Course:	COEC 491 001 - Strategic Management	Department:	СОММ
Responsible Faculty:	Alvaro Parra Perez	Responses / Expected:	22 / 25 (88%)



	University Module - Sauder UBC-Wide Questions		Alvaro Parra Perez													
			Res	spon	ses				Individua	vidual						
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev					
C	The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	0	0	0	4	18	22	4.8	5	5	.39					
C	The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	0	0	0	5	17	22	4.8	5	5	.42					
C	The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	0	0	0	3	19	22	4.9	5	5	.34					

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5

## 0 1 2 3 4 5 Alvaro Parra Perez 4.7

Hairman Madula Conde		Alvaro Parra Perez												
University Module - Sauder UBC-Wide Questions	Responses		Ind	Individual										
	SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	N/A	Med.	Mode	Std Dev			
Q4 Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	0	0	0	6	16	22	4.7	0	5	5	.45			

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5

5	4	3	2	1	0
4.8					Q5
5.0					Q6

		Alvaro Parra Perez														
	University Module - Sauder UBC-Wide Questions			spon	ses				Individua	ı						
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev					
Q	The instructor showed concern for student learning.	0	0	0	5	17	22	4.8	5	5	.42					
Q	Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	0	0	0	1	21	22	5.0	5	5	.21					

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5

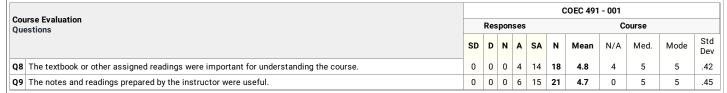
## Q7 - Please comment on aspects of my teaching.

Faculty: Alvaro Parra Perez
Response Rate: 81.82% (18 of 22)

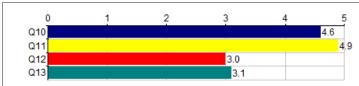
- 1 great prof :)
- 2 Very direct and easy to follow. His experience teaching this class showed, he knew what to say to say to guide the class discussions. He made it feel very easy to answer questions and contribute to the class discussion.
- The professor was great at teaching and made the environment very comfortable. He encouraged students to participate and express ideas in class. However, the only aspect that I did not enjoy as much is when the professor would cold call on students to speak in discussions when it might have been obvious they did not want to. I understand that people need to participate, as he made it very clear, but participation could be done in different ways such as sending emails or posting in discussion boards.
- The nicest teacher I have had at UBC, and is also very good at explaining the material. I feel like I grew in this course since his course is heavily based on student engagement, forcing me to come out of my shell a bit. The material is not very demanding, which is the only critique I have, where the professor could teach some more complicated concepts.
- 5 Student engagement was key for this course, and Alvaro did a great job of motivating students to stay engaged with the course and enabled students to learn more effectively as a result.
- Strategic framework can be hard to understand at first. The earlier cases and in class analyses should be more accommodating towards providing students with the framework rather than waiting for students to fill in the blanks. This would give us more class time to discuss the outcomes of strategies used in the cases rather. Many times, analysis took maybe a little too long and we had to rush the conclusions and outcomes of the papers.
- 7 Professor Perez was one of my favourite profs thus far. He was so passionate about what he was teaching and cared about the success of his students. I find that many professors don't care if someone misses a class or what they are getting out of the course, Alvaro was the opposite. He was so accommodating and fair. A real pleasure to be in his class!
- 8 Incredible professor who made sure he engaged with the students and that topics discussed in class were relevant.
- 9 | I wasn't a huge fan of the class discussions. It felt like whenever we'd get in groups, the same few people would talk all the time, and other people's opinions were drowned out.
- 10 | I really enjoyed the discussions that occurred in this class. Alvaro did a really good job making sure a range of students were always participating.
- 11 He is an excellent prof who knows how to deliver knowledge to different students.
- 12 He encouraged participation and really cared about all the students
- 13 Class discussions and interaction with students was very effective, it was easy to participate in discussion

- 14 Alvaro was my favourite professer i've had this year. Clearly concerned for students learning, and does a good job expressing his interest in course material
- Alvaro was an excellent professor. His lectures were organized and well presented. I think he taught a difficult and mostly intuitive material very well. Most importantly, he made it interesting.
- 16 Alvaro was a very engaging and respectful teacher. He encouraged class discussion from everyone and was readily available for questions.
- 17 Alvaro is clearly very passionate, and it shows in his teaching. Everything was made clear, and his attention to detail was remarkable.
- Alvaro did a really good job of guiding discussions in a way that made everyone get involved. This method not only helped some of the quieter voices get opportunities to speak, but also helped bring new ideas to the table from people who may have been too shy to share them.





Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5



Course Evaluation Questions		COEC 491 - 001  Responses Course												
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev			
Q10	The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	0	0	2	5	15	22	4.6	5	5	.65			
Q11	I would recommend this course to other students.	0	0	0	2	20	22	4.9	5	5	.29			
Q12	I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	0	7	8	4	2	21	3.0	3	3	.95			
Q13	I found this course to be difficult.	1	6	7	6	2	22	3.1	3	3	1.04			

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5

#### Q14 - Please comment on the course.

Response Rate: 63.64% (14 of 22)

- This was one of my top courses during my time at UBC. Álvaro's teaching style is very accommodating and very welcoming. He provides a great and dynamic learning environments for students. It makes you want to come to class prepared.
- 2 This is one of the most useful course i have ever taken.
- The readings for this course are incredibly important. They are very long sometimes and take a bit of your time, but they are usually very interesting and it helps you prepare for class discussions. Unlike other courses, by doing the readings before class you know exactly what to expect every single class instead of the professor telling you what direction the course is taking. I found this effective and it sparked interest in the subject.
- The only thing I would have changed is some of the case studies. Safelite Auto and Glass was a very easy one, but we covered it in the same amount of time as Cola Wars, which I found much more difficult to understand.
- 5 | The course is a bit easy and could be improved by including more complicated concepts of strategic management. Keep the professor though!
- 6 Strategic Management was a great course which helped expose the students more to the business world around them. It taught us about a different way to think.
- 7 Really good course. Would be very happy to take more courses like it.
- 8 I was pleasantly surprised by this course.
- I think two quizzes might be useful in the future, just to have another test before we head into the final. The readings were really interesting and added to class discussion. I found the presentations to be a bit hard to follow at times, it might be a good thing in the future to suggest a short readings for each of the presentations and then you are able to get rid of the context.
- 10 I found the article readings to fit very well within the lecture slides
- 11 didn't like the emphasis that was put on participation. Rather than encouraging everyone to speak up and voice their ideas/opinions, I felt like it instead encouraged 3 or 4 people to talk as much as they could, at the expense of other students.
- Great course that helped bring concepts of economics and business into real terms. By analyzing business cases and even real current articles, it made for a class that was really focused on solving real business problems, and it developed skills that I feel will translate seamlessly into life after University.
- 13 Good course, lot of useful skills and content
- 14 Discussion based, fairly straightforward but still requires intuition. Good stuff!



