

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: 85							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	19	33	30	16	5.4
Explains	0	0	5	5	33	27	27	5.7
Communicates	0	0	0	5	8	41	44	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	13	19	41	25	5.8
Workload	2	2	10	64	13	5	0	4.0
Difficulty	0	5	8	56	21	8	0	4.2
Learn Exp	0	3	3	46	3	35	7	4.9

Some students found the use of lasers helpful in this class. Students found Sharp to be a helpful and knowledgeable lecturer.

**ACT 240H1F Mathematics of Investment & Credit**

Instructor(s): K. Sharp

	Enr: 173							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	7	6	28	34	22	5.6
Explains	0	2	4	5	30	33	23	5.6
Communicates	0	0	2	4	19	28	44	6.1
Teaching	0	1	2	7	15	43	29	5.9
Workload	0	0	1	41	32	16	7	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	8	16	26	34	14	5.3
Learn Exp	0	1	2	20	34	26	14	5.2

While students found the instructor knowledgeable and the use of lasers in class helpful, they thought that he spoke too fast which did not help the learning experience.

The course was also described as difficult by a few students.

**ACT 245H1S Financial Principles for Actuarial Science I**

Instructor(s): K. Sharp

	Enr: 106							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	4	2	0	35	26	20	11	4.8
Explains	2	4	4	15	40	22	9	4.9
Communicates	2	0	0	6	28	33	28	5.8

Teaching	4	0	2	11	26	46	8	5.3
Workload	0	0	0	47	27	18	6	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	29	34	22	13	5.2
Learn Exp	0	0	3	29	51	12	3	4.8

Students found the use of lasers in the classroom helpful.

**ACT 247H1S Introductory Life Contingencies**

Instructor(s): A. Badescu

	Enr: 116							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	1	0	0	11	25	25	36	5.8
Explains	1	0	0	11	25	25	36	5.8
Communicates	1	0	3	17	28	23	25	5.4
Teaching	1	0	0	13	22	30	32	5.7
Workload	1	0	1	19	21	35	19	5.4
Difficulty	1	0	1	11	19	37	27	5.7
Learn Exp	2	0	2	23	26	34	10	5.2

**ACT 348H1F Advanced Life Contingencies**

Instructor(s): A. Badescu

	Enr: 76							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	8	24	42	24	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	4	29	36	29	5.9
Communicates	0	2	2	8	26	35	24	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	6	20	43	29	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	45	19	28	7	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	31	31	19	17	5.2
Learn Exp	0	0	0	26	26	23	23	5.4

Students appreciated Badescu's organization and way of teaching for this difficult course.

**ACT 349H1F Corporate Finance for Actuarial Science Mathematics**

Instructor(s): K. Sharp

	Enr: 60							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	3	3	9	18	39	9	18	4.9
Explains	2	2	8	14	50	2	17	4.9
Communicates	0	0	0	18	39	18	24	5.5
Teaching	0	3	0	18	46	12	18	5.2
Workload	0	5	0	57	22	11	2	4.4
Difficulty	0	2	2	51	14	25	2	4.7
Learn Exp	4	8	0	50	16	16	4	4.3

While students felt Sharp was an enthusiastic and knowledgeable lecturer they found the term tests hard.

**ACT 370H1S Financial properties for Actuarial Science II**

Instructor(s): S. Damouras

	Enr: 75							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	20	50	30	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	10	20	50	20	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	15	40	20	25	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	25	55	20	5.9
Workload	0	5	0	36	52	5	0	4.5
Difficulty	0	0	10	26	52	10	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	7	0	35	28	7	21	4.9

Students generally enjoyed the course and the instructor.

