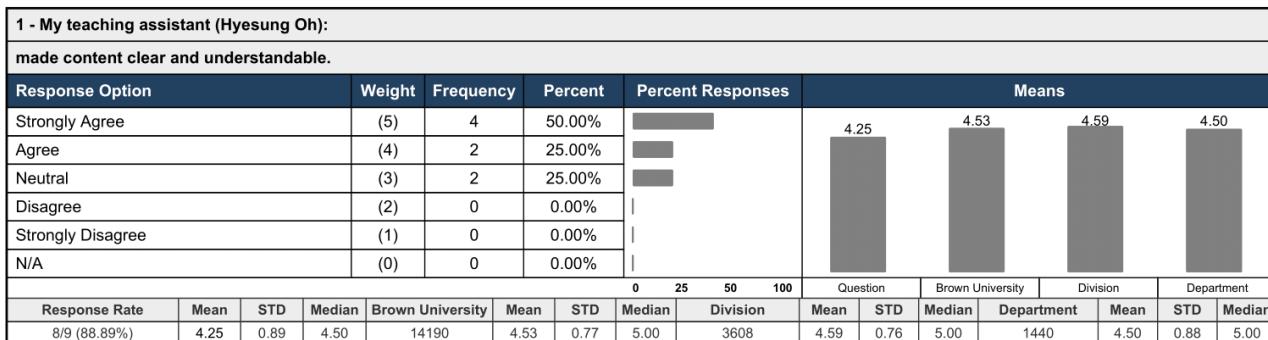
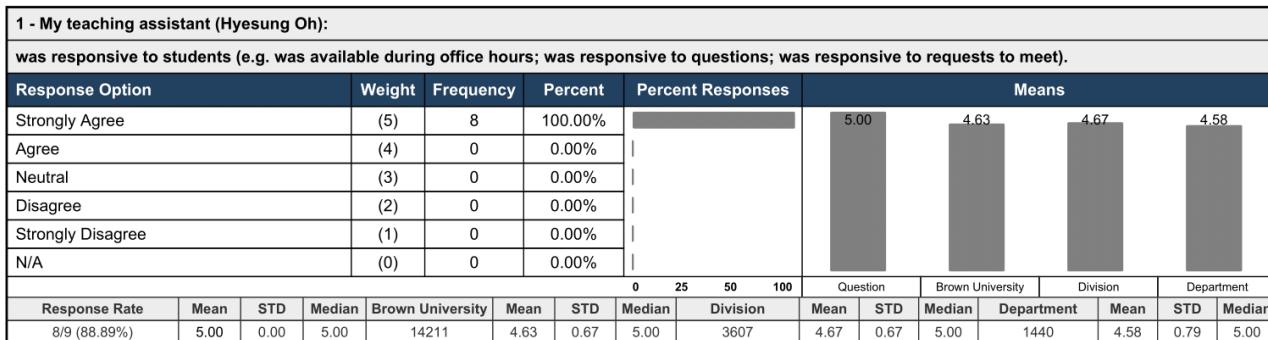
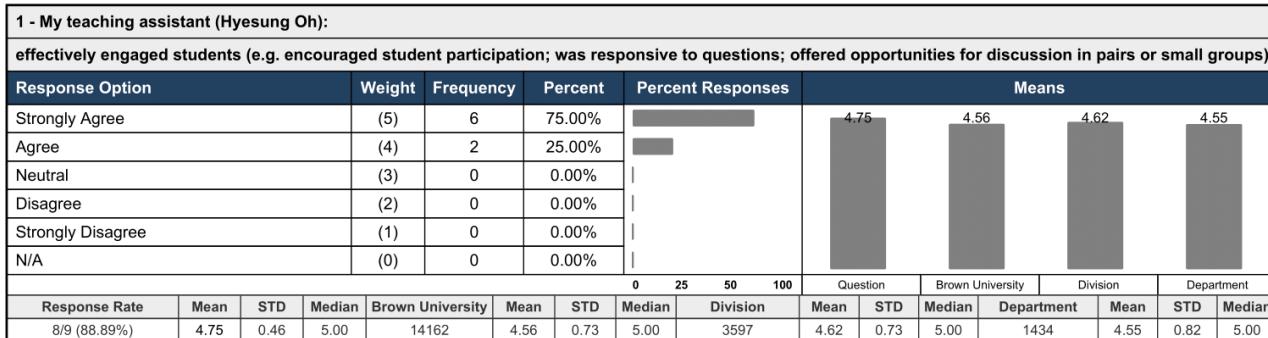
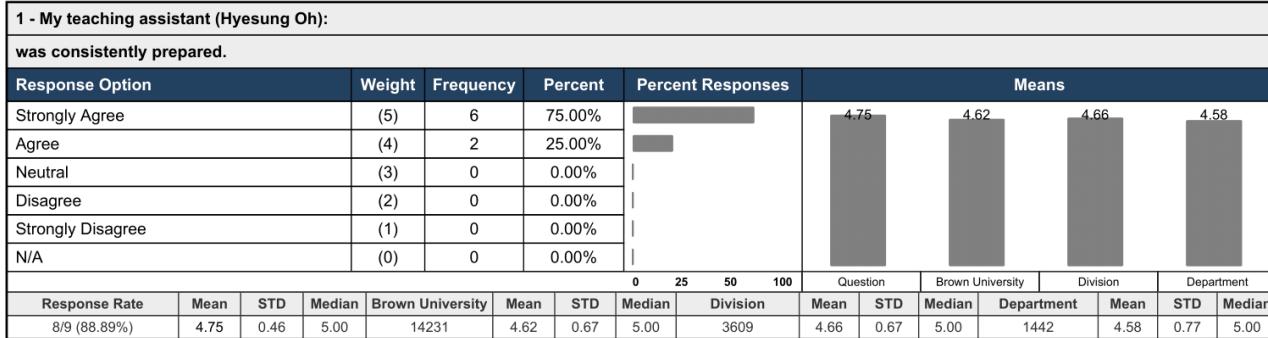
# Medicare: A data-based policy examination (PHP2410E)