# 2020W2 UBC Individual Instructor Report for BASM 501 002 - Business Strategy (Álvaro Parra)

Project Title: 2020W2 UBC Instructor Evaluations

Course Audience: 20
Responses Received: 18
Response Ratio: 90.0%

#### **Report Comments**

This course took place during a period of significant disruption to normal university operations, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Recommended Minimum Response Rates

Class Size	Recommended Minimum Response Rates based on 80% confidence & ± 10% margin
< 10	75%
11 - 19	65%
20 - 34	55%
35 - 49	40%
50 - 74	35%
75 - 99	25%
100 - 149	20%
150 - 299	15%
300 - 499	10%
> 500	5%

Creation Date: Wednesday, July 14, 2021



## **University Module Questions**

## **University Module Questions**

Question	N	n	SD	D	Ν	Α	SA	N/A	IM	DI
The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	20	18	0	0	0	4	14	0	4.86	0.17
The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	20	18	0	0	0	5	13	0	4.81	0.20
The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	20	18	0	0	0	3	15	0	4.90	0.14
Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	20	18	0	0	0	3	13	2	4.88	0.15
The instructor showed concern for student learning.	20	18	0	0	0	3	15	0	4.90	0.14
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	20	18	0	0	0	5	13	0	4.81	0.20

Question	%Favourable
The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	100.00%
The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	100.00%
The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	100.00%
Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	100.00%
The instructor showed concern for student learning.	100.00%
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	100.00%

# **Faculty Questions**

## **Course Questions**

Question	Ν	n	SD	D	Ν	Α	SA	N/A	IM	DI
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	20	18	0	0	1	1	16	0	4.94	0.15
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	20	17	0	0	0	3	14	0	4.89	0.15
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	20	18	0	0	0	5	13	0	4.81	0.20
I would recommend this course to other students.	20	18	0	0	0	3	15	0	4.90	0.14
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	20	18	2	6	5	2	3	0	2.70	0.69
I found this course to be difficult.	20	18	2	4	9	1	2	0	2.83	0.56

Question	%Favourable
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	94.44%
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	100.00%
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	100.00%
I would recommend this course to other students.	100.00%
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	27.78%
I found this course to be difficult.	16.67%

## Open ended feedback

Please comment on aspects of my teaching which you have found particularly effective as well as on those aspects which might be improved. You may wish to comment on areas such as classroom delivery, class discussions, interaction with students, availability outside class and overall interest in students.

#### Comments

Great use of guided discussion – keeping students to the point and moving the conversation along. Overall great class!

I appreciated the short readings and then being able to talk about them in class. I learned a lot about read world situations through the discussions. Appreciated the modifications to the readings given other workloads. To save time, would be useful to cut down on questions to get to the point.

Critical thinking was stressed over methods which I thought was more applicable to future situations, overall loved the course

Friendly conversation, using relatable material and easy to understand approach, clear communication and valuable material

Class discussions and breakout rooms

I liked the class discussions and direct feedback from Alvaro. Your accent it totally fine, I understood everything you said!

classes were great and well structured. I liked how you focused on learning and understanding rather than knowing fancy business keywords.

For the quiz i feel it would be good to receive some benchmark or expected answers so we know what is required. I felt even though the answers were right but it did not meet your expectation which i still don't understand. Some benchmark would help align our thoughts with your expectation.

Alvaro is one of the best professors in the program. He really pushed my critical thinking through class discussions. I think he truly embodies a flipped classroom and is one of the most effective professors at engaging students. The pre–readings were short and punchy and really highlighted the key concepts in class. I appreciated being able to get feedback on my individual thought processes. The quizzes were a great test of the class concepts and really got me to think about linking my learning to different cases. Overall I think this was one of the best courses in the program so far.

Alvaro is one of the best profs in the MBA so far. He takes a real interest in student learning, is very respectful of students, and does a good job of making sure everyone is able to participate in class.

I really liked this course and your method of teaching. I did feel that some more feedback for our submissions would be a good indication of whether I was thinking in the right direction and applying the analysis tools that have been shared in the class.

Although the classes were online, Alvaro did an excellent job of delivering the content effectively. Discussions were engaging and fun during the sessions. Gained a lot of insights from these sessions!

The course provided many new perspectives on strategy. class notes and reading materials were helpful.

Alvaro was an amazing professor! I am so disappointed that we couldn't be in person.

One of my favourite courses so far. I loved the balance between class interaction, lecturing, and breakout rooms. I dont think I have any negative feedback back.

The case study and article based teaching helped understand the real world implications of the subject matter. Alvaro was particular interested in hearing the ideas of the students and it helped learn from other people too.

Most effective – class discussion and practical examples. I loved the course.

University of British Columbia Course Evaluation

Please comment on the course. Indicate elements which you have found particularly effective or which you feel I could improve upon, e.g., the reasons for any low/high ratings you have given. Be specific. You may wish to comment on such areas as topics and scope of material covered, readings, exams and assignments and whether or not your interest in the area has been stimulated.

#### Comments

clear communication about what is expected. readings were very useful. podcast deliverable was a new way to work on cases adding more creativity.

