USC University of Southern California

Individual Report for Instructor Lototsky (39635-20203 : MATH-408 Mathematical Statistics (39635))

Project Title: **Learning Experience Evaluations - Fall 2020**

Courses Audience: **48**
Responses Received: **22**
Response Ratio: **45.83%**

Report Comments

This semester's summary scores reflect a shift to online instruction.

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Creation Date: **Saturday, December 12, 2020**

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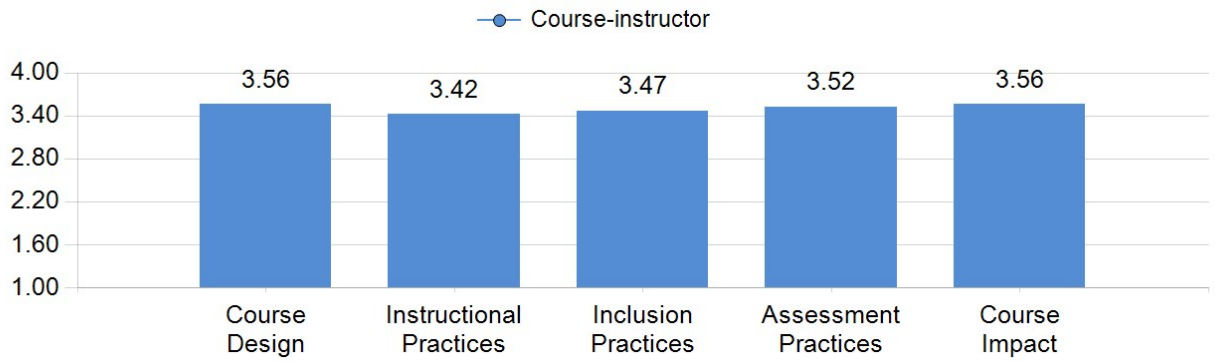
LEARNING EXPERIENCE SUBSCALE ANALYSIS

Learning Experience Subscale Average Score



Competency	Course-instructor	Standard Deviation
Course Design	3.56	+/-0.53
Instructional Practices	3.42	+/-0.64
Inclusion Practices	3.47	+/-0.55
Assessment Practices	3.52	+/-0.53
Course Impact	3.56	+/-0.50

COURSE DESIGN

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
The course objectives were well explained.	22	3.55	0.60
The course assignments were related to the course objectives.	22	3.55	0.51
I understood what was expected of me in this course.	22	3.59	0.50

INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
The instructor carefully explained difficult concepts, methods, and subject matter.	21	3.29	0.72
The instructor encouraged me to do my best work.	21	3.43	0.60
The instructor encouraged questioning and discussion of course topics from the students	22	3.55	0.60

INCLUSION PRACTICES

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
The course materials included diverse perspectives OR applications to diverse populations.	21	3.43	0.51
The instructor used a variety of teaching approaches to meet the needs of all students.	21	3.29	0.64
The instructor was receptive to the expression of diverse student viewpoints	20	3.50	0.51
The instructor demonstrated sensitivity to students' needs and diverse life experiences	22	3.68	0.48

ASSESSMENT PRACTICES

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
The assessments/assignments reflected what was covered in the course.	22	3.45	0.60
The grades I have received thus far reflect the QUALITY of my performance in the course.	22	3.59	0.50
The criteria for good performance on the assignments or assessments were clearly communicated.	22	3.59	0.50
The instructor's evaluation of my performances was constructive.	21	3.43	0.51

COURSE IMPACT

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
I learned perspectives, principles, or practices from this course that I expect to apply to new situations.	21	3.57	0.51
This course challenged me to think critically and communicate clearly about the subject.	21	3.52	0.51
This course provided me with information that may be directly applicable to my career or academic goals.	21	3.57	0.51