## 4 ACTUARIAL SCIENCE & STATISTICS

### ACT 452H1S Loss Models

Instructor(s): S. Lin

	Resp: 12							Retake: 66%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	16	66	16	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	0	25	58	6	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	16	16	50	16	5.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	25	58	16	5.9
Workload	0	0	0	33	41	25	0	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	8	33	33	16	8	4.8
Learn Exp	0	0	14	42	14	28	0	4.6

### ACT 452H1S Loss Models II

Instructor(s): S. Lin

	Resp: 14							Retake: 92%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	7	0	35	21	35	5.8
Explains	0	0	0	0	35	14	50	6.1
Communicates	0	0	7	14	28	14	35	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	0	35	50	14	5.8
Workload	0	0	0	42	21	14	21	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	7	14	42	14	21	5.3
Learn Exp	0	0	7	30	15	23	23	5.2

### ACT 455H1S Advanced Topics in Actuarial Science

Instructor(s): A. Badescu

	Resp: 36							Retake: 61%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	8	22	36	33	5.9
Explains	0	0	0	8	27	25	38	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	5	29	35	29	5.9
Teaching	0	0	2	5	20	41	29	5.9
Workload	0	2	2	47	23	20	2	4.6
Difficulty	0	2	0	35	35	14	11	4.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	28	35	23	9	5.1

Students felt that Badescu taught the course well even though the material was difficult.

### ACT 460H1F Stochastic Methods for Actuarial Science

Instructor(s): S. Jaimungal

	Resp: 41							Retake: 70%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	9	29	60	6.5
Explains	0	0	0	0	19	29	51	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	0	12	25	62	6.5
Teaching	0	0	0	0	12	30	57	6.4
Workload	0	0	0	51	17	25	5	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	12	28	41	17	5.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	23	23	36	16	5.5

Students felt that the material was difficult. However, Jaimungal helped to make the material understandable with the use of technology (e.g.: videos) in class.

### ACT 466H1S Credibility and Simulation

Instructor(s): X. Lin

	Resp: 14							Retake: 61%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	21	7	50	21	5.7
Explains	0	0	0	28	7	35	28	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	27	7	42	21	5.6
Teaching	0	0	0	21	14	35	28	5.7
Workload	0	0	0	64	7	14	14	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	50	7	35	7	5.0
Learn Exp	0	0	0	30	20	50	0	5.2

### STA 220H1F The Practice of Statistics I

Instructor(s): A. Vukov

	Resp: 110							Retake: 32%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	1	0	9	25	30	20	10	4.9
Explains	1	1	6	15	33	26	14	5.1
Communicates	1	0	3	18	32	20	22	5.3
Teaching	1	0	3	11	34	31	16	5.4
Workload	0	0	3	41	40	9	3	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	5	54	24	11	2	4.5
Learn Exp	2	4	14	43	24	8	2	4.2

Students felt Vukov was kind and approachable. However, the course could have been better organized so that the instructor did not have to rush through material towards the end of the course. Students also mentioned that it would be helpful if the lecture notes were put up online.

### STA 220H1F The Practice of Statistics I

Instructor(s): A. Vukov

	Resp: 57							Retake: 44 %
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	3	1	21	34	29	9	5.1
Explains	1	1	1	16	43	25	9	5.1
Communicates	0	0	3	16	32	32	16	5.4
Teaching	0	1	1	12	35	37	10	5.4
Workload	1	1	7	35	23	17	12	4.8
Difficulty	1	1	7	42	28	14	3	4.5
Learn Exp	2	6	6	55	21	4	4	4.2

Students felt that it would be easier to understand the course material if Vukov could put up the lecture slides online.

### STA 221H1S The Practice of Statistics II

Instructor(s): A. Vukov

	Resp: 50							Retake: 24%
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	2	6	30	30	16	6	5.0
Explains	2	4	6	16	36	16	18	5.0
Communicates	0	4	4	16	38	22	16	5.2
Teaching	0	0	4	18	40	18	18	5.3
Workload	0	0	4	37	31	20	6	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	2	22	47	16	10	5.1
Learn Exp	4	4	13	41	18	11	4	4.2

Tests were difficult. Some students said that the assignments and course material did not prepare them for the tests.

### STA 247H1F Probability with Computer Applications

Instructor(s): Z. Zhou

	Resp: 85							Retake: 18
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	8	4	23	19	23	11	8	4.1
Explains	9	14	21	22	15	9	7	3.8
Communicates	2	3	4	16	34	18	20	5.1
Teaching	10	8	22	28	16	7	4	3.7
Workload	1	4	13	55	10	9	4	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	0	17	25	29	27	5.7
Learn Exp	12	16	21	28	14	6	0	3.4

Students found this course disorganized. One of the major issues students seemed to have was that a mandatory tutorial was started after the 1st day of class without the schedule being offered on ROSI. Students also found that the mid-term was very hard and had unreasonable expectations of students.