The stories Prof told and the cases we did made it really easy to apply the course. Also the quizzes were applications of the course content and not merely memorising to answer questions. Really helpful

I think it has been really good. I am not sure how we can be examined on this in an exam setting, I would have preferred all the assessments to be internal through cases or assignments or a group assignment rather than an exam, but we will see how it goes!

The podcast was great, it was much more efficient than a written report, and being a podcast could be more informal than a presentation with slide deck which was amazing. It was easily one of the more enjoyable and efficient assessment techniques I have had and I think it would work well post–pandemic.

the course and the readings were complimentary and very good. maybe some readings could be reduced, sometimes there were a lot of them i felt.

The podcast was a really fun way of delivering an analysis. It was different but also great to facilitate differences in thought and analysis. It commands a similar structure to a paper but it allowed for more creativity and breadth of how our group came to our answer.

The weightings of assignments seem a little weird, and it is an odd class to have a final exam. The assignments during the term could have been a little more in depth/weighted more heavily.

I enjoyed the content in this course and it was great to be a part of Business Strategy.

No changes/improvements that I can think of. Having more short group assignments might be useful, but a well-structured course overall!

Nothing to add

Same as above! No negative feedback. Great course, every better instructor. lots of fun and learned a lot!

The Uber case I found particularly interesting and got a lot of insight from!

Loved the class, confirmed my interest in strategy. I want to keep learning and applying

I enjoyed the content– really interesting and one of my favorite courses for sure

The readings were all very applicable, short, and sweet to the point, a lot of professors send extensive readings with minimal impact.

## **Explanatory Note**

## Percent Favourable Rating

This is the percentage of respondents who rated the instructor a 4 or 5 (Agree or Strongly Agree).

## Interpolated Median

The data collected for Student Evaluations of Teaching (SEoT) are ordinal in nature, with a natural order (from 1 to 5). While the mean may be used as a measure of central tendency for such data, it is not an appropriate or accurate representation of SEoT data (cf. Stark & Freishtat, 2014). The usual measure of central tendency for ordinal data is the median. As a result, we have been reporting the mean and the median for the last several years. After considerable thought and data modeling, we now believe that the interpolated median is the best representation of the data, since it takes the frequency distribution into account.

Consider the following example from 2015W, the two classes have identical mean (3.8). However, the instructor in class 2 received 77% favourable (4-5) ratings, compared to 53% for the instructor in class 1. The Interpolated median values of (3.7 and 4.2), much better reflects the distribution of the scores above and below their respective median. Furthermore, the interpolated median is better correlated with percent favourable rating; such that an interpolated median of 3.5 on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, corresponds to 50% favourable rating.

#### **Frequency Distribution**

Response for UMI	Class 1	Class 2						
5 = Strongly agree	5	5						
4 = Agree	3	5						
3 = Neither agree nor disagree	6	0						
2 = Disagree	1	2						
1 = Strongly disagree	0	1						
Mean	3.8	3.8						
Median	4.0	4.0						

University of British Columbia Course Evaluation

Interpolated Median	3.7		
Percent favourable rating	53%	77%	

# Dispersion Index

The dispersion Index is a measure of variability suitable for ordinal data (Rampichini, Grilli & Petrucci 2004). This dispersion index has values between zero and 1. A zero dispersion index indicates that all students in the section gave the same rating to the instructor. An index value of 1.0 is obtained when the class splits evenly between the two extreme values (Strongly Disagree & Strongly Agree), a very rare occurrence. In SEoT data at UBC, the index rarely exceeds 0.85, and mostly for evaluations not meeting the minimum recommended response rate.



# 2022W1 UBC Individual Instructor Report for BASM 501 822 - Business Strategy (Álvaro Parra)

Project Title: 2022W1 UBC Instructor SEI Surveys

Course Audience: **15**Responses Received: **15**Response Ratio: **100**%

## **Report Comments**

# Recommended Minimum Response Rates

Class Size	Recommended Minimum Response Rates based on 80% confidence & ± 10% margin
< 10	75%
11 - 19	65%
20 - 34	55%
35 - 49	40%
50 - 74	35%
75 - 99	25%
100 - 149	20%
150 - 299	15%
300 - 499	10%
> 500	5%

Creation Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023

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# **University Module Questions**

# **University Module Questions**

Question	N	n	SD	D	Ν	Α	SA	N/A	IM	DI
Throughout the term, the instructor explained course requirements so it was clear to me what I was expected to learn.	15	15	1	0	0	5	9	0	4.7	0.4
The instructor conducted this course in such a way that I was motivated to learn.	15	15	0	0	1	5	9	0	4.7	0.3
The instructor presented the course material in a way that I could understand.	15	15	0	0	1	6	8	0	4.6	0.3
Considering the type of class (e.g., large lecture, seminar, studio), the instructor provided useful feedback that helped me understand how my learning progressed during this course.	15	15	0	0	1	6	8	0	4.6	0.3
The instructor showed genuine interest in supporting my learning throughout this course.	15	15	0	0	1	6	8	0	4.6	0.3
Overall, I learned a great deal from this instructor.	15	14	0	0	1	7	6	0	4.4	0.3

Question	%Favourable
Throughout the term, the instructor explained course requirements so it was clear to me what I was expected to learn.	93%
The instructor conducted this course in such a way that I was motivated to learn.	93%
The instructor presented the course material in a way that I could understand.	93%
Considering the type of class (e.g., large lecture, seminar, studio), the instructor provided useful feedback that helped me understand how my learning progressed during this course.	93%
The instructor showed genuine interest in supporting my learning throughout this course.	93%
Overall, I learned a great deal from this instructor.	93%

## **Faculty Questions**

## **Course Questions**

Question	Ν	n	SD	D	Ν	Α	SA	N/A	IM	DI
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	15	15	1	0	0	7	7	0	4.4	0.4
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	15	15	1	0	0	5	9	0	4.7	0.4
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	15	15	1	0	0	5	9	0	4.7	0.4
I would recommend this course to other students.	15	15	1	0	0	8	6	0	4.3	0.4
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	15	15	0	1	6	4	4	0	3.6	0.5
I found this course to be difficult.	15	15	0	5	6	2	2	0	2.9	0.5

Question	%Favourable
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	93%
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	93%
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	93%
I would recommend this course to other students.	93%
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	53%
I found this course to be difficult.	27%

## Open ended feedback

# Do you have any suggestions for what the instructor could have done differently to further support your learning?

#### Comments

I did not know the course is going to be finished by far with a final exam? This is short. I thougt a course is longer than this.

