

2022W1 UBC Individual TA Reports for DSCI 552 001 - Statistical Inference and Computation I (Yulia Egorova)

Project Title: 2022W1 UBC TA SEI Surveys

Course Audience: 117 Responses Received: 6 Response Ratio: 5%

Report Comments

Recommended Minimum Response Rates

Class Size	Recommended Minimum Response Rates based on 80% confidence & ± 10% margin
< 10	75%
11 - 19	65%
20 - 34	55%
35 - 49	40%
50 - 74	35%
75 - 99	25%
100 - 149	20%
150 - 299	15%
300 - 499	10%
> 500	5%

Creation Date: Tuesday, January 3, 2023

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TA Questions

Question	N	n	SD	D	N	Α	SA	N/A	IM	DI
The teaching assistant was well prepared.	117	6	0	0	1	1	4	0	4.8	0.4
The teaching assistant was helpful.	117	6	0	0	1	1	4	0	4.8	0.4
The teaching assistant was considerate of students.	117	6	0	0	1	1	4	0	4.8	0.4
The teaching assistant was easily understood.	117	6	0	0	1	1	4	0	4.8	0.4
The teaching assistant was an effective instructor.	117	6	0	1	0	1	4	0	4.8	0.5

Question	%Favourable
The teaching assistant was well prepared.	83%
The teaching assistant was helpful.	83%
The teaching assistant was considerate of students.	83%
The teaching assistant was easily understood.	83%
The teaching assistant was an effective instructor.	83%

Enter comments below

Comments

Yulia was very helpful in explaining concepts and giving directions without revealing the answers. Really appreciated her help in understanding how to add the missing knowledge that I needed to answer the questions myself. This was very helpful for me to build and retain knowledge.

In addition she always knew the details of what were studying and working on and her answers were quite relevant and not broad and general.

Thank you for being so communicative and helpful in slack!

Yulia is very good at engaging the students to arrive at the answer to their own questions. She is clear in the concepts herself and hence she is able to encourage the students to rethink the concepts and arrive at the answers to the doubts themselves during the in–person conversation. She takes time to explain the questions and is welcoming to support on slack throughout the week.

Some students also feel Yulia would make a great primary instructor for this course with her ability to clearly distinguish similar concepts. Her skillset in programming in R is an added asset as she can explain how to code the concepts in R which is a major necessity for this course.

Explanatory Note

Percent Favourable Rating

This is the percentage of respondents who rated the instructor a 4 or 5 (Agree or Strongly Agree).

Interpolated Median

The data collected for Student Experience of Instruction (SEI) are ordinal in nature, with a natural order (from 1 to 5). While the mean may be used as a measure of central tendency for such data, it is not an appropriate or accurate representation of SEI data (cf. Stark & Freishtat, 2014). The usual measure of central tendency for ordinal data is the median. As a result, we have been reporting the mean and the median for the last several years. After considerable thought and data modeling, we now believe that the interpolated median is the best representation of the data, since it takes the frequency distribution into account.

Consider the following example from 2015W, the two course sections have identical mean (3.8). However, the instructor in section 2 received 77% favourable (4-5) ratings, compared to 53% for the instructor in section 1. The Interpolated median values of (3.7 and 4.2), much better reflects the distribution of the scores above and below their respective median. Furthermore, the interpolated median is better correlated with percent favourable rating; such that an interpolated median of 3.5 on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, corresponds to 50% favourable rating.

Frequency Distribution

Response for University Module Item	Section 1	Section 2		
5 = Strongly agree	5	5		
4 = Agree	3	5		
3 = Neither agree nor disagree	6	0		
2 = Disagree	1	2		
1 = Strongly disagree	0	1		
Mean	3.8	3.8		
Median	4.0	4.0		

UBC Student Experience of Instruction

Interpolated Median	3.7	4.2
Percent favourable rating	53%	77%

Dispersion Index

The dispersion index is a measure of variability suitable for ordinal data (Rampichini, Grilli & Petrucci 2004). This dispersion index has values between zero and 1. A zero dispersion index indicates that all respondents in the section rated their experience of instruction the same. An index value of 1.0 is obtained when the respondents are split evenly between the two extreme values (Strongly Disagree & Strongly Agree), a very rare occurrence. In SEI data at UBC, the index rarely exceeds 0.85, and mostly for surveys not meeting the minimum recommended response rate.