Fall 2021

**Brown University**  
**Fall 2021 Course Feedback**



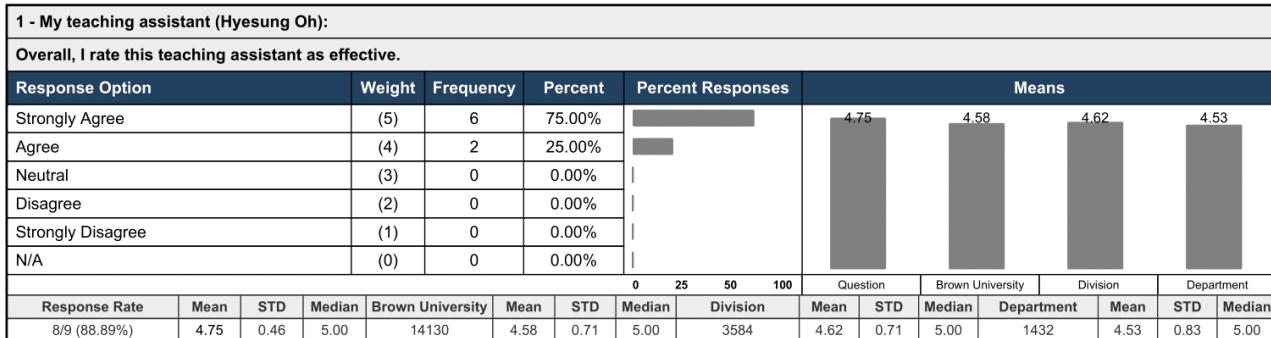
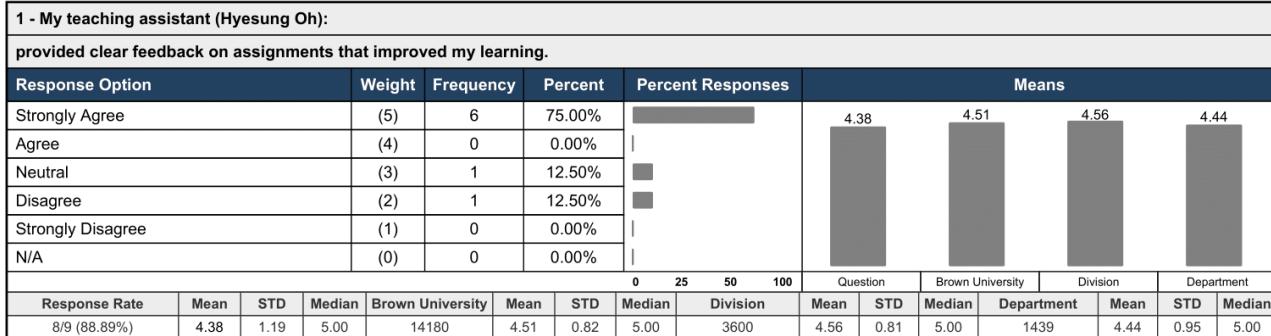
**Course:** Fall2021PHP2410ES01: PHP2410E Fall21 S01 Medicare: A Data Based Policy Examination-S01  
**Instructor:** Vincent Mor  
**TA:** Hyesung Oh \*  
**Response Rate:** 8/9 (88.89 %)