Prof. Parra's class was great. Due to the time constraint, I believe he has done all he could do to help us to learn.

probably it's better to have more up-to-date articles and cases to discuss and analyze.

Some assignment questions are asked in an ambiguous way. I would hope the questions to be asked more clearly. Also, I think the prof can give more encouraging feedback after we answer his questions in class.

Maybe more cases. I know we have only three days for the course. But the case study is a good experience for me to apply the formula, and I want more if possible.

If the instructor can be more clear about the assignment requirement and inspection, it would be much appreciated.

I would like to take more breakout room discussions to relax, but I know the course time is limited.

maybe given more focused on 1– 2 cases and develop more rather than doing 1 focused case and several plus reading cases.

wanna have more developing on the main case in or outside the reading.

I think we can have more cases to discuss.

Game is always fun to start a class to fresh the mind! I hope there were more games.

After the class every day, if the professor can give some summary will be fine, which can help me to get to know the knowledge I have learned well.

More efficient "answer" time for students. Clearer assignment instructions.

Case study helped me to improve myself quickly and intensively because of industry analysis, competitive advantage extracting skills, thoughts exchange ect.

## Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of this course.

#### Comments

framework and cases chosen are very clear and representative.

The introduction of the analysis was fantastic. It refreshed my memories of what I've learned from my BA courses. It used real–life cases. This allowed me to connect with my current work situation.

the way to teach us how to facilitate critical thinking.

The cases are all very interesting. I did learn a lot about business strategy after the course.

It tells me how I can consider my company's tradeoff.

I think the way the instructor presents the course is very interesting. He really intrigued my interest in learning what business strategy is and how we can use it to analyze the case and even use it in our daily life.

To decide on company strategy based on the tool provided by the professor.

it's interesting to go though business case, could help on logistic thinking to make business decision and estimation.

Instructors' logic is clear to follow.

Fun, make students involved, lots of interaction

The classes were very engaging. Lots pf opportunities provided to discuss and exchange ideas between students which really helped me think deep and think out of the box.

The goal for every day is very clear, and I was able to built up the understanding of the framework and see the big picture.

This class is very enlightening and help learn how to analysis a business case.

case study format

Strategy analysis in different industries and how to break down the big picture to kay factors.

#### Please provide suggestions on how this course might be improved.

#### Comments

more up -to -date cases, I would suggest.

I don't know how long the online course will take place but in the future might consider doing two weeks per month for online classes so we could have time to digest and catch up on what we have learned in the class.

this course is too intensive for us to adsorb. Also, since the first class just starts after the opening residency, there is a little time for us to prepare.

Nope. It's a good experience.

Just wish the instructor can be more clear in assignment instructions.

Looks good. No more suggestions from my side.

split to more periods or days that student may have more time on thinking what we had on lecture.

Need more case studies.

more time to digest on the content before assignments

More instructions on how assignments will be grading would help lot for students to do a better work.

Game at every class to refresh the minds, as we started at 8:00 in the morning in SH time, will need some refreshments before the actual knowledge/tools to be learnt.

Give us more analysis of different cases example.

Cases with more recent timeline.

Please comment on aspects of my teaching which you have found particularly effective as well as on those aspects which might be improved. You may wish to comment on areas such as classroom delivery, class discussions, interaction with students, availability outside class and overall interest in students.

#### Comments

In virtual room, it is really helpful that we can know each other somehow and interact, this is the really nice part of our class. The way you intrigue us into deep thinking and the cases provided are also very helpful.

Prof. Parra used cases to help us to analyze issues and asked us to answer questions. This was extremely helpful and motivated me to think.

Share more of his personal experiences and recommend good readings :-)

I think the class discussions are pretty helpful. The classmates can share their ideas and we can have different perspectives.

Interaction with students can be a more encouraging way, e.g. giving more affirmation when there are good points in students' answers.

Thank you, Álvaro. It's a good experience for me:).

I appreciate the way you present the course. You always encourage us to think together with you and reach the final destination we should go to. Just wish we can separate courses into two weekends so we would have more time to digest the content

I like this teaching style. Hope to have your lesson in next time.

cases went smoothly, but some definition part seems not well explained. As well as the question set for group assignment which confuse our team a little bit.

I think the effective method for teaching is clear to illustrate. But I feel we need more details for strategy to learn.

I love the way you put us into brainstorming through really fun cases, i enjoyed lots of interactions within the class

I guess sometimes us (students) were trapped in the cases. We tried to think about the solutions based on the case studies. I hope Professor could give us more hints to think outside of the case materials.

I think if we can get more chance to have group discussion will be better.

interaction with students could be more efficient. don't call so many students for the same question. And I'm interested in learning something not just on the textbook/case but also related to the latest news if possible.

Delivery is very effective

Please comment on the course. Indicate elements which you have found particularly effective or which you feel I could improve upon, e.g., the reasons for any low/high ratings you have given. Be specific. You may wish to comment on such areas as topics and scope of material covered, readings, exams and assignments and whether or not your interest in the area has been stimulated.

#### Comments

You could recommend us some books or resources we can further learn.

Good to know you and thanks for your teaching

This introduction course just provided me with some idea about the whole program. This prepares me better for future courses.

Although I found it quite challenging to balance school and work, the workload was manageable.

The cases are very helpful, but the workloads are pretty heavy.

Everything is good.

Overall it's all good. The details I wish can be approved are all mentioned above.

I like this course, don't need to improve from my perspective.

everything goes nicely, made my comments as above.

Need more case study.

I love the class, it helps me to build my strategic thought, would recommend to other students

I think the tools that Professor provided are really practical, and asking a lot of questions to stimulate the thinking is nice. 3–day courses are actually very time limited, but I was quite impressed that everyday I could learn something new or found a different angle.