**STA 248H1S Statistics for Computer Scientists**

Instructor(s): K. Knight

Enr: 39                      Resp: 10                      Retake: 62%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	20	40	40	6.2
Explains	0	0	0	10	20	50	20	5.8
Communicates	0	0	10	10	10	40	30	5.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	30	40	30	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	40	60	0	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	30	50	10	10	5.0
Learn Exp	0	12	0	37	37	12	0	4.4

Students said that the homework/assignments helped to understand the material.

**STA 250H1F Statistical Concepts**

Instructor(s): R. Craiu

Enr: 97                      Resp: 44                      Retake: 84%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	2	0	2	15	29	31	18	5.4
Explains	0	0	0	6	34	40	18	5.7
Communicates	2	0	2	15	29	31	18	5.4
Teaching	0	0	0	6	34	38	20	5.7
Workload	0	6	11	55	13	9	2	4.1
Difficulty	0	2	14	50	23	7	2	4.3
Learn Exp	3	0	0	37	18	25	15	5.1

Students said Craiu was a "good" lecturer, who explained concepts clearly in class.

Students suggested greater organization in lecture notes, as that could be beneficial to the learning experience.

**STA 255H1S Statistical Theory**

Instructor(s): A. Vukov

Enr: 88                      Resp: 31                      Retake: 22%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	3	6	12	19	35	12	9	4.5
Explains	6	3	12	41	16	12	6	4.2
Communicates	12	0	6	25	35	9	12	4.5
Teaching	6	6	3	22	32	16	12	4.7
Workload	0	0	6	16	32	25	19	5.4
Difficulty	0	6	6	3	9	41	32	5.7
Learn Exp	16	12	16	29	16	4	4	3.5

Students said they found the course material difficult They also suggested that the lecture notes be made available online so that it was easier to pay attention in class.

**STA 257H1F Probability and Statistics I**

Instructor(s): P. McDunnough

Enr: 173                      Resp: 78                      Retake: 28%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	15	11	24	20	14	6	6	3.5
Explains	22	11	19	22	14	6	3	3.3
Communicates	18	4	17	24	18	8	9	3.8
Teaching	28/	9	12	14	21	12	4	3.5
Workload	2	6	5	45	20	9	10	4.4
Difficulty	0	1	2	28	25	27	14	5.2
Learn Exp	18	13	18	21	11	1	6	3.6

Students found McDunnough to be a rude and disrespectful instructor.

**STA 261H1S Probability and Statistics II**

Instructor(s): D. Brenner

Enr: 214                      Resp: 107                      Retake: 76%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	1	4	11	29	18	32	5.5

Explains	0	0	1	9	21	26	40	5.9
Communicates	0	0	0	4	11	27	56	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	2	18	24	53	6.3
Workload	3	8	12	54	12	3	6	4.0
Difficulty	3	6	12	43	23	5	7	4.2
Learn Exp	0	0	3	29	19	28	19	5.3

Students seemed to have generally liked having Brenner as their instructor. He was approachable and available for extra help.

**STA 261H1S Probability and Statistics II**

Instructor(s): P. McDunnough

Enr: 26                      Resp: 12                      Retake: 77%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	8	0	16	16	16	16	25	4.8
Explains	8	8	16	33	8	16	25	4.8
Communicates	0	8	8	8	25	41	8	5.1
Teaching	0	8	8	0	41	25	16	5.2
Workload	8	0	8	33	33	16	0	4.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	8	50	25	16	5.5
Learn Exp	0	0	16	16	16	50	0	5.0

**STA 302H1F Methods of Data Analysis I**

Instructor(s): A. Gibbs

Enr: 118                      Resp: 31                      Retake: 88%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	12	67	19	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	3	9	48	38	6.2
Communicates	0	0	0	0	6	54	38	6.3
Teaching	0	0	0	0	12	67	19	6.1
Workload	0	0	3	48	31	17	0	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	3	51	24	20	0	4.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	30	25	35	10	5.2

Students found Gibbs to be an effective lecturer. Students said she sometimes spoke very quickly.

