Prof. Dr. Thomas Gschwend
Current Research Perspectives Fall 2024 ()
No. of responses = 11

UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM
GESS – Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences

Legend

Question text

Relative Frequencies of answers | Std. Dev. | Mean | Median | Quantile

Left pole | Right pole

Scale | Histogram
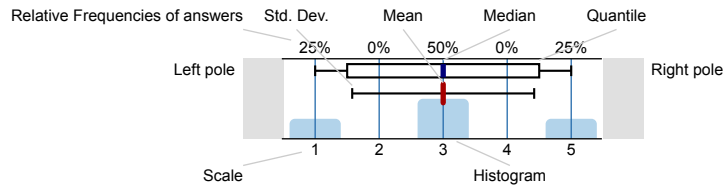
n=No. of responses
av.=Mean
md=Median
dev.=Std. Dev.
ab.=Abstention

Coursework and learning process

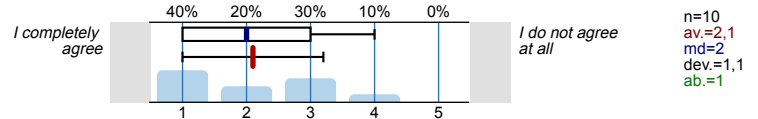**The course contents were illustrated very well by using appropriate examples.**
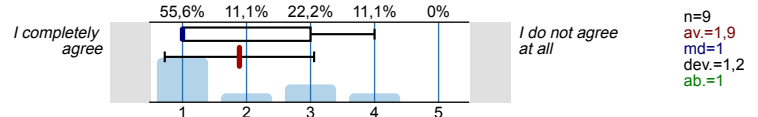
I completely agree — I do not agree at all

55,6% | 11,1% | 22,2% | 11,1% | 0%

n=9
av.=1,9
md=1
dev.=1,2
ab.=1

Recommended reading materials were useful in facilitating understanding of course content.

I completely agree — I do not agree at all

30% | 20% | 50% | 0% | 0%

n=10
av.=2,2
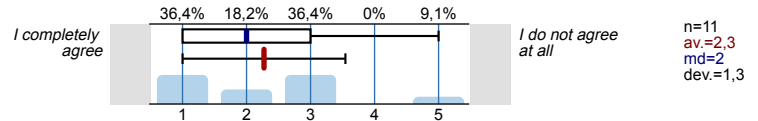md=2,5
dev.=0,9
ab.=1
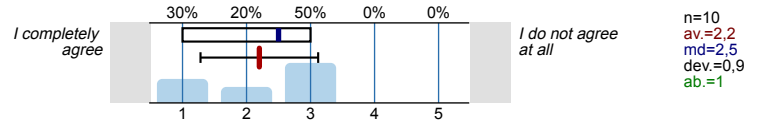
The exercise sessions were very useful (if applicable). The evaluation will not be displayed due to low response rate.

**The course contents were very well structured.**

I completely agree — I do not agree at all

40% | 20% | 30% | 10% | 0%

n=10
av.=2,1
md=2
dev.=1,1
ab.=1

The course has helped me expand my knowledge of the topic/field.

I completely agree — I do not agree at all

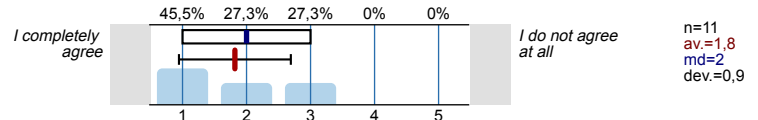36,4% | 18,2% | 36,4% | 0% | 9,1%

n=11
av.=2,3
md=2
dev.=1,3

In relation to the number of ECTS credits I receive, the average workload for this course is ...
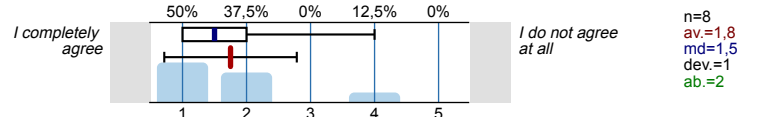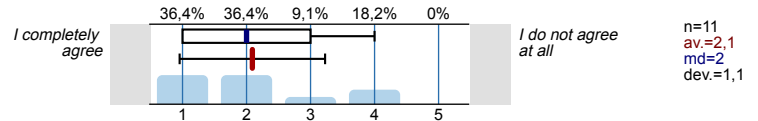(One ECTS credit corresponds to an average workload of approximately 30 hours)