I found the assignment let us prepare before class was an effective way to help us better understand the cases better.

analytical capability is very particularly effective. Discussion could be more.

## **Explanatory Note**

## Percent Favourable Rating

This is the percentage of respondents who rated the instructor a 4 or 5 (Agree or Strongly Agree).

## Interpolated Median

The data collected for Student Experience of Instruction (SEI) are ordinal in nature, with a natural order (from 1 to 5). While the mean may be used as a measure of central tendency for such data, it is not an appropriate or accurate representation of SEI data (cf. Stark & Freishtat, 2014). The usual measure of central tendency for ordinal data is the median. As a result, we have been reporting the mean and the median for the last several years. After considerable thought and data modeling, we now believe that the interpolated median is the best representation of the data, since it takes the frequency distribution into account.

Consider the following example from 2015W, the two course sections have identical mean (3.8). However, the instructor in section 2 received 77% favourable (4-5) ratings, compared to 53% for the instructor in section 1. The Interpolated median values of (3.7 and 4.2), much better reflects the distribution of the scores above and below their respective median. Furthermore, the interpolated median is better correlated with percent favourable rating; such that an interpolated median of 3.5 on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, corresponds to 50% favourable rating.

#### **Frequency Distribution**

Response for University Module Item	Section 1	Section 2
5 = Strongly agree	5	5
4 = Agree	3	5
3 = Neither agree nor disagree	6	0
2 = Disagree	1	2
1 = Strongly disagree	0	1
Mean	3.8	3.8
Median	4.0	4.0
Interpolated Median	3.7	4.2
Percent favourable rating	53%	77%

# Dispersion Index

The dispersion index is a measure of variability suitable for ordinal data (Rampichini, Grilli & Petrucci 2004). This dispersion index has values between zero and 1. A zero dispersion index indicates that all respondents in the section rated their experience of instruction the same. An index value of 1.0 is obtained when the respondents are split evenly between the two extreme values (Strongly Disagree & Strongly Agree), a very rare occurrence. In SEI data at UBC, the index rarely exceeds 0.85, and mostly for evaluations not meeting the minimum recommended response rate.



# 2022W2 UBC Individual Instructor Report for COMM 491 202 - Strategic Management (Álvaro Parra)

Project Title: 2022W2 UBC Instructor SEI Surveys

Course Audience: 41
Responses Received: 25
Response Ratio: 61%

## **Report Comments**

# Recommended Minimum Response Rates

Class Size	Recommended Minimum Response Rates based on 80% confidence & ± 10% margin
< 10	75%
11 - 19	65%
20 - 34	55%
35 - 49	40%
50 - 74	35%
75 - 99	25%
100 - 149	20%
150 - 299	15%
300 - 499	10%
> 500	5%

Creation Date: Sunday, July 9, 2023

# blue®

# **University Module Questions**

## **University Module Questions**

Question	Ν	n	SD	D	Ν	Α	SA	N/A	IM	DI
Throughout the term, the instructor explained course requirements so it was clear to me what I was expected to learn.	41	25	0	1	3	7	14	0	4.6	0.4
The instructor conducted this course in such a way that I was motivated to learn.	41	25	0	2	1	8	14	0	4.6	0.4
The instructor presented the course material in a way that I could understand.	41	25	0	1	1	9	14	0	4.6	0.4
Considering the type of class (e.g., large lecture, seminar, studio), the instructor provided useful feedback that helped me understand how my learning progressed during this course.	41	25	0	1	2	13	9	0	4.2	0.4
The instructor showed genuine interest in supporting my learning throughout this course.	41	25	0	0	1	10	14	0	4.6	0.3
Overall, I learned a great deal from this instructor.	41	25	0	1	2	9	13	0	4.5	0.4

Question	%Favourable
Throughout the term, the instructor explained course requirements so it was clear to me what I was expected to learn.	84%
The instructor conducted this course in such a way that I was motivated to learn.	88%
The instructor presented the course material in a way that I could understand.	92%
Considering the type of class (e.g., large lecture, seminar, studio), the instructor provided useful feedback that helped me understand how my learning progressed during this course.	88%
The instructor showed genuine interest in supporting my learning throughout this course.	96%
Overall, I learned a great deal from this instructor.	88%

# **Faculty Questions**

## **Course Questions**

Question	N	n	SD	D	Ν	А	SA	N/A	IM	DI
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	41	25	0	0	1	18	6	0	4.1	0.2
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	41	25	0	1	2	13	9	0	4.2	0.4
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	41	25	0	0	6	13	6	0	4.0	0.4
I would recommend this course to other students.	41	25	0	1	2	12	10	0	4.3	0.4
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	41	25	0	12	8	3	2	0	2.6	0.5
I found this course to be difficult.	41	25	0	9	9	6	1	0	2.9	0.5

Question	%Favourable
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	96%
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	88%
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	76%
I would recommend this course to other students.	88%
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	20%
I found this course to be difficult.	28%

## Open ended feedback

## Do you have any suggestions for what the instructor could have done differently to further support your learning?

#### Comments

I feel like sometimes Álvaro can get lost in his words and this made it a little hard to comprehend what he as trying to explain and then it's a rabbit hole as I would struggle to grasp that concept.

N/A

I am weaker when it comes to numbers so I think more explanation on how to leverage quantitative analysis would be helpful.

more activities in groups

It would be nice to have some form of Canvas access to the readings each week instead of having to look at the syllabus then go to the library section and search. Some of my other professors set up links in their weekly modules.

Professor Parra could explain class expectations in a clearer manner and ensure that his slides had no spelling or grammar errors. Professor Parra sometimes rushed through lectures which made it difficult to understand the content effectively.

Everything is good!!!

Everything was great!

Giving more detailed feedback to each individual student

Write bigger letters on the white board so that the last row students can also see.

More discussion time amongst peers

## Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of this course.

#### Comments

Lots of interactions with the students in the course

The content is super interesting, the prof does a good job of making it enthusiastic to learn and the way of teaching, so by real life applications makes it better as I'm able to understand how to apply course concepts.