**STA 303H1S Methods of Data Analysis II**

Instructor(s): A. Gibbs

Enr: 67                      Resp: 34                      Retake: 71%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	2	14	47	35	6.1
Explains	0	0	0	2	11	41	44	6.3
Communicates	0	0	0	2	11	29	55	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	2	8	32	55	6.4
Workload	0	0	2	44	32	14	5	4.8
Difficulty	0	0	0	41	29	23	5	4.9
Learn Exp	0	0	0	25	12	29	33	5.7

Students said they enjoyed having Gibbs as their instructor. She was enthusiastic, passionate and well-liked by her students.

**STA 304H1F Surveys, Sampling and Observational Data**

Instructor(s): N. Reid

Enr: 68                      Resp: 40                      Retake: 59%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	5	5	20	27	30	12	5.1
Explains	2	7	0	27	12	32	17	5.1
Communicates	2	0	7	17	15	37	20	5.3
Teaching	0	0	10	17	20	40	12	5.3
Workload	2	2	15	64	10	2	2	3.9
Difficulty	2	2	20	57	10	2	5	4.0
Learn Exp	0	5	8	44	17	20	2	4.5

Students said that Reid was a very nice instructor but that she often spoke very softly.

The course material was dry and boring. Some students felt that at times Reid seemed unsure of the material.

## 6 ACTUARIAL SCIENCE & STATISTICS

### STA 305H1S Design and Analysis of Experiments

Instructor(s): H. Moshonov

	Enr: 88							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	6	8	26	14	32	14	5.0
Explains	2	2	8	20	30	26	12	5.0
Communicates	1	9	5	30	23	15	13	4.6
Teaching	3	3	5	23	29	21	11	4.8
Workload	0	0	10	65	16	6	2	4.2
Difficulty	0	0	4	66	22	6	2	4.4
Learn Exp	0	6	9	46	21	12	3	4.3

Students suggested that the instructor post lecture notes earlier, so it would be easier to prepare for class.

### STA 347H1F Probability

Instructor(s): P. McDunnough

	Enr: 119							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	5	5	12	24	29	12	10	4.5
Explains	7	3	8	24	29	12	10	4.5
Communicates	7	3	12	17	28	12	19	4.7
Teaching	7	1	5	22	36	15	10	4.7
Workload	1	0	5	25	22	20	24	5.2
Difficulty	1	1	0	16	9	27	43	5.9
Learn Exp	5	10	2	41	10	17	12	4.5

Students said this course was very difficult. A few students also felt that McDunnough did not explain answers well when students asked questions.

### STA 352Y1Y Introduction to Mathematical Statistics

Instructor(s): D. Fraser

	Enr: 47							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	9	27	27	27	9	5.0
Explains	0	9	9	9	31	22	18	5.0
Communicates	0	0	0	4	40	27	27	5.8
Teaching	0	4	0	18	22	31	22	5.5
Workload	0	0	4	50	31	9	4	4.6
Difficulty	0	0	0	9	40	31	18	5.6
Learn Exp	0	0	6	37	37	18	0	4.7

While students said they found Fraser approachable and nice, a few students said that they were unable to understand some of the concepts. Students seemed generally unsatisfied with the structure of the course.

### STA 410H1S Statistical Computation

Instructor(s): K. Knight

	Enr: 31							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	22	38	38	6.2
Explains	0	0	5	16	22	33	22	5.5
Communicates	0	0	0	5	33	38	22	5.5
Teaching	0	0	0	5	27	27	38	6.0
Workload	0	0	0	44	22	16	16	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	16	22	27	33	5.8
Learn Exp	0	0	6	25	18	31	18	5.3

While students felt that the course material was advanced, they found that Knight was a good, enthusiastic lecturer.