very high — very low

0% | 9,1% | 54,5% | 18,2% | 18,2%

n=11
av.=3,5
md=3
dev.=0,9
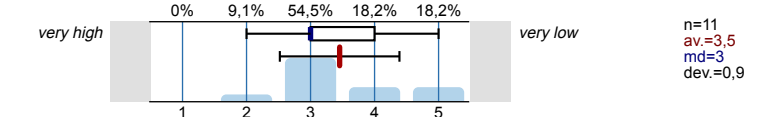
Instructor

The instructor demonstrated a high level of commitment in this course.

I completely agree — I do not agree at all

45,5% | 27,3% | 27,3% | 0% | 0%

n=11
av.=1,8
md=2
dev.=0,9

Answers given by the instructor were helpful in clarifying uncertainties.

I completely agree — I do not agree at all

50% | 37,5% | 0% | 12,5% | 0%

n=8
av.=1,8
md=1,5
dev.=1
ab.=2

The instructor motivated me.

I completely agree — I do not agree at all

36,4% | 36,4% | 9,1% | 18,2% | 0%

n=11
av.=2,1
md=2
dev.=1,1

The instructor encouraged the open and creative participation of students (if applicable).

I completely agree — I do not agree at all

54,5% | 36,4% | 9,1% | 0% | 0%

n=11
av.=1,5
md=1
dev.=0,7

Instructor's manner of speaking was clear and audible.

I completely agree		I do not agree at all

60% 40% 0% 0% 0%

n=10
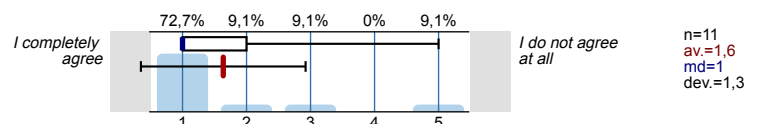av.=1,4
md=1
dev.=0,5
ab.=1
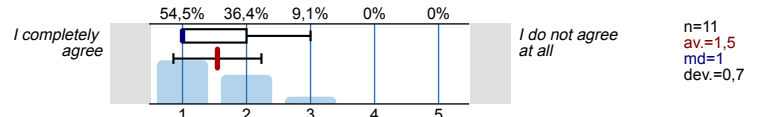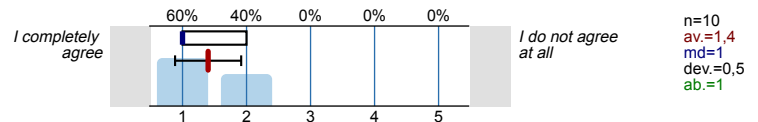
Overall satisfaction

What did you especially like about the course?

- Broad scope of topics covered in the presentations.
  Very interesting to see work by accomplished scholars at an early stage before publication.

- I especially liked the idea behind this course. It was helpful to get an overview of all the different research areas one could do analysis in and also to get contacts to the other professors.

- I liked that many people participated and that so many studnets asked questions. Also the varitey of general topics was huge

- I liked the idea to get insights into the different fields/topics researchers in Mannheim are working on.

- I liked the opportunity to learn about current advancements/developments in the respective fields and the research of other faculty members.

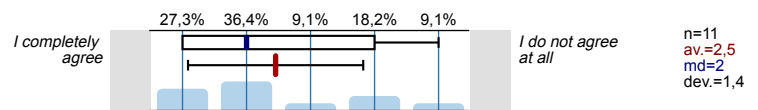- PRESENTATIONS FROM OTHER FACULTY MEMBERS

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Do you have any recommendations how to improve the course? If so, which ones?

- I missed somewhat more diversity, the majoirty was from a political science background. Also out of 15 speakers only three were women. I feel like espically for social sciences this can be improved. Also I would switch the deadline to 30.01. instead of 30.10. With the ongoing seminar it can be quite a lot and 30.01. is also the end of the semester.

