

Individual Report for IEMS_315-0_01: Stochastic Models (Heyuan Yao)

Project Title: **Course and Teacher Evaluations CTEC Fall 2025**

Courses Audience: **45**

Responses Received: **40**

Response Ratio: **88.9%**

Report Comments

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Creation Date: **Wednesday, December 17, 2025**

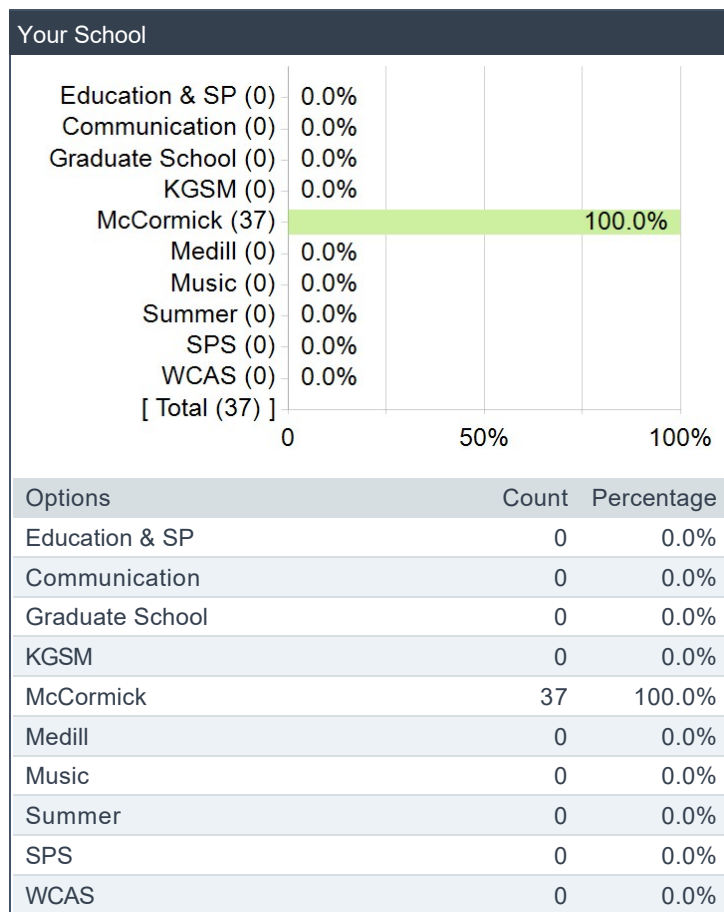
Northwestern University

Course Evaluations

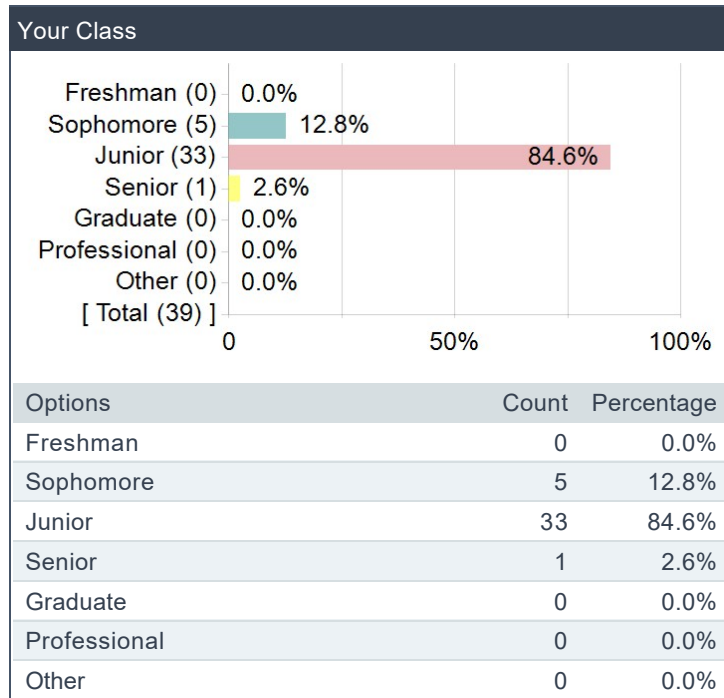
Teaching Assistant	Course
Heyuan Yao	IEMS_315-0_01: Stochastic Models