LEARNING EXPERIENCE SUBSCALE ANALYSIS: COURSE DESIGN

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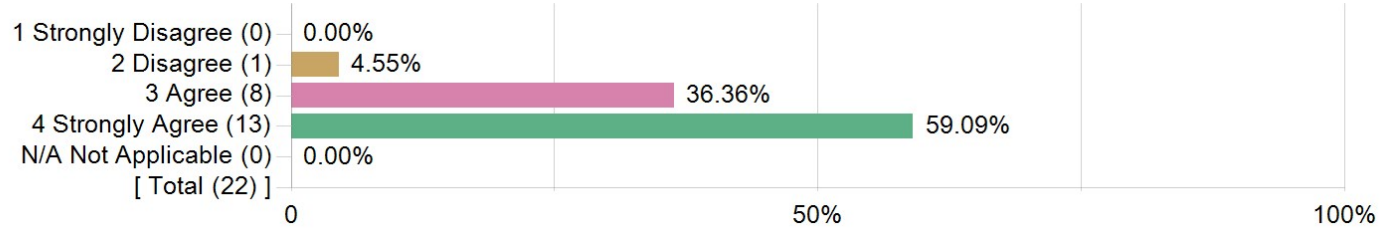

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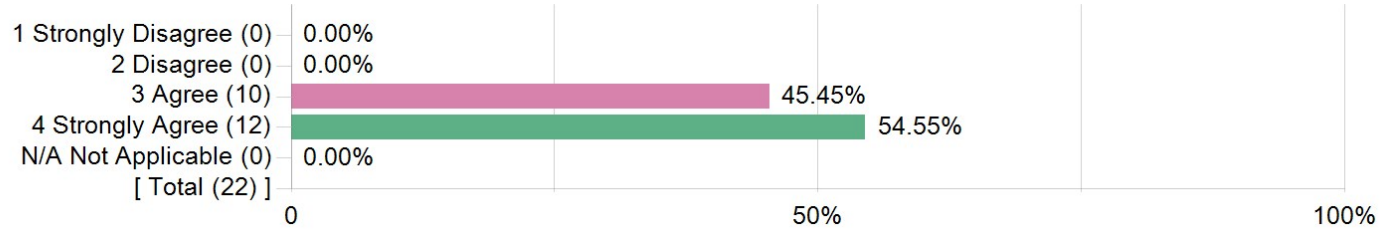
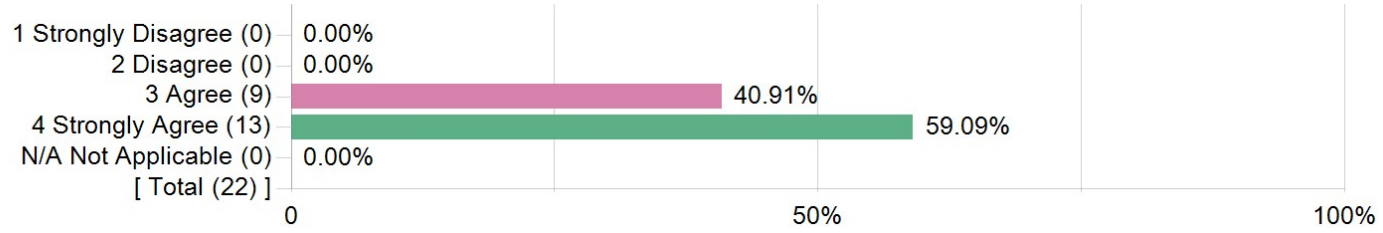


