

Fall 2020 Individual Instructor Aggregated Report for FIN4934: Special Topics (Nicholas DeRobertis)

Project Title: **University of Florida GatorEvals – Fall 2020**

Courses Audience: **39**
Responses Received: **37**
Response Ratio: **94.9%**

Instructors Audience: **39**
Responses Received: **37**
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INTRODUCTION

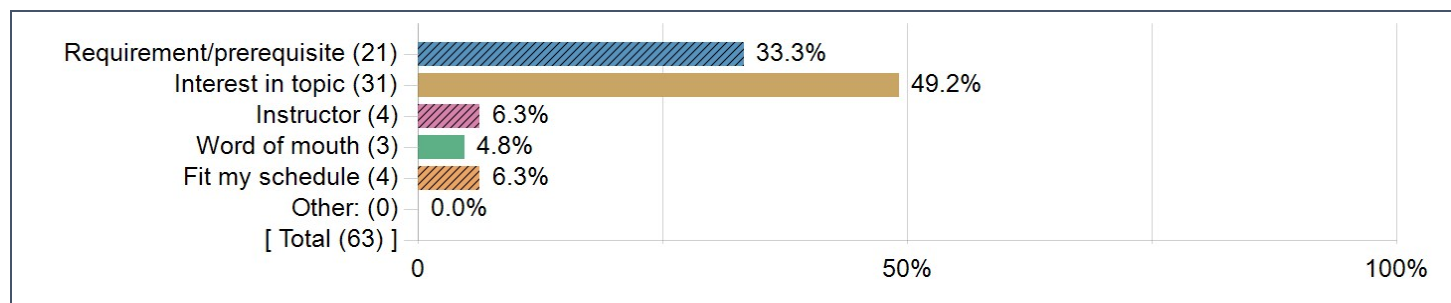
Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs

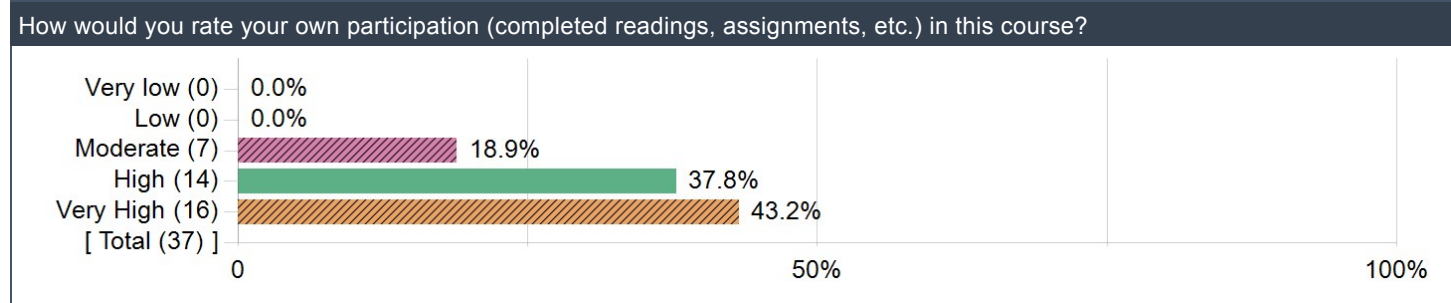


Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Comparative Scores

Question	Your Score		DPT Mean (Undergrad- BUS(BA)- Finance)		College Average (College- Business)		University Average	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	4.73	4.86	4.24	4.41	4.55	4.75	4.51	4.74
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	4.43	4.73	3.62	3.74	4.28	4.59	4.29	4.60
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	4.41	4.76	4.28	4.44	4.49	4.72	4.44	4.69
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	4.54	4.76	3.95	4.07	4.38	4.66	4.38	4.66
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	4.46	4.79	3.70	3.80	4.23	4.59	4.23	4.58
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	4.57	4.81	3.45	3.54	4.18	4.56	4.18	4.57
Overall	4.52	-	3.87	-	4.35	-	4.34	-

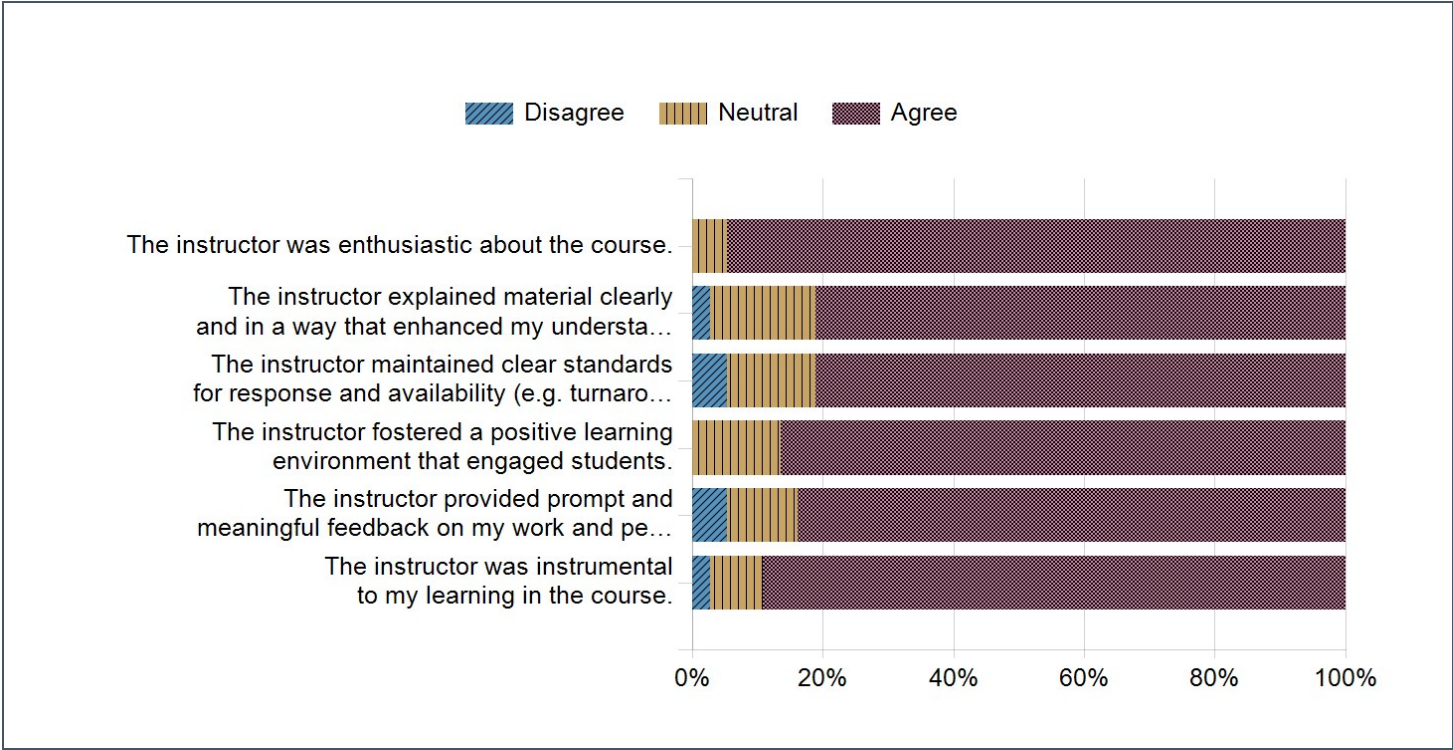
University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Comparative Scores

Question	Your Score		DPT Mean (Undergrad- BUS(BA)- Finance)		College Average (College- Business)		University Average	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	4.62	4.79	3.70	3.87	4.23	4.35	4.28	4.42
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	4.16	4.45	3.30	3.34	3.92	4.11	3.97	4.20
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	4.68	4.79	3.74	3.92	4.16	4.32	4.20	4.37
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	4.65	4.79	3.79	4.00	4.22	4.41	4.26	4.47
Overall	4.53	-	3.63	-	4.13	-	4.18	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

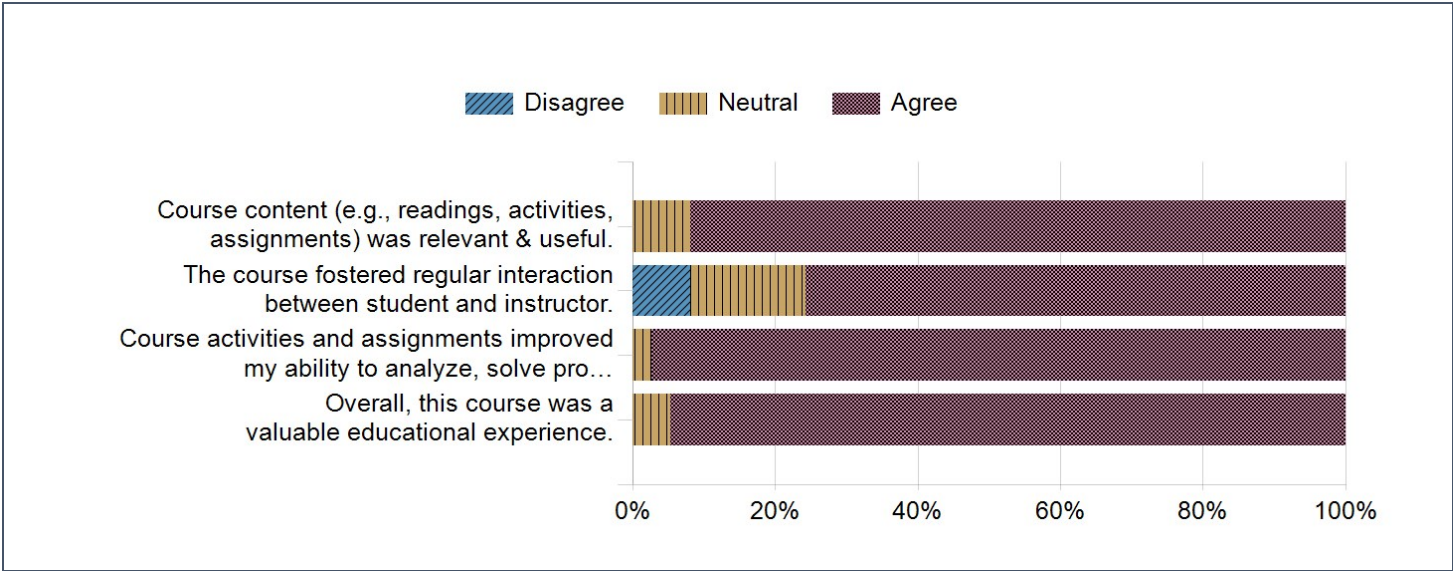
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0.0%	0.0%	5.4%	16.2%	78.4%	37	4.73	5.00	0.56
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0.0%	2.7%	16.2%	16.2%	64.9%	37	4.43	5.00	0.87
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	2.7%	2.7%	13.5%	13.5%	67.6%	37	4.41	5.00	1.01
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0.0%	0.0%	13.5%	18.9%	67.6%	37	4.54	5.00	0.73
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	2.7%	2.7%	10.8%	13.5%	70.3%	37	4.46	5.00	0.99
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	2.7%	0.0%	8.1%	16.2%	73.0%	37	4.57	5.00	0.87

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	8.1%	21.6%	70.3%	37	4.62	5.00	0.64
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	8.1%	16.2%	27.0%	48.6%	37	4.16	4.00	0.99
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	27.0%	70.3%	37	4.68	5.00	0.53
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	5.4%	24.3%	70.3%	37	4.65	5.00	0.59

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
professor was very smart and helpful, class was very hard
very enthusiastic about the class and very helpful when needed
Very knowledgeable in the subject and was always willing to help his students.
Nick DeRobertis is one of the most hands-on teachers I have had at the University of Florida. His biggest strength is how badly he wants to see us succeed. He usually answered emails within 24 hours. He helped me individually a few times a week. He encourages questions and talking to him about our programs. This course has been one of the hardest courses I have taken, but because of Mr. DeRobertis, not only have I learned Python, but I feel more confident working in the language.
Did a very good job of explaining topics in his lectures and going step by step.
Professor is incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about the course and its material. Professor is able to thoroughly and efficiently help with any problems and questions that arise throughout the course of the class.
Obvious competence in programming and teaching. The videos were concise and informative; I never felt as if you were just filling up time.
The topic is very useful. The class was difficult, and I therefore greatly improved my coding skills. This class is great, mainly on the basis that programming is such an important topic. That being said, I would have liked a more direct teaching style. Online video lectures could be difficult to follow sometimes. All in all, Prof. is very passionate about the topic, and that definitely translated to me being interested and motivated to learn.
Thank you for always replying to my email and questions and explaining things clearly.
Enthusiasm and knowledge of material
The overall structure of the course Nick made was perfect. In particular, the setup with recorded lectures and example JupyterLab files is, in my opinion, the ideal structure for a course like this, since it allows for self-pacing. Having a good grasp on both the finance and programming concepts presented in the course before taking it, my opinion might be skewed, but I think the overall pacing was also perfect. Most importantly, the ability to solve a particular problem using any Python or Excel approach of our choice was incredibly valuable and a stark contrast to the restrictive nature of other programming-intensive courses I have taken at UF. I understand giving this freedom to students likely also makes the projects much more time-consuming to grade, so I really appreciate Nick's commitment to helping my class learn how we want.
Also, Nick's explanations of the concepts in the course were, in my opinion, very clear.
Professor DeRobertis was prompt in answering questions over email and made himself available outside of class to help with projects/comprehending material whenever needed. He also graded our projects in detail and provided valuable feedback. Passionate about teaching the material and wanting his students to succeed.
Nicholas DeRobertis is highly knowledgeable in Excel and Python (the two focal points of this course). Coming in to the course, I had to prior experience with Python, but Professor DeRobertis has structured the course in such a way that any Python beginner can quickly and easily learn and apply Python to build out complex financial models. Professor DeRobertis is very present and available for his students. He is always quick to answer questions and always makes the time to help students in need.