**Brown University**  
**Fall 2021 Course Feedback**



**Course:** Fall2021PHP2410ES01: PHP2410E Fall21 S01 Medicare: A Data Based Policy Examination-S01  
**Instructor:** Vincent Mor  
**TA:** Hyesung Oh \*  
**Response Rate:** 8/9 (88.89 %)



**2 - What has been particularly effective about Hyesung Oh's approach to teaching in this course?**

Response Rate	6/9 (66.67%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hace is the best TA I've had. He brings so much joy, enthusiasm, and warmth to his lectures and office hours, and he never makes us feel silly for asking basic questions. He's very good at explaining challenging concepts, and he takes so much time to craft careful responses to student's questions on the discussion board. I appreciated his feedback on my code this semester and really felt that he wanted to see my work improve. He also made himself available as mentor to all of the first year PhD students in this class, providing guidance outside of the course material.</li> <li>Hace was great! He put a lot of time and effort into supporting students and was great at communicating.</li> <li>I deeply valued Hace as our TA for his constant positivity and willingness to help out where he could. While the course was so tough for me, it remained my favorite course and I was driven to do my best because of how much I valued the professor and TA, and how much I enjoyed learning from them! I think Hace is brilliant in how he pushes students to think of new ideas and try things on for size to improve their assignments. I also applaud him for how lighthearted he was throughout the server issues and through reading all our lines of code!</li> <li>Thank you Hace! Hace was such great help throughout the course and always made himself available. He also let us think for ourselves and let us ponder on our questions to learn better.</li> <li>Hace was hands-down the best TA I've had throughout my education. He was attentive, patient, available, and responsive. He has a great presentation style, and I learned a lot in the classes he delivered. It was clear that he put a great deal of time and care into the class, and it directly translated to a positive learning environment.</li> <li>Hace provided detailed powerpoint presentations at every office hours session. He always encouraged discussion and was prompt in answering student's questions outside of class.</li> </ul>	

**3 - What specific advice would you have for Hyesung Oh about changes that would enhance your learning?**

Response Rate	5/9 (55.56%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In small classes, getting to know which students are visual vs. verbal learners might be useful. You're very good at explaining concepts visually, but some people don't benefit from the visuals.</li> <li>The only advice I would give, which he himself already corrected, was being a little "vague" about questions from students on assignments. I think it's definitely appropriate to engage students and provide them the opportunity to think through problems themselves (which helps them learn). The difficult part, which I myself struggle with, is determining which questions or aspects of assignments to engage them in this way. I think questions from students that relate to "what am I being asked to do" are questions that should always be answered clearly. As a student, I think there is universal frustration when it is confusing what a task is asking me to do, because I want to be working towards achieving or producing the desired outcome. The questions of "how do I do what am I being asked to do" are those that can used to push students to think more.</li> <li>I totally valued and understood Hace's determination to have us think critically on our own about questions we had so that we could develop our critical thinking/research muscle. I also think that it is okay to directly answer a student's question about a coding technique or provide additional context for an assignment/clarification on an instruction because sometimes we either truly had never done something before and are totally at a loss, or the instructions were just worded in a confusing manner. As the semester went on, I think Hace did a great job of balancing when to be direct (often linking us to webpages that directly helped us work through a coding question/technique) and when to push us to think more independently, which was great -- the beginning of the semester felt just a bit rough at first because we were inundated with learning so many new things at once (what is Medicare, how do you code health care data/at all, what is the server), and needing to come up with our own conclusions about everything felt overwhelming.</li> <li>I honestly loved Hace's style of teaching all around.</li> <li>N/A. I think Hace did an awesome job at being a supportive TA throughout the entire semester!</li> </ul>	