3. I understood what was expected of me in this course.



LEARNING EXPERIENCE SUBSCALE ANALYSIS: INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES

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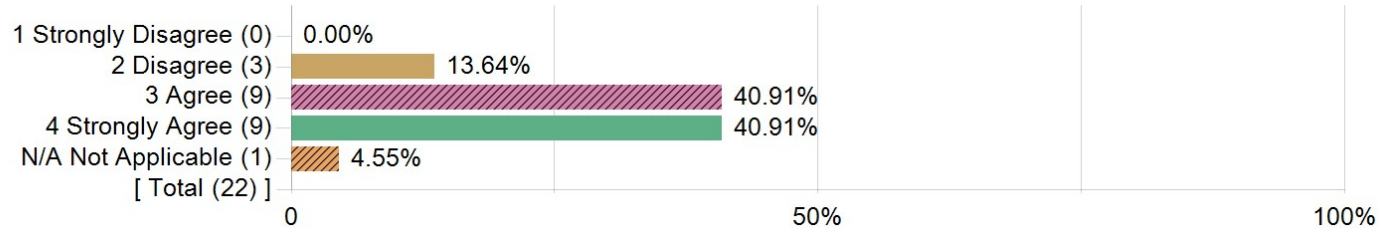

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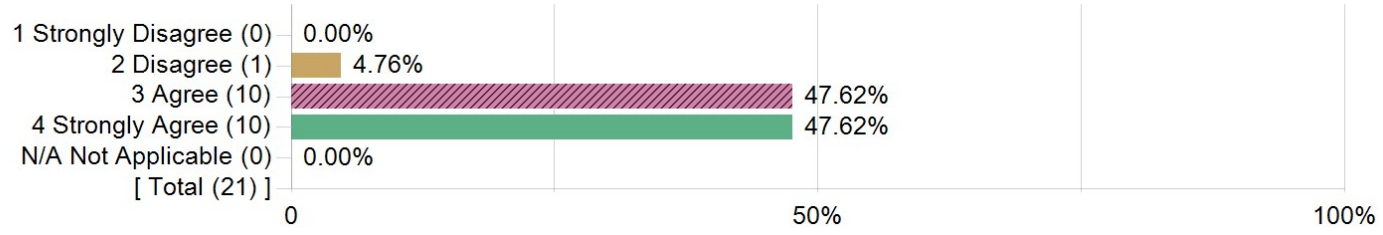

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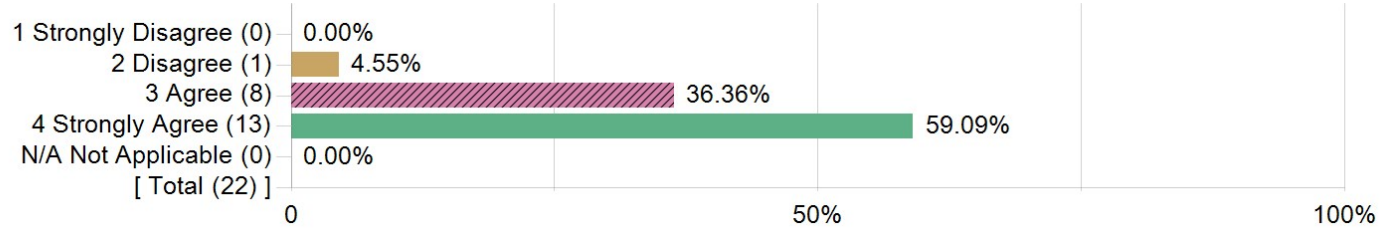

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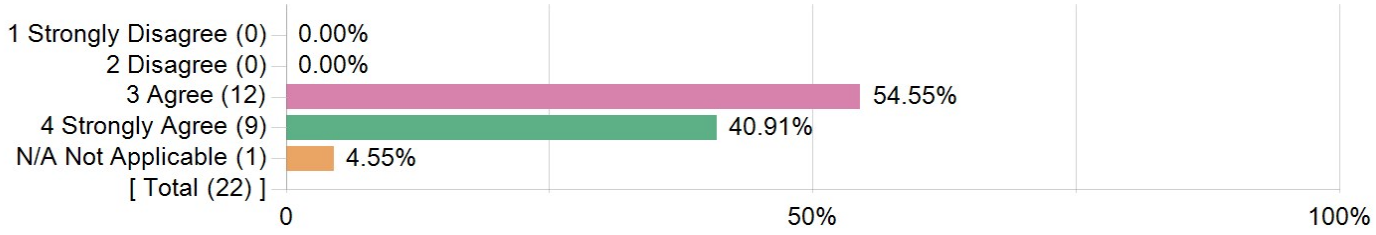