Comments
Aside from the course structure, Professor DeRobertis puts in a lot of effort in his video lectures. His lectures are a mix of theory and application, and he does a great job of explaining complex topics and illustrating them through examples. Often times, he will stop to point out the real-world practical application of the course material, pulling examples from his professional experience.
Overall, Nicholas DeRobertis is a phenomenal instructor and academic. His expertise and dedication make him an exemplary Professor.
I really appreciated the prompt uploads of lecture material and responsiveness of my professor to all of my questions.
Nick really explained topics very well that are otherwise difficult to find online when teaching oneself.
The instructor has an extremely strong understanding of programming. He is good at teaching in a structured and logical way, and his examples show core concepts while also providing specific details. His class is also structured and organized very logically, which is helpful for a student. On projects, he gives enough guidance that a student has an idea about what they should do without so much guidance that the assignment is trivial. He gives students all the knowledge they need to succeed while leaving it up to them to absorb and be able to apply it, which I think is the right approach to teaching programming. He also provided open source programming tools that do not exist elsewhere on the internet, and that I believe I will be able to utilize in my future employment. He replies quickly to emails and makes the material interesting by using real world examples.
Professor DeRobertis is one of the best instructor's I have ever had in my educational experience. His ability to execute a difficult, hands-on course through an online learning environment was very impressive. I came in with no Python experience whatsoever and left feeling confident about my skills and ability to tackle a variety of problems thanks to his diligence in creating strong lecture and assignment material that tied together perfectly and progressed well over the course of the class.
Punctual, compassionate, and able to explain the material in a clear manner.
Professor DeRobertis is extremely knowledgeable about Financial Modeling, but he is also passionate and excellent at communicating the topic to new learners. This is a complicated, challenging subject with a steep learning curve, but I would rank communication as his greatest strength. He laid clear expectations, but he also provided all the tools & lectures necessary to succeed. This communication extended in his quick email responses and outreach through lab sessions and private appointments. I do not doubt his intent to help students learn the material and succeed.
So so so helpful! I emailed him so much and he always answered within 24 hours with such constructive help, but without just giving me the answer so I had to apply the logic he explained to me to my model. His lecture videos were concise and so educational, the class itself is structured really well and makes you learn so much without it feeling like you are. Probably the most valuable class I'll ever have taken at UF
His willingness to work with students individually on their code, his responsiveness to email, his deep and fundamental understanding of the code so that he can explain our errors in a clear and efficient way, and the fact that the course was designed to be similar in structure each week so that everyone knew what was expected of them each week.
Professor DeRobertis is easily the best professor I have had so far at UF. He is very helpful in helping you understand the material and answering any questions you may have. His lectures are very informative, the assignments are challenging but rewarding, and I have learned more about finance in one semester than I have in my four years at UF. If there was course above this with Nick, I would definitely take it. I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to take this course and learn how to integrate finance with Python. The knowledge that I can take away from this course will be very beneficial to real world applications.
Professor DeRobertis was great at breaking down content and information to digestible pieces and made learning so fluid. He was also ready to help if you were ever struggling and addressed any concerns promptly
The professor has a very deep understanding of the topics covered in the course. He even spent some extra time helping us out by figuring out issues between windows and mac. He did a good job of making the projects relevant to what we would do in the workforce.
Communicated clearly how to go about utilizing tools within Python to build out different Financial Models
Very knowledgeable
I highly suggest the retention of professor DeRobertis. Do not let the competition make him a better offer. He is intelligent, well rounded, persistent and incredibly patient. I asked him questions every lecture through email and he was able to respond clearly and effectively. I highly suggest the university considers making this professor full time. I have had very good and very bad professors in the past and professor DeRobertis is by far one of the better professors that I have ever had. Taking my recommendation along with the collective ideas of other students he was able to provide a unique learning environment given the Covid-19 circumstance. Unlike many professors that go to teaching for the wrong reasons, it is evident that professor DeRobertis has a passion for teaching. I wish I could take every class with him.
python knowledge was great
Very good at making a difficult topic straightforward, easy to understand, and manageable. Course organization helped
Easily the smartest instructor I've come across at UF. The professor was extremely passionate about the course.
Very knowledgeable about the topic, so that he knew exactly how to present the material and teach it to students who had never

Comments
taken a financial modeling course
Did a good job of holding live sessions with students and answering their questions thoroughly. Did a good job of organizing the course through the course website and had lots of different and useful materials available for the students.
The instructor was very helpful and enthusiastic about the content.

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [8]
KNOWLEDGEABLE	62.5 %
DIFFICULT	37.5 %
POSITIVE - GENERAL	25.0 %
ENTHUSIASTIC / DEDICATED	25.0 %
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	25.0 %

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
n/a
sometimes lab and project instructions were a little unclear
N/A
The feedback I would give is to have the labs and the projects due on separate days because it really becomes overwhelming. I think you should have the projects due on Sunday and the labs due on Monday. It just helps students be able to focus and not get so overwhelmed. I know this semester was weird, but you have an online section again, I think it would help to post all the videos at once so students can look ahead. Especially with programming, it helps to have the material as soon as possible because the labs can take quite a bit of time.
N/A
Great course. Very interesting topic. I am very glad I leave this semester with a decent basic understanding of python. My two comments on improvment would be that I would have liked to see better email response times from the Prof., and I think sometimes it was confusing what was actually due each week – his course website wasn't as organized as that of my other classes. That being said though, great class.
I think it's pretty good now. I feel like having personal lab would be so good, but unfortunately I'm not able to experience that.
Clearer instructions on assignments
Directions for assignments were never clear. Students need a better understanding of what the assignment is and how to get started on it. Also needs to be a better way to correct problems students are having with cose
The biggest help throughout the course was collaboration and live feedback. It would be valuable to add another live session throughout the week because waiting until Thursday to continue my work was stressful and often didn't fit my schedule.
Financial Modeling with Nicholas DeRobertis has been, by far, one of my favorite courses as an undergrad student at the University of Florida. The course is challenging and engaging, and with some effort, Nicholas DeRobertis provide every student with the resources and opportunities necessary to do well. My only feedback would be to urge professor DeRobertis to consider teaching additional courses that cover material beyond the scope of this course.
N.a
This seems like the best section to put that I wish there was another class that built off this one. It provided very useful real world information.
N/A
Some of instructor emails required interpreting and rereading, but any confusion was cleared up through follow-up responses and questions. So I can't complain there.
None. He was so amazing. Him, Dr. Parrino and Mark Rush were the three best professors I'll ever have had at UF. I'm so grateful that he cared so much and was as smart as he was. I really enjoyed this class and found myself excited about doing something I never thought could excite me like this

Comments
Provide links to additional resources we can use to solve questions we may have
Overall, I wouldn't change much about the course. I did notice however that while the projects were assigned a few weeks in advance, the material that was needed to complete the project was given the week before. But given the amount of material that needs to be covered in such a short period of time, this is understandable.
I think DeRobertis could make the course easier for students on mac by showing certain tutorials for mac users. Downloading certain packages as a student on Mac is very different than on windows, and this is where I and many other students often got stuck during certain labs and projects
I think the course is run efficiently as it is. I don't see any changes that need to be made.
At the beginning of the course, I had some difficulties understanding expectations for certain labs, so maybe being more specific with expectations.
More interactive
This class was mainly about modeling, but I feel like I have learned lessons that are beyond the material and learned to use python fairly well. I encourage this professor to keep doing what he is doing because it is working, and it is working well. I thought I would have difficulty understanding Python and other material related to the course, but the professor broke down everything into manageable pieces. I am very grateful to have had him for a professor this semester. I wish this professor the best of luck going forward, but know he will not need it for he is destined for great success in academia. Thank you.
none
I would like more instructor interactions as it was hard to make the lecture review and lab sessions on the same day. Also, would've liked more guidance on the lab exercises, such as offering hints to problems and providing intermediate outputs not just the answer. Same thing with the projects
N/A
Look into more entry level projects, they sometimes seemed to advanced for our abilities

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [6]
UNCLEAR	16.7 %
DIFFICULT	16.7 %
DISRESPECTFUL / RUDE	0.0 %
NOT_ENGAGING	0.0 %
POOR DELIVERY	0.0 %

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
n.a
clarify project and lab instructions
N/A
I think at least one of the labs can be dropped. It is a lot to have labs due every week on top of projects. And since labs only make up 20% of the grade, it would have been nice to have labs dropped in case something came up. Also I know labs were supposed to be graded on completion, but there were multiple times that I received zeros on labs just for small errors, so if the TAs are going to grade like that please make the grades fair. Because it was not fair that I got a zero for a lab I worked hard on when I had a small error. I do not mind points getting taken out but a zero seemed too harsh.
Discussed on previous question. Quicker email responses and a more organized course website – sometimes it was unclear what was actually due each week.
I like the materials and assignments as they are close to real-life problems.
1. Overall, I think doubling down on projects which more clearly require students to use Python more than Excel would be the most helpful thing for students. More specifically, I understand that most of the answer keys or examples are done in Python, but much of

Comments
the classwork done in Python is, in my opinion, much cleaner to execute in Excel. I think this is because for the most part, we cover simple models in this course like a DCF, which students should likely be familiar with already. However, in my opinion, the typical DCF (not using stats for FCF forecasts) is much cleaner to implement in Excel, so it would be much more worthwhile to instead center around projects where 90% of the work could not be done in Excel. In essence, I think that my Python learning plateaued in the second half of this course after learning MC analysis, since 90% of the work for the projects is cleaner to execute in Excel, with Python reserved mainly for the MC analysis, sensitivity analysis, etc. I might be biased against learning DCFs again since I am already very familiar with them, but in any case, I think I would have learned more had the final project been more purely centered on applying data science or stats, perhaps through backtesting a trading strategy.
2. While I was very happy to learn how to implement some basic time series analysis in Python, it felt out of place to learn in a DCF. In most of the industry, financial statement and ultimately FCF forecasts are obviously done in a much more manual, accounting and fundamentals-based approach which is obviously out of place to cover in this course. However, I ultimately have only heard of time series forecasts being used to project financial statements in lending models, never in a DCF which is typically used by equity investors. In my opinion, it would make more sense that if we were to cover DCF models, we could simply use Equity Research papers as the basis for our cash flow estimates. And if we were to cover time series models, it would in my opinion feel more in place to use them either in the context of a lending model or other common use case in the industry such as very basic quant investing (maybe applied to commodities future prices).
None
As stated previously, I could not be more happy with the outcome of this course. The course material, organization, and assignments were all carefully crafted to provide students with a holistic learning experience.
I think that a separate document with instructions for lab exercises would be helpful as I like to reference the instructions as I work. I usually took a screenshot of the instructions myself.
Most of the time there were videos explaining lab assignments while sometimes I had to look them up from the slides myself. I think it would be better to consistently stick with one or the other approach. Also, this may be a misunderstanding on my part, but I did not understand the point of breaking up some lab assignments into different levels. I would do all the levels at once after I finished going over the information for a given section and I submitted the levels all in one document, so in my opinion splitting the lab assignments into levels creates more work for the student without any advantage.
No improvements I can see. Far and away the best course I've taken at UF.
Recommend python before the class, very difficult learning both simultaneously.
Part of me wishes that Lab assignments were not assigned the same day as Project submissions, but there is also plenty of advance notice and the scope of the course requires continual practice and new learning (especially in building toward final DCF model). No complaints!
None. I thought the videos being YouTube lectures was so much more convenient and actually helpful than a class at a specified time a few times a week. I like pausing and 1.5x speeding it and watching them when I'm not awake and a little each day rather than all 2 hours ish at once.
Make the weekly labs more similar to what the projects are like, where we use defined inputs to solve for things, that way the labs are more useful when completing the projects
I thoroughly enjoyed being able to watch the videos on your own time and being able to rewatch the videos if needed. The assignments and projects are very applicable to the real world situations. I wish there was additional course I could take with Professor DeRobertis.
The course can be improved by appealing more to uses on a MAC OS and by encouraging collaboration with other students through group labs/ projects.
I believe that projects and lab exercises were well designed. I know that I will be using what I have learned in my career after I graduate and I am much appreciative that the professor didn't just show us the easy way of doing things, but rather the correct way of doing things.
Staying on top of emails, and grading within a quicker timeframe so students can understand where they stand grade wise with the material.
Some labs were not helpful
None, best class at UF.
give more direction on projects, sometimes it is very difficult to know what steps to take so it would be helpful for students to have a guide of some sort
easier to achieve extra credit
Make it a little easier, more time learning the basics.
Would've liked more guidance on the lab exercises, such as offering hints to problems and providing intermediate outputs not just the answer. Same thing with the projects. Project expectations I think were not very well defined (other than accuracy it was hard to judge what the instructor was looking for, especially with formatting, structure, etc)

