IASystem — The Course Evaluation Standard

CSS 430 A
Operating Systems
Course type: Online

Taught by: Yusuf Pisan
Instructor Evaluated: Yusuf Pisan-Other

Evaluation Delivery: Online
Evaluation Form: I
Responses: 9/34 (26% low)

Overall Summative Rating represents the combined responses of students to the four global summative items and is presented to provide an overall index of the class's quality:

Median	College Decile
3.8	2
(0=lowest; 5=highest)	(0=lowest; 9=highest)

Challenge and Engagement Index (CEI) combines student responses to several *IASystem* items relating to how academically challenging students found the course to be and how engaged they were:

CEI: 5.1
(1=lowest; 7=highest)

SUMMATIVE ITEMS

	N	Excellent (5)	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Very Poor (0)	Median	DECILE RANK Inst	DECILE RANK College
The distance learning course as a whole was:	9	44%	11%	33%	11%			4.0	4	5
The course content was:	9	33%	22%	11%	33%			3.8	2	3
The instructor's contribution to the course was:	9	44%	22%	33%				4.2	3	4
The effectiveness of the distance learning format was:	9	22%	22%	44%	11%			3.4	1	2

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Relative to other college courses you have taken:	N	Much Higher (7)	(6)	(5)	Average (4)	(3)	(2)	Much Lower (1)	Median	DECILE RANK Inst	DECILE RANK College
Do you expect your grade in this course to be:	8	12%	38%		12%	25%		12%	5.0	4	5
The intellectual challenge presented was:	9	44%		44%	11%				5.4	3	3
The amount of effort you put into this course was:	7	57%		29%	14%				6.6	9	9
The amount of effort to succeed in this course was:	8	38%	12%	12%	38%				5.5	4	3
Your involvement in course (doing assignments, attending classes, etc.) was:	9	44%			56%				4.4	0	0

On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers and any other course related work?

Class median: 16.5 Hours per credit: 3.3 (N=8)

Under 2	2-3	4-5	6-7	8-9	10-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-19	20-21	22 or more
		12%		12%	12%			25%	12%	12%	12%

From the total average hours above, how many do you consider were valuable in advancing your education?

Class median: 9.5 Hours per credit: 1.9 (N=8)

Under 2	2-3	4-5	6-7	8-9	10-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-19	20-21	22 or more
	12%	12%		25%	25%			12%	12%		

What grade do you expect in this course?

Class median: 3.6 (N=8)

A (3.9-4.0)	A- (3.5-3.8)	B+ (3.2-3.4)	B (2.9-3.1)	B- (2.5-2.8)	C+ (2.2-2.4)	C (1.9-2.1)	C- (1.5-1.8)	D+ (1.2-1.4)	D (0.9-1.1)	D- (0.7-0.8)	E (0.0)	Pass	Credit	No Credit
50%		38%		12%										

In regard to your academic program, is this course best described as:

(N=9)

In your major	A core/distribution requirement	An elective	In your minor	A program requirement	Other
56%	44%				

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STANDARD FORMATIVE ITEMS

	N	Excellent (5)	Very Good (4)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Poor (1)	Very Poor (0)	Median	DECILE RANK Inst	DECILE RANK College
The helpfulness of the distance learning staff overall was:	9	44%	11%	33%	11%			4.0	2	
Student confidence in instructor's knowledge was:	9	33%	44%	11%	11%			4.1	2	2
Timeliness of instructor response to assignments was:	9	33%	33%	33%				4.0	3	3
Quality/helpfulness of instructor feedback was:	9	44%	33%	11%	11%			4.3	4	4
Tailoring of instruction to varying student skill levels was:	9	33%	22%	22%	22%			3.8	1	
Clarity of course objectives was:	9	33%	33%	11%	22%			4.0	3	4
The organization of the study guide was:	9	33%	22%	22%	22%			3.8	0	
Content of the study guide was:	7	43%	29%		29%			4.2	2	
Relevance of textbook for self-study was:	9	11%	22%	33%	11%	22%		3.0	0	
Usefulness of reading assignments in understanding course content was:	9	11%	22%	22%	44%			2.8	0	0
Usefulness of written assignments in understanding course content was:	8	38%	25%	25%	12%			4.0	3	4
Usefulness of video media in understanding course content was:	6	33%	17%	33%	17%			3.5	0	
Usefulness of online resources in understanding course content was:	8	38%	25%	25%	12%			4.0	4	4
Usefulness of audio media in understanding course content was:	6	33%	17%	33%	17%			3.5	0	
Relevance and usefulness of course content were:	9	44%	11%	33%	11%			4.0	3	3
Evaluative and grading techniques (tests, papers, projects, etc.) were:	8	38%	38%	12%	12%			4.2	4	5
Reasonableness of assigned work was:	9	56%	11%	11%	11%	11%		4.6	6	6
Clarity of student responsibilities and requirements was:	8	25%	38%	12%	25%			3.8	2	2

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STANDARD OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Was this class intellectually stimulating? Did it stretch your thinking? Why or why not?

