

ROTMAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
COURSE EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Course: RSM1382HF.2012-0101
Title: Statistics for Management
Instructor: Najafi, Sami
Term: 20129

Course Enrollment: 64
Responses: 47
Response Rate: 73%
Generated on: Jan 08, 2013 02:34PM

PART A: INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS

	Frequencies (%)											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A	#Valid	6 & 7 Freq.	Mean	Std. Dev.
1. Organized the course effectively.	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	1 (2)	3 (6)	42 (89)	0 (0)	47(100)	96%	6.83	0.56
2. Organized the individual classes effectively.	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4 (9)	11 (23)	32 (68)	0 (0)	47(100)	91%	6.60	0.65
3. Facilitated class discussion effectively.	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	0 (0)	5 (11)	9 (19)	32 (68)	0 (0)	47(100)	87%	6.51	0.86
4. Set high standards.	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (4)	3 (6)	15 (32)	27 (57)	0 (0)	47(100)	89%	6.43	0.80
5. Engaged students.	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (4)	5 (11)	40 (85)	0 (0)	47(100)	96%	6.81	0.50
6. Provided useful feedback.	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	8 (17)	38 (81)	0 (0)	47(100)	98%	6.79	0.46
7. Was approachable outside class.	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	46 (98)	0 (0)	47(100)	100%	6.98	0.15
8. Stimulated my interest in the subject matter.	1 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	2 (4)	9 (19)	34 (72)	0 (0)	47(100)	91%	6.53	1.06
9. Overall, this instructor was effective.	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	7 (15)	40 (85)	0 (0)	47(100)	100%	6.85	0.36

PART B: COURSE QUESTIONS

	Frequencies (%)											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A	#Valid	6 & 7 Freq.	Mean	Std. Dev.
1. Overall, I learned a lot from the course.	1 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3 (6)	8 (17)	35 (74)	0 (0)	47(100)	91%	6.57	1.02
2. I learned a lot from the course readings.	1 (2)	0 (0)	2 (4)	3 (6)	5 (11)	13 (28)	22 (47)	1 (2)	47(100)	76%	6.00	1.35
3. I learned a lot from the class discussions.	0 (0)	2 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3 (6)	12 (26)	30 (64)	0 (0)	47(100)	89%	6.40	1.12
4. I learned a lot from the lectures.	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	0 (0)	2 (4)	9 (19)	35 (74)	0 (0)	47(100)	94%	6.64	0.76
5. The work load was appropriate relative to the learning.	1 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	0 (0)	6 (13)	39 (83)	0 (0)	47(100)	96%	6.68	1.00
6. The course was well integrated with other courses in the program.	1 (2)	0 (0)	1 (2)	0 (0)	2 (4)	11 (23)	32 (68)	0 (0)	47(100)	91%	6.47	1.12
7. The course was relevant to real-world problems.	1 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (2)	8 (17)	37 (79)	0 (0)	47(100)	96%	6.66	0.96

Notes:

- **1 to 7 and N/A** scores are the count and percentage of responses.
Scoring: 1 - Disagree completely... 4 - Neither agree nor disagree... 6 - Agree somewhat, 7 - Agree completely; N/A = Not Applicable
- **#Valid** is the total count and percentage of responses to the question. This number will be less than 100% if some students did not answer this question.
- **6 & 7 Freq.** is the percent of the combination of 6 and 7 responses to the question. N/A and unanswered questions are ignored in the calculation.
- **Mean** is the average of the responses. N/A and unanswered questions are ignored in the calculation.
- **Std. Dev.** is the standard deviation of the responses. N/A and unanswered questions are ignored in the calculation.

Instructor Questions:**Q: What did the instructor do that was particularly effective in helping you learn.**

