



Trachtman, Samuel (POL SCI 231A DIS 101 QUANT ANAL POL RES) - Fa 2019 (Instructor Version)

Project Title: **Fall 2019 Evaluations**

Courses Audience: **13**
Responses Received: **10**
Response Ratio: **76.92%**

Subject Details	
Name	POL SCI 231A DIS 101 QUANT ANAL POL RES
DEPT_NAME	POL SCI
DEPT_FORM	POL SCI
EVALUATION_TYPE	G
First Name	Samuel
Last Name	Trachtman

Creation Date: **Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

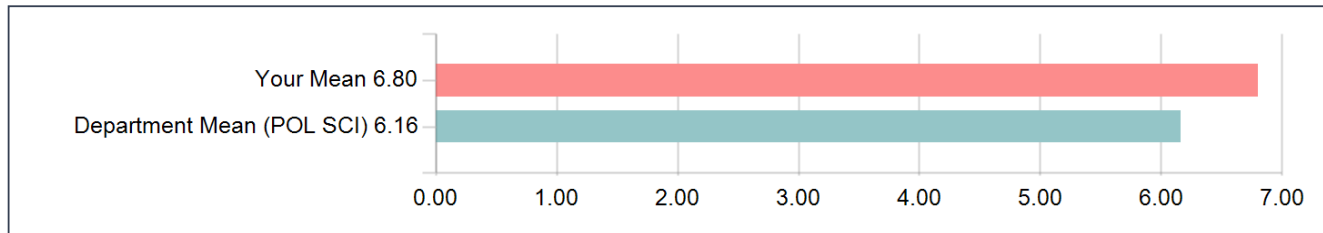


FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Please note that "Department Average" for each rating question is calculated using all sections in your department. This may include both Faculty and GSIs depending on whether the department has selected a question item to be used for both.

UNIVERSITY WIDE QUESTIONS (QUANTITATIVE/RATING):

The items in this section are asked across all courses at Berkeley.

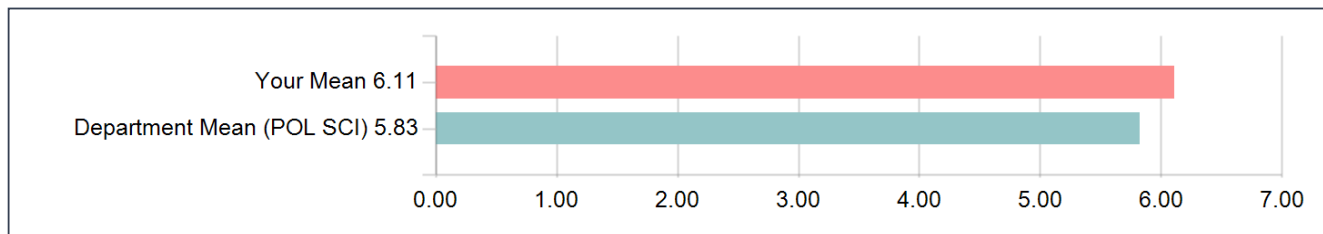
Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?



Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Moderately Effective	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	2	20.00%
7-Extremely Effective	8	80.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		6.80
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.42

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?



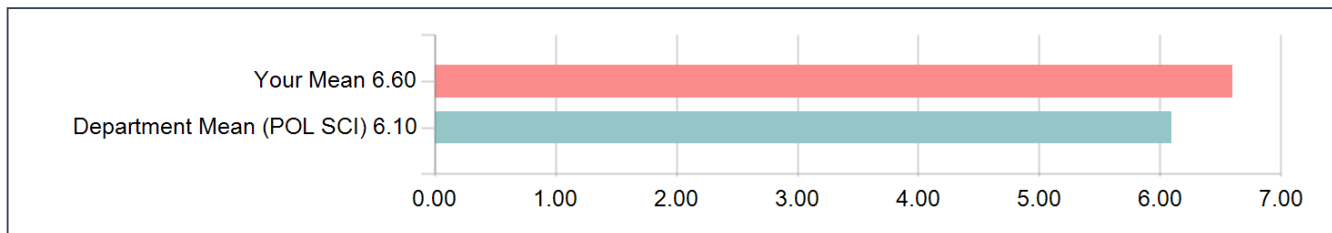
Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Moderately Effective	2	22.22%
5	0	0.00%
6	2	22.22%
7-Extremely Effective	5	55.56%
Statistics		Value
Response Count	9	
Mean	6.11	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	1.27	

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS:

Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.