- -Lots of real life examples
- -Lighter workload

I like coming to the class, it's light hearted and interesting discussions happen all the time

I think it was a good amount of discussion and application of class concepts. The environment was positive and I felt like I could contribute easily.

Great professor – very engaging. The materials were easy to understand but useful.

Discussions based on real life cases that relate to the class material learned

collaboration, discussion, strategic thinking

The professor showed genuine care for the students, which exemplified the learning. He comes across as very fair and thoughtful.

This course provides some useful frameworks for thinking about business and organization strategy.

Teaches real life businesses cases, real problems, real issues and relevant to any business career pathways.

This course is so good

- Case work
- Discussion based learning
- The prof

It's fun, but also challenging

Very high level with a bird's eye view on everything, which is very interesting.

developing my critical thinking skills given an organizations macro scale

- the prof is very fun and engaging, he makes teaching very interactive

## Please provide suggestions on how this course might be improved.

## Comments

The group project could be structured a little better. I felt like I struggled to get an understanding of what the prof actually expected given it was so broad so maybe simplifying that would make it better!

-Longer page limit for final report

Sometimes I'm not too sure what I should be learning / what the key takeaway of the cases should be

more group activities in class

Perhaps more relevant examples would have made the course more interesting

NIL

This course is really good

- More recent cases

More collaboration between students

More group discussion time.

shorter cases to analyse

- more quizzes

Please comment on aspects of my teaching which you have found particularly effective as well as on those aspects which might be improved. You may wish to comment on areas such as classroom delivery, class discussions, interaction with students, availability outside class and overall interest in students.

#### Comments

Readings were effective

Tips on how to complete them in a short period of time motivated us to do the readings prior to classes

Super chill, very real, cares about what he teaches and makes it very interesting overall.

-Lots of real world examples

I liked that you kept it casual and conversational, seemed more natural and easier to absorb the information

Good explanations and examples. Passionate and humorous but at the same time open-minded and encouraging speaking.

The personal stories were engaging and the analysis frameworks were great.

collaborative discussion

Your voice carried around the room very well. Great lecturing, made boring content more interesting.

Professor Parra effectively fostered class discussions and showed good overall interest in students' learning. However, I would have appreciated it if he was more organized and his slides were posted well before the start of the class with no spelling or grammatical errors.

Thank you for being so kind and so intentional in our learning. I love your tools and methods of teaching!

Class discussions and interaction with students were extremely effective and contributed the most to my learning.

Very good professor!

With great sense of humour

- As someone with ADHD, this was a very ADHD friendly course :-)

i thoroughly enjoyed the class discussions and it helped me become a better critical thinker

Please comment on the course. Indicate elements which you have found particularly effective or which you feel I could improve upon, e.g., the reasons for any low/high ratings you have given. Be specific. You may wish to comment on such areas as topics and scope of material covered, readings, exams and assignments and whether or not your interest in the area has been stimulated.

#### Comments

Sometimes went through the class concept a bit too quick

Probably the group project would be my biggest room for improvement of the course

N/A

Cases are very good at provoking thought and understanding of why companies made certain decisions. I liked how readings were relevant and not too long but still had good content.

The assigned readings contributed to my understanding of the course concepts. However, the lecture notes sometimes were confusing to understand and read through.

The readings were too many. Some readings could be taught with multiple topics.

This course is really good

I felt there was too much emphasis put on in-class participation, and being "supposed" to ask questions, rather than sparking curiosity.

The cases are good

I just didn't have the extra time to read all the cases thoroughly, some cases were longer and dense.



## **Explanatory Note**

## Percent Favourable Rating

This is the percentage of respondents who rated the instructor a 4 or 5 (Agree or Strongly Agree).

## Interpolated Median

The data collected for Student Experience of Instruction (SEI) are ordinal in nature, with a natural order (from 1 to 5). While the mean may be used as a measure of central tendency for such data, it is not an appropriate or accurate representation of SEI data (cf. Stark & Freishtat, 2014). The usual measure of central tendency for ordinal data is the median. As a result, we have been reporting the mean and the median for the last several years. After considerable thought and data modeling, we now believe that the interpolated median is the best representation of the data, since it takes the frequency distribution into account.

Consider the following example from 2015W, the two course sections have identical mean (3.8). However, the instructor in section 2 received 77% favourable (4-5) ratings, compared to 53% for the instructor in section 1. The Interpolated median values of (3.7 and 4.2), much better reflects the distribution of the scores above and below their respective median. Furthermore, the interpolated median is better correlated with percent favourable rating; such that an interpolated median of 3.5 on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, corresponds to 50% favourable rating.

### **Frequency Distribution**

Response for University Module Item	Section 1	Section 2
5 = Strongly agree	5	5
4 = Agree	3	5
3 = Neither agree nor disagree	6	0
2 = Disagree	1	2
1 = Strongly disagree	0	1
Mean	3.8	3.8
Median	4.0	4.0

## **UBC Student Experience of Instruction**

Interpolated Median	3.7	4.2
Percent favourable rating	53%	77%

## Dispersion Index

The dispersion index is a measure of variability suitable for ordinal data (Rampichini, Grilli & Petrucci 2004). This dispersion index has values between zero and 1. A zero dispersion index indicates that all respondents in the section rated their experience of instruction the same. An index value of 1.0 is obtained when the respondents are split evenly between the two extreme values (Strongly Disagree & Strongly Agree), a very rare occurrence. In SEI data at UBC, the index rarely exceeds 0.85, and mostly for evaluations not meeting the minimum recommended response rate.