- He repeated the materials which help us good in understanding deeply. He also engaged students with funny videos yet driving curiosity toward the subject. Sami is a very happy person that have inspired all of us in the class. He focused on the materials in a very effective ways that MBA students need
- perfect course arrangements with different case workshop make the course very effective.
- He made the class very enjoyable at the same time not compromising the academic standard of the course
- Sami's enthusiasm for the subject is infectious. He has a great amount of passion for the topic and it comes through in his lectures. Overall an amazing professor.
- cleared all concepts very well and in an interesting manner. Provided loads of practice problems to drive home the concepts.
- Very personalized and respectful way of teaching. He made the course interesting and kept the interest alive. Depicted true values of respect and professionalism and to put simply an awesome experience.
- He dedicated a lot of out of class time to help me understand the course. It was a very open learning environment.
- Very good at big picture, to express importance of this subject. very organized course content. Instructor was very approachable. Very good at teasing out the important topics while not drowning us with useless info or knowledge that was not relevant to what we will do as future managers.
- Sami prepared many optional problem sets. he is easy to approach after class.
- Very approachable, lots of time spent working on problems.
- The instructor made statistics very applicable to business, and he took extra time and effort to help students understand the concepts. He was very approachable and helpful outside of class. Overall, I started the course with concern about statistics, but left feeling like I could now use the concepts more effectively in business.
- The instructor is very approachable and is very interested in ensuring that people learn. Also, I think the optional review session that the Professor conducted was really helpful.
- The instructor had very clear slides. He was very kind and approachable and made it easy for us to ask questions.
- Went through concepts/examples slowly and patiently.
- Had excellent material, which was well organized and helped me understand the core issues involved
- Was very engaged and provided interesting examples. Was very approachable and demonstrated that he really had an interest in helping is to succeed.
- Varied type of assignments and effective use of teaching platforms.
- He broke topics down into understandable chunks instead of force feeding us information like some other professors
- He applied the material to managerial situations very well.
- Explain concepts very effectively, didn't assume we already knew them.
- Patient when dealing with students, Effectively explained concepts and gave adequate practice exercises to cover topics taught
- He helped us to understand the course really well. He was really approachable and considerate in answering our questions.
- Stimulating discussions . use of relavent videos and managable set of concepts.
- Sami was wonderfully organized and was always approachable outside of class time for extra help. His problem sets were comprehensive, and he provided extra problems for those that wanted the extra practice, Great work!
- He was very willing to assist all through the course. He provided useful explanations and was generally approachable. He provided relevant examples and inspired interest in the subject matter. He was very open about sharing relevant personal experiences that assisted in driving salient points home.
- The had an extra quiz at the begining which help us keep the course material to date, so the mid term was not so bad.

- Sami's use of real-life examples made the concepts easier to grasp.
- Sami was hands-down one of the best Rotman Professors we had this term. He ensured every student understood the material and went out of his way to accommodate our schedules. Sami would reply to questions I had about stats at even 1am in the morning. His dedication to the students was exceptional and his passion for stats was clearly projected through his lectures.
- The course is very well structured and the instructor is very good at explaining and delivery knowledge. I never imagined a Statistics course can be so fun and exciting.
- The instructor provides many sample questions and solutions therefore we can practice and learn a lot from the practice. The instructor also reveiue the key topic of last class to help us recall the learning. The instructor always give help and response when students have problems.
- Scholar sessions were effective in reinforcing a lot of the concepts taught in class.
- He allowed us to ask him a lot of questions and made sure we all understood our concepts during class hours
- Sami was extremely approachable and genuine in his approach to teaching stats. He was keen for us to learn and tried to use interesting examples to help (the Joy of Stats videos were especially good). He was very, very available outside of class and spent extra hours with me to help me understand concepts further.
- The course material was structured very well. Sami's method of integrating workshops was very helpful in reinforcing the concepts. Sami was very good at ensuring that all students were able to gain extra help or guidance if required.
- His power points were very well organized and he made a point of offering help both inside and outside of the class. It was also helpful that he did not put too much pressure on us- he made everything seem manageable, which made a big difference to me as someone with an arts/JD background. Making a subject like stats approachable is a huge asset in a prof at a school that is trying to attract students with more diverse backgrounds.
- He was approachable, available, and very good at explaining the concepts. I found that there was enough material to learn inside class and practice outside of class to reach mastery of the material.
- The course material was organized very effectively and difficult concepts were presented in an easy to understand manner. The difficulty was then ramped up so that I understood the more complicated material.
- Doctor Nafaji provided many useful practices and is willing to answer questions anytime. His well prepared lecture materials also help me a lot, making the obscure theories clear and easy to understand.
- Real business examples to illustrate the points
- Classes were very interesting, each class included a review of previous topics to reinforce learning, and many problems were provided to practice applying concepts.
- It is amazing that he can make such a boring subject so interesting and close to real life application. We actually cover the same content (if not more) than other sections, but we learned easily, happily, proactively. I'm sure this is going to be one of the most memorable courses in my Rotman study.
- Lecture slides were very detailed, which was excellent! Clear examples in class. Use of in-class workshops and incrementally difficult problems. Found that I learned and retained the most in this class.
- He was extremely patient and understanding. His passion for the subject and his will to teach and help his students grow was apparent in every lecture.
- Attention to student's needs and provided help with any questions. Explained concepts as many times as it took for everyone to understand. Concepts were taught in the context of relevance. Amazing slides, very friendly and helpful. Always in a great mood.