### STA 414H1S Statistical Methods for Data Mining and Machine Learning

Instructor(s): N. Reid

	Enr: 18							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	9	81	9	6.0
Explains	0	0	0	20	20	40	20	5.6
Communicates	0	0	0	9	9	36	45	6.2
Teaching	0	0	0	9	9	27	54	6.3
Workload	0	0	0	45	18	27	9	5.0
Difficulty	0	0	0	18	9	45	27	5.8
Learn Exp	0	0	0	37	37	12	12	5.0

### STA 422H1F Theory of Statistical Inference

Instructor(s): M. Evans

	Enr: 13							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	0	0	0	14	42	42	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	42	28	0	28	5.1
Communicates	0	0	0	0	57	14	28	5.7
Teaching	0	0	0	0	42	28	28	5.9
Workload	0	0	0	28	28	42	0	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	14	28	42	14	5.6
Learn Exp	0	0	0	50	16	16	16	5.0

### STA 437H1F Methods for Multivariate Data

Instructor(s): R. Neal

	Enr: 43							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	3	3	6	6	17	31	31	5.5
Explains	0	3	3	3	34	10	34	5.5
Communicates	0	3	3	6	27	20	37	5.7
Teaching	0	0	0	17	31	27	24	5.6
Workload	3	0	3	42	25	2	3	4.6
Difficulty	3	0	0	42	17	35	0	4.8
Learn Exp	0	0	4	52	17	17	17	4.8

Students commented that Neal was an enthusiastic and knowledgeable lecturer.

### STA 442H1F Methods of Applied Statistics

Instructor(s): N. Reid

	Enr: 17							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	0	9	0	9	36	18	27	5.4
Explains	0	0	0	18	36	18	27	5.5
Communicates	0	9	0	0	27	45	18	5.5
Teaching	0	0	9	18	9	27	36	5.6
Workload	0	0	0	36	27	27	9	5.1
Difficulty	0	0	0	27	18	36	18	5.5
Learn Exp	0	0	0	40	20	30	10	5.1

Reid was described as an approachable, patient and knowledgeable instructor.

Students said that the course was difficult and required a lot of understanding of the subject area prior to taking the course.

### STA 447H1S Stochastic Processes

Instructor(s): P. McDunnough

	Enr: 33							Mean
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Presents	4	13	8	3	8	13	17	4.4
Explains	8	0	17	30	21	4	17	4.4
Communicates	0	4	4	26	4	43	17	5.3
Teaching	4	0	18	18	9	27	22	5.0
Workload	0	0	13	17	17	21	30	5.4
Difficulty	0	0	4	8	13	34	39	6.0

Learn Exp 0 18 12 12 6 31 18 4.8

Students found the course material challenging.

**STA 457H1S Time Series Analysis**

Instructor(s): Z. Zhou

Enr: 82 Resp: 40 Retake: 33%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	2	2	15	25	28	15	0	4.6
Explains	2	7	15	33	23	10	7	4.3
Communicates	2	5	7	39	28	5	10	4.4
Teaching	2	12	10	20	33	15	15	4.4
Workload	0	0	0	34	18	28	18	5.3
Difficulty	0	0	0	15	21	26	36	5.8
Learn Exp	0	10	20	43	23	0	3	3.9

Students felt the tests were difficult and some said that they did not reflect the material taught.



**AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES**



ASSU would like to thank the Staff and Faculty of the American Studies program for their assistance in providing these evaluations.

Editor

**USA 300H1F Theories and Methods in American Studies**

Instructor(s): E. Brown

Enr: 38 Resp: 30 Retake: 79%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	13	31	44	10	5.5
Explains	0	0	0	3	30	53	13	5.8
Communicates	0	0	0	0	16	23	60	6.4
Teaching	0	0	0	3	6	51	37	6.2
Workload	0	0	3	6	46	33	10	5.4
Difficulty	0	0	0	53	20	23	3	4.8
Learn Exp	0	3	0	3	37	29	25	5.7

The instructor was helpful and overall effective. However, students felt that the reading workload was far too heavy.

**USA 400H1S Topics in American Studies: Hellbound on my Trail: Living the Blues in the Mississippi Delta, 1890-1945**

Instructor(s): N. Cardon

Enr: 9 Resp: 7 Retake: 85%

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean
Presents	0	0	0	0	14	42	42	6.3
Explains	0	0	0	0	0	42	57	6.6
Communicates	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	7.0
Teaching	0	0	0	0	0	28	71	6.7
Workload	0	0	0	42	28	28	0	4.9
Difficulty	0	0	0	57	14	28	0	4.7
Learn Exp	0	0	0	0	33	50	16	5.8

Cardon was described by students as knowledgeable about American History and passionate about the material. He was enthusiastic, approachable and friendly.

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