



University of Connecticut

Student Evaluation of Teaching Spring 2016

Individual Report for MATH-3170-001-STORR-Elem Stochastic Proc

Instructor: **Maryann Hohn** (SET Primary Instructor)

Response Table

2016 Spring Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET)	
Raters	students
Responded	32
Invited	34
Response Ratio	94%

Section 1. Summary

Please respond to the following question about instructor Maryann Hohn.

Question	Course	Department	School	University
	Median	Median	Median	Median
The instructor presented the course material clearly.	5.0	4.1	4.5	4.4
The instructor was well prepared for class.	5.0	4.3	4.7	4.6
The instructor responded to questions adequately.	5.0	4.3	4.7	4.6
The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.	5.0	4.3	4.6	4.6
The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.	5.0	4.6	4.7	4.7
The instructor gave clear assignments.	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.5
The instructor was accessible to students.	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.6
The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.	5.0	4.1	4.4	4.4
The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.	5.0	4.3	4.5	4.5
The instructor used class time effectively.	5.0	4.2	4.5	4.5
The instructor treated all students with respect.	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.8
The instructor graded fairly.	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.6
The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.	5.0	4.1	4.5	4.5

What is your overall rating of Maryann Hohn's teaching?

Question	Course	Department	School	University
	Median	Median	Median	Median
What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?	5.0	3.8	4.3	4.2

Please respond to the following question about the course.

Question	Course	Department	School	University
	Median	Median	Median	Median
The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.4
The course content was well organized.	5.0	4.3	4.5	4.4
The course objectives were clear.	5.0	4.2	4.5	4.4
The course objectives were met.	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.5
The textbook made a valuable contribution.	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1
The other course materials made a valuable contribution.	5.0	4.1	4.5	4.4
The pace of the course seemed appropriate.	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.4

What is your overall rating of the course?

Question	Course	Department	School	University
	Median	Median	Median	Median
What is your overall rating of the course?	4.0	3.5	4.0	3.9

Section 2. Student Information

What is your Academic Level?

Options	Count	Percentage
Freshman	0	0%
Sophomore	1	3%
Junior	6	19%
Senior	24	75%
Graduate	0	0%
Other	1	3%

What is your expected grade in this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
A	17	53%
B	9	28%
C	2	6%
D	0	0%
F	0	0%
Pass	3	9%
Fail	0	0%
Other	1	3%

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?

Options	Count	Percentage
3.5 and above	17	53%
3.0-3.4	11	34%
2.5-2.9	4	13%
2.0-2.4	0	0%
< 2.0	0	0%

How many times did you miss this class?

Options	Count	Percentage
0-2	24	75%
3-4	7	22%
5-6	0	0%
> 6	1	3%

Section 2. Student Information (continued)

On average, how many hours a week did you spend outside of class preparing for this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
0	0	0%
1-3	18	56%
4-6	11	34%
7-9	3	9%
10-14	0	0%
15+	0	0%

Which best describes this course for you?

Options	Count	Percentage
Requirement for my major	8	25%
General Education Requirement	0	0%
Other Requirement	7	22%
Elective	6	19%
Elective for major	11	34%

My desire to take this course was:

Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	6	19%
More than most courses	15	47%
About the same as most courses	9	28%
Less than most courses	1	3%
Much less than most courses	1	3%

For me, the level of difficulty of the course content was:

Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	4	13%
More than most courses	13	41%
About the same as most courses	15	47%
Less than most courses	0	0%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

Section 2. Student Information (continued)

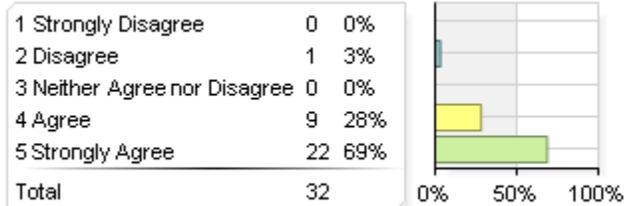
Overall, how much do you feel you've learned in this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	7	22%
More than most courses	17	53%
About the same as most courses	7	22%
Less than most courses	1	3%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

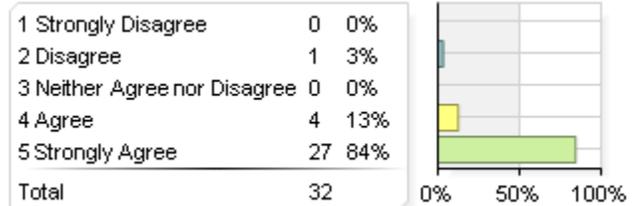
Section 3. Questions About the Instructor

Please respond to the following question about instructor Maryann Hohn.