Q: Is there anything else the instructor could have done to help you learn? Please be specific.

- He may be more strict on the class time and get started
- I am so moved by the instructor!
- He should stay and teach more course. This is the only course so far I feel obligated to evaluate. so that tells you how good as an instructor he is
- My only suggestion for Sami is that he needs to build his confidence and know when to stand his ground. This will help him to facilitate discussion in class better, among other things.

- NA
- N/A
- Maybe post the slides 4-5 days in advance instead of the traditional 2.
- Be more clear about expectations, about what students are expected to know how to do.
- He could have set higher standards of difficulty for some of the deliverables, like the group assignment. More complex data sets would also have helped us to better apply some of the statistical tools.
- The professor could have had deliverables due sooner in the course to ensure that students keep up with the course.
- Student questions and comments sometimes took up a good portion of the class. I hope that the professor would just move on and tell those students to see him after class. in many cases we were not able to get through the class material because one person did not understand a concept.
- standardized z, t, and f tables for exams.
- Slow down sometimes when starting a new topic
- No.
- Come back and teach at Rotman!
- May be a slightly longer course and and more cases comps which we had at the end.
- None
- I would have not spend so much time in the first part of the course because it was easier, and spend more time in the regression analysis that is more difficult
- Out of necessity, some of the slides carried over from one lecture to the next. It would be helpful if these were marked in the future, so that we do not mistakenly study the same material twice.
- N/A
- I think we could have two case competitions instead of one.
- Overall, the class is great.
- - We should have had more deliverables spread out over the entire course to ensure we were on track learning. Backloading the course with a 20% assignment due the week before exams was too late to identify problem areas. - Sami will be a great teacher one day, but his explanations for certain mathematical pieces were still too complicated for someone with a non-stats, non-math background. Things that seem simple to him are still very complex and it is tough to break them down into manageable pieces. Perhaps teaching at an undergrad level first before teaching masters students will help this?
- Sami is going to be very successful as a professor. I suppose that having the individual assignment earlier may have been helpful, however I also understand that holding it back until the end allowed him to ensure that all relevant material had been presented.
- He could be a bit more assertive in class- sometimes people would ask questions that were beyond the scope of the class and it would be confusing to people less well-versed in math. It would have been better for him to redirect the question to outside of class hours for the benefit of the class generally.
- Sami was very effective at the learning process, and there is nothing additional I would have wanted in the teaching of an MBA statistics course. the material was useful and enjoyable.
- The instructor relied primarily on lecture slides for teaching. The slides were great, but I feel that the textbook could have been integrated better into the course.
- N/A Doctor Najafi is amazing!
- Spent less time on regression ...
- I know I could have learned a lot more if I tried harder, but I think it was just my lack of motivation for the subject. Statistics is not a subject I was particularly interested in, but Sami definitely succeeded in portraying it in a more interesting/exciting way than I expected.

Course Question:

Q: Overall comments on the course.