# 2022W2 UBC Individual Instructor Report for COMM 491 201 - Strategic Management (Álvaro Parra)

Project Title: 2022W2 UBC Instructor SEI Surveys

Course Audience: **43**Responses Received: **29**Response Ratio: **67%** 

## **Report Comments**

# Recommended Minimum Response Rates

Class Size	Recommended Minimum Response Rates based on 80% confidence & ± 10% margin
< 10	75%
11 - 19	65%
20 - 34	55%
35 - 49	40%
50 - 74	35%
75 - 99	25%
100 - 149	20%
150 - 299	15%
300 - 499	10%
> 500	5%

# **University Module Questions**

## **University Module Questions**

Question	N	n	SD	D	Ν	Α	SA	N/A	IM	DI
Throughout the term, the instructor explained course requirements so it was clear to me what I was expected to learn.	43	29	0	2	1	16	10	0	4.2	0.4
The instructor conducted this course in such a way that I was motivated to learn.	43	29	1	1	2	13	12	0	4.3	0.5
The instructor presented the course material in a way that I could understand.	43	29	0	0	4	11	14	0	4.5	0.4
Considering the type of class (e.g., large lecture, seminar, studio), the instructor provided useful feedback that helped me understand how my learning progressed during this course.	43	29	0	5	4	8	12	0	4.2	0.6
The instructor showed genuine interest in supporting my learning throughout this course.	43	29	0	1	2	11	15	0	4.5	0.4
Overall, I learned a great deal from this instructor.	43	29	1	2	1	13	12	0	4.3	0.5

Question	%Favourable
Throughout the term, the instructor explained course requirements so it was clear to me what I was expected to learn.	90%
The instructor conducted this course in such a way that I was motivated to learn.	86%
The instructor presented the course material in a way that I could understand.	86%
Considering the type of class (e.g., large lecture, seminar, studio), the instructor provided useful feedback that helped me understand how my learning progressed during this course.	69%
The instructor showed genuine interest in supporting my learning throughout this course.	90%
Overall, I learned a great deal from this instructor.	86%

# **Faculty Questions**

## **Course Questions**

Question	N	n	SD	D	N	А	SA	N/A	IM	DI
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	43	29	1	1	4	13	8	2	4.1	0.5
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	43	29	1	0	3	14	11	0	4.3	0.4
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	43	29	1	1	6	11	10	0	4.1	0.5
I would recommend this course to other students.	43	29	1	4	3	12	9	0	4.0	0.6
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	43	29	0	15	13	1	0	0	2.5	0.3
I found this course to be difficult.	43	29	0	12	15	2	0	0	2.7	0.3

Question	%Favourable
The textbook or other assigned readings were important for understanding the course.	78%
The notes and readings prepared by the instructor were useful.	86%
The course assignments provided a useful learning experience.	72%
I would recommend this course to other students.	72%
I found the workload in this course to be heavy.	3%
I found this course to be difficult.	7%

## Open ended feedback

## Do you have any suggestions for what the instructor could have done differently to further support your learning?

#### Comments

It would be nice to receive feedback or grades throughout the term – it was hard going into the midterm without having a single indication of how I was doing in the class. Also, I find that sometimes the class lectures can feel really long and hard to stay focused in, so it would be nice if we could have breaks during class so that we can refocus and get ready to pay attention again.

Greater reference to more recent articles and business case studies.

Ensuring time for students to participate in every class.

Let students choose their teammates themselves instead of random assigning groups

- Include relevant cases that are not from 20 years ago. Business changes on an annual basis, why are we learning from cases that are older than us
- Final project was pretty useless, needs a revamp

N/a

No. The prof was very patient and helpful over the whole term.

make it more clear how much we have to participate to get 100%

AP was great. I wish there were may cases and that we went more in-depth.

Maybe more information included on slides – explanations of smaller case examples

N/A

Respond to emails

I felt very supported in my learning in this class.

More organization on the canvas page

no

More structured lectures and a clear outline of work expectations would have been more helpful.

\_

His classes seemed a bit disorganized at times – lots of student participation, but the actual concepts sometimes seemed confusing

## Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of this course.

#### Comments

Good exposure to an introduction of strategic management strategies.

I appreciated how we looked at a firm's strategy in different ways. The case studies paired with the frameworks were good examples of how the theory applies in real life. Exam marking and course workload felt fair.

Relevance to real-world – enjoyable course to finish the degree.

Active participation and debate from students.

the application of cases was really useful for learning

Very fun class material and readings

Engaging class

the class is very discussion based and the professor incentivize everyone to participate

this course is entirely review

Very structured and clear requirements and learning objectives

strategic views of the markets and companies

a good application of economics concepts in the business world

fun and engaging

Cases. Classroom discussion.

Good material related to course content, clear on expectations

- Discussion-based learning
- Format of evaluations
- Real-life applications

Discussion based learning

There was a lot of chances to communicate with classmates and share our thoughts in this class. We worked in groups a lot, and I felt like I learned a lot from my classmates. I also felt that the course is structured in a way that allows students to apply their learning to real—world situations, which was very valuable.

Discussion based, easy to learn from real life examples and from classmate interactions

Applicable to real business settings as we move up in a workplace environment to management roles. Provides key strategies into how to effectively make decisions in business. interesting material that is applicable to the real world.

A good recap of the things learned in first year. Also, a good way to apply course concepts to real-life examples.

Great seminar-like lectures.

Interactive. Down to earth. Hands-on examples.

Learning strategy

## Please provide suggestions on how this course might be improved.

#### Comments

The content and overall objective in the class – I don't feel like I have learned how to strategically manage, and only have a bunch of individual disconnected frameworks that start to approach the idea, but nothing cohesive.

Presentations can be replaced with purely submittable projects. More ways to evaluate participation besides speaking up in class.

More technical approach to lectures, final presentations seemed more broad than anticipated.

More focused topics and discussions (eg. more honed discussion topics and readings)

More concise slides / demonstration of what the key topics are

Having some assessments earlier on in the course & give students feedback to see where they can improve before taking the final exam. The project was too close to finals.

- This course needs a professor with real world experience in a strategy role. Theory of strategy does not equal how it is actually done in the real world. Having a professor who never worked a day in industry on strategy took away from all the credibility of the course.
- Better assignments that actually help with developing or analyzing business strategies that are not from 20 years ago

More grading criteria available to see allocation of marks

Nothing. The course was very effective and helpful for me.

More cases.

N/A

More deliverables

Although I did well on the midterm, I did not feel like it was particularly reflective of what I learned in the class. Examining us does not seem to be reflective of the way we learned in class – which was all about applying our learning to the real world, not to fictional and hypothetical exam questions.