DEMOGRAPHICS

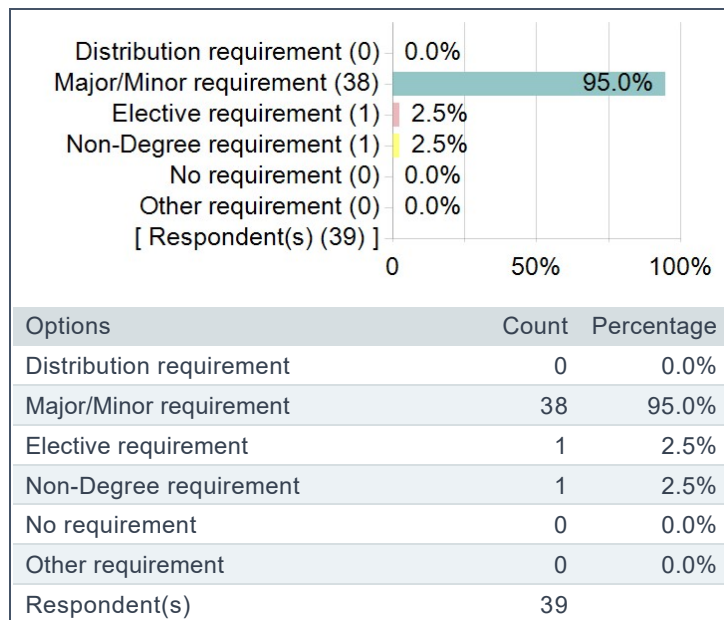
Your School



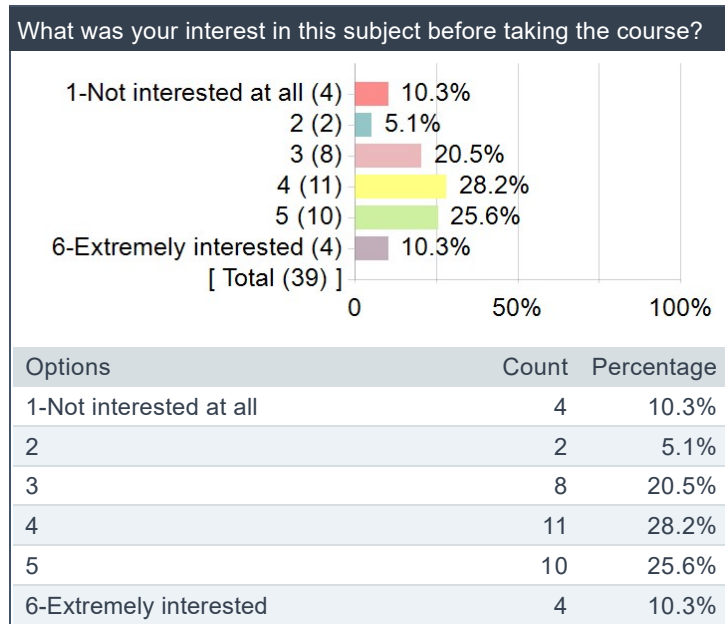
Your Class



What is your reason for taking the course? (mark all that apply)

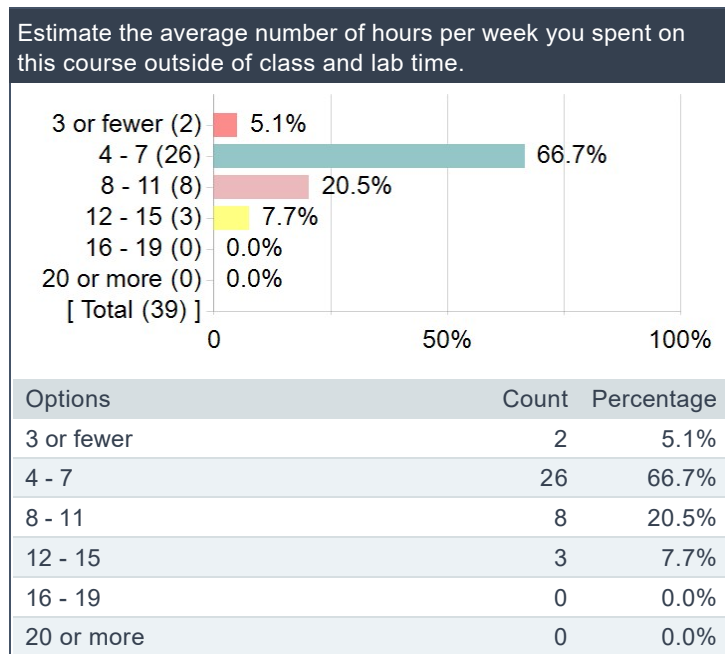


What was your interest in this subject before taking the course?



TIME-SURVEY QUESTION

Estimate the average number of hours per week you spent on this course outside of class and lab time.