- Good course.
- Great course - loved it! Workload was appropriate to overall course content.
- It was a course that I was dreading but it ended up being very applicable to real world business problems and I can see it being useful when I re-enter the workplace.
- Made statistics fun (never thought this would be possible)!!!
- Good course for understanding uses of stats in real world. It was made more relevant by practical examples.
- The course was well organized and to the point
- Stats is a difficult course to teach - and even more difficult to make applicable to a wide audience with varying degrees of capability. Sami made it fun, entertaining and not at all dry - which was my experience with previous stats courses.
- It was good for me
- I like the fact that the course was focus on how to applied statistics to real world business problems
- It was an enjoyable and comprehensive statistics lesson.
- Excellent course with material that I'll definitely need going forward in financial analysis.
- Excellent
- I am very satisfied with the course.
- Good course. I enjoyed taking a stats course for the first time. I would VERY STRONGLY suggest to the PSO to change the recommended textbook to "Business Statistics by Bowerman". I liked the fact that Sami brought this book to our attention. This book is much better than the book by Sharpe. It is especially good for people who do not have stats background. Sharpe's book does not teach concepts very well. Even the end of chapter exercises(though many) were relatively simple.
- This was one of the best courses I have taken at Rotman so far ONLY because the way it was structured. I have taken Statistics before but in this class the professor covered the material in depth and made sure he logically explained everything rather than going through a broad range of material. He was very focused in his approach.
- The course was very useful and provides a useful tool for real life problems.
- Perfect instructor and every body is moved in every course and there is some complain from other course mates, but I think the prof in stats in the best in all 5 sections and we must treasure such a good teacher!
- He should stay and teach more course. This is the only course so far I feel obligated to evaluate. so that tells you how good as an instructor he is
- Good course overall, best stats course i have taken, and that is due completely to the quality of the professor.
- very helpful
- Great learning experience! More so on account of the hard work out in by Professor Sami. Looking forward to taking more courses offered by him in future.
- Very well organized. Relevant material to our other classes. Prof Najafi was very clear on the material and went over difficult areas in an easy to learn manner.
- Good course. understanding data is essential to business decisions. this is a good into course.
- This course was far too much based on mechanics and not enough on interpretation - no one will ever have to calculate a confidence interval manually because Excel can spit it out in three seconds. We should have spent more time learning how to understand and make sense of the outcomes from Excel rather than working through algebraic expressions. I also found the course was far too geared toward those who already had a statistics background. I don't think the course did anything to differentiate those students, or pull other students up; in other words, those students who had a statistics background did well, and those who did not struggled. This does not seem fair, and steps should be taken to address this.
- A very useful course. I never thought statistics would be useful in an MBA, but Sami used a lot of applied concepts and made his materials really easy to understand.
- This course was very well presented. However, this strikes me as a course that belongs in the foundations term. Having these statistical analysis tools prior to finance would have been quite helpful. Also (and I know that everyone will be making this recommendation) there does seem to be a need for much better consistency in the

handling of statistics at Rotman.

- It was a good course. As mentioned, if there were deliverables due sooner, or earlier on in the course, it would have been more beneficial.

- it would have been helpful for the course to have been split up over two semesters to give us more time to learn the material. Coming from an entirely qualitative background, it was extremely difficult to internalize the pure math of stats completely from scratch in such a short period of time, no matter how much help our Professor offered us.

- The course itself was great. There should have been better integration amongst the different statistics professors to remove class-to-class variation in workload. This was a failure in part of the administration to not adequately measure workloads across sections. The workload in this section was appropriate for the content and time required, and the other sections should use this class as a model for teaching stats next year.

- I feel that most of the classes I've taken in the 1st year so far were lacking a "human" touch from the professor. This class made up for that. The professor's enthusiasm for the course material was infectious and stimulated my interest in the subject matter.

- Obviously, statistics is not an easy course to learn. However, given Doctor Najafi's well organized and interesting lectures, I feel all of the principles became simple and easy to understand. I really enjoy the course.

- Very well organized. I learned a lot from this course. Sami is a great professor.

- Great instructor ... very kind Too much time on regression Needs to communicate better about deliverables ... the mid-term exam was a bit of a mess because we were not provided with necessary tables so suddenly we were allowed to use our computers ... the instructor needs to be strict with requirements/deadlines when it comes to deliverables and exams

- This was one of the only courses that I can confidently say that I will walk away and remember. The material was applied to the real world more so than anything else I have done so far at Rotman. This was by far the most instructive and applicable course I have had to date. I not only understood the concepts of forecasting but given a problem I believe I can confidently tackle it and derive significant information from it. Moreover, this is one of the only courses that I have studied to learn the material because of the way it was presented to us. In comparison to other courses, which I learn the material just to get an A in the class and forget everything thereafter, this course gave me real knowledge and skills that I can take away, which is why I value this course more than any of the other courses at Rotman.

- This course is very integrated with our other courses, and is very relevant to real world learnings but unfortunately it is so dense that many of us miss even the most simple concepts because they are a. taught in a way that is too complicated and b. not taught in line with our other courses (eg we did regression in Finance before we did it in Stats).

- Sami was amazing, but overall the courses offered this term were extremely challenging, especially coming from a non-quant background. I wish I had more time to spend on statistics because I think it is very important, and I could have learned a lot from my incredible professor, but all of the other quant-heavy subjects this term (especially finance) took up so much of my time. It was really difficult to balance statistics, finance, and accounting - all topics that are completely new to me, and required a lot of time to internalize.

- Very well organized.