DEPARTMENT OF ACTUARIAL SCIENCE & STATISTICS

"There must be some mistake. According to our actuary tables I'm going to live to 83."

Introduction

ASSU would like to thank the Staff and Faculty of the Department of Actuarial Science and Statistics for their assistance in providing the following evaluations.

Editor

ACT 230H1F Mathematics of Finance for Non-Actuaries

Instructor(s): K. Sharp

Enr: 93			Resp: 49				Retake: 73%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	6	22	35	25	10	5.1
Explains	0	0	6	14	33	33	12	5.3
Communicates	0	0	0	18	29	29	22	5.6
Teaching	0	0	2	18	29	37	12	5.4
Workload	0	2	10	57	23	4	2	4.2
Difficulty	0	2	6	47	25	12	6	4.6
Learn Exp	0	2	5	45	35	8	2	4.5

Students found Sharp to be a caring, nice and an enthusiastic instructor. He was good at explaining course material, however, some students complained that term test 2 covered too much material, and that they were not given enough time to write the test itself.

The use of lasers to improve student participation in class was said to be very helpful, but a significant number of students also noted it was a distraction.

ACT 240H1F Mathematics of Investment & Credit

Instructor(s): S. Broverman

Enr: 141			Resp: 53				Retake: 59%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	1	0	5	17	17	30	26	5.5
Explains	0	0	7	17	13	30	30	5.6
Communicates	3	1	5	17	23	34	13	5.1
Teaching	0	1	3	15	17	31	29	5.6
Workload	3	3	1	49	23	11	5	4.4
Difficulty	3	1	3	43	21	21	3	4.6
Learn Exp	0	2	8	35	14	26	11	4.9

ACT 245H1S Financial Principles for Actuarial Science I

Instructor(s): K. Sharp

Enr: 106			Resp: 63				Retake: 74%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	5	8	18	41	13	13	4.9

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Explains	0	1	1	20	33	25	16	5.3
Communicates	0	0	0	5	20	53	21	5.9
Teaching	0	1	0	8	27	41	20	5.7
Workload	0	0	5	66	20	5	3	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	3	61	20	11	3	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	7	33	28	20	10	4.9

Some students thought Sharp was enthusiastic and appreciated the use of lasers in the classroom. A few felt that his lectures were sometimes a bit unorganized. Also, students found his writing hard to read and wished he could have written bigger and clearer.

ACT 247H1S Introductory Life Contingencies

Instructor(s): A. Badescu

Enr: 102			Resp: 45				Retake: 67%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	2	29	36	31	6.0
Explains	0	0	2	4	29	31	31	5.9
Communicates	0	0	2	13	40	27	15	5.4
Teaching	0	0	0	4	29	29	36	6.0
Workload	0	0	4	54	30	4	4	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	2	35	40	14	7	4.9
Learn Exp	0	3	0	27	27	27	15	5.2

Badescu was a very good instructor who presented the material clearly.

ACT 348H1F Advanced Life Contingencies

Instructor(s): A. Badescu

Enr: 76			Resp: 52				Retake: 72%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	6	17	46	29	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	6	23	41	28	5.9
Communicates	0	0	4	13	23	39	19	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	8	21	56	13	5.7
Workload	2	0	4	59	22	11	0	4.3
Difficulty	2	0	2	53	26	15	0	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	4	44	36	12	4	4.7

Most students felt that Badescu was an engaging instructor who did a good job of explaining the course concepts. Students raised concerns that the course could have done more to address the SOA exam syllabus.