Some of the content covered content we have already learned, could have gone more in depth in certain areas.

don't like the midterm or final

More focus on the presentation would be better than having exams on top of the presentation.

Perhaps speak loudly or write down the questions you are asking on the board or slidedeck because it was hard to hear.

\_

Information could be more real-life applicable or hands-on. The course concepts seemed a bit surface-level.

Please comment on aspects of my teaching which you have found particularly effective as well as on those aspects which might be improved. You may wish to comment on areas such as classroom delivery, class discussions, interaction with students, availability outside class and overall interest in students.

#### Comments

I think it would have been nice if you had given us grades or more indicators of how we were doing throughout the term. I really liked when you started posting the participation tracker so that we could see how we compared to our peers, because it gave me an idea of how I was doing relative to the class. It would be nice if the case days were more structured and we answered the questions that we have to do for prep in the pre–case assignment. I found sometimes the discussions were hard to follow and that they were going off track. Overall great class and I enjoyed it and having you as a professor.

Appreciated the enthusiasm toward the class studies and bringing in your own perspective to answers.

I appreciated the professor's delivery and engagement throughout the course material.

Free debate-style class and encouraging participation.

Alvaro was a wonderful professor, he made class engaging and encouraged discussion always. He created a very welcoming and inclusive environment for us to participate.

I think some of the PowerPoint presentations were quite long, and sometimes he would rush through the material.

Great: Very passionate, Great delivery and engagement

Needs Improvement: You shut down ideas very easily when people give answers. Gave numerous answer throughout the term you said were wrong or needed revamping when they were the answer that the company actually did and succeeded with. Make sure you are informed about the industries in the cases you teach.

On top of updating materials and marks. Very clear with topics and consistent structure of each lecture

The prof explains concepts very clearly. He dives deeper into every case and concept.

Personal stories and charisma.

Good engagement with students, clear explanation of concepts. Could be more in-class review for exams.

- Classroom discussion (encouraging everyone to participate before someone participates twice)
- Posting the readings in advance
- Positive learning environment (genuinely prioritizes students learning over evaluations)

Please reply to emails

Alvaro is an engaging instructor, and it is obvious that he cares about his students. He takes the time to explain concepts, and then gives student ample opportunity to apply what they have learned to real world situations. He has a clear mastery of the subject, and I really enjoyed learning from him.

Alvaro was good at encouraging people to discuss in class. He showed genuine interest in students learning and presented most of the material in a clear and understandable way.

Clear that he genuinely cares to see his students succeed and that he is dedicated to the success and learning of the class. Actually takes in feedback and uses the feedback to improve teaching throughout the semester.

talked about and chose very interesting readings and cases for the class. Liked that you brought it personal experiences to give a clearer picture.

I liked the application of course concepts to real life examples/situations. It was helpful in comprehending the concepts more thoroughly.

I liked the enthusiasm and the effort you put into every class. I also enjoyed how you asked recap guestions to ensure we understood what happened last class.

- + class discussion
- + clear and effective delivery
- + useful and memorable examples

There sometimes was too much discussion or input from the class that wasted a lot of time and we were still left confused about concepts.

#### **UBC Student Experience of Instruction**

Please comment on the course. Indicate elements which you have found particularly effective or which you feel I could improve upon, e.g., the reasons for any low/high ratings you have given. Be specific. You may wish to comment on such areas as topics and scope of material covered, readings, exams and assignments and whether or not your interest in the area has been stimulated.

#### Comments

The exams were a lot more econ-based than strategy based. It felt like what we learned in class didn't correlate to what we were examined on.

#### N/A

Students would feel more accepted with their opinions and perspectives with more validation and encouragement from the instructor.

I did not really find the cases to be helpful in my learning. They were way too long for what we learned from them in my opinion.

Very fair in grades and due dates. Provides good outside of lecture participation

practical, effective, and helpful

reduce readings for class or make it more clear which part is the important part to read. its our senior year and we have other capstone/heavy courses + senioritis

This course covers a large variety of topics so I feel like it would be useful to have a class that combines many concepts at once with an explanation to prepare for the final exam. Otherwise, I really enjoyed this course and I learned a lot. Prof. Alvaro is an excellent instructor.

#### N/A

There was a lot of chances to communicate with classmates and share our thoughts in this class. We worked in groups a lot, and I felt like I learned a lot from my classmates. I also felt that the course is structured in a way that allows students to apply their learning to real—world situations, which was very valuable. Although I did well on the midterm, I did not feel like it was particularly reflective of what I learned in the class. Examining us does not seem to be reflective of the way we learned in class – which was all about applying our learning to the real world, not to fictional and hypothetical exam questions.

Some of the content we have previously covered in Sauder courses, could have gone more in-depth. Canvas page could have been more organized.

reasonable amount of work, nothing too difficult. Personally felt the assignments and readings added value. The strategy proposal was not that enjoyable

in-class discussions on real-life cases were helpful.

\_

It seemed like a repurposed COMM 101. It could have a bit more applicability or reference to different specialization strengths.

## **Explanatory Note**

## Percent Favourable Rating

This is the percentage of respondents who rated the instructor a 4 or 5 (Agree or Strongly Agree).

## Interpolated Median

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### **Frequency Distribution**

Response for University Module Item	Section 1	Section 2
5 = Strongly agree	5	5
4 = Agree	3	5
3 = Neither agree nor disagree	6	0
2 = Disagree	1	2
1 = Strongly disagree	0	1
Mean	3.8	3.8
Median	4.0	4.0

## **UBC Student Experience of Instruction**

Interpolated Median	3.7	4.2
Percent favourable rating	53%	77%

## Dispersion Index

The dispersion index is a measure of variability suitable for ordinal data (Rampichini, Grilli & Petrucci 2004). This dispersion index has values between zero and 1. A zero dispersion index indicates that all respondents in the section rated their experience of instruction the same. An index value of 1.0 is obtained when the respondents are split evenly between the two extreme values (Strongly Disagree & Strongly Agree), a very rare occurrence. In SEI data at UBC, the index rarely exceeds 0.85, and mostly for evaluations not meeting the minimum recommended response rate.