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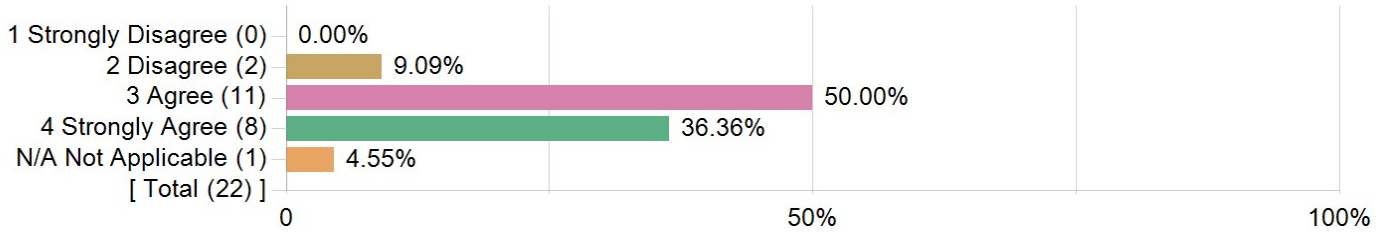

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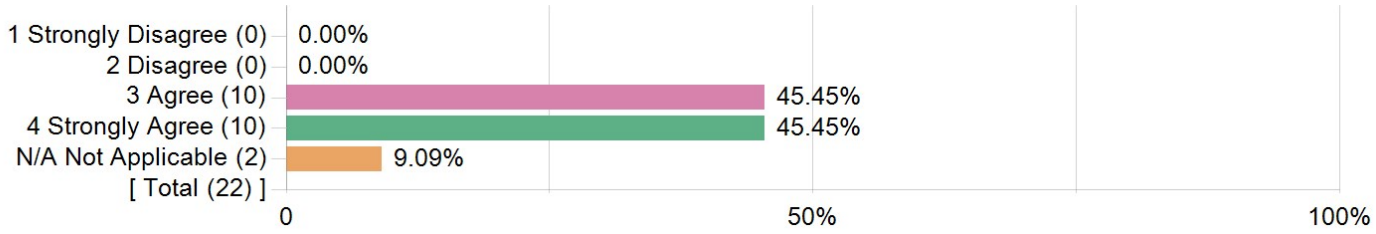

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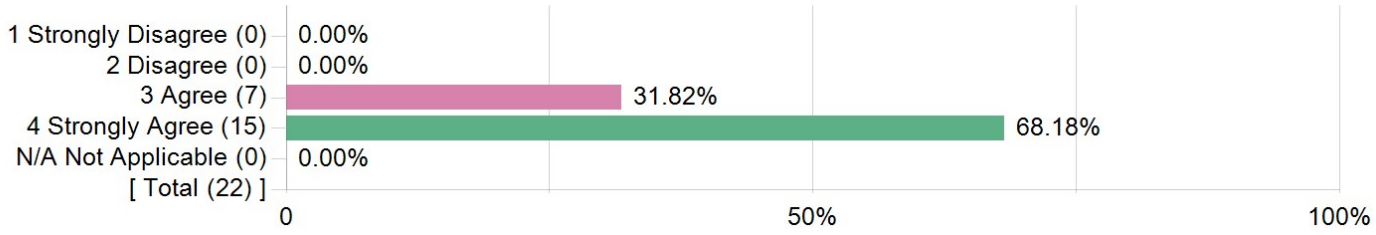