Stata Programming Bootcamp  
Brown University  
Summer 2022



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES,  
POLICY, AND PRACTICE**

September 20, 2022

Dear Ira, Theresa, Omar, David, Amal, and Cat,

I recently joined our terrific first-year cohort at HSPP's Stata Camp for HSR doctoral students taught by "peerless" peer instructors Hace Oh, Meghan Bellerose, and Gray Babbs. Although the camp is required only for first-year students, I chose to participate to refresh my Stata skills in advance of working with Center's Medicaid and Medicare data for my dissertation research. As the only HSR student (besides Hace, the camp co-founder and lead instructor) to participate in both the most recent camp *and* the inaugural camp, in January 2020, I was inspired to send this letter to express my gratitude to the department for continuing to support the camp; to share my unique perspective on the camp's remarkable evolution; and to urge the department to consider expanding its support for student-led Stata instruction and coaching.

I entered our doctoral program in Fall 2019 with little Stata experience, so I was eager to participate in the first Stata bootcamp that January. Hace and Derek Lake deserve tremendous credit for developing the curriculum from scratch and for being enthusiastic and caring instructors. However, while the camp was billed as one that assumed no prior experience with Stata, it was really geared toward the advanced user. The fundamentals were covered very quickly, with the bulk of the time spent working with claims, advanced code, and programming. It was like being asked to run before you can crawl, and at the time, was not that helpful for me. It was also truly a bootcamp: 8 hours per day for 3 days straight, which was not conducive for absorbing and consolidating so much new information.

Based on my experience last month, the camp has made great strides! The curriculum no longer tacitly assumes prior experience with Stata, and the instruction and assignments now focus on developing the fundamentals, ensuring students establish a strong foundation before layering on more advanced skills. Amazingly, this is accomplished without sacrificing much of the original camp's comprehensiveness. (By the end, we were writing our own Stata commands.) Spreading the instruction over multiple sessions and across two weeks with ample office hours also makes a world of difference. Further, moving the camp from winter break to August was a brilliant decision.

I do know, though, that overhauling the curriculum, preparing for the synchronous class sessions, providing one-on-one help to a steady stream of students both during and outside of office hours, and giving detailed feedback to each student on their assignments requires enormous amounts of time and energy on the part of the instructors—on top of the hours spent teaching the class. I am most grateful that Hace, Meghan, and Gray were willing to take on this challenge.

I realize that our department must balance many competing financial priorities, but I do hope the leadership will not only continue to support Stata Camp but consider expanding it. Many of our peer institutions, including Harvard, Yale, and UCLA to name only a few, offer coding workshops and regular walk-in "consulting" hours throughout the year. Currently, there is no similar resource that I am aware of either within the SPH or Brown as a whole. By contrast, individual and group writing support is freely available to all students at the Brown Writing Center. Providing support for additional student-led Stata instruction and coaching that could be accessed by all students in our program could go a long way to filling this void.

Thank you so much for your consideration, and again, for making Stata Camp possible!