2. Yes this was intellectually stimulating. It was filled with brand new concepts and ideas that I have never heard of before.

3. The content was definitely new and covered interesting concepts about OS. I feel like I have a better idea on how linux works

4. Yes, I learned tons of new things I never learned about the lower-level workings of OSs, the programming project were very valuable and contributed a lot to my understanding of the topics at hand. I really enjoyed this class.

What aspects of this class contributed most to your learning?

2. Posting class lectures on canvas was very helpful.

3. Assignments helped the most, could have possibly have had more if assignments were setup cleaner

4. Mostly the lectures and programming projects.

What aspects of this class detracted from your learning?

3. Assignments were a bit disorderly compared to other Pisan assignments (e.g. no version control requirements and so forth)

4. Not much, I think everything contributed to my learning.

What suggestions do you have for improving the class?

1. The midterm was unnecessary hard.

2. My one suggestion would be that do not put the fifth assignment due date during finals.

3. Possibly just polishing assignments

4. Maybe re-working the slides. I usually go through them afterwards to take more extensive notes, and sometimes they seem to jump around from topic to topic, some of the lectures are just very long. Sore-arranging them and splitting it up a bit more would likely help. I don't know if the latter is possible considering we were cramming a bunch of information (still at a pretty reasonable pace) towards the end of the quarter.

IASystem Course Summary Reports summarize student ratings of a particular course or combination of courses. They provide a rich perspective on student views by reporting responses in three ways: as frequency distributions, average ratings, and either comparative or adjusted ratings. Remember in interpreting results that it is important to keep in mind the number of students who evaluated the course relative to the total course enrollment as shown on the upper right-hand corner of the report.

Frequency distributions. The percentage of students who selected each response choice is displayed for each item. Percentages are based on the number of students who answered the respective item rather than the number of students who evaluated the course because individual item response is optional.

Median ratings. *IASystem* reports average ratings in the form of item medians. Although means are a more familiar type of average than medians, they are less accurate in summarizing student ratings. This is because ratings distributions tend to be strongly skewed. That is, most of the ratings are at the high end of the scale and trail off to the low end.

The median indicates the point on the rating scale at which half of the students selected higher ratings, and half selected lower. Medians are computed to one decimal place by interpolation.[1] In general, higher medians reflect more favorable ratings. To interpret median ratings, compare the value of each median to the respective response scale: *Very Poor, Poor, Fair, Good, Very Good, Excellent (0-5); Never/None/Much Lower, About Half/Average, Always/Great/Much Higher (1-7); Slight, Moderate, Considerable, Extensive (1-4).*

Comparative ratings. *IASystem* provides a normative comparison for each item by reporting the decile rank of the item median. Decile ranks compare the median rating of a particular item to ratings of the same item over the previous two academic years in all classes at the institution and within the college, school, or division. Decile ranks are shown only for items with sufficient normative data.

Decile ranks range from 0 (lowest) to 9 (highest). For all items, higher medians yield higher decile ranks. The 0 decile rank indicates an item median in the lowest 10% of all scores. A decile rank of 1 indicates a median above the bottom 10% and below the top 80%. A decile rank of 9 indicates a median in the top 10% of all scores. Because average ratings tend to be high, a rating of "good" or "average" may have a low decile rank.

Adjusted ratings. Research has shown that student ratings may be somewhat influenced by factors such as class size, expected grade, and reason for enrollment. To correct for this, *IASystem* reports **adjusted medians** for summative items (items #1-4 and their combined global rating) based on regression analyses of ratings over the previous two academic years in all classes at the respective institution. If large classes at the institution tend to be rated lower than small classes, for example, the adjusted medians for large classes will be slightly higher than their unadjusted medians.

When adjusted ratings are displayed for summative items, **relative rank** is displayed for the more specific (formative) items. Rankings serve as a guide in directing instructional improvement efforts. The top ranked items (1, 2, 3, etc.) represent areas that are going well from a student perspective; whereas the bottom ranked items (18, 17, 16, etc.) represent areas in which the instructor may want to make changes. Relative ranks are computed by first standardizing each item (subtracting the overall institutional average from the item rating for the particular course, then dividing by the standard deviation of the ratings across all courses) and then ranking those standardized scores.

Challenge and Engagement Index (CEI). Several *IASystem* items ask students how academically challenging they found the course to be. *IASystem* calculates the average of these items and reports them as a single index. *The Challenge and Engagement Index (CEI)* correlates only modestly with the global rating (median of items 1-4).

Optional Items. Student responses to instructor-supplied items are summarized at the end of the evaluation report. Median responses should be interpreted in light of the specific item text and response scale used (response values 1-6 on paper evaluation forms).

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[1] For the specific method, see, for example, Guilford, J.P. (1965). Fundamental statistics in psychology and education. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, pp. 49-53.