ACT 349H1F Corporate Finance for Actuarial Science Mathematics

Instructor(s): K. Sharp

Enr: 69			Resp: 39				Retake: 72%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	7	12	38	30	10	5.2
Explains	0	0	7	5	35	41	10	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	10	30	43	15	5.6
Teaching	0	0	2	5	43	30	17	5.6
Workload	0	2	10	68	15	0	2	4.1
Difficulty	2	2	13	57	18	5	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	7	3	35	28	17	7	4.7

ACT 370H1S Financial Principles for Actuarial Science II

Instructor(s): S. Broverman

Enr: 76			Resp: 40				Retake: 65%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	15	21	36	26	5.7
Explains	2	0	0	10	27	37	22	5.6
Communicates	2	0	0	10	32	30	25	5.6
Teaching	2	2	0	2	25	27	40	5.9
Workload	0	5	0	57	28	2	5	4.4
Difficulty	0	2	0	26	39	23	7	5.1
Learn Exp	3	0	0	25	28	35	7	5.1

ACT 451H1F Loss Models

Instructor(s): S. Lin

Enr: 66		Resp: 24				Retake: 77%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	37	50	12	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	20	62	16	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	8	33	41	16	5.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	29	54	16	5.9
Workload	0	0	17	47	26	8	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	4	8	47	7	21	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	4	23	47	14	9	5.0

ACT 452H1S Loss Models II

Instructor(s): X. Lin

Enr: 61		Resp: 15				Retake: 64%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	6	26	26	40	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	6	26	26	40	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	6	20	33	40	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	6	20	40	33	6.0
Workload	0	0	13	66	6	6	6	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	13	66	6	6	6	4.3
Learn Exp	0	0	0	46	7	23	23	5.2

ACT 455H1S Advanced Topics in Actuarial Science

Instructor(s): S. Broverman

Enr: 70		Resp: 39				Retake: 72%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	2	5	20	28	43	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	2	25	30	41	6.1
Communicates	0	0	0	7	23	28	41	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	17	41	41	6.2
Workload	0	5	0	56	28	10	0	4.4
Difficulty	0	0	5	51	25	15	2	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	34	31	31	3	5.0

ACT 460H1F Stochastic Methods for Actuarial Science

Instructor(s): S. Jaimungal

Enr: 61		Resp: 40				Retake: 67%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	2	0	10	15	22	50	6.1
Explains	0	0	5	17	17	15	45	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	5	17	30	47	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	12	15	20	52	6.1
Workload	0	0	0	22	40	27	10	5.2
Difficulty	0	0	0	2	32	37	27	5.9
Learn Exp	0	3	3	25	15	18	34	5.5

Students lauded their instructor as organized, clear, and enthusiastic. The lecture videos were very helpful. However, students felt that the true/false questions were an unfair assessment of their understanding of the material.

ACT 466H1S Credibility and Simulation

Instructor(s): S. Broverman

Enr: 48		Resp: 16				Retake: 84%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	6	12	50	31	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	6	12	37	43	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	6	68	25	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	50	50	6.5
Workload	0	6	6	62	12	12	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	18	37	31	12	0	4.4
Learn Exp	0	0	0	38	23	38	0	5.0

STA 220H1F The Practice of Statistics I

Instructor(s): Y. Sun

Enr: 137		Resp: 49				Retake: 30%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	14	14	31	21	12	2	2	3.2
Explains	8	17	21	34	8	8	0	3.4
Communicates	8	8	23	34	21	4	0	3.6
Teaching	12	12	23	29	14	6	0	3.4
Workload	0	0	4	60	28	6	0	4.4
Difficulty	2	0	13	56	19	8	0	4.2
Learn Exp	3	12	30	39	15	0	0	3.5

Students felt that the instructor poorly communicated concepts during lectures. Also, the lecture notes were difficult to read. Although she was described as knowledgeable and answered questions, students felt she has little enthusiasm and was difficult to understand at times.

Instructor(s): M. Thompson

Enr: 212		Resp: 62				Retake: 36%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	9	4	16	27	29	9	3	4.0
Explains	9	1	19	24	25	16	3	4.2
Communicates	1	1	3	8	14	40	30	5.8
Teaching	1	6	12	17	41	14	4	4.5
Workload	0	0	3	50	27	11	8	4.7
Difficulty	0	1	3	50	31	9	3	4.5
Learn Exp	3	7	17	52	12	7	0	3.8

Students described Thompson as an enthusiastic lecturer who was passionate about the material. However, some students found her occasionally unclear, talked too fast, and often went off on tangents. More examples would have been useful. Students were happy with the Power Point presentation but thought it would have helped if it was posted prior to lectures. TAs were helpful and approachable.