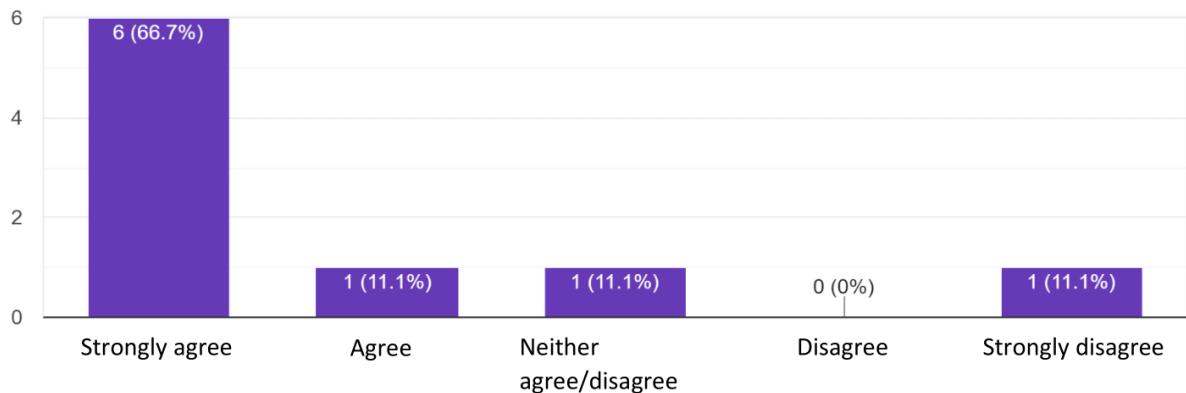
Sincerely,

Susan Hayes

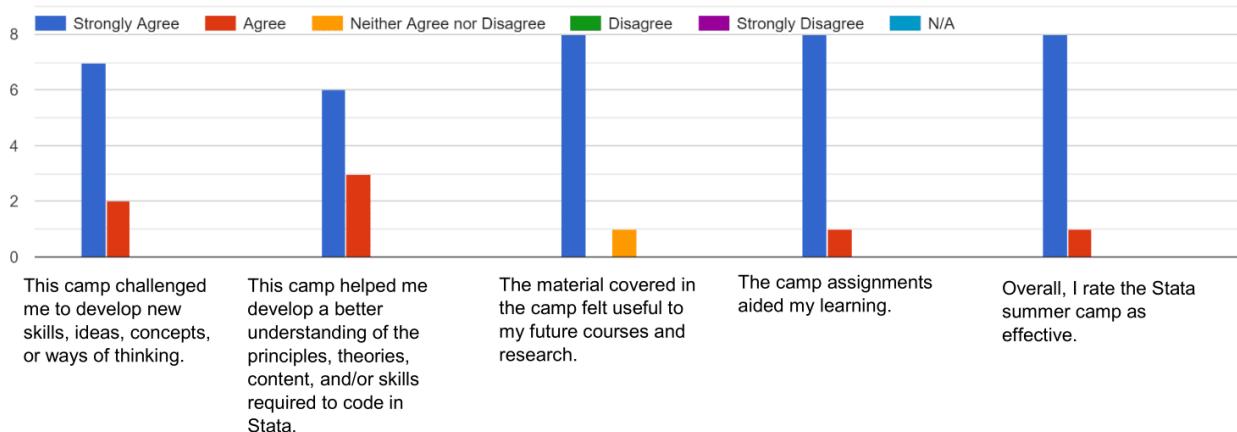
## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Reflecting on your efforts during the Stata workshop, to what extent do you agree with the statement: "I put in enough effort to learn from this workshop."

9 responses

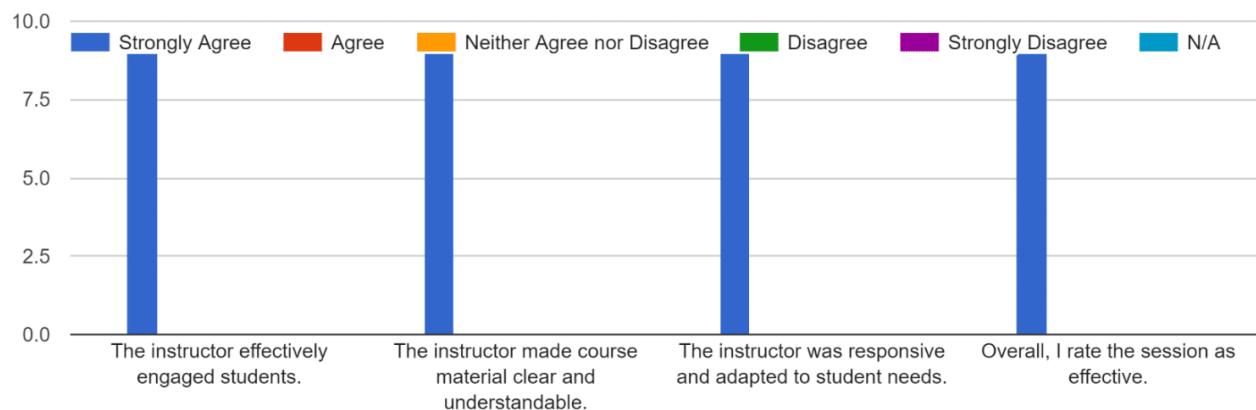


Reflecting on your overall experience during Stata camp sessions, please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements on a scale of "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree".



## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Session 3 - Week 2: Reflecting on your experiences with Hace during Session 3, please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following ... with the instructors to provide informed feedback.

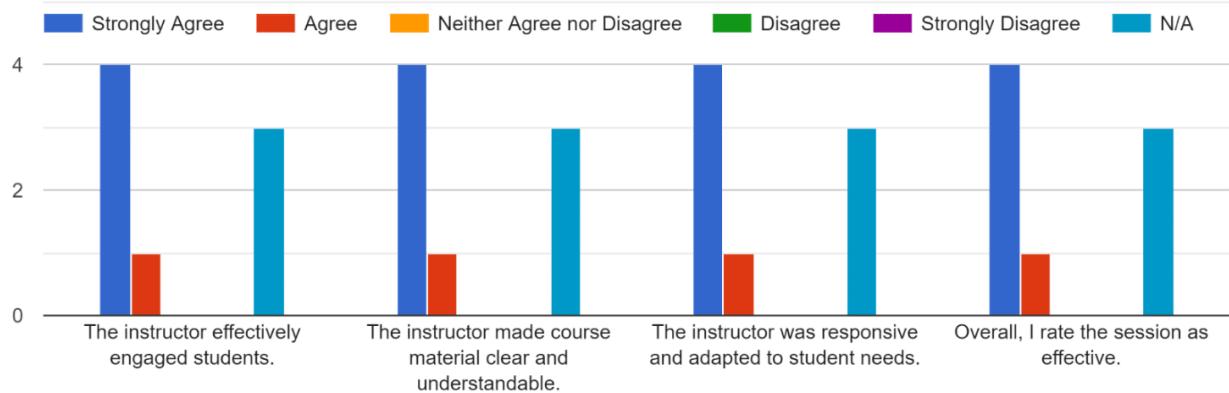


Please elaborate on any of the above for **Session 3**.

- I really appreciated the speed and time spent ensuring we understood the basics. I would encourage this type of basics demo be recorded and sent around for HW0 for those of us who have no experience with STATA. I know that Hace has taught this course multiple times but he still puts in the extra time and effort to make sure everyone understands the material as if it were his first time teaching.
- Hace covered some pretty challenging material but I really appreciated how slow he went and the clarity provided with each explanation. Asking us questions to get us to think about the material in different ways aided in my understanding.
- Instructors' passion was motivating participants!
- Hace did very well in presenting his materials. I wish all of it was presented during regular course hours rather than having to sit in on another "optional" session that ended up being more necessary.
- I like how Hace helped us review the old material and providing us with the fundamentals for the new material

## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Optional Short Workshop on Fundamentals: Reflecting on your experiences with Hace during the short optional workshop on fundamentals, please indicate t...with the instructors to provide informed feedback.

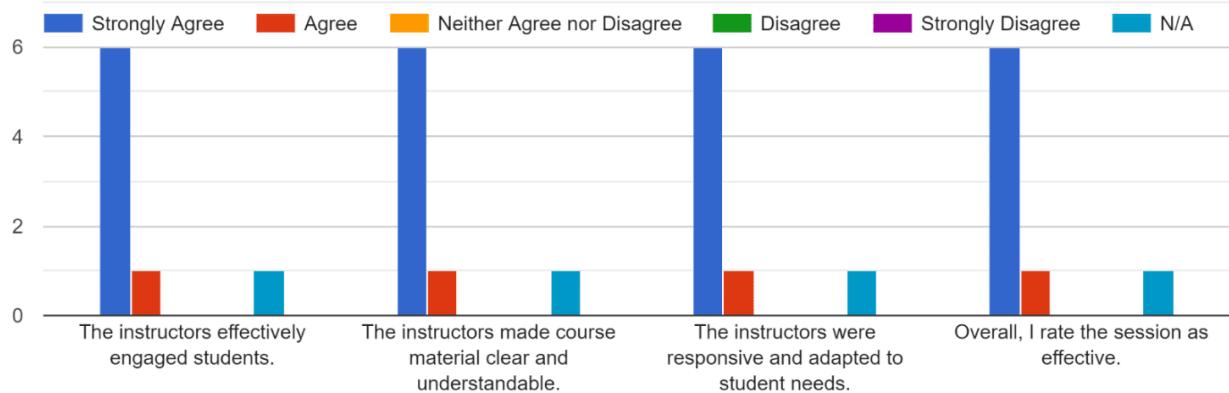


Please elaborate on any of the above for the **optional short workshop on fundamentals**.