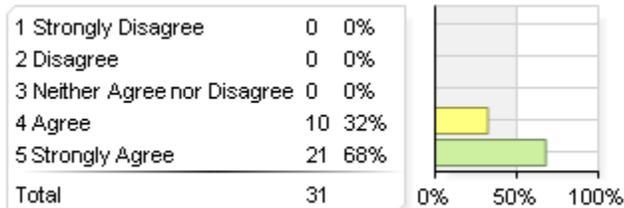
1. The instructor presented the course material clearly.



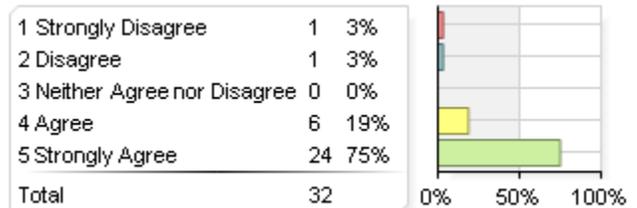
2. The instructor was well prepared for class.



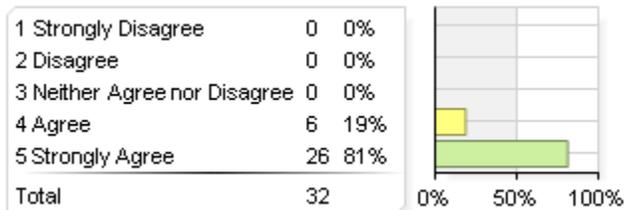
3. The instructor responded to questions adequately.



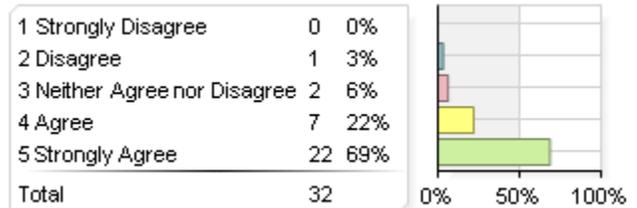
4. The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.



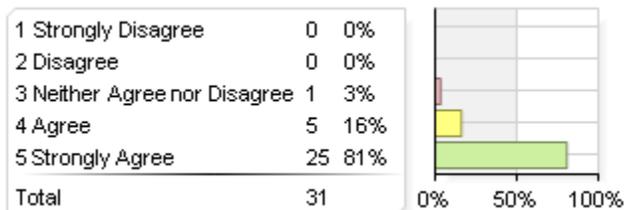
5. The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.



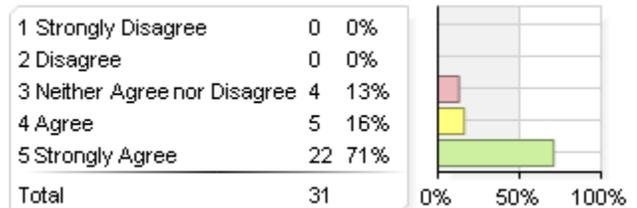
6. The instructor gave clear assignments.



7. The instructor was accessible to students.

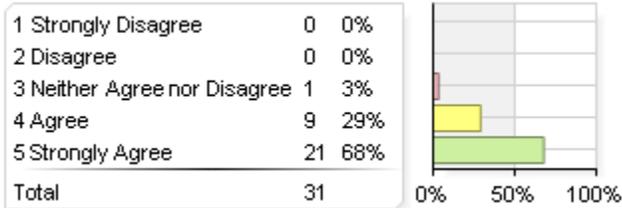


8. The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.

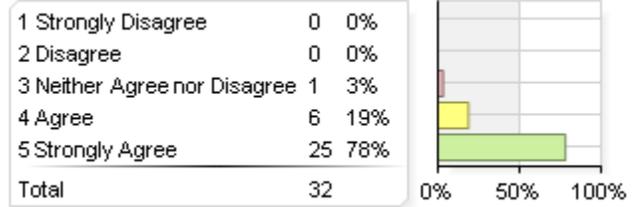


Please respond to the following question about instructor Maryann Hohn. (continued)

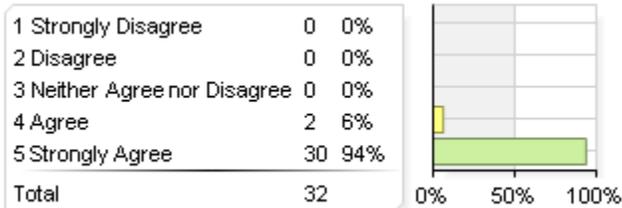
9. The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.