Instructor(s): A. Vukov

Enr: 369		Resp: 180				Retake: 46%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	9	18	28	27	14	5.2
Explains	1	0	3	12	30	31	19	5.5
Communicates	0	1	4	12	26	30	23	5.5
Teaching	0	0	1	12	30	32	22	5.6
Workload	0	0	2	42	29	18	6	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	6	48	21	15	8	4.7
Learn Exp	2	0	9	50	22	9	3	4.3

Students found this course to be very challenging, but valuable. Vukov was very enthusiastic about the material and attentive to questions. A few students felt that the lectures could have been better organized, finding it difficult to keep up with both overheads and lecture information. Most students felt the information in the readings were valuable.

STA 221H1S The Practice of Statistics II

Instructor(s): A. Vukov

Enr: 129		Resp: 57				Retake: 18%	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	1	7	27	25	30	7	5.0
Explains	0	3	5	23	40	21	5	4.9
Communicates	0	1	3	16	34	34	9	5.2
Teaching	0	1	3	16	38	35	3	5.1
Workload	0	0	0	37	40	11	11	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	25	36	25	12	5.3
Learn Exp	4	4	26	46	14	2	0	3.7

Overall, students did not like this course. They felt that the tutorials could have been better organized to help with conceptual issues students had with the subject material.

Students seemed to generally like Vukov, and appreciated the practice

tests and exams that were made available to them.

STA 247H1F Probability with Computer Applications

Instructor(s): S. Homayouni-Boroojeni

Enr: 125　　　　　　　Resp: 67　　　　　　Retake: 19%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	7	13	24	21	21	6	6	3.8
Explains	7	12	21	36	9	7	6	3.7
Communicates	1	4	4	13	43	26	6	5.0
Teaching	6	9	15	31	19	13	4	4.1
Workload	1	1	1	25	34	25	9	5.0
Difficulty	1	0	1	23	29	21	23	5.4
Learn Exp	13	13	15	30	20	5	1	3.6

Students described the instructor as considerate and approachable. However, the material was difficult and lecture notes could have been better organized. More examples would have been useful

STA 248H1S Statistics for Computer Scientists

Instructor(s): H. Moshonov

Enr: 19　　　　　　　Resp: 14　　　　　　Retake: 38%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	7	0	42	35	14	5.5
Explains	0	0	0	21	28	35	14	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	14	50	35	0	5.2
Teaching	0	0	7	14	35	42	0	5.1
Workload	0	0	21	78	0	0	0	3.8
Difficulty	7	0	0	78	7	7	0	4.0
Learn Exp	0	0	8	50	16	16	8	4.7

Overall, students found Moshonov to be an effective lecturer, although they felt a little more explanation on material of higher difficulty could have been helpful.

A few students mentioned that the course could have been better organized.

STA 250H1F Statistical Concepts

Instructor(s): A. Vukov

Enr: 76　　　　　　　Resp: 30　　　　　　Retake: 45%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	3	10	27	34	13	10	4.8
Explains	3	0	10	31	27	24	3	4.7
Communicates	0	3	10	24	34	17	10	4.8
Teaching	0	3	0	10	42	35	7	5.3
Workload	0	0	3	50	34	11	0	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	3	42	26	23	3	4.8
Learn Exp	0	4	8	62	20	0	4	4.2

Vukov was knowledgeable and offered useful examples. However, he spoke too quickly and sometimes rushed explanations. The material was described as very difficult.