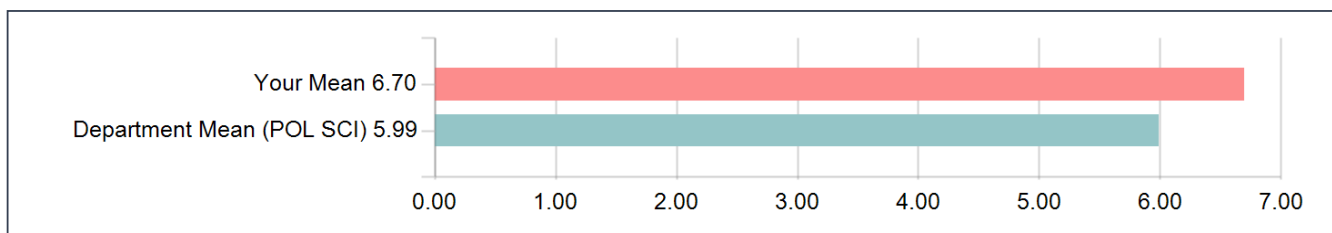
The instructor presented content in an organized manner.



The instructor presented content in an organized manner.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	4	40.00%
7-Very	6	60.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count	10	
Mean	6.60	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	0.52	

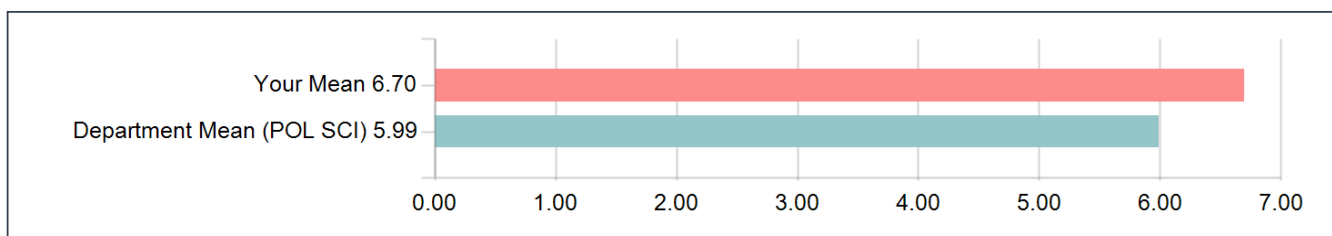
The instructor explained concepts clearly.



The instructor explained concepts clearly.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	3	30.00%
7-Very	7	70.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		6.70
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.48

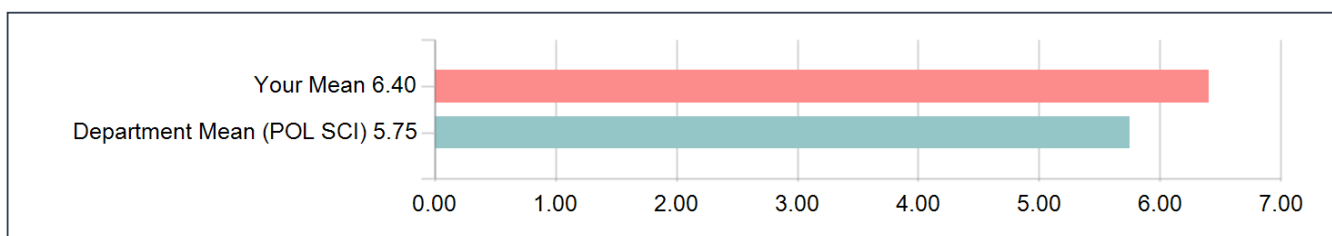
The instructor was helpful when I had difficulties or questions.