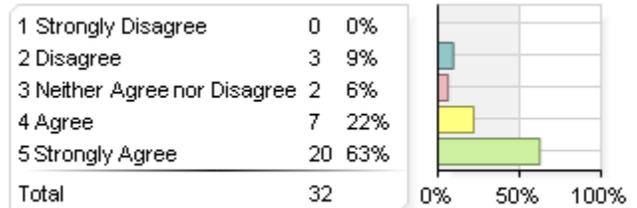
10. The instructor used class time effectively.



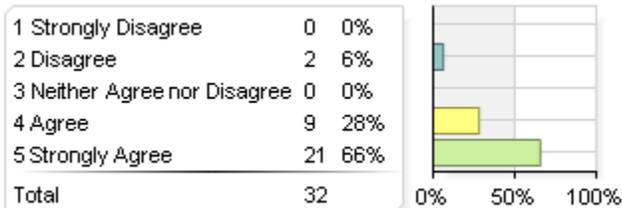
11. The instructor treated all students with respect.



12. The instructor graded fairly.



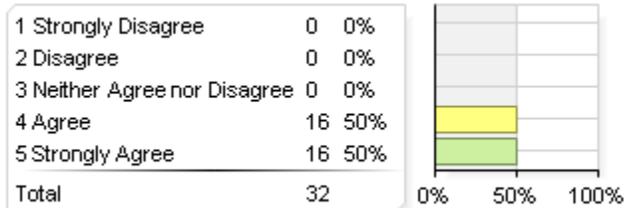
13. The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.



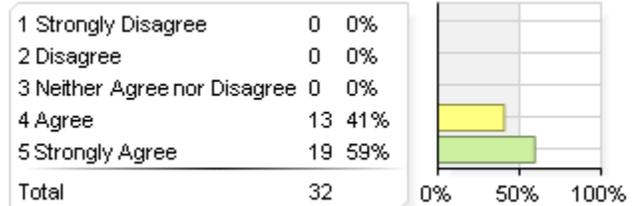
Section 4. Questions About the Course

Please respond to the following question about the course.

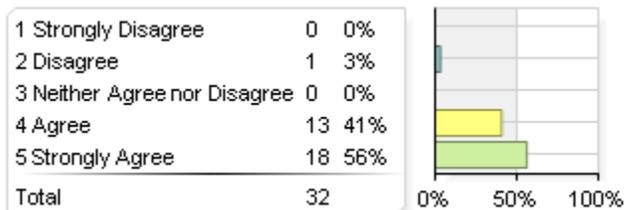
1. The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.



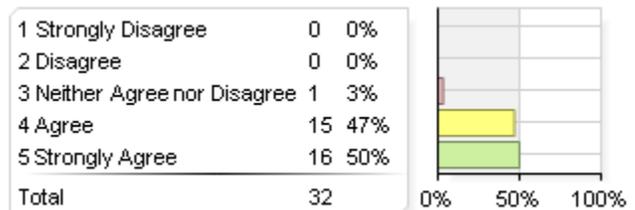
2. The course content was well organized.



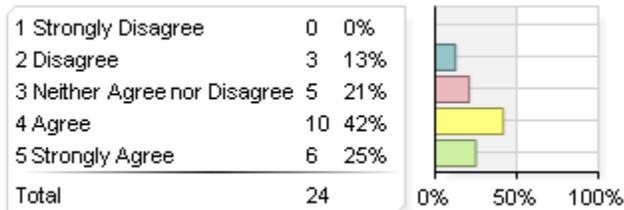
3. The course objectives were clear.



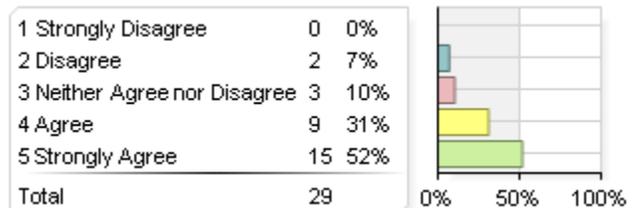
4. The course objectives were met.



