

Columbia University: Arts & Sciences
A&S Fall 2021 Standard Evaluation

Course: POLSGU4710_001_2021_3 - PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 1: POLSW4710_001_2021_3_129912
Instructor: Andrew Gelman
TA: Samuel Houskeeper * ,Manu Singh
Response Rate: 21/33 (63.64 %)

1 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of Samuel Houskeeper (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader) as an instructor, and how might Samuel Houskeeper's teaching be improved?

Response Rate 9/33 (27.27%)

- Houskeeper was a helpful TA, though I didn't need to take advantage of that all that much during the semester. Grading seemed fair, though feedback was slightly sparse with unclear guidelines for grading/expectations. There was a disconnect between TAs recommending ggplot and Gelman using base R which was confusing.
- Sam was great. Always trying to assist with the problem sets whilst emphasizing the importance that ideas and suggestions were student-generated.
- Samuel was helpful for homework, exam practice, and answering our questions.
- Samuel saved me! He is funny, kind, and cares about his students. I learned a lot from his discussion sessions. Thank you so much Sam!
- N/A
- TA was excellent.
- .
- Sam really tried his best, but he was put in a bad position. In section meetings, students (including myself) wanted him to essentially teach us all the material we didn't learn in class (because we rarely learned things in class). This was, obviously, a huge ask that often didn't happen given time constraints. I feel badly for both the TAs because they both wanted to help, but the amount of pressure that was put on them was huge given the weaknesses of the class. Sam wanted to do right but us but was ultimately constrained in a lot of ways.
- Sam was an effective TA and helpful with questions and feedback during section. It would have been extremely helpful to have more alignment between the two sections, however, since some weeks one section received instruction that was instrumental to understanding the material and completing the assignments, while the other section did not.

2 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of Samuel Houskeeper?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Excellent	(5)	2	20.00%		<p>3.80</p>		
Very Good	(4)	6	60.00%				
Good	(3)	1	10.00%				
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%				
Poor	(1)	1	10.00%				
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Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median	
10/33 (30.30%)				3.80	1.14	4.00	