The instructor was helpful when I had difficulties or questions.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	1	10.00%
6	1	10.00%
7-Very	8	80.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		6.70
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.67

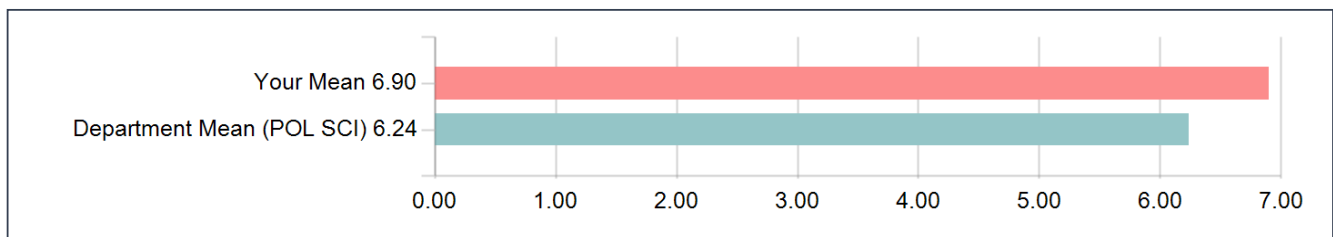
The instructor provided clear constructive feedback.



The instructor provided clear constructive feedback.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	1	10.00%
5	1	10.00%
6	1	10.00%
7-Very	7	70.00%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	10	
Mean	6.40	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	1.07	

The instructor encouraged student questions and participation.



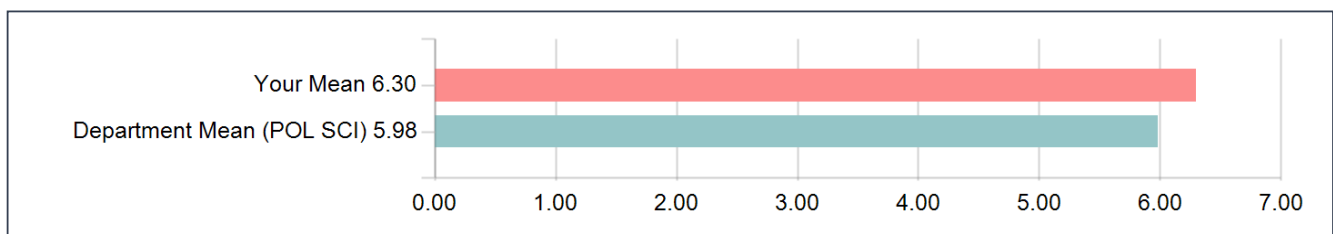
The instructor encouraged student questions and participation.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	1	10.00%
7-Very	9	90.00%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	10	
Mean	6.90	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	0.32	

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED COURSE QUESTIONS:

Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.

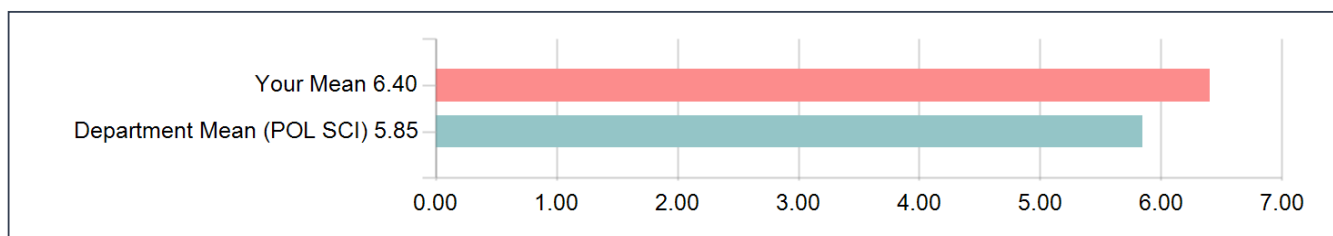
The course was effectively organized.