Comments
N/A
Looking into more entry level python projects

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [7]
DIFFICULT	42.9 %
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	14.3 %
CLEAR	14.3 %
ORGANIZED	14.3 %
POSITIVE - GENERAL	14.3 %

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
n.a
dcf model (Project 4)
All about python and financial modeling. Very useful
The class teaches you how to do financial modeling using excel, python, or a combination of the two. As a finance major and future finance professional, this is extremely helpful as I will have a solid groundwork of how financial models work in concept and practice for whenever I encounter modeling in the workplace.
Python Programming Language Building a DCF Model Combining Excel and Python Monte Carlo Simulation, Sensitivity and Scenario Analysis Data Visualization
Python skills are massively important now. I think this may be the most beneficial course I have ever taken in terms of learning skills that can directly be used in the workplace. I was already very good at excel, but I am thrilled to have begun learning python.
I really liked the Python skills that covered in the class. It was really hard and struggle, but when I look back, it is so helpful.
The IRR project and hand-calculating CAPM are very useful in my opinion, since I don't think the other undergrad finance courses teach either concept very well.
Learning how to implement MC analysis on an Excel file using Python is the most practical skill learned, although unfortunately the industry has not caught onto using MC analysis yet for most financial modeling. However, it would be immensely useful for anyone pursuing an academia route, or even a corporate finance route where you have the freedom to choose your own approach to modeling.
The projects were extremely difficult, but rewarding.
Prior to this course, I considered myself pretty skilled in Microsoft Excel. Having taken this course, I can now say that I am much more adept at Excel. I have also learned and discovered a newfound appreciation for Python, or the application of code to build out financial models. I learned how to sort through, aggregate, and visualize complex data sets, build out financial models to estimate cost of capital for a given company, and even how to build out an end-to-end Discounted Cash Flow Analysis for any given company. All of these are applicable skills for an aspiring financial professional.
I was eager to learn python and I think that my core knowledge from this course will benefit me professionally.
Valuation of stocks through python is super useful and interesting
python coding, montecarlo simulation, sensitivity analysis, forecasting, model building, and using python to parse financial documents are all extremely valuable skills that I believe I will use in future careers.
The ability to think critically about any problem and use the tools that we learned to find the best possible solution will pay dividends for me in any future career.

Comments
Building the DCF model was helpful both for the content and the modeling aspect itself. I learned more about how a company is valued, and I learned the building blocks for how to display this visually. Learning Python and Excel are hard skills that lend themselves directly to the workforce and many potential careers. While the material and pace have been more challenging than my previous courses, I'll walk away having learned a tremendous amount. I am confident that this knowledge is transferable to life after graduation, and it does feel good to learn new information I wouldn't have explored otherwise.
Everything. Not exaggerating, everything I learned added so much value to me as a future analyst
My ability to use python to solve financial problems or create financial models
Knowing how to use python will come a long way in the real world. Many big financial firms use Python for numerous applications to help their company succeed in the industry. This class is a great talking point in interviews as companies want to hear about your proficiency in coding as they do it on a daily basis.
I think being able to say I know how to use Python will be extremely handy in terms of giving me a very tangible skill to have in the workplace as a professional.
I developed my excel and python skills tremendously. These two skills will help me in my full time job as I will be creating financial models as well. I have a really strong base now that a lot of the new analysts that will be starting with me will not have.
Python libraries and being able to pull data from excel and process it quicker than Excel can
How to navigate python
The most important thing I am taking away from this class other than the financial information is how to use Python in combination with financial models. I have already started using Python outside of the course to create my own workout. Thanks to the help of the professor, I was able to program it effectively. I am also now working on a project to do algorithmic trading. This serves as just a small example of the many times I plan to use Python in the future. I am now a Python enthusiast.
python, excel
The entire course! Very good course.
How to program in python and learned how to build basic financial models
Learned how to utilize python to forecast and model different financial situations. Also improved upon the excel skills that I previously had.
All of the topics were very applicable

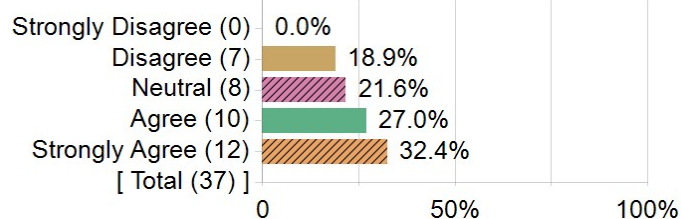
Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [7]
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	28.6 %
POSITIVE - GENERAL	14.3 %
DIFFICULT	14.3 %
KNOWLEDGEABLE	14.3 %
DISORGANIZED	0.0 %

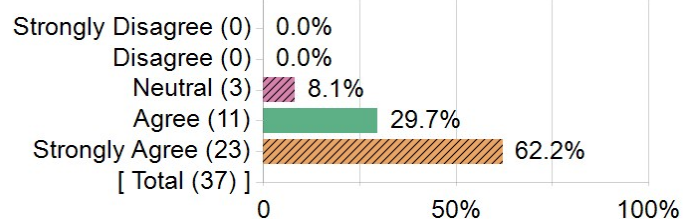
Supplemental Questions (Online)

1. The online environment of this course contributed to my ability to learn the material.



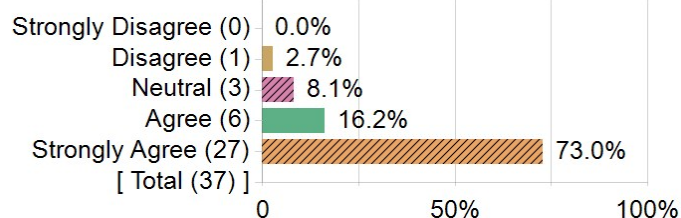
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.73
Standard Deviation	1.12

2. Student learning objectives were connected to course activities and assignments.



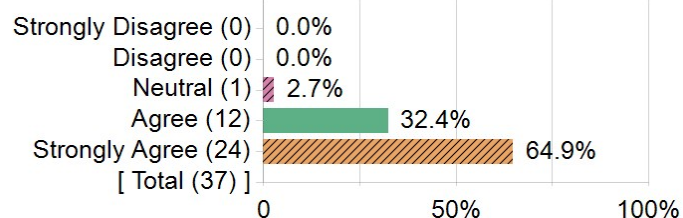
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.54
Standard Deviation	0.65

3. Course content is presented and structured in a logical, consistent, and organized manner.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.59
Standard Deviation	0.76

4. There were a variety of assignments appropriate for an online course.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.62
Standard Deviation	0.55

Spring 2020 Individual Instructor Aggregated Report for FIN4934: Special Topics (Nicholas DeRobertis)

Project Title: **University of Florida GatorEvals – Spring 2020**

Courses Audience: **50**
Responses Received: **19**
Response Ratio: **38.0%**

Instructors Audience: **50**
Responses Received: **18**
Response Ratio: **36.0%**

INTRODUCTION

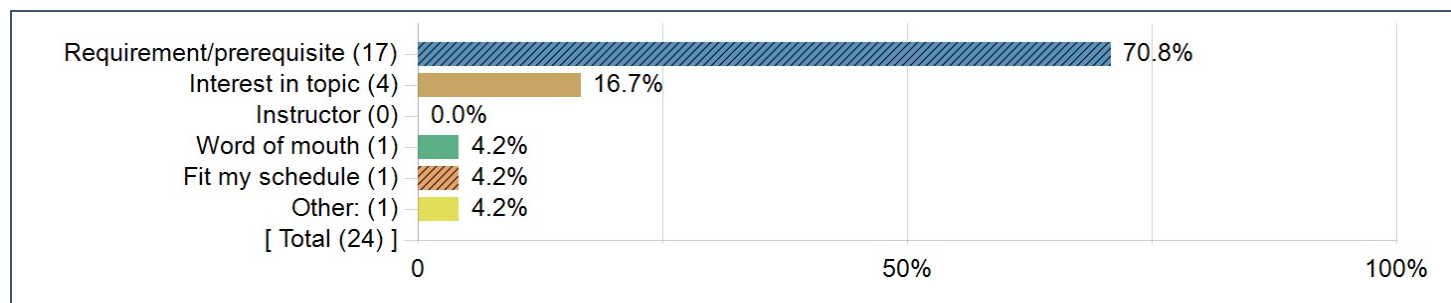
Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs

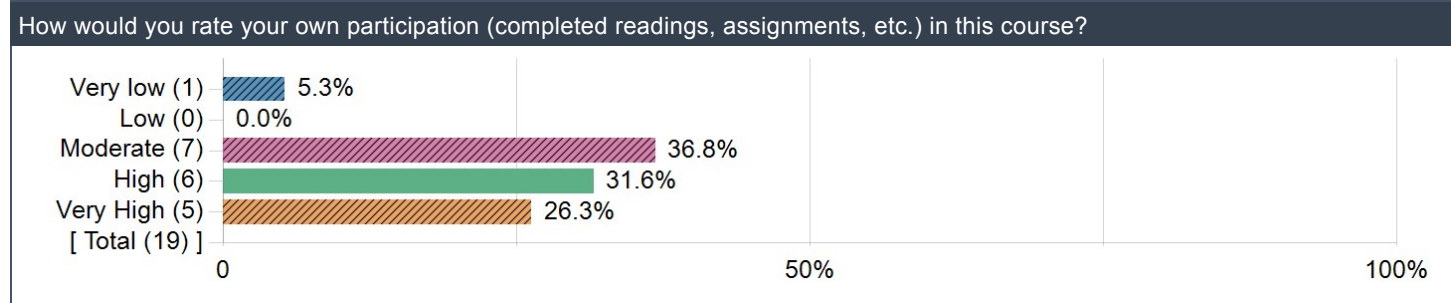


Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Comparative Scores

Question	Your Score		DPT Mean (Undergrad- BUS(BA)- Finance)		College Average (College- Business)		University Average	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	4.17	4.50	4.13	4.00	4.54	5.00	4.54	5.00
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	3.17	3.00	3.41	4.00	4.23	5.00	4.29	5.00
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	3.44	4.00	4.30	4.00	4.50	5.00	4.46	5.00
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	3.83	4.00	3.71	4.00	4.36	5.00	4.40	5.00
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	4.00	4.00	3.62	4.00	4.22	5.00	4.25	5.00
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	3.67	4.00	3.29	3.00	4.13	5.00	4.20	5.00
Overall	3.71	-	3.74	-	4.33	-	4.36	-