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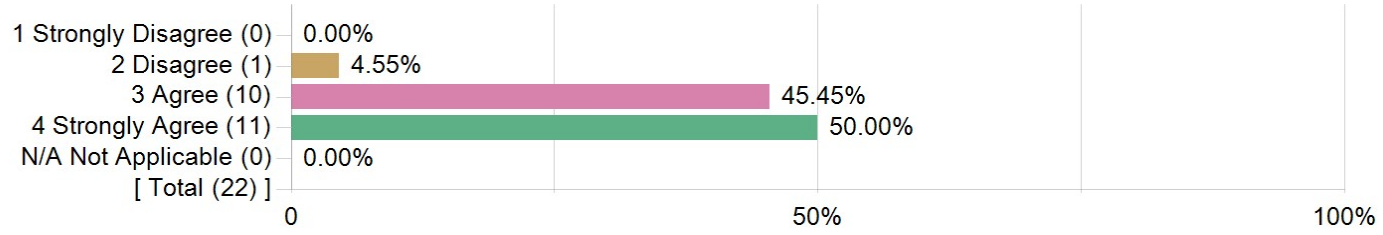

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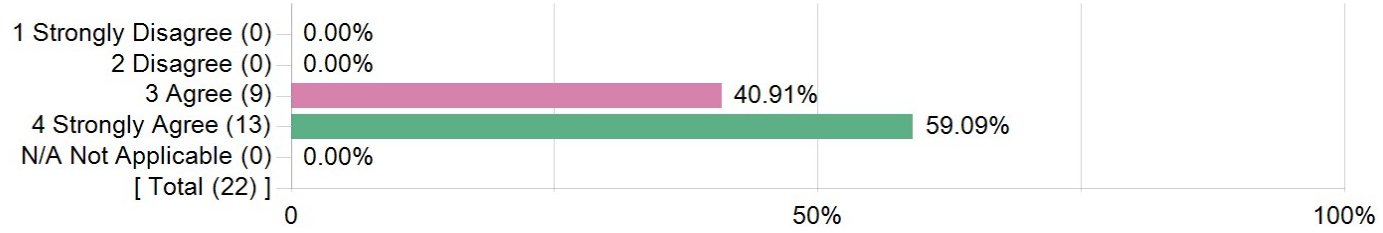

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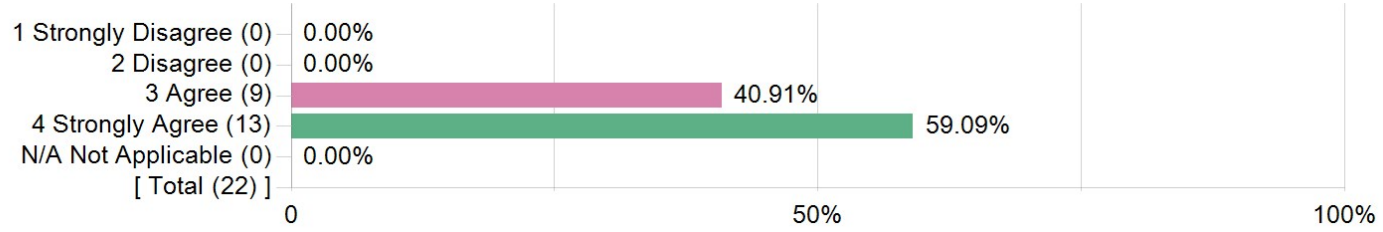

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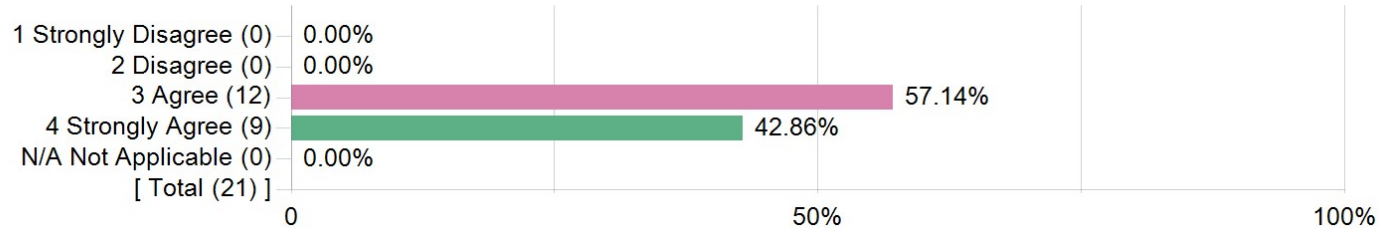