TA QUESTIONS

Please rate the TA on the following criteria:

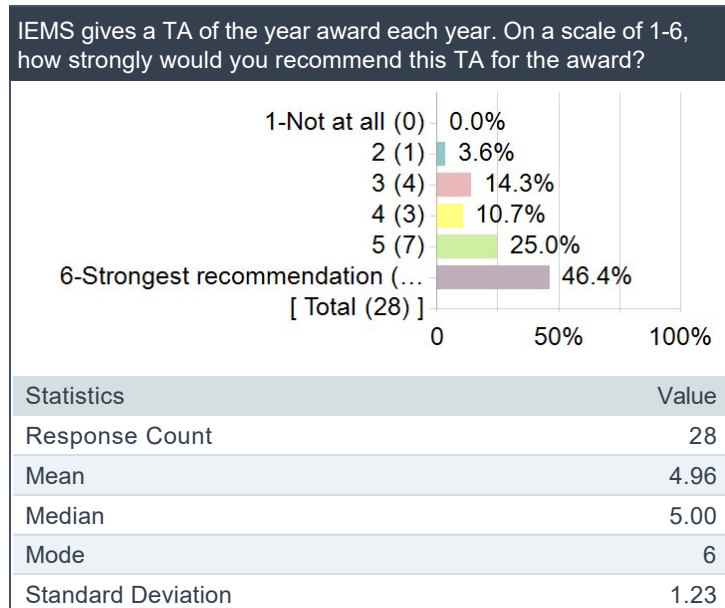
1. The TA was able to answer the students' questions adequately.					2. The TA was well prepared for each session.				
Options	Score	Count	Percentage		Options	Score	Count	Percentage	
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%		1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%	
2	2	0	0.0%		2	2	0	0.0%	
3	3	1	3.4%		3	3	1	3.4%	
4	4	5	17.2%		4	4	2	6.9%	
5	5	5	17.2%		5	5	6	20.7%	
6-Very High	6	18	62.1%		6-Very High	6	20	69.0%	
Statistics	Value				Statistics	Value			
Response Count	29				Response Count	29			
Mean	5.38				Mean	5.55			
Median	6.00				Median	6.00			
Standard Deviation	0.90				Standard Deviation	0.78			
3. The TA communicated ideas in a clear manner.					4. The TA showed strong interest in teaching the course.				
Options	Score	Count	Percentage		Options	Score	Count	Percentage	
1-Very Low	1	1	3.4%		1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%	
2	2	1	3.4%		2	2	0	0.0%	
3	3	0	0.0%		3	3	0	0.0%	
4	4	4	13.8%		4	4	2	6.9%	
5	5	8	27.6%		5	5	8	27.6%	
6-Very High	6	15	51.7%		6-Very High	6	19	65.5%	
Statistics	Value				Statistics	Value			
Response Count	29				Response Count	29			
Mean	5.14				Mean	5.59			
Median	6.00				Median	6.00			
Standard Deviation	1.25				Standard Deviation	0.63			

OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

What are the primary strengths and weaknesses of the teaching assistant?

Comments
He is really really nice and helpful, always patient with the students' questions.
BEST TA out there. Very helpful and really wanted to help you succeed in the course.
Heyuan was an outstanding instructor and mentor. He consistently went out of his way to support my learning, both during and beyond class time, and provided thoughtful, practical guidance on preparing for graduate study. I am deeply appreciative of his mentorship and encouragement.
Very helpful during lab!
Really knowledgeable and easy to talk to.
Strength: very approachable, always around; weakness: not very clear in explaining things.
Heyuan was also a fantastic TA. He was very thorough and accurate in his explanations and was very helpful during Lab, especially as it was a while since I last used Python.
He was always very kind and helpful, and I always could tell he gave his best effort when helping us.
Very engaging, very good at answering questions. No weaknesses that I picked up from my interactions with him.

IEMS gives a TA of the year award each year. On a scale of 1-6, how strongly would you recommend this TA for the award?



Briefly explain why.

Comments
Holy Moly! Heyuan is the best TA I have had in an IEMS class so far. He does a great job in labs and office hours explaining concepts and really feels like someone who cares about your success. I feel like I can always go to Heyuan when I'm confused about a concept and he'll often give a more in depth reasoning that goes beyond the scope of the class so I understand the concept even more than if I just went to lectures. I really hope that Heyuan keeps teaching because I am sure he will be great.
One of the most helpful and passionate TA I have seen at Northwestern.
Heyuan explained things very well and he was actually interested in helping you learn
Heyuan was an outstanding instructor and mentor. He consistently went out of his way to support my learning, both during and beyond class time, and provided thoughtful, practical guidance on preparing for graduate study. I am deeply appreciative of his mentorship and encouragement.
Heyuan always took the time to explain tricky concepts in lab and confirmed that whatever student he was working with really understood what they needed to before moving on to someone else. Best TA I have had.
Very understanding and well-prepared for lab sections and office hours. Great at answering student questions.
Really great TA.
See strengths and weaknesses
He was very helpful and friendly in class and Labs and was always willing to answer questions
He's always very helpful and kind. Great TA!
I feel like he was really useful to myself and other students in helping us learn the content.