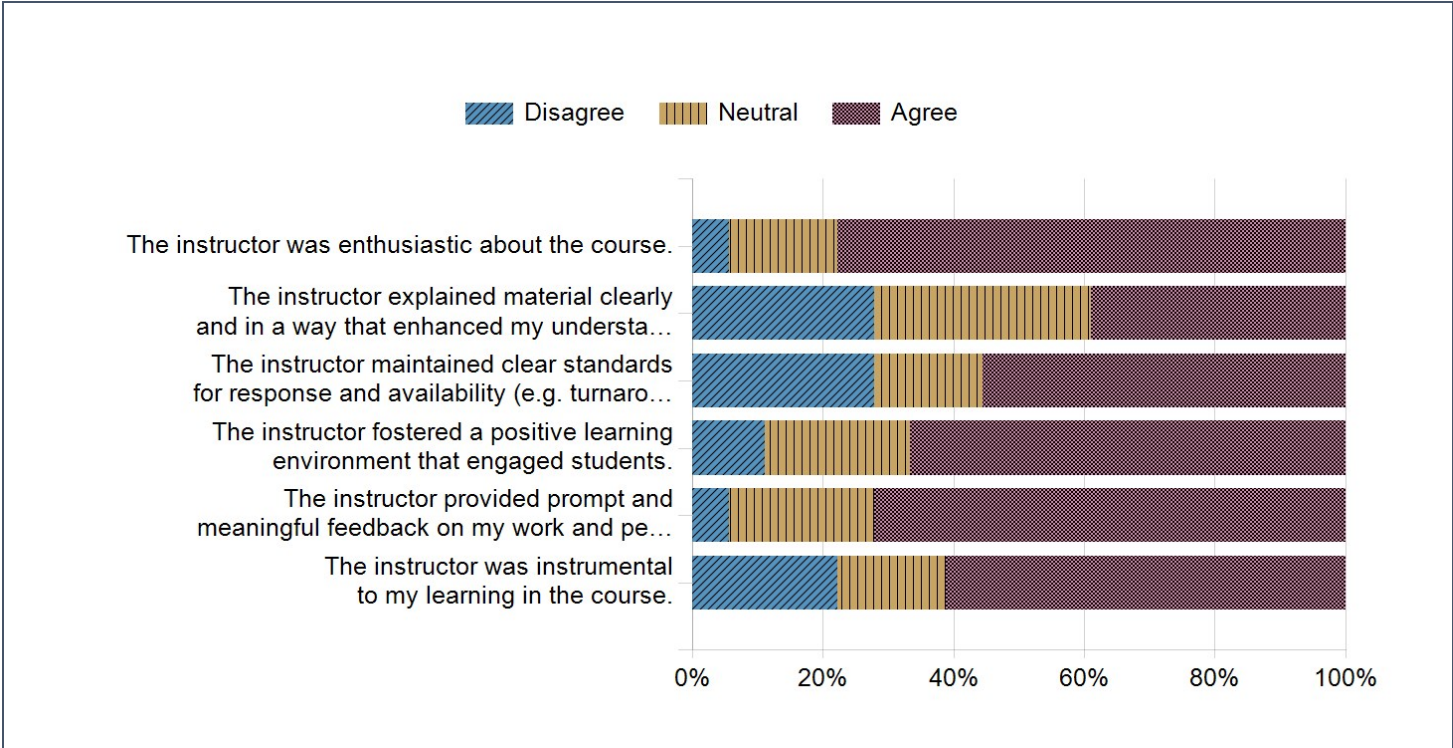
University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Comparative Scores

Question	Your Score		DPT Mean (Undergrad- BUS(BA)- Finance)		College Average (College- Business)		University Average	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	4.00	4.21	3.66	3.85	4.18	4.30	4.25	4.38
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	3.56	3.64	3.14	3.16	3.87	4.06	4.05	4.25
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	3.67	3.88	3.65	3.87	4.12	4.28	4.18	4.35
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	4.06	4.21	3.72	3.91	4.19	4.37	4.23	4.44
Overall	3.82	-	3.54	-	4.09	-	4.18	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

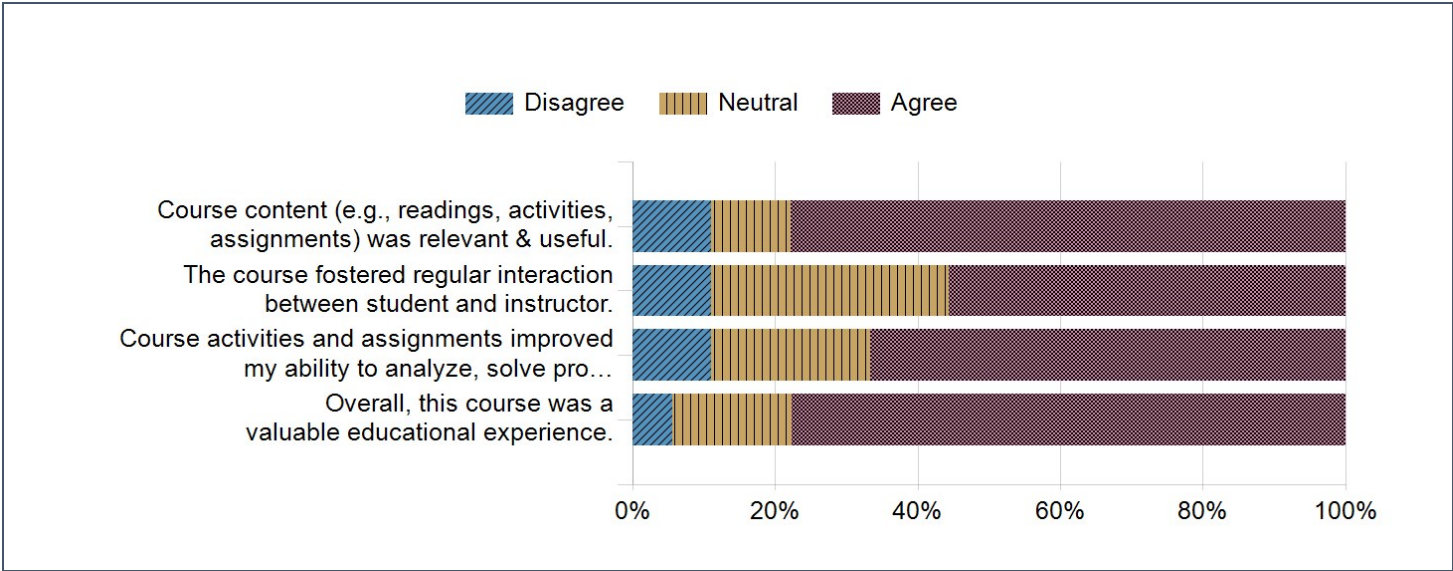
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	5.6%	0.0%	16.7%	27.8%	50.0%	18	4.17	4.50	1.10
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	11.1%	16.7%	33.3%	22.2%	16.7%	18	3.17	3.00	1.25
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	11.1%	16.7%	16.7%	27.8%	27.8%	18	3.44	4.00	1.38
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	5.6%	5.6%	22.2%	33.3%	33.3%	18	3.83	4.00	1.15
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	5.6%	0.0%	22.2%	33.3%	38.9%	18	4.00	4.00	1.08
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	5.6%	16.7%	16.7%	27.8%	33.3%	18	3.67	4.00	1.28

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	5.6%	5.6%	11.1%	38.9%	38.9%	18	4.00	4.00	1.14
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	5.6%	5.6%	33.3%	38.9%	16.7%	18	3.56	4.00	1.04
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	11.1%	0.0%	22.2%	44.4%	22.2%	18	3.67	4.00	1.19
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	5.6%	0.0%	16.7%	38.9%	38.9%	18	4.06	4.00	1.06

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
I really appreciated how quick he was to respond to emails. He always seemed really happy to help. Most of the examples were also really useful.
very attentive, enthusiastic, knows the topics well (as you can tell by the exceptional way he explains things), caring, just an overall amazing professor in a cool topic class. I was eager to watch ever lecture, and learn more on the scope of what he was teaching outside of class.
He knew python and excel very well
Very enthusiastic about the course. Gave up ample time to do labs and projects.
very passionate about python and coding
Very enthusiastic. He taught the material very well. Feedback on projects was really good.
He had a well organized Canvas page.
Professor DeRobertis has a lot of knowledge regarding Python and Excel. I had never used Python previously but I learned a lot in this class and it gave me an interest in programming that I hope to improve in the future.
He is extremely knowledgeable on everything he teaches and I thought the labs done in class were helpful.
Knowledgeable about subject
This professor really cares about his students. He takes the time to make sure his students understand the material and goes above and beyond to ensure that everyone gets the most out of the class. Because of this professor, this was the most rewarding class I have taken at UF. It wraps up the knowledge we gain in our core finance classes while also teaching us a new language. Very useful, informative, and well structured. I have nothing but good things to say about this class, and I recommend it to all of my friends.
Was very responsive and helpful when questions were asked
The set up of the class was good and having the lab exercises helped to practice what we just learned. He is extremely knowledgeable in the material and could answer any question.
Professor DeRobertis clearly has a lot of knowledge in the subject of financial modeling. He can easily look at our codes and identify to the problems we may have. He was very available via email and would always respond to any questions you have about the subject.
I think you really care about the subject and seem very passionate about it
Nick was a great teacher overall. He was very knowledgeable about Python and promoted a professor/student collaboration through lab exercises. For teaching a class at 7:25 am, he was great.

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [16]
POSITIVE - GENERAL	43.8 %
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	37.5 %
ENTHUSIASTIC / DEDICATED	31.3 %
KNOWLEDGEABLE	25.0 %
RESPONSIVE	18.8 %

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
The biggest problem with Professor DeRobertis is that he is so familiar with Python. I think he had some trouble realizing just how much we DON'T know about Python, and since he's so familiar with the basics he doesn't realize that we aren't. I think it would have been EXTREMELY beneficial to have done a "Python Basics" project at the beginning of the semester like he had originally planned – even if it was only worth 10%. Additionally, it was pretty difficult later in the course when the COVID–19 pandemic hit. We were already behind, and he didn't let up on the expectations for the course; all of my other professors did. A little more understanding in this regard would have been nice.
sometimes you let the students kindof make direction of the class , and towards the end when you noticed we were short on time, you started assigning hws of the labs instead of waiting for all of us to finish the lab. but you taught VERY well, and make me eager to learn more
I feel like a lot of students were very lost. The class got way too complex way too quick for people who have never coded
I wish the professor had a TA to help us with projects and labs because the professor was very busy.
I came to every lecture, but it was tough. senior spring for most students should not have a 7:25 class, please don't even list it as an option.
Grade projects and respond to emails faster.
It is too hard.
Please try to honor self-imposed grading deadlines
The only feedback I have is that I wish office hours were held at least twice per week. This class seems to be heavily reliant on asking questions to the professor.
It would've been easier to manage if the projects were a little more spread out.
Assign projects earlier so we don't end up having one project before spring break and the remaining three after spring break, will also ease grading
The only thing I would say is to continue doing the lab exercises. That was ar really big learning tool for me, especially having you as a resource in class as we worked on them.
Make sure to time things better. Often times we were behind schedule which came back to having less time in between the two hardest projects and having to hustle at the end the get the needed material covered. I felt that the time management was not very good in this course, which added stress to the end of the semester.
This course is not designed to be fair to those who have no modeling experience on Python, which he claims it would be. I came in with no modeling experience on Python, but was very excited to learn. However, the content that Professor DeRobertis teaches off the bat is extremely basic and makes sense in the example. A few week later, we were assigned a project to create a full blown financial model in both Excel and Python. This was extremely stressful, as I do not feel those of us who had no modeling experience were ready. Those who did, would breeze through the projects in a few days. However, I was left struggling with every project. The materials we did have were very hard to apply to the projects because it was all so specific. While Professor DeRobertis responded to emails frequently, they were often very vague and would not really help answer the question I had at hand. While I know it is important to push students out of their comfort zone and make them work hard, this class created a lot of stress for me and many of my classmates. I was unable to focus on my other classes because of how stressed this class made me. In fact, I even almost had to postpone my graduation because of it. I worked extremely hard and was able to complete the course, but I feel as if it really put a huge damper on the last semester of my time at UF, and on my other classes. This class is very helpful but needs only to be offered to those with previous modeling experience, and it should be explicitly written on the course description.
I really think your lectures are very tedious. You tend to speak for too long about each bullet point and to be honest it would be better if we could just read them quickly and so we could have time to do the labs.
I would recommend providing a better reference (maybe textbook?) that taught Python basics because a lot of time I spent not knowing the reason behind doing so. His labs were VERY helpful in teaching that specific question but a lot of times they would not correlate to projects

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [16]
DIFFICULT	43.8 %
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	18.8 %
POSITIVE - GENERAL	18.8 %
STRESSFUL	12.5 %
IMPORTANT / RELEVANT	12.5 %