STA 255H1S Statistical Theory

Instructor(s): E. Acar

Enr: 75　　　　　　　Resp: 26　　　　　　Retake: 31%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	3	15	19	19	30	11	4.9
Explains	0	7	19	30	11	30	0	4.4
Communicates	0	4	4	36	16	16	24	5.1
Teaching	0	7	23	11	26	15	15	4.7
Workload	0	4	12	36	24	12	12	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	7	30	15	15	30	5.3
Learn Exp	11	11	11	29	35	0	0	3.6

STA 257H1F Probability and Statistics I

Instructor(s): H. Moshonov

Enr: 98　　　　　　　Resp: 61　　　　　　Retake: 61%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	1	6	8	31	31	20	5.4
Explains	1	0	0	13	28	38	16	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	11	37	33	16	5.6
Teaching	0	1	1	11	32	35	16	5.5
Workload	0	0	1	35	37	18	6	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	3	32	33	15	15	5.1
Learn Exp	0	2	2	29	37	18	8	4.9

Moshonov was described as enthusiastic and organized. She presented her lectures clearly, but at a fast pace. Readings were heavy as was the workload.

STA 257H1F Probability and Statistics I

Instructor(s): P. McDunnough

Enr: 156　　　　　　　Resp: 87　　　　　　Retake: 45%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	11	8	16	18	20	14	10	4.1
Explains	8	8	11	25	18	14	12	4.3
Communicates	4	2	8	20	26	18	18	4.9
Teaching	6	6	8	18	18	19	24	4.9
Workload	3	2	3	48	22	14	4	4.5
Difficulty	0	2	4	36	23	21	10	4.9
Learn Exp	4	4	12	35	21	12	7	4.3

While the instructor was described as knowledgeable, lectures were sometimes difficult to understand. A few students complained that the instructor did not answer questions appropriately.

STA 261H1S Probability and Statistics II

Instructor(s): H. Moshonov

Enr: 90　　　　　　　Resp: 52　　　　　　Retake: 52%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	9	19	33	37	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	11	15	37	35	6.0
Communicates	0	0	0	7	15	37	39	6.1
Teaching	0	0	0	9	13	37	39	6.1
Workload	0	5	1	49	17	17	7	4.6
Difficulty	0	2	4	40	24	18	12	4.9
Learn Exp	0	5	0	27	38	13	13	5.0

Students seemed to generally like having Moshonov as an instructor. She was patient and understanding.

STA 302H1F Regression Analysis

Instructor(s): M. Samarakoon

Enr: 126　　　　　　　Resp: 42　　　　　　Retake: 74%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	7	17	30	32	12	5.2
Explains	0	0	5	12	30	35	15	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	7	23	53	15	5.8
Teaching	0	0	2	5	23	50	18	5.8
Workload	0	5	8	50	30	5	0	4.2
Difficulty	0	2	10	52	23	7	2	4.3
Learn Exp	0	3	3	35	28	25	3	4.8

Samarakoon was approachable and often available for individual consultation. He was described as a good instructor and readily answered questions.

STA 332H1S Experimental Design

Instructor(s): D. Banjevic

Enr: 90　　　　　Resp: 35　　　　　Retake: 68%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	5	11	34	31	17	5.4
Explains	0	0	5	26	26	29	11	5.1
Communicates	0	0	8	17	25	37	11	5.3
Teaching	0	0	2	5	40	37	14	5.5
Workload	0	3	18	57	6	12	3	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	9	57	15	12	6	4.5
Learn Exp	0	0	15	50	19	7	7	4.4

STA 347H1F Probability with Computer Applications

Instructor(s): P. McDunnough

Enr: 114　　　　　Resp: 49　　　　　Retake: 46%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	4	10	6	26	34	10	8	4.4
Explains	4	6	12	22	30	12	12	4.6
Communicates	2	4	16	27	25	14	10	4.5
Teaching	4	6	4	22	33	14	14	4.8
Workload	0	2	2	31	27	27	10	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	21	19	34	23	5.6
Learn Exp	6	9	12	18	28	18	6	4.3

Most students lauded the instructor as knowledgeable and effective. The material was difficult but lecture notes were useful.