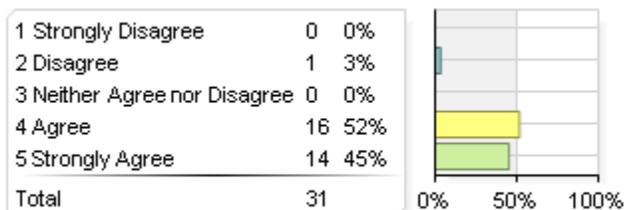
5. The textbook made a valuable contribution.



6. The other course materials made a valuable contribution.



7. The pace of the course seemed appropriate.

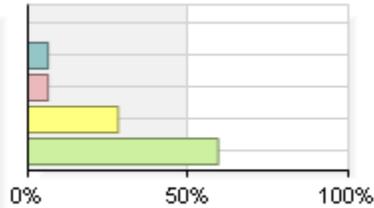


Section 5. Aggregate Report on "Overall Questions"

Overall Rating

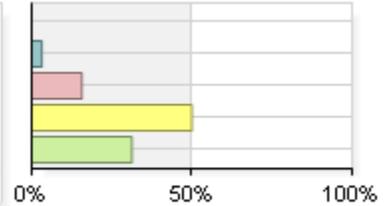
1. What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?

1 Poor	0	0%
2 Fair	2	6%
3 Good	2	6%
4 Very Good	9	28%
5 Excellent	19	59%
Total	32	



2. What is your overall rating of the course?

1 Poor	0	0%
2 Fair	1	3%
3 Good	5	16%
4 Very Good	16	50%
5 Excellent	10	31%
Total	32	



Overall Rating

Question	Good, Very Good & Excellent	Very Good & Excellent	Excellent
What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?	94%	88%	59%
What is your overall rating of the course?	97%	81%	31%

Section 6. Comments

What was the most positive aspect of the way in which this instructor taught this course?

Comment
She's super enthusiastic, friendly, and helpful. I was never afraid to approach her with questions. The amount of examples we went over in class aided my understanding of the material greatly. Very responsive to feedback about the course (she gave us a mid-semester course survey and implemented some changes we suggested)
Very engaging, stimulated interest in the topic and answered questions
Very clear information with a lot of examples
Very enthusiastic, and gave well worked out examples.
I've had her for two courses now, she is very good at providing lots of examples, and working through problems step by step.
In class examples
She was always happy and energetic and willing to answer any question asked in class.
She was very organized and she got through the material at a good pace. We covered everything without falling behind, yet I never felt like she was rushing through anything. I think she is a very good lecturer. She was also very sympathetic towards students and would extend homework deadlines if it seemed like everyone was having trouble that way she address this in class. She would also hold problem sessions before exams which were helpful. The notes were also a very good resource.
good notes in class examples helped with the homework
It was awesome that Professor Hohn asked for feedback halfway through the semester. More specifically, she asked for feedback and also listened to said feedback. She implemented office hours at a time that made more sense, and it was very helpful. On top of this, professor hohn frequently provided many examples in class that were not too ridiculously easy. As in, the examples in class actually helped with the homework, and helped make the theory in class make more sense.
Your entire teaching style was engaging and effective. I liked that you wrote everything out on the blackboard, and thoroughly worked through examples in class. Also, weekly homeworks and quizzes kept us on top of the material.
She was very helpful with homework. Her lectures were planned well.
Professor Hohn really wants all of her students to learn and achieve. She makes sure that she is able to help with any confusion both inside and outside of the classroom. She is enthusiastic which really helps keep the students interested in the topic.
She smiled a lot
Piazza was useful and having more questions to do than needed to be handed in.
Engaged students and showed a genuine interest in their understanding of the material. Effective in motivating theory with examples and applications. Conveyed a deeper understanding of the subject than generally obtained in lectures. Responded with thought and insight to students' questions.
The professors positivity made the material more enjoyable, was willing to alter plans to accommodate difficulties we were having as a class which was very cool.
The instructor gives clear and detailed notes. The material presented is precise. I can see the instructor is trying to stimulate students' interests.
Incredibly accessibly, friendly professor who is genuinely interested in the students. She will go the extra mile for you
She did very well in making hard concepts easier to be understood, and she is very responsible and funny as well.
Professor Hohn is a great teacher - class time is never wasted. I like that we do a lot of examples, those always help

What can this instructor do to improve teaching effectiveness in the classroom?

Comment

Give us a little more time to do the homework (a week would be good). Perhaps do some more examples for the later material (birth-death processes), because the notes don't have any and the material is a little dense/complicated.

Time spent covering topics towards the end of the semester was much less than the topics covered in the beginning of the semester, despite the later topics being more difficult to grasp conceptually. Spending less time in the beginning and more time in the end would help students understand the material better.