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
PLEASE add the "Python Basics" project at the beginning of next semester. I really think that we need that material reinforced. Other suggestions: each lecture while you are summarizing last class's lecture, you're essentially teaching that entire lecture again. It takes way too much time and I think that's part of the reason why we were so behind. I clocked it a few times and it takes between 20–30 minutes; that's 1/4 of our class period. I would also either greatly reduce/throw out that formatting section that we did. We were doing that for like two weeks, and compared to the other material, it was nowhere near as important for the projects.
i liked it when you noticed that maybe you can release projects before we learn all the material, I personally appreciate this as I like reading ahead of time what we have to do as it gives more direction to the class.
It would have been helpful to be placed into groups in a table setting and not in a lecture hall to do the labs. The lecture hall set up made it hard to finish some labs because you're not always sitting next to people who know how to do the labs.
there isn't much to do at the beginning because there is such a learning curve but it still felt fast, not sure how to make it easier to quickly learn the language
More excel as that is what students will most likely be using for their jobs.
We need much more time to learn python. He teaches it way too quickly. It needs to be 75% excel and 25% python. He basically made it the other way around.
The course seemed to be rushed more towards the end of the semester and I think there were fewer projects than listed on the syllabus. I would just suggest a more structured schedule for the future student.
It would be helpful to have example answers to some of the labs.
See constructive feedback
Honestly, he did a really good job organizing the course. The only issue came from a time crunch on the last project due to an extension of the previous project due to covid–19, which was hardly in his control.
More examples and explanations for the labs. I feel as though not enough were given so I was not able to completely understand every topic.
I think that if the time management of the course is fixed and lab exercises occur every class then it would become easier to stay on track with learning the material. My main suggestion is to TEACH AND SHOW MORE EXCEL! I understand some kids took this course because they wanted to learn Python, but a lot of us took it because it was the only financial elective remaining and it was our only choice of class to take to graduate. Often times the professor would rush through or not even show at all how to do the Excel tasks and only focus on the Python. I personally would be far better off gaining the knowledge and experience of Excel than python for my work, and wish I could have been taught more about the Excel side of things. At the very least be sure to go through the Excel examples with a similar focus as the Python ones.
The projects need to start more simple, and ease up to the more complex ones. Being thrown into the first project with very arbitrary material was extremely stressful and almost made me drop the course. If the class moved at a slightly slower but more detailed pace, it would really help those who have no experience. This class really sets up those who have previous computer coding and modeling experience to flourish, and those who do not to extremely struggle. The professor also continuously talks bad about Excel and promotes the use of Python, but Python is much more confusing than Excel. There needs to be more of a common ground so those who do not have the experience can learn it in a better environment, rather than scrambling days before a project worth 25% of your grade is due. It would also be helpful if there were more graded homework assignments, rather than just 4 projects.
please organize better your time and focus on the labs because we spent too much time talking about news and power points when most of us already knew most of the content. Please make the deadlines after you have office hours ex instead of tuesday i would prefer friday or thursday after I had seen you in your office hours
I would recommend that UF never schedule a senior spring class twice a week at 7:25 am. I would recommend not focusing so much on Python/computer programming skills. Most finance professions do not use Python. It would've been more helpful to solely focus on Excel.

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [15]
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	33.3 %
DIFFICULT	26.7 %
IMPORTANT / RELEVANT	13.3 %
ORGANIZED	13.3 %
POSITIVE - GENERAL	6.7 %

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
Just overall learning how to build a model in Excel and Python was really beneficial. My interest in Python has also piqued as a result of this course, so maybe I'll look up a few free online classes in the future to build this skill.
i know how to code, and I am still in shock of that !! I wake up knowing I know how to write a few lines of code. I tried learning python and it didn't work because I wasn't directioned. When you put it in the context of finance, I was eager to learn. I love this last project because I have some stocks of this type, and it just is cool to valuate it using python. I also liked that you pushed us to use python more than excel, even though we had the option, because it made me realize all the calculations I can do and not depend on other people's calculations for it. I liked the machine project as well, I just had wished we knew a bit about dataframes at that time.
The projects were extremely helpful and the labs. If the labs could be graded I think that would be helpful to give us regular feedback and encourage people to complete them, but that definitely would need a few TAs.
My job isnt going to be with coding, nor reading coding. So I just had to do this for fun/problem-solving.
Modeling basics.
I learned how to look up stuff online when I was in trouble.
I believe this class will be highly useful to my future career since technical skills are highly sought in today's market. Knowledge of Python is very applicable to many careers.The course was very time consuming but I found it very useful.
I believe everything I learned in Python and Excel will be applicable to my professional growth.
Got better at Python
I learned the basics of python as a language, and I have already begun using it. I just build a financial model to answer a case study for an upcoming interview.
Learning how to code has always been something that i have wanted to do, and I have learned many programming skills through this course.
Excel, and Python.
I did learn a lot about the use of Excel and Python. However, I will not be going into modeling as a future career, and took this as an elective, which it was listed as.
I think it would really help you to take some social relationship class. I think you would be more calm and so you can make your class more entertaining and engage better with students. Please also do something about the office hours because 2 hours per week is really not enough and also answering your email faster would help when we are working in such a complex assignments
I am glad that I did learn Python basics. Although this class was very challenging, I think looking back I learned quite a bit. I'm not sure if I will ever use Python during my career at an investment bank but it was entertaining.

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [15]
IMPORTANT / RELEVANT	20.0 %
NEGATIVE - GENERAL	13.3 %
ENJOYABLE	13.3 %
POSITIVE - GENERAL	13.3 %
DIFFICULT	13.3 %

Fall 2019 Individual Instructor Aggregated Report for FIN4934: Special Topics (Nicholas DeRobertis)

Project Title: **University of Florida GatorEvals – Fall 2019**

Courses Audience: **31**
Responses Received: **21**
Response Ratio: **67.7%**

Instructors Audience: **31**
Responses Received: **21**
Response Ratio: **67.7%**

INTRODUCTION

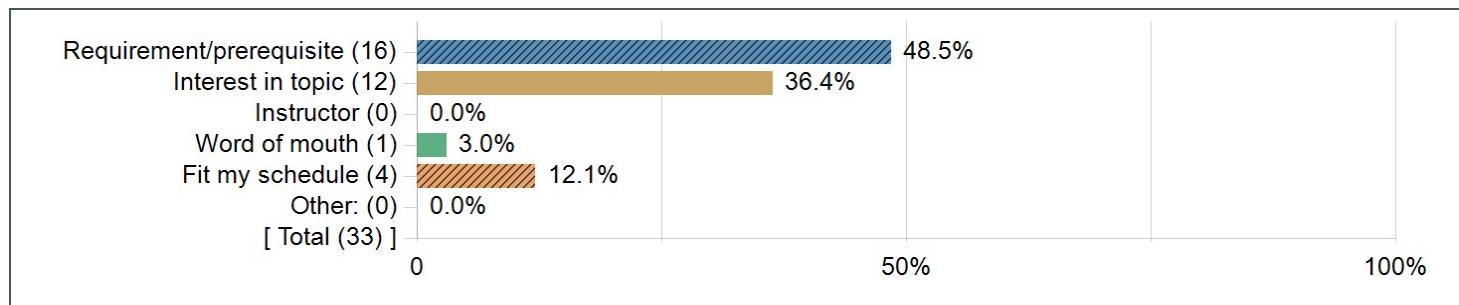
Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs

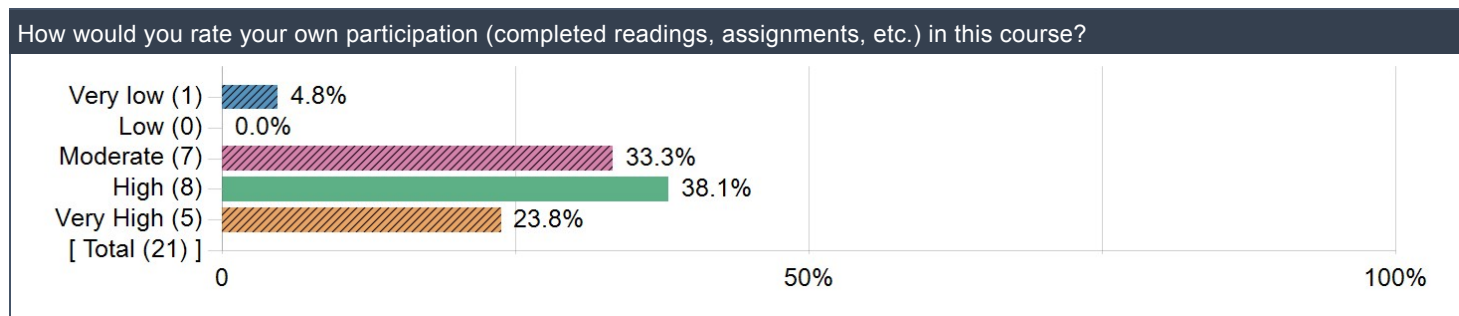


Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



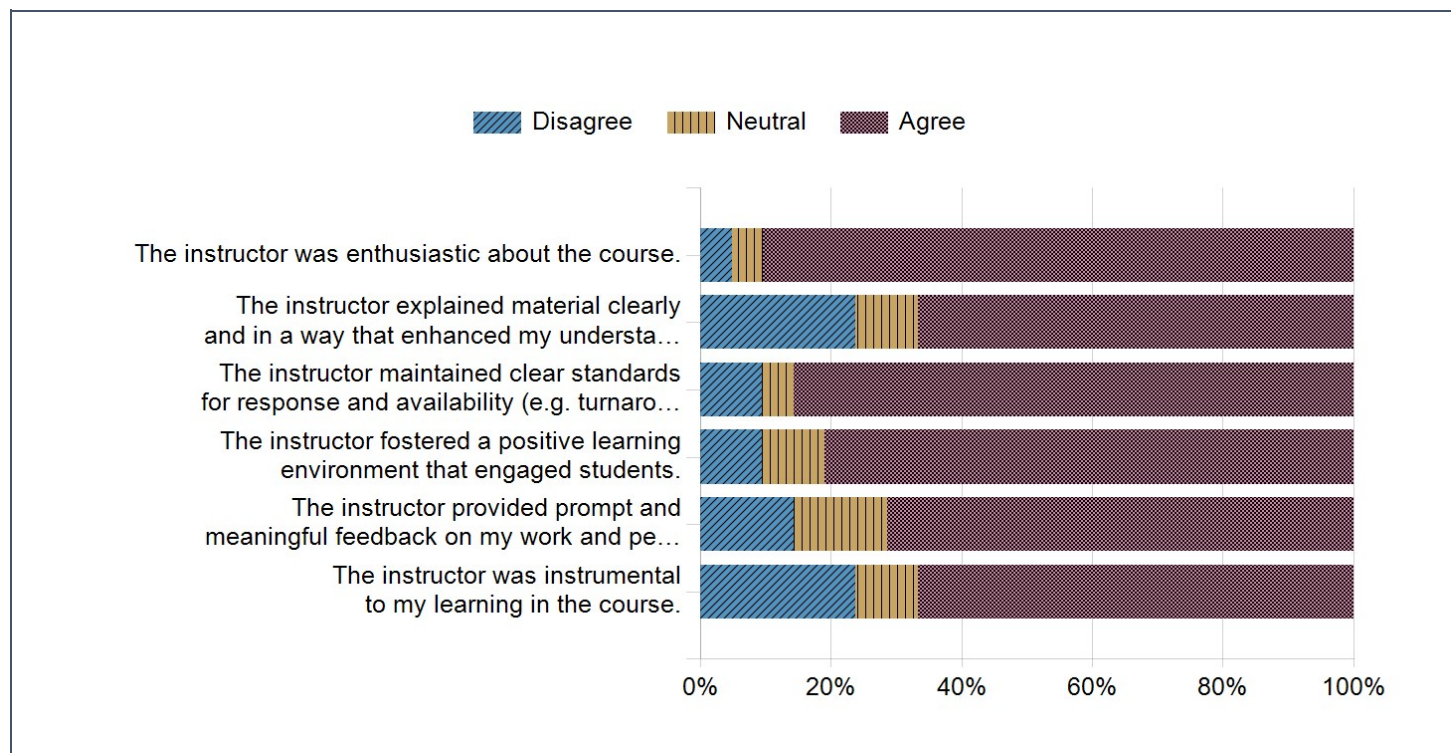
Instructor Evaluation Questions

Instructor Evaluation Questions - Comparative Scores

Question	Your Score		Department Average (BUS(BA)-Finance)		College Average (College-Business)		University Average	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	4.57	5.00	4.24	4.00	4.53	5.00	4.49	5.00
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	3.48	4.00	3.68	4.00	4.20	5.00	4.22	5.00
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	4.24	5.00	4.28	5.00	4.46	5.00	4.38	5.00
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	4.00	4.00	3.91	4.00	4.36	5.00	4.34	5.00
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	3.86	4.00	3.80	4.00	4.19	5.00	4.18	5.00
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	3.71	4.00	3.54	4.00	4.10	4.00	4.13	5.00
Overall	3.98	-	3.91	-	4.31	-	4.29	-

Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	4.8%	0.0%	4.8%	14.3%	76.2%	21	4.57	5.00	0.98
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	14.3%	9.5%	9.5%	47.6%	19.0%	21	3.48	4.00	1.33
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	33.3%	52.4%	21	4.24	5.00	1.09
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	4.8%	4.8%	9.5%	47.6%	33.3%	21	4.00	4.00	1.05
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	9.5%	4.8%	14.3%	33.3%	38.1%	21	3.86	4.00	1.28
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	9.5%	14.3%	9.5%	28.6%	38.1%	21	3.71	4.00	1.38