STA 352Y1Y Introduction to Mathematical Statistics

Instructor(s): D. Fraser

Enr: 47　　　　　Resp: 25　　　　　Retake: 73%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	8	32	16	40	5.8
Explains	0	0	4	20	28	16	32	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	12	16	36	36	6.0
Teaching	0	0	0	4	24	28	44	6.1
Workload	0	0	8	48	36	4	4	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	4	24	48	16	8	5.0
Learn Exp	0	0	5	16	27	27	22	5.4

Overall, Fraser was said to be a "great" instructor.

STA 410H1F Statistical Computation

Instructor(s): R. Craiu

Enr: 30　　　　　Resp: 20　　　　　Retake: 41%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	15	15	30	25	10	5	4.2
Explains	0	15	15	30	30	10	0	4.1
Communicates	5	5	15	30	30	10	5	4.2
Teaching	0	15	10	25	40	5	5	4.2
Workload	0	10	5	26	31	21	5	4.6
Difficulty	0	5	5	26	15	31	15	5.1
Learn Exp	13	20	6	40	6	13	0	3.5

Craiu sometimes lectured too quickly and students wanted more examples. Better organization of lectures was suggested.

STA 414H1S Statistical Methods for Data Mining and Machine Learning

Instructor(s): N. Reid

Enr: 28　　　　　Resp: 11　　　　　Retake: 11%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	10	30	20	20	20	5.1
Explains	0	0	9	45	18	18	9	4.7
Communicates	0	9	0	18	36	18	18	5.1
Teaching	0	0	0	18	45	9	27	5.5
Workload	0	0	9	27	27	36	0	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	0	9	36	27	27	5.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	42	28	14	14	5.0

Although assignments were described as being very difficult, students thought Reid was a very "nice" instructor.

STA 437H1F Methods for Multivariate Data

Instructor(s): R. Neal

Enr: 35　　　　　Resp: 24　　　　　Retake: 76%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	4	4	34	34	21	5.9
Explains	0	4	0	13	21	34	30	5.5
Communicates	0	0	4	4	25	33	33	5.8
Teaching	0	0	4	0	33	16	45	6.0
Workload	0	4	4	52	23	4	8	4.5
Difficulty	0	4	4	39	34	4	13	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	42	14	28	14	5.1

Students described the instructor as an enthusiastic, organized and clear lecturer. However, he lectured too quickly at times. Students would have preferred that practice problems and solutions were given well in advance of tests and exams.

STA 442H1F Methods of Applied Statistics

Instructor(s): R. Craiu

Enr: 15　　　　　Resp: 5　　　　　Retake: 33%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	60	20	20	0	0	3.6
Explains	0	20	40	40	0	0	0	3.2
Communicates	0	20	40	0	40	0	0	3.6
Teaching	0	0	20	40	40	0	0	4.2
Workload	0	0	0	20	40	20	20	5.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	60	20	20	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	50	50	0	0	0	3.5

STA 447H1S Stochastic Processes

Instructor(s): P. McDunnough

Enr: 33　　　　　Resp: 30　　　　　Retake: 85%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	3	3	16	23	20	33	5.5
Explains	0	0	6	20	23	23	26	5.4
Communicates	0	0	0	13	30	33	23	5.7
Teaching	0	0	3	13	16	26	40	5.9
Workload	0	3	0	16	23	33	20	5.5
Difficulty	0	0	0	10	13	36	40	6.1
Learn Exp	0	0	0	47	11	29	11	5.1

Although the material was very interesting, the course was difficult.

STA 457H1S Time Series Analysis

Instructor(s): J. Lin

Enr: 118　　　　　Resp: 52　　　　　Retake: 42%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	3	9	5	38	25	15	1	4.2
Explains	3	15	30	28	15	5	0	3.5
Communicates	1	3	13	21	30	17	11	4.7
Teaching	3	7	17	32	25	13	0	4.1
Workload	0	3	5	41	23	19	5	4.7
Difficulty	0	3	0	39	31	19	5	4.8
Learn Exp	7	5	17	43	12	12	0	3.9

This course could have benefitted from better and clearer lectures.

NEW:　Tuition payment or fees deferral must be made by Wednesday, August 19th!!