The course was effectively organized.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	1	10.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	3	30.00%
7-Very	6	60.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		6.30
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		1.25

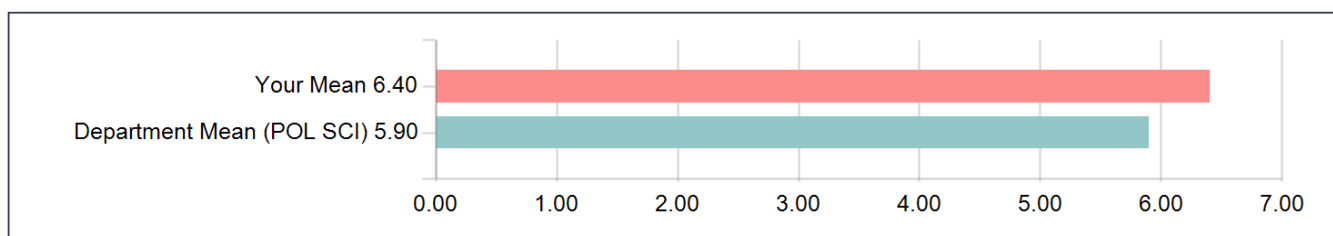
The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.



The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	1	10.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	3	30.00%
7-Very	6	60.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		6.40
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.97

The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.



The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	1	10.00%
5	0	0.00%
6	3	30.00%
7-Very	6	60.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		6.40
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		0.97

Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of the course (or section).

Comments

The course will influence how I approach methods use in the future (accounting for biases, running robustness checks, etc.) That is very valuable to me. Sam was also a great TA who encouraged questions and clarified concepts for us. He played a key role in helping us understand what wasn't successfully communicated during lecture.

In a class that was otherwise scattered and disorganized, Sam did an excellent job demystifying complex statistical concepts in our weekly discussion. He was helpful in distilling information and giving us practice on computational methods associated with the statistics class.

Sam is incredibly receptive, patient, and did a fantastic job of explaining difficult and advanced concepts in a way that made them so accessible and easy to digest. He could give a masterclass in teaching.

Sam did a very good job of explaining things where the main lecture was not clear. He made it clear what we actually need to understand to be effective political scientists

Section made the class so much more understandable. Additionally, the time devoted to coding was great.

Sam was very helpful solving problem sets, clarifying concepts from lecture, and introducing us to the basics of R programming.

The discussion section was critical for my learning in this course, and I believe a majority of that was due to the instructor. His ability to break down difficult concepts from class was very helpful to me. I also liked his exercises based in R, given that we had limited other opportunities to learn R in a guided environment. These exercises also gave us practical examples of the abstract concepts from the lecture.

Sam was amazing when it came to translating everything Joel said. He helped me understand the intuition behind the math we learned in class.

Sam is great. I really appreciate his time and dedication. The HW solution manual was a super great idea.

Please identify area(s) where you think the course could be improved.

Comments

The course was very unorganized. This is very difficult for students with busy schedules. Being able to predict when assignments will be given and what to review/prepare for class is very important because it allows students to plan their weeks out and juggle other coursework and obligations.

None

Powerpoints or slide materials. A better textbook. More instruction on how to use LaTeX.

N/A

My only comment is that at the beginning of the semester, the discussion seemed a bit unorganized, but this improved vastly through the semester.

What advice would you give to another student who is considering taking this course?

Comments
My experience in this course is probably unique compared to other semesters. We just got very behind in the material.
Sam was great
Attend all sections– incredibly valuable.
Attend all the sections, even if you know how to code, section is very helpful.
The section period is incredibly helpful for the course overall; I would have struggled much more had we not had this opportunity, so take advantage of this opportunity.

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED STUDENT INFORMATION QUESTIONS

Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.

On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?

On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?

Options	Count	Percentage
3 or fewer	2	20.00%
4-6	5	50.00%
7-9	2	20.00%
10-12	1	10.00%
13-15	0	0.00%
16-18	0	0.00%
More than 18	0	0.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		1.00
Median		1.00
Standard Deviation		0.00

How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?

How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?

Options	Count	Percentage
None	0	0.00%
Fewer than half	0	0.00%
About half	1	10.00%
More than half	2	20.00%
All	7	70.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		1.00
Median		1.00
Standard Deviation		0.00

How satisfied were you with your effort in this course (or section)?

How satisfied were you with your effort in this course (or section)?

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	1	10.00%
5	1	10.00%
6	3	30.00%
7-Very	5	50.00%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		10
Mean		6.20
Median		6.50
Standard Deviation		1.03