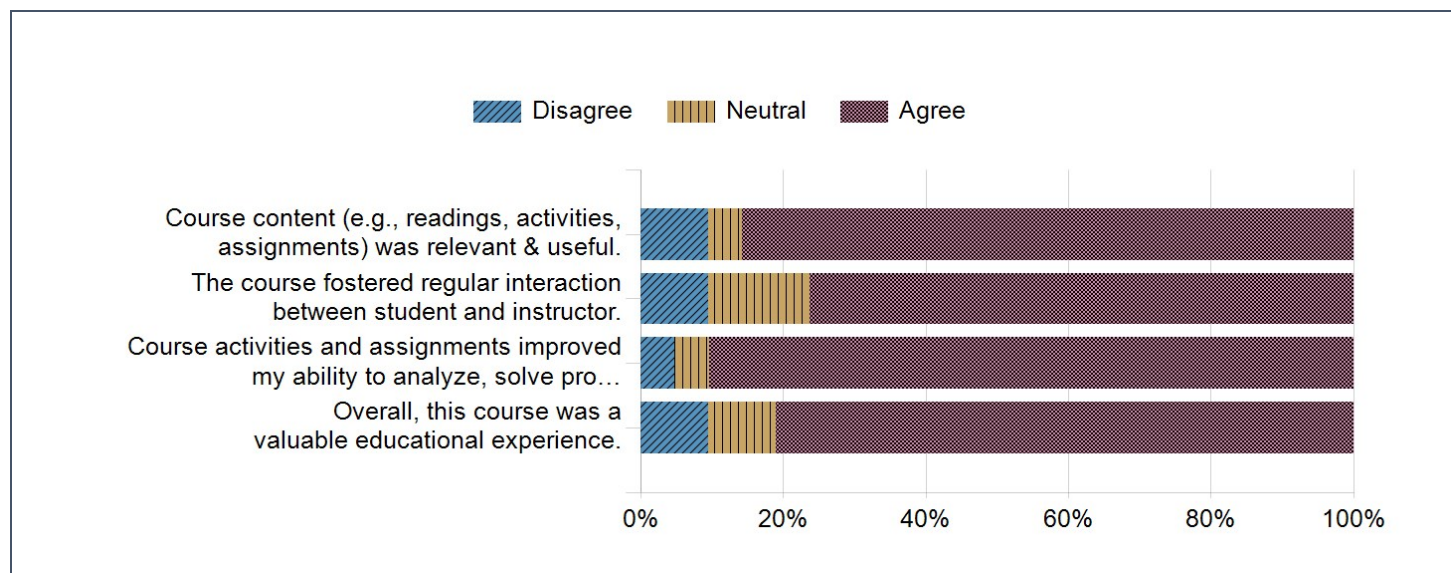
Course Evaluation Questions

Course Evaluation Questions - Comparative Scores

Question	Your Score		Department Average (BUS(BA)-Finance)		College Average (College-Business)		University Average	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	4.19	4.00	3.81	4.00	4.10	4.00	4.16	4.00
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	4.10	4.00	3.42	4.00	3.88	4.00	3.94	4.00
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	4.29	4.00	3.76	4.00	4.07	4.00	4.08	4.00
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	4.05	4.00	3.84	4.00	4.14	4.00	4.16	4.00
Overall	4.15	-	3.71	-	4.05	-	4.08	-

Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Course Evaluation Questions

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neutral 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	38.1%	47.6%	21	4.19	4.00	1.08
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	4.8%	4.8%	14.3%	28.6%	47.6%	21	4.10	4.00	1.14
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	4.8%	0.0%	4.8%	42.9%	47.6%	21	4.29	4.00	0.96
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	4.8%	4.8%	9.5%	42.9%	38.1%	21	4.05	4.00	1.07

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.uafl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
This course was historically done all in excel. Nick changed the course to teach us modeling in Python and Excel, and how to integrate Excel in Python. While this class had an extremely high learning curve (since most finance students don't have experience in coding), this class taught me a new skill and way of thinking. Nick is very responsive to helping his students with projects, responding to emails promptly and thoroughly. He also created new practice problems based on mid-semester feedback from the class wanting more practice with new python concepts. I think Nick's passion for Python and his desire for his students to learn showed in the effort he put into the class and his willing to help his students. Nick is so passionate about this course, he even started writing his own python package to help create financial statements and helped fix a bug in Xlwings to help with one of our projects. This was my favorite course I've taken in Warrington.
Nick is very experienced in this field and it shows. It was nice to be able to ask questions, knowing he would know what do do or how to fix problems.
Enthusiasm, care for the material, very well prepared
great attitude. puts forth tremendous effort to assist students. has a great understanding of the material
None.
The instructor was very knowledgeable with Python and was able to provide additional resources to improve our understanding of the concepts. There were plenty of exercises and problems for us in order to complete our projects. Had plenty of opportunities to ask for help on the projects.
Also I appreciated how the instructor made changes to how the material was being taught in the middle of the semester. Instead of following along with the instructor typing the python code without knowing what was really going on, he provided step by step instructions on how to complete a given exercise along with a lab exercise to be completed on our own.
He is very knowledgeable about the subject and a very good work ethic to solve problems and implement improvements to the class in the middle of the year.
Very much willing to answer questions and be of guidance.
Deep knowledge of python
Nick makes himself extremely available to students for questions. Additionally, he adjusted the course about halfway through once he realized that many of us were struggling immensely with the first project, which was a turning point in the semester for me. Since then, he has made the material much easier to understand and added many resources that have been very useful.
Very nice, in depth with material covered, flexible with the course structure.
Careful explanation of material coupled with an apparent interest in the material
Nick clearly knows a lot about Python, and enjoys it.
Very caring and willing to go above and beyond to help students learn and grow and also to be the best professor he could possibly be.
Nick is very passionate about the material. He encourages questions, enjoys explaining the material, and he is well-informed when it comes to the content of the class. He is very approachable.
The professor genuinely tried to make the course a valuable experience so that we can apply that knowledge to future jobs. He was happy to help with any issues we encountered in our code, (which for some of us was quite a few!), and was a good resource to have. Additionally, he took mid-semester feedback and made many changes to improve the courses weak spots, which I found admirable.
Knows a lot about python and excel; he created a python library to make our DCF project easier because there were not already good tools to analyze financial statements.
Put a lot of examples and exercises throughout the classes.
Takes feedback well. Because it was his first year teaching this class he would have to adjust the class based on the students and did a good job adapting to how fast/slow we learned the material
Nick was one of the greatest professors that I have ever had at UF. He went so far above and beyond to make sure that we were understanding the material and making activities in class for students to stay engaged. He also offered around the clock support via email for any questions we had about our coursework. I wish Nick had more classes so that I could take those as well.

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [18]
POSITIVE - GENERAL	44.4 %
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	33.3 %
KNOWLEDGEABLE	16.7 %
ENTHUSIASTIC / DEDICATED	16.7 %
DIFFICULT	11.1 %

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
In future semesters, be patient with the students. You will likely experience pushback since most students have no experience with Python and don't want to learn a new skill. I liked that you implemented new practice problems to supplement our learning. Even if it seemed like no one did the additional practice, it definitely helped the student that did. It would be cool if this was a two-semester class, although I understand this might not be feasible since Financial Modeling is one of the more popular finance electives (and an elective is a requirement for graduation).
During class, sometimes content was gone over too quickly.
Make the practice problems extra credit so the people who need to do them (people struggling in the course) are more incentivized to do them.
may be difficult to pay attention to a lecture segment that lasts more than 25 minutes. would be better if instructor spent about 20 minutes explaining a topic, then gave students 10–15 minutes to work on a practice problem. Repeat this for the entire lecture block.
Don't offer python! We have no python experience and each project takes me hours to complete. I was expecting this class to be an EXCEL modeling course. I put way too much time in this class for a four credit course. Pace of the class is also too fast and projects and just being chugged out. Grading also is unfair and there is no rubric offered so there's no justification for the grading. To my fellow underclassmen, avoid this class at all costs!
Instead of having four large projects, I would suggest having mini assignments or projects along with having maybe 2 large projects. The purpose of the mini-projects would be to reinforce the concepts we have learned in class and would help complete any larger projects. If these smaller projects were for a grade, students would have to do them.
The projects have very vague instructions and his lectures provide only a surface level understanding of certain concepts. If he could apply those concepts to financial modeling in general, that would make me both understand the python commands as well as how to make a model. The difficulty level was quite high and I often felt the need to collaborate with other students in the class and often times felt like I didn't know enough to ask a question. I think for the first project in which a python component is present, there should be a general outline of what the code should look like to give those who are brand new to python a chance against other students who have used the tool before.
It is necessary to spend time on the little details – sometimes he overlooks the fact that many of us are brand new to python. He has mastered the code and expects us to keep up with his speed and understanding. Often too he will explain the right way to do things without saying the why. It is very hard to learn such new concepts without understanding why they can be of use or why one step precedes the next.
Spending a little more time on the fundamentals and base coding instructions.
Nick's expectations for the course were different than reality because we simply weren't on the level he expected. It took a while for him to realize that we were all very lost, and during that time many students were considering dropping the course. It would've been smoother if he would've understand where we were at the beginning of the course, but since then he has implemented many changes that I mentioned in the strengths.
more optional side model assignments, e.g. value this firm, construct lbo, ipo, merger, acquisition, growth, etc
Take *a lot* more time in the beginning to explain and have us practice foundational Python skills. Even though you course corrected halfway into the semester, by that point it was too little too late to prevent us from being extremely confused as material became more difficult. I feel as if I have spent more of my time trying to play catch up in this course instead of understanding and building on new material.
Start with the basics since most students are seeing python for the first time. This will give them the confidence to grow and learn as the course progresses into more finance related topics.
Nick sometimes needs to give clearer instructions and rubrics when it comes to in-class assignments and projects. The class has a very limited number of assignments and most people came into this class without any coding experience. Combine these two factors and it makes the initial projects and some assignments require serious time and unnecessary difficulty.
I think an graded easy introduction project, before the four main projects, could be helpful to get people up to speed. I previously provided other feedback, in his mid-semester feedback, about providing practice assignments in addition to the main projects, which he already implemented.
I have nothing negative to say about Nick's teaching. He was teaching some very difficult topics, so at some times he was not the most popular with some students because of this, but he did his best to support/help anyone who asked for the help.

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Note: The table below analyzes all student free responses by using data dictionaries to group the comments into themes and attributes. A minimum of ten responses must be received in order for the text analytics table to display.

Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [16]
DIFFICULT	31.3 %
UNCLEAR	18.8 %
HELPFUL / SUPPORTIVE	18.8 %
COMPREHENSIVE	12.5 %
KIND / PERSONABLE	6.3 %

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
One feedback would be to spend more time with basic python concepts and really hitting on the "why" aspect since the beginning/first project is going to be the hardest and biggest learning curve for students new to python.
I feel that labs need to be reviewed in class once everyone has at least attempted them. Sometimes, labs are difficult and it can sometimes be difficult for the instructor to get to everyone, leaving some people to never see how a lab is finished.
Keep it the same way as the second half, rather than the first half
see previous suggestion
Everything should be improved.
Previously stated
I think there should be some more practice time in class for projects as well as more time for lab assignments leading up to projects. Also, instead of starting teaching material not related to the project during the time when a project has been assigned, there should be review or a sample question for students who are struggling with the project.
Spending more time on the basics of python. Ensuring we know how things work. Giving clear itemized lists of what you want us to give you on the projects. At times that was confusing and not clear.
More of a weekly assignment structure vs. 4 major projects spread out. The materials that were implemented later in the semester in which the steps were shown in great detail on Python were fantastic, would love to see that continue. Tackling the projects in more of smaller steps could be very helpful, as many of us were overwhelmed by the first project.
Be more clear with some of the project guidelines and requirements, and try to make the class a little more engaging.
variety in optional side projects would be nice but strong core focus in python was well executed
Four projects is pushing it, especially considering that they are only grades. Make more small, interim assignments for us to prove understanding in smaller chunks. And then build up to our exams being larger models.
Short weekly homework assignments that students could complete for credit. The class is only projects, so your grade is taken from a small sample size. Also, while we do many in-class exercises, homework assignments would further allow students to practice what they learned in class.
See previous response.
The course has changed a little since the syllabus because of the pace we were moving at, but I believe Nick has it properly paced now and properly organized.