- Really appreciated the time spent understanding why file paths are so important!
- I was not able to join properly due to personal reasons, but the instructor tried to spend enough time helping students understand the basic knowledge.
- I felt like this optional session moved at a very slow pace - perhaps because I was just watching the recording, but I felt this should have been presented in the beginning as many of my fellow classmates had a lot of confusion around file management in the beginning of the course.
- Very useful to review the basics

## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Optional Session on Flexible Programs and Syntax: Reflecting on your experiences Meghan and Hace, please indicate the extent to which you agree with ea... with the instructors to provide informed feedback.



Please elaborate on any of the above for the **optional session on flexible programs and syntax**.

- It's incredible that you all dedicate extra time to helping us learn relevant lessons/information that will contribute to our success in the program!
- I felt this material was helpful to review following the main sessions (even if it was out of order as originally planned) because it ensured we had a solid understanding of program define functions before getting into the different ways it could be utilized; Meghan and Hace explained material thoroughly with clear explanations, and it was helpful to see how the material covered was being used in their own work, as well!
- The instructors were very responsive and supportive. Examples and questions were relevant and helpful.
- Forgot about this session and will go back and review the recording.
- Challenging but useful

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## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Did the instructors foster an environment where all students - including yourself - were treated with respect and their questions and perspectives welcomed? If there were particular ways that the instructors accomplished this, please share them here.

- Yes - very supportive and never judgmental. I felt encouraged to share my work during live sessions even if there were errors.
- Definitely! I couldn't have asked for better instructors! Thank you for everything!
- Most definitely. The instructors consistently reiterated they were proud of us and made space during the session to ask questions, validated questions and challenges by being transparent and sharing their stata learning journey.
- Absolutely. Questions were encouraged even if we were a quiet group. I think it was a bit of a steep learning curve at the start, but I think because of this experience it made us quickly learn the concepts taught in later sessions.
- Yes, absolutely!
- The instructors tried to utilize diverse types of channels for smooth and effective communication.
- Yes! Instructors were very respectful, took time to attend to student needs, and answered our questions thoughtfully and with examples.
- Definitely. They were all very helpful and really assisted with questions.
- Instructors really took time (both in class and outside lecture) to help us with questions

## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Thinking about the overall course and its content, what has been particularly effective about the instructors' approach to teaching the Stata camp? Please provide comments specific to sessions or instructors, if applicable.

- Coding in real time on screen with the students was helpful. Asking other students to share their coding encouraged more in depth discussions of alternative coding approaches. Materials were thorough and easily available.
- I think the most effective quality of the instructors is that they are relatable. They have been through this process and have been in our shoes so it makes asking questions even easier. I'm so thankful for all of the time and consideration that has gone into this course.
- Hace shared his stata learning experience, which was motivational. Gray and Meghan were so encouraging throughout and Gray was willing to explain concepts that remained unclear from the previous session. All professors were incredibly accessible and willing to meet outside of office hours. A tremendous thanks for that!
- The use of examples, relating content back to instructors own work, the slower pace with basics in one occasion (the directory); it could be helpful to really ensure everyone has mastered the core basics from the first session before moving onto more difficult ones since it all builds on each other like Math.
- I particularly enjoyed the way the instructors combined traditional lecture / ppt styles of communication with in-vivo active coding work, so that we could experience the coding activities live and try out new methods ourselves
- The codes (do files) that were established during each session were shared with detailed comments in them. That was really helpful to digest and review the contents.
- The instructors' flexibility with homework assignments has been especially helpful. Also, showing their code while they run Stata functions is very helpful so that students can keep up with the course if they get behind.
- The instructors were very encouraging and positive. I appreciated how much they emphasized our peer relationship and how eager they were to help when anyone was stuck.
- Coding with us and helping us debug

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## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Thinking about the synchronous sessions, course content, and homework assignments,  
what specific recommendations would you have for the instructors about adjustments that would enhance your  
learning? Please provide comments specific to sessions or instructors, if applicable.