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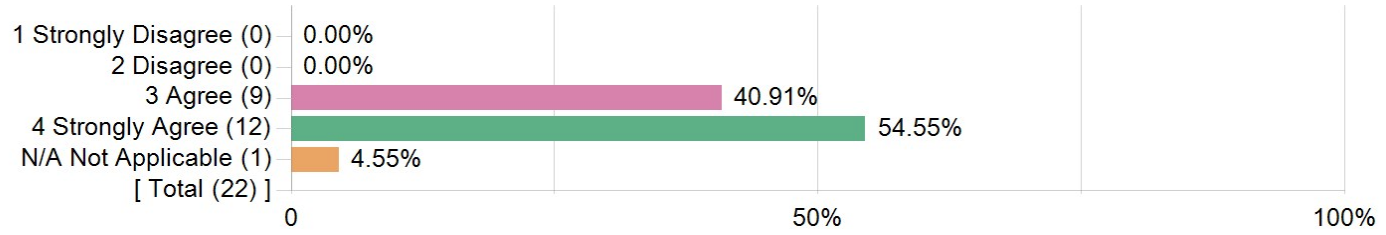

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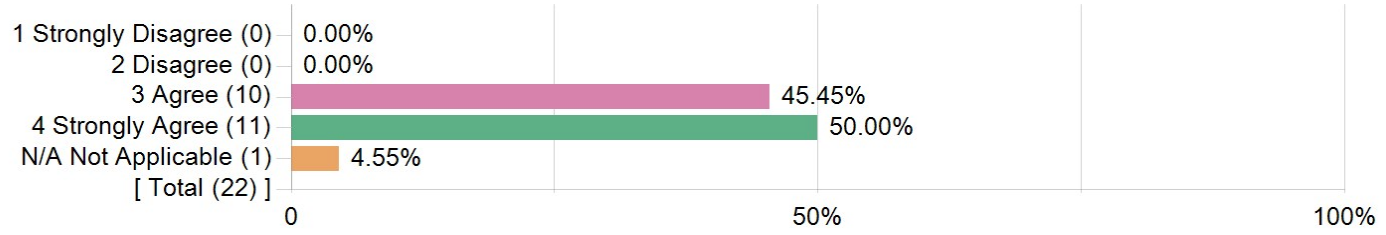

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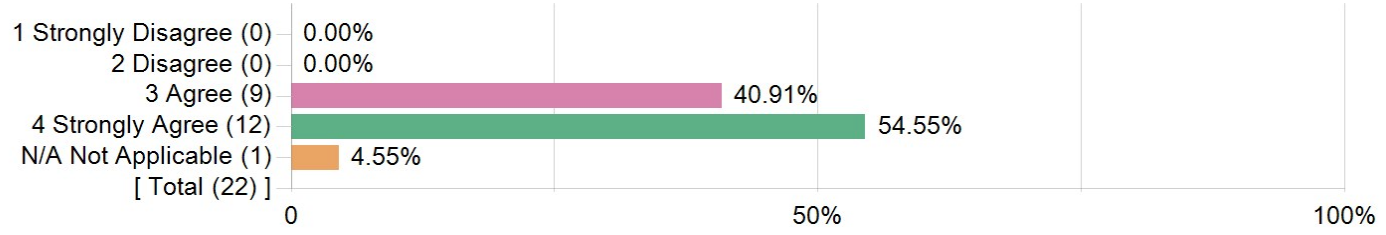


If you have selected at least a "Strongly Disagree" or "Disagree" option with one of the previous statements on COURSE DESIGN, INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES, ASSESSMENT PRACTICES or COURSE IMPACT, please describe a change that would improve that aspect of the course.