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

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Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [15]
POSITIVE - GENERAL	20.0 %
CLEAR	13.3 %
COMPREHENSIVE	13.3 %
ORGANIZED	13.3 %
KEEP AS IS	6.7 %

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
Xlwings, UDFs, graphing data in python
Python, while not a top interest of mine, was definitely interesting to learn and while I do not see myself using it on a regular basis, it is nice to have at least some knowledge of it.
Different ways to think about modeling, organization, making things straight forward, randomness
how to code in python and how to link python with excel
None. All the concepts in this class (except for python), I already knew. I was probably forget the python after this class because it has no application in my career.
Introduction of Python and the applications of the program in the real world setting
Python and excel coding skills as well as the ability to critically think about a problem and implement a solution
I am so glad to have had the chance to immerse myself in python, and I think that it truly will be of use to me in the professional world. It has been a burden however to scour the internet for the tedious details of things that I think Nick could have given us a better crash course of – before expecting us to dive into the projects.
Basing this class on python and excel is probably the best thing that could have been done. I have always wanted to learn a coding language and while i wish i had some more basic knowledge before starting this has probably been the most interesting and valuable course I have taken at UF.
Python, Excel, valuation skills, modeling, financial analysis.
Building financial models, incorporating and integrating python and excel to achieve goals.
python language, thinking in terms of how to communicate with computers/data
Very little. I try to copy code that I see, but I have very little fundamental understanding of how Python works or why it is useful for financial models.
I've learned some extremely valuable skills in this class. I have a much better understanding of excel, python, coding, and computers because of taking this class. These skills will be very valuable to my future career.
I think the whole course is pretty applicable. Always great to learn Excel and coding skills! It will likely break my 4.0 GPA (bummer there), but this was one of three classes that I took at Heavener that will actually be meaningful, so if it had to happen, I'm glad it was in this class. (Well, as glad as one could be about that.)
incorporating python with excel using xl wings by creating user defined functions
Learned financial modeling with Python, Excel, and Python and Excel.

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

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Attributes [No. of comments]	Overall [17]
POSITIVE - GENERAL	17.6 %
IMPORTANT / RELEVANT	17.6 %
INTERESTING	11.8 %
ORGANIZED	5.9 %
DIFFICULT	5.9 %

Term: 2018 Spring
 College: Business
 Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate
 Course(s): FIN4243
 Section(s): 5151
 Instructor: DeRobertis, Nicholas A (6435-9830)
 Response Rate: 72.73% (responded: 32, enrolled:44)

Question	Percentages						Mean	StdDev	Median	Course Mean	Dept Mean	College Mean
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Omitted						
1 Description of course objectives and assignments	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	12.50%	84.38%	0.00%	4.81	0.47	5.00	4.50	4.60	4.52
2 Communication of ideas and information	0.00%	3.13%	3.13%	12.50%	81.25%	0.00%	4.72	0.68	5.00	4.18	4.41	4.41
3 Expression of expectations for performance in this class	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	9.38%	87.50%	0.00%	4.84	0.45	5.00	4.44	4.61	4.51
4 Availability to assist students in or out of class	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	3.13%	93.75%	0.00%	4.91	0.39	5.00	4.50	4.61	4.49
5 Respect and concern for students	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	96.88%	0.00%	4.97	0.18	5.00	4.74	4.63	4.55
6 Stimulation of interest in course	0.00%	3.13%	0.00%	12.50%	84.38%	0.00%	4.78	0.61	5.00	4.14	4.46	4.39
7 Facilitation of learning	0.00%	0.00%	9.38%	9.38%	81.25%	0.00%	4.72	0.63	5.00	4.03	4.40	4.39
8 Enthusiasm for the subject	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	87.50%	0.00%	4.88	0.34	5.00	4.56	4.70	4.59
9 Encouragement of independent, creative, and critical thinking	0.00%	0.00%	9.38%	9.38%	81.25%	0.00%	4.72	0.63	5.00	4.23	4.55	4.42
Averages for questions 1-9							4.82	0.49	5.00	4.37	4.55	4.47
10 Overall rating of the instructor	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	9.38%	87.50%	0.00%	4.84	0.45	5.00	4.31	4.49	4.44
11 Amount learned	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	25.00%	71.88%	0.00%	4.69	0.54	5.00	4.20	4.26	4.26
12 Amount of effort required	0.00%	3.13%	15.63%	50.00%	31.25%	0.00%	4.09	0.78	4.00	4.41	4.24	4.12
13 Difficulty of the subject matter	3.13%	0.00%	15.63%	40.63%	40.63%	0.00%	4.16	0.92	4.00	4.52	4.05	3.83
14 The educational value (relevance) of this course	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	21.88%	78.13%	0.00%	4.78	0.42	5.00	4.50	4.45	4.41
15 Expected grade	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%	0.00%	4.38	0.71	4.50	4.13	4.34	4.24
Averages for questions 11-15							4.42	0.67	4.50	4.35	4.27	4.17

Term: 2018 Spring College: Business Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate Course(s): FIN4243				
Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Instructor is able to explain concepts effectively.	I would say the off the cuff examples of concepts for students requiring clarification of a topic would often confuse them more, because sometimes the example isn't fully thought out and errors are made that causes you to backtrack and edit.	Harder than Equity & Capital Markets and not as interesting.	Perhaps break up the verbal explanations with working out more examples to amplify the learning experience.	Great job overall
He is very nice and very willing to help us in and out of class.	No. He is perfect.	We don't have printed materials but he will post PPT which is very helpful and he will explain the contents very clearly to help us understand it.	I think he is perfect. He is always trying to help everyone understand the stuff so sometimes he might spend too much answering questions and not enough time for new material. But this is not a bad thing because he is trying to help us understand better with the old material so maybe he can try to balance it and manage the time better.	He is so perfect. He is always happy to answer our questions. He is responsible, nice and respects everyone's ideas. He explains the materials very clearly and easy to understand.
he was very good about explaining when we asked questions, also always available for office hours. Super smart, knows what hes taling about	I wish we had more practice problems to give us , also maybe a different textbook	covered A lot	The homework was interesting but the first few assignments were way to difficult and took a long time even with a group to work with.	

Term: 2018 Spring
College: Business
Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate
Course(s): FIN4243

Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Nick clearly explained concepts and would explain them again to ensure that we grasp the meaning very knowledgeable about the bond market lectures were effectively organized and simplified	No	very good course; excel hw were very practical and useful		
Nick is amazing! He is so enthusiastic, he explains everything patiently and clearly, and breaks it down into very simplistic parts. He is also extremely available if students need him and provides resources to study.	the difficulty of the material	Conceptually difficult	Instead of using textbook questions for practice, prepare worksheet questions like you did for the last exam.	n/a
Nick is one of the smartest instructors that I have had here at UF and does a really great job explaining the concepts, as well as always emphasizing the real world application or relevance of a topic. He did a tremendous job in making the course very practical in the professional world, and I was able to apply much of what I learned in fixed-income interviews over the past few weeks.	None he was great.	The class is good but sometimes I feel like there could have been more material covered as well. Nick did a really good job covering a lot of things as well, and including derivatives at the end was a really good addition.	Really enjoyed the course. Obviously having things graded quicker is always nice, but definitely understand how busy you were during the semester and I appreciate the effort you always made to teach us really well!	Thank you for a great semester!

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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Nick really tried to make sure we all understood the topic. He would keep answering questions until the questions stopped coming. He was very understanding and would go through a topic multiple times. I really liked that he would review what we had done in the last class before moving on to the new material. That was very helpful. He's a great professor!	None!	I did not feel the textbook was necessary. I never read it because Nick explained everything very well in class. The one chapter I would've read about derivatives, Nick said was too advanced. I would have liked more practice problems as well.	Towards the end, I felt we were rushing a little bit through the options stuff, which in my opinion was the hardest material in the class. I would've liked more explanation and graphs to help me understand it, but I know we were running out of time.	You were one of my favorite professors this semester! I wish you'd stick around and teach the rest of the finance courses!
He is very nice and understanding. Very straight forward and really wants you to understand the concepts and not just memorize a process.	No	My favorite course for this semester. Nick is awesome!	I honestly can say that this course is perfect the way it is. Love the excel homeworks so keep those for sure.	
Professor DeRobertis was one of the best instructors I have had at UF to date. He is passionate about the subject and had the students best interest in mind always	no	very beneficial, applicable, and relevant		
He is very knowledgeable about the material and relatively organized.	He needs to be slightly more organized in his planning of what we are doing each class.	I learned a lot and I liked the course.	Try to be better at planning when things are in advance.	I enjoyed the course and am glad I took Nick as a professor!

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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Nick clearly knows what he's talking about and showed that when teaching the subject. When students asked about real-world applications he also knew how to relate to that.	I don't think so	This course teaches a lot about the bond market and finance in general. Before, I didn't know a lot about bonds and now I feel I have a good general understand of the bond market.		
Nick does a great job explaining things and does not get frustrated if he has to explain the same things multiple times. He also reviews the old material quickly at the beginning of class. This makes a world of difference! Hearing him explain things twice, even though the second time was brief, helped me catch things that I missed the first time and helped jog my memory so that I was ready to learn how the new material relates to the old material. Also, the homework assignments were challenging and really helped me get a better understanding of all of the material.	Nothing really hindered the course.	I think course includes a lot of difficult topics but I appreciated the fact that I didn't feel like my professor was trying to trick me or wanting me to fail. Though the topics are difficult, they are can be learned and people can succeed in the class.	Based on personal preference, I would have like to have things graded a bit more quickly. However, we still had time to review things after they were graded so it did not hinder anyone's success.	
Available out of class, great at explaining.	No.	Tough, but doable with practice.		
Clear expectations, good explanations, availability to help, knowledgeable on material	Would've liked a bit more practice questions	It was great and taught me a lot		

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			Really not a fan of the excel assignments. Don't feel as if I learn very much at all from them, nor do they play a role in learning the material for the exams or quizzes. The excel homework was the only part of the class I struggled with.	
			More in-depth power point slides really would have helped. With graphs, more practice problems step by step, and definitions	
His ability to relate to his students, his passion for and thorough understanding of the course matter, and his patience.	No.	Great course, I learned a lot and I felt like Nick focused on the important topics that are applicable to the real world.	Provide a few more practice questions for the exams and quizzes, and focus the final on the second half of the course instead of adding any cumulative topics	Great professor, great course!
very personal, willing to help with any questions. He seems to genuinely want us to succeed in his class and have a thorough understanding of the material.	No	Very difficult course. Instructor was helpful when possible but some additional resources for success on the testing materials specifically would have been helpful too.	Some additional explanations on the conceptual ideas behind the excel projects. We understood how to build the models in excel based on what you taught us in class but never really understood what we were doing from a conceptual standpoint.	Hard class, great instructor.
ability to engage with students actively about material	no	enjoyed the conceptual work	more examples	thanks nick!!

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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Really understood the concepts he was teaching. Did not get bogged down in the minutia of the text book and gave real world and relevant examples.		This feels like the way the course is supposed to be taught and I feel like I gained valuable insight from it.	Keep teaching real world examples and expanding students knowledge of the value of Debt.	
Mastery of Excel				
He was very open and available to helping not just me but my peers as well. He has a lot of interest in the material and knows it well. Implemented the necessary skills that we will need in the work place for certain parts of the course like excel with the homework.		Learned a lot about debt and course material that I hadn't known about in the past.		
Nick was the best teacher I've ever had in my 3 years here at the Warrington College of Business. He was professional, personable, enthusiastic about teaching. He not only taught us extremely relevant course material but he also offered assignments outside of the classroom on Excel that had real-world application. I have truly learned a lot and I wouldn't have had this spectacular learning experience with any other professor.	N/A	This course was holistically great considering I learned a lot of great fundamental information about Debt and Money Markets plus gained real-world experience on Excel. Plus, I even learned a little about security derivatives, which was nice.	N/A	

Term: 2018 Spring College: Business Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate Course(s): FIN4243				
Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
His care for student learning both within the context of a textbook and skills used in the profession greatly contributed to the success of the course.		I never bought the book because the professor's materials were detailed and readily available.		For any universities looking to hire a professor with a genuine care for student improvement, Nick DeRobertis is the perfect fit. His dedication to student learning far exceeds that of some of the tenured professors. Should you hire him, he will prove to be a valuable asset to your faculty as it has been a true pleasure to be his student.
You could tell he was very passionate about finance and that makes the course more interesting	N/A	Course was very straightforward and manageable.	More practice questions that are relevant to the exam. Quiz 3/4 worksheet problems are perfect. The 50 page textbook questions were extremely different than what to expect on the exams	
Very personable and willing to help students in the class. Knows how to teach the subject material through examples and not just reading off of a power point like other professors.	No	Course was difficult by nature, but relevant and interesting.	More practice problems written by you could help tremendously.	Awesome course, thanks Nick!
I think Professor Nick's young age allowed him to relate very well with all of us, and gave him the ability to teach the material better to students.	No.	This is the only course I've actually learned the conceptual part of. Other classes I remembered it because my professors taught it differently. Professor Nick actually taught us.	Make the homework assignments more understandable.	Great class. Professor Nick did a fantastic job.