- more discussion and introduction to the actually claims data sets (how data are captured/sourced from, key variable descriptions) would have been helpful
- N/A ; Thank you for the flexibilities around the submission dates. I really appreciate the extensions!
- The homework can better strike a balance for new learners and experience learners. More instruction should be spent on the fundamental principles
- Assignments were SUPER helpful even if challenging and time consuming. They helped solidify what we learned, and create "muscle memory" for us in implementing code. I think the quick turnaround was just a struggle.
- NA
- They truly tried to be supportive as much as they can and did not give any impression that participants' questions or requests are burdensome. Clarifications were made immediately if asked, and feedback was also very prompt.
- It would be helpful to have the coded do file ready for the synchronous sessions - we get plenty of practice in the homework with writing out code, and trying to keep up with typing and listening is a bit distracting, especially when there are mess-ups in the code. It would be helpful to have the code beforehand with notes to understand what each function does in addition to the PPT slides. Homework #2 took a long time to complete and perhaps should be modified to include more guidance, especially on #6.
- I really enjoyed the pace of Hace's sessions, and feel that the pace of the first day could've been a bit slower; however, it was hard for me to follow personally because of computer issues.
- I like this course this summer!

## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

Thinking about the camp overall, what recommendations do you have for adjustments that would enhance your learning? Please include any comments you may have about the duration of the summer camp, the support systems available (i.e. Slack channel, office hours, email, etc.) and its overall schedule/structure.

- Schedule and pace was appropriate.
- It might be helpful to send Hace's optional session recording about how to structure your files before HW0 so that people can have that preparation before coming in to the course. I found this course on the basics really helpful and I think other students would too.
- Homework should start once the course begins and include less problems as the course is intended to be medium difficulty and target both experienced and non experienced learners. I like the idea of breakout sessions or small groups to work through particular sets of code to break up an pressure of answering unknown questions in front of the larger group.
- I think it could be helpful to slow down the pace of the first two sessions even if it means adding another day to the first week; perhaps this could simply be a catch up/"review what we learned" day. In the second session, we had a lot of questions that led to not covering all the material because questions spilled over (not a bad thing, just something I noticed...) so that would be my two cents!
- Thought it was really great overall, and there were so many options for resources and support from the team!
- This was my first time using the slack channel, and it was really effective that the individual discussions can be done under each posting without giving constant alarming. It was also great that it was set up to be switched to a silent mode at late times.
- I was not added to the Slack channel until after the first week of the course. As I was working full-time, getting caught up with messages added to the stress of homework. I also could not attend office hours as I am working full-time and have deadlines to meet. It would be helpful if some office hours were held on weekends, and it would've been helpful to space out the course over a month to give time to adequately complete homework. Optional sessions added to everything else on my plate. I appreciate this course and know it will be useful. I do feel a bit stressed and technically behind before school has even started because I'm only halfway through the homework, although the instructors have stressed flexibility with deadlines.
- I think that the optional session about file paths should've been first. Additionally, as noted above, students should have more information going into the bootcamp, for example re: VPN set up.
- I like the slack channel, OH, and email already. I think maybe a longer office hour or more office hour options might be better but instructors are always willing to help on slack which was great help already

## Stata Summer Camp 2022 Feedback Survey Results

### What would you tell an incoming HSR student about the Stata Programming Summer Camp?

- yes! great work and leadership from the instructors - I think it was very valuable for students who have never worked with Stata and to introduce them to the data sets.
- This camp is a testament to how the current students and faculty care about your success. Give your all to this course to help yourself acquaint to a "new language"
- It is a supportive learning environment and the instructors are phenomenal, patient, and extremely supportive. This is not an introductory course--the concepts covered are complex.
- I would tell them it was hard and will take up a lot of time (more than you initially thought, perhaps!) but you learn a lot. I would advise them to not be afraid of not getting it right away or even already coming with the knowledge prior. It comes with a lot of practice and the understanding that there is plenty of time to master these concepts throughout our PhD journey.
- incredibly useful and effective tool to prepare me for the program!
- It will be one of the best experiences of the summer!
- I learned more about Stata capabilities in this two week course than I ever expected - created by students for students, I think it's innovative and meets a need within our career development.
- That it is a LOT of material yet very interesting and engaging. To prepare to hold hours aside for work. To know to ask questions if needed.
- You are going to learn a lot! It's not easy, but this course definitely will help with future research