Students
Homework was too theoretical. If you are not going to pursue a PHD in this area most of the homework was pointless. TA mentioned that she would much rather go over her own problems than help us with the homework assignments that are pointless.

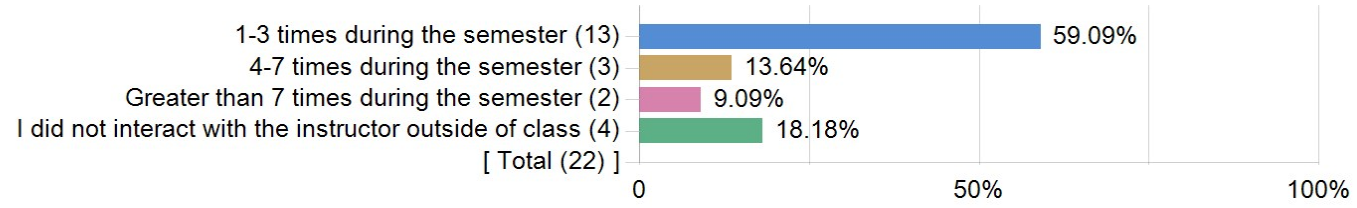
Is there additional information or feedback that you would like to share with instructor Sergey Lototsky ?

Students
Thank you for being flexible and understanding about the current times we're in!
really liked the computer projects and experimental projects since they showed applications of what we learned in lecture
Professor Lototsky has been my favorite mathematics professor at USC thus far. I really enjoyed the fact that he would say, "look into this mathematician or theorem or paradox," because it gave us a broader picture of all there is to learn. My other professors have really just focused on teaching their specific courses and not giving context about the subjects in the overall fabric of math.
I enjoyed the puzzles we'd solve at the start of class. Thank you for your positive attitude and sense of humor!
Good professor who is very passionate and used different ways for us to learn as through homework or computer projects. Very helpful when it comes to studying and preparing for the midterms. But the homework is rather tedious and he does not go over them.
Very much enjoyed this class. While the matlab projects were somewhat daunting for those who have never used matlab, they were a great opportunity to explore the applications of the course material and also get an understanding of the software.
The computer projects were really helpful to understand the concepts better.
I thought you handled the coronavirus/online school situation very well.
This class is solid and I learned a lot. Thank you Professor!
Great lecture! The course load is just at a reasonable amount. I really enjoyed studying statistics with you this semester.
Explain many concepts that are really useful!
Thank you for a great semester and for inspiring us to understand and investigate deeper
I think the computer projects and experimental projects were quite interesting to include in this class and had our concepts be applied to the real world. The tests were always fair and understandable, and I felt good every time I took one. On the other hand, the weekly homework sometimes felt entirely overwhelming. I don't mind the idea of weekly homework, but some of the problems asked were not at the same level we were working. I had weeks where I'd spend hours on a single problem, and others where the entire homework could take me 30 minutes. I think this should be reevaluated to lighten the load for students.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT ANALYSIS

Number of Instructor Interactions Outside of Class

Approximately how many times did you interact with instructor Sergey Lototsky outside of class? (e.g., via email, office hours)



Approximately how many hours did you spend on coursework outside of the classroom?