- In my opinion, the course could be improved in several ways. 1. I would prefer the course to be in person rather than online, as the digital setting makes it harder to really get involved. 2. I would prefer to only have one or two presentations on one day. The back-to-back presentations made it really hard to focus and engage with the different topics. 3. It could be worthwhile to think about matching students from different fields to work together on a term paper. This could really improve interdisciplinary research skills. Lastly, 4. I missed a Syllabus, which would have helped me get a better understanding of the course's purpose and objectives.

- I understand that some final examination is required to get credits for this course. However, I didn't find the paper assignment very helpful for my own research because it made me spend a lot of time on literature research on a topic very much outside my field. (Maybe spending too much time on this is a me-problem, but I had the impression that others felt like this too). I understand that coming up with new research ideas is supposed to be the exercise in this course. But realistically, I will never actually conduct the research I proposed in this assignment. For the next cohort, an alternative would be to simply get credits for attendance or for preparing discussion questions for the speakers.

- make it in-person

- Maybe start the course a bit later or implement another break. Because of the online format (which is good that it is not in person at that time in the morning) it is hard to concentrate for 90 minutes online talk.

- N/A

- Quality check: The range of presentation quality varied significantly, from excellent and engaging to instances where knowingly incorrect information was presented. Presenting inaccurate information, especially in a scholarly setting, can undermine the course's goal of setting professional standards for upcoming graduate students. While mistakes can happen to anyone, presenting work that has already been disproven or lacks essential elements sends the wrong message about academic rigor and integrity, at least in my opinion.
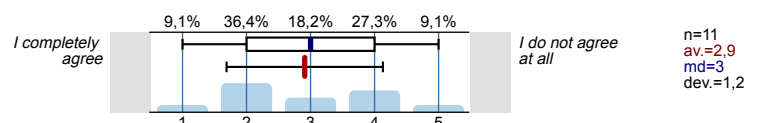
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Overall, I am very satisfied with the instructor.

I completely agree		I do not agree at all

72,7% 9,1% 9,1% 0% 9,1%

n=11
av.=1,6
md=1
dev.=1,3

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Overall, I am very satisfied with the course.

I completely agree		I do not agree at all

27,3% 36,4% 9,1% 18,2% 9,1%

n=11
av.=2,5
md=2
dev.=1,4

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I learned a lot in this course.

I completely agree		I do not agree at all

9,1% 36,4% 18,2% 27,3% 9,1%

n=11
av.=2,9
md=3
dev.=1,2

Profile

Subunit:	GESS
Name of the instructor:	Prof. Dr. Thomas Gschwend
Name of the course: (Name of the survey)	Current Research Perspectives Fall 2024

Values used in the profile line: Mean

Coursework and learning process

Question	Scale		n	av.	md	dev.
The course contents were illustrated very well by using appropriate examples.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=9	av.=1,9	md=1	dev.=1,2
Recommended reading materials were useful in facilitating understanding of course content.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=10	av.=2,2	md=2,5	dev.=0,9
The exercise sessions were very useful (if applicable). (*)	I completely agree	I do not agree at all				
The course contents were very well structured.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=10	av.=2,1	md=2	dev.=1,1
The course has helped me expand my knowledge of the topic/field.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=11	av.=2,3	md=2	dev.=1,3
In relation to the number of ECTS credits I receive, the average workload for this course is ... (One ECTS credit corresponds to an average workload of approximately 30 hours)	very high	very low	n=11	av.=3,5	md=3	dev.=0,9

Instructor

Question	Scale		n	av.	md	dev.
The instructor demonstrated a high level of commitment in this course.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=11	av.=1,8	md=2	dev.=0,9
Answers given by the instructor were helpful in clarifying uncertainties.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=8	av.=1,8	md=1,5	dev.=1
The instructor motivated me.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=11	av.=2,1	md=2	dev.=1,1
The instructor encouraged the open and creative participation of students (if applicable).	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=11	av.=1,5	md=1	dev.=0,7
Instructor's manner of speaking was clear and audible.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=10	av.=1,4	md=1	dev.=0,5

Overall satisfaction

Question	Scale		n	av.	md	dev.
Overall, I am very satisfied with the instructor.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=11	av.=1,6	md=1	dev.=1,3
Overall, I am very satisfied with the course.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=11	av.=2,5	md=2	dev.=1,4
I learned a lot in this course.	I completely agree	I do not agree at all	n=11	av.=2,9	md=3	dev.=1,2

(*) Note: If the number of responses to a question is too low the evaluation will not be displayed in the profile line.