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Course(s): FIN4243

Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Nick was extremely passionate about the course and displayed great compassion for all students to ensure comprehension. Nick was often available outside of class time for additional help.	No. Nick had a great understanding of the material and conveyed it well even when it was tricky to explain to first time recipients.	The course was extremely applicable to my future career. The homework was hard, but effective in learning excel modeling and showing concepts applied to real examples.	Although the material was taxing at times, Nick was extremely helpful.	Thanks for a great semester.

Term: 2016 Fall
 College: Business
 Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate
 Course(s): FIN4243
 Section(s): 3038
 Instructor: DeRobertis, Nicholas A (6435-9830)
 Response Rate: 62.22% (responded: 28, enrolled:45)

Question	Percentages						Mean	StdDev	Median	Course Mean	Dept Mean	College Mean
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Omitted						
1 Description of course objectives and assignments	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%	4.86	0.36	5.00	4.88	4.39	4.4
2 Communication of ideas and information	0.00%	0.00%	3.57%	28.57%	67.86%	0.00%	4.64	0.56	5.00	4.78	4.19	4.22
3 Expression of expectations for performance in this class	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.71%	89.29%	0.00%	4.89	0.31	5.00	4.88	4.36	4.35
4 Availability to assist students in or out of class	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.57%	96.43%	0.00%	4.96	0.19	5.00	4.85	4.37	4.35
5 Respect and concern for students	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	5.00	0.00	5.00	4.81	4.34	4.38
6 Stimulation of interest in course	0.00%	0.00%	10.71%	25.00%	64.29%	0.00%	4.54	0.69	5.00	4.75	4.21	4.19
7 Facilitation of learning	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%	4.57	0.74	5.00	4.76	4.16	4.18
8 Enthusiasm for the subject	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%	4.86	0.36	5.00	4.86	4.55	4.47
9 Encouragement of independent, creative, and critical thinking	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%	4.75	0.44	5.00	4.80	4.37	4.26
Averages for questions 1-9							4.79	0.41	5.00	4.82	4.33	4.31
10 Overall rating of the instructor	0.00%	0.00%	3.57%	14.29%	82.14%	0.00%	4.79	0.50	5.00	4.83	4.23	4.26
11 Amount learned	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	39.29%	53.57%	0.00%	4.46	0.64	5.00	4.68	4.08	4.14
12 Amount of effort required	0.00%	0.00%	21.43%	42.86%	35.71%	0.00%	4.14	0.76	4.00	4.37	4.27	4.14
13 Difficulty of the subject matter	0.00%	0.00%	10.71%	42.86%	46.43%	0.00%	4.36	0.68	4.00	4.33	3.92	3.84
14 The educational value (relevance) of this course	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	32.14%	67.86%	0.00%	4.68	0.48	5.00	4.73	4.29	4.3
15 Expected grade	0.00%	0.00%	17.86%	42.86%	39.29%	0.00%	4.21	0.74	4.00	4.23	4.06	4.08
Averages for questions 11-15							4.37	0.66	4.40	4.47	4.12	4.10

Term: 2016 Fall College: Business Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate Course(s): FIN4243				
Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
I really liked how detailed your lecture slides were. They were very helpful when reviewing for the quizzes and exams.	The homework's in the beginning were very difficult to figure out. I liked that for the last two you posted videos for them. The videos made the homework much more manageable and I felt that I was learning more as well because I could better understand what I was doing.	I thought that the quizzes were very helpful throughout the course. They really helped me to understand the material better and were very helpful for the exams.	I think having a more clear schedule from the beginning of the semester would have been helpful. Sometimes I like to read ahead and it was difficult to do that because I didn't always know what we were going to cover next.	Overall I thought you did a really great job this semester. You made the class enjoyable to come to and I really learned a lot.
Nick cares a lot about the success of his students. He will do all he can to ensure we all understand the material and is a fair grader.	No.	I am not a huge fan of the subject of debt and find it boring but he did a good job teaching the information.		n/a
He always took the time to make sure we understood that material. I enjoyed the purpose of the in-class questions, and it was always a great help whenever I was able to go to office hours.	I enjoyed how the first half of the semester was taught, and I appreciate how you took into consideration how the students wanted change, but I think the first half of the class was more productive and more educational. I like having more in class questions, but I would rather have those given to us a extra problems and have more time in class for you to teach us how to do the problems instead of us trying to figure all of them out.	I really enjoyed this class.		

Term: 2016 Fall
College: Business
Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate
Course(s): FIN4243

Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Nick was very friendly and willing to have additional office hours when students needed it. That really helped me to understand the material better.		I thought the course was very challenging, but could be related back to real-world scenarios, which was helpful.	Extra practice problems would have been helpful in preparing for quizzes/exams, and having a longer lecture to review for the tests would have been helpful. In-class questions were useful, but they would have been more effective if we had worked them out together beforehand, and then been given an additional problem for the class to do on their own after having been walked through an example.	Nick is a great teacher. I really enjoyed going to his class, and I feel like I learned a lot this semester.
Nick is very good with explaining concepts and gets his point across very clearly. He is very enthusiastic about the material he is teaching and he makes it very easy to learn.		The material was very challenging but it was interesting. He gave us plenty of practice problems because that is how you learn. I also enjoyed the conceptual side of the class because it helped me understand where all the math was coming from and it all made sense.	I would say maybe set out a schedule at the beginning of the semester so that students have an idea of what they will be doing and when they will be doing it.	
He is a passionate teacher with a great knowledge of the material and an understanding of students.				

Term: 2016 Fall College: Business Department(s): Finance, Insurance & Real Estate Course(s): FIN4243				
Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Nick was very helpful to students in need. Responded quickly to concerns, and was flexible with homework due dates to accommodate career fairs and other exams that students in class had.	New to teaching so class was dull at times, but that will happen when you're teach about debt. Overall not too many concerns from me.	Course was interesting and essential to finance majors for our understanding of time value of money. Nick did a good job of explaining how the concepts translated to the real world without getting too complicated.	More practice problems would help, along with possible video solutions to go along with posted solution documents. That would be asking a lot of any professor though, so not too essential. Overall just more practice to prepare for exams and quizzes would be great.	I enjoyed the course and think Nick was an excellent teacher. He approached us from a student perspective rather than a professor standpoint, which was immensely helpful in times where I did not understand the material.
Very understanding and willing to work with his students to help them learn.		I found it to be pretty interesting and beneficial if you want to go into the field of financial advising.		For a new teacher I believe he did pretty well. He was receptive to students requests and ideas and continued to make changes to make the course work better for his students. I believe he will do even better next semester now that he has more experience under his belt.

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 College: Business
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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Nick is very knowledgeable, organized, and friendly. Presentations were always clear and concise, and he encouraged in-class participation with practice problems that kept class interesting and were great checks for understanding. I struggled with the material in this course, but not at all due to his teaching style. It is clear Nick cares about the success of his students. He e-mailed me personally to offer his help and encouragement when he knew that my grade was poor. I have never had a professor take such care and attention to my performance.	No.	The material is interesting and challenging. I appreciate that the quizzes and tests aim to evaluate not only a student's mathematical proficiency, but also conceptual understanding. Even though this made the course more difficult for me personally, I appreciate the value of understanding practical application rather than just being able to reproduce and solve a formula. I also think that the homeworks on Excel were really valuable. Most finance careers necessitate usage of Excel every day, and UF does not place enough emphasis on fostering proficiency in this program. I learned some useful tricks and shortcuts that would have greatly benefitted me in my internship last summer.	Nick was very receptive to mid-course feedback, so any suggestions I had were already addressed. The class requested more in-class questions and relevant practice problems, and he delivered.	This was honestly one of the best experiences with a professor I have had at this university. I usually don't take the time to write evaluations, but this one felt necessary.

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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
He knows the field and gives us real world examples of how all of this makes sense	N/A		More practice problems in terms of conceptual questions. Sometimes the quiz asked very challenging conceptual questions that we weren't prepped for. (I liked the questions, just wished we could infer them a bit easier from the material)	
Actual care for students, dedication to class. Explains in on-confusing terms. Was friendly and encouraging. Great homework- very real-world related. Very fair difficulty of exams.	Sometimes explains things so slowly that people get distracted. Could have done a better job explaining Derivatives, which can be very confusing and counterintuitive for people new to finance.	Good.	I wish the course covered slightly more material.	Nick has done a great job as a first year instructor, SO much better than many other instructors like him and even better than many full-time UF professors. I wish Nick was also my equity professor. He will be a very good professor one day. To Nick - don't be afraid to command the class and make decisions that the students won't like.

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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
You can tell how much he likes the material. he really wants to do a good job teaching and wants the students to learn a lot. He cares a lot and it shows in his lectures and how he helps the students outside the classroom	This is his first year teaching a class, so sometimes it seemed like he wasn't quite sure how to actually teach us the material. But hes gotten better over the course of the semester and especially since he cares so much about us doing well and teaching us well, he was able to become a really good professor.	The textbook was really dense and not really helpful at all in my opinion	He's a really good teacher and is only gonna get better	
Nick (having experience in Debt) was extremely qualified to teach this course. He had an in depth explanation to every question asked.	None.	It was probably the most challenging course (conceptually) I have had at UF. But Nick did a great job of giving us examples to work with so that when quizzes and exams came up, every student had every opportunity to succeed.		

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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Professor DeRobertis is extremely direct in his teaching style and doesn't cloud the required content with extraneous pieces of information that would otherwise detract from the overall objective / message.	No.	Overall, average or slightly above. I really appreciate the thorough explanations in the powerpoints. In-class questions are extremely helpful in applying the concepts. I like that the course isn't dependent on the textbook and that it serves as reference material if you need further explanation.	I realize there's only so much time in the course, but I would have liked a lesson in the roles of financial institutions in the debt markets. See below for more comments.	I think the homework exercises are probably the most "real-world" work I've done in the upper-level finance courses. I wish other courses took a more practical approach to homework content. The earlier homeworks, while extremely applicable, took an excessive amount of time. Additionally the last two homeworks were on the easier side. Blending the two techniques would be good.
attention	nope	its good	none	
The concern he had for the well being of our class pushed me to work harder.	None	I think the course is very engaging and good for application in the real finance world. Overall, I enjoyed this class very much.	I think that would help this course in the future is to provide better practice problems that would be applicable to the material on the quizzes and exams.	Great class and great teacher.
He is passionate and very helpful.	Sometimes the practice does not represent the quiz questions so I feel unprepared even though I studied hours.	It is hard and sometimes studying won't even help me.	I learned a lot but it took my soul, tears, and headaches.	

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College: Business
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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
Continual improvement Related material to real world examples Provided challenging yet rewarding assignments Retought subject students had difficulties with Continued to teach and stay on schedule regardless of setbacks	No	Incredibly valuable. I never enjoyed learning about debt but this class easily became my favorite and most challenging. The instructor provided plenty of practice problems, slides, and office hours to ensure students had the resources they needed to succeed.	Have an excel grade calculator	
Nick is very organized and prepared thoughtful powerpoints covering the material. I really enjoy having class slides to accompany the lecture.	I think Nick could have explained material in step by step detail. Sometimes, the material was taught a little too quickly or example problems were quickly brushed over. Also, worksheets with example problems would have been useful to gauge my understanding of the material.	This course provides useful information and I enjoyed the materials. However, I wish the lectures were also recorded to be able to review them.		

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Qualities of Instructor which contributed to success of the course.	Qualities of Instructor which hindered success of the course.	Opinions of course, including printed materials.	Additional comments to improve overall quality of the course.	Any other comments.
He is very knowledgeable. He definitely understands every detail of the subject material.	He writes with chicken scratch. That's not a terrible thing, however he did not provide any resources besides a basic powerpoint to the course. We were recommended to purchase a textbook for the class, but at the same time were warranted that the book provides a lot of information that would not be covered in the class. This did not help with my learning strategy.	Overall, there were a lot of bugs, but that is what is expected from new professors. I really like Nick, regardless of my frustrations for my academic performance I have expressed in the classroom. I am more frustrated with UF's Department of Finance. This is my second term having a new professor provide my upper level courses. Courses that I have paid for expecting an exceptional return on my investment. It is frustrating to me that I have to be a part of the guinea pig class twice for classes these core classes.	power points are pretty basic. please provide more resources for us to learn subject material. I definitely spent a majority of my study time on sites like Investopedia.	Overall, good teacher. I definitely see him growing to be an awesome professor. I just wish I wasn't a part of his guinea pig class.