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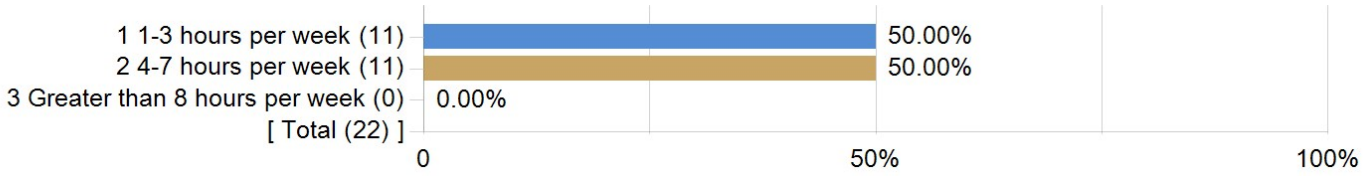
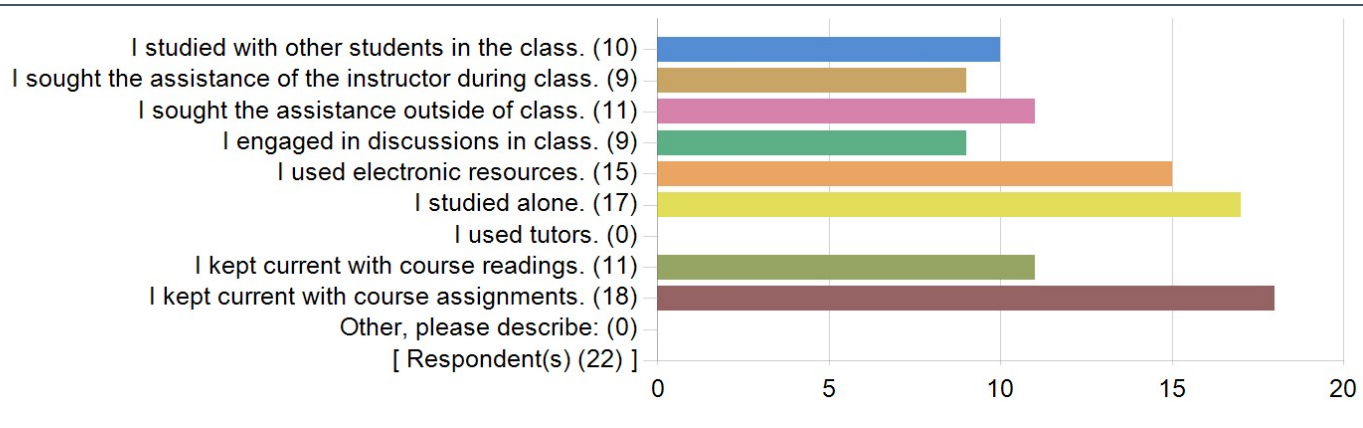


In what ways have you participated in your learning for this course? (Please select all that apply.)



Please describe the MOST valuable aspect(s) of this course.

Comments
The computer projects were unique to this class (I've never had one in another math class before), but they were extremely useful!
Learned how to apply the theory and concepts to real life scenarios
I really enjoyed Professor Lototsky's daily brain teasers/warm–ups. They were a nice way to start class.
Going over homework in discussion!
We learned a variety of real world applicable methods for analyzing data.
Having very adequate help on the midterms and homework
going over homework and practice problems
The most valuable aspects were the computer projects we were assigned. It helped me connect what we were learning in theory to actual application.
The most valuable aspects of this course were the computer and experimental projects. I was unaware that I was going to have to learn how to code, but they were great new experiences.
Doable class, not very stressful
content and statistical understanding
Understanding statistical concepts and proofs, while applying them in the real world.
The applications of statistics are really valuable.

Please describe the LEAST valuable aspect(s) of this course.

Comments
Some of the homework assignments were a bit tedious and difficult to complete without Maria's help, but they were still very useful in preparing for the exams.
N/A
I feel like the lack of examples during lecture was unhelpful. Personally, I find it easiest to learn theory when I see it being used in problems
Some of the homework felt a bit arbitrary or unrelated to the main course content.
Computer projects do not seem necessary as they are not related to the course sometimes. And the homework is incredibly tedious.
n/a
The least valuable aspect of this course was probably some of the homework assignments. Overall, I think homework is necessary for a math course but sometimes it felt like the problems didn't relate to what we were learning.
There weren't any bad parts of this course.
Homework is extremely difficult
some of the homework problems took an extremely long time
The warm ups before every lecture.
Some of the HW problems were very difficult and the answers were never explained especially at the end of the semester. I still am uncertain about the solutions.