Provide solutions to homework from the beginning of the course. They really helped!

Homeworks are really hard in comparison to notes/examples in the notes online.

While the notes provided for the course online were helpful, I think that it would be better, especially if she continues to do bi-weekly homework, to provide her own notes not someone else's the reason I say this is because often times for me at least when trying to do the homework and flipping between the notes on line it was hard to find the right methods to the problems because it mostly was just general cases and proofs. Personally as a learner I learn from visual step-by-step processes so seeing lots of examples like those in class help because I can relate to pieces of a puzzle. general cases are good but sometimes can be confusing when you aren't looking at concrete numbers.

She writes too fast; it's hard to write down note and follow her.

Clearer explanation of the theoretical mathematics

More concrete examples during a lecture only full of theorems would've helped me understand better.

I can't really think of anything.

some of the material learned for the test was in the class right before the test, maybe allow another class in between for questions

There is a lot of writing in the class. I don't know what specifically professor Hohn can do, but sometimes I found myself behind and trying to catch up. Or just being generally overwhelmed with information

More examples, and examples similar to homework problems. She became less clear on the subjects of continuous time Markov chains/Poisson distributions/queues.

Sometimes more examples should be done in class before certain homework assignments. A couple of times I felt unprepared for the homework and wished we had the chance to go over more examples together as a class before attempting it on my own. Professor Hohn was always fair about accounting for this and pushing back deadlines if needed, but more examples from the start could have avoided initial confusion.

Practice the lecture beforehand, it felt very scripted and straight out of the notes.

For the latter section of the course, I think more examples of sojourn time problems, how Poisson random variables function would have been nice, and renewal processes.

Go over derivations and proofs more slowly or in more depth. I understand that there is a lot of material to cover, but some topics, particularly the law of total expectation, were not entirely clear. It seems some of the more specific cases later in the material could have been less emphasized and more time spent establishing the basics.

The difficulty of the course seemed to increase dramatically the last few weeks (Continuous time chains), suddenly we needed a respectable grasp of Linear Algebra and Multivariate calculus. You may be restricted by the material but slowly phasing this in may work better in the future.

Too much notes on the white board make the course even more boring. Not enough interaction in the class. The grader is ridiculous and rigid. Should pick someone with more experience and knowledge. What the grader "commented" on my homework just made me lose my interest.

Nothing. She will improve this course with experience

Nothing

I like the handouts with practice problems

Please write any comments you have about the course or course materials.

Comment

I came into this course after a bad experience with the prereq (Probability), but overall I still enjoyed it. The material was easier to understand after awhile and I feel my efforts were rewarded. Overall, one of my favorite math courses.

Topics were interesting but the more conceptually difficult topics were given less time to comprehend, making the end of the semester feel like a snowball rolling down the hill, with confusion simply increasing and piling on top of itself.

Great course, online notes are very helpful as well as the Piazza website

The notes were great.

good course

While it was awesome not having to buy a textbook we didn't need, the notes online I thought weren't very effective. Not very effective notes online for free is a lot better than \$150 not effective textbooks. But I thought the notes online weren't any more clear than the notes in class. So going to them for help was essentially useless.

I felt that too much time was taken to work through stationary discrete time markov chains. When the time came to moving onto continuous time chains and other chains, I felt things were rushed. More time could be spent on other processes, even though the ideas are analogous to stationary discrete time markov chains.

Things went well for discrete time markov chains, but the lectures became less clear for continuous time markov chains. More examples would help me understand the material better.

The notes for the course were helpful to back up what was taught in lecture. I really loved the use of piazza as it allowed us to collaborate as a class outside of the classroom when we needed help. Also, it allowed for Professor Hohn to see our areas of struggle outside of the classroom.

Cool connections with theory of computation

I think everything was going well until the very end of CTMC, and I'm not quite sure what could be done to improve this other than more in class examples.

The course seemed to focus too much on notation and definitions. Some of them were nearly identical but were given new names regardless. While these shorthand expressions have value, I think for an introductory course they are not essential and detract from an understanding of the theory.

Really enjoyed the material / had fun in class. Thanks for a nice semester!

Overall a good course. Too much theoretical things, better with more applications.

Course material (lecture notes) can be confused sometimes due to the difficulty of subjects

Didn't love the textbook

For courses with laboratory and/or discussion sections: were the laboratory/discussion sections helpful to your learning?

Comment

NA

No other sessions