

University of Michigan

Winter 2023 Instructor Report

POLSCI 514-001: Soc Sci Comput

Fabricio Vasselai

7 out of 13 students responded to this evaluation.

Responses to University-wide questions about the course:

| | SA | A | N | D | SD | N/A | Your Median | School/College Median | Univ-Wide Median |
|--|----|---|---|---|----|-----|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter.(Q1631) | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.9 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| My interest in the subject has increased because of this course.(Q1632) | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.9 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| I knew what was expected of me in this course.(Q1633) | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.6 |
| I had a strong desire to take this course.(Q4) | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4.8 | 4.0 | 4.1 |
| As compared with other courses of equal credit, the workload for this course was (SA=Much Lighter, A=Lighter, N=Typical, D=Heavier, SD=Much Heavier). (Q891) | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.0 |

Responses to University-wide questions about the instructor:

| | SA | A | N | D | SD | N/A | Your Median | School/College Median | Univ-Wide Median |
|--|----|---|---|---|----|-----|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Fabricio Vasselai seemed well prepared for class meetings.(Q230) | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.8 |
| Fabricio Vasselai explained material clearly.(Q199) | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.9 | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| Fabricio Vasselai treated students with respect. (Q217) | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 4.8 |

Responses to questions about the course:

| | SA | A | N | D | SD | N/A | Your Median |
|--|----|---|---|---|----|-----|-------------|
| I gained a good understanding of concepts/principles in this field. (Q121) | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.9 |
| Reading assignments seemed carefully chosen. (Q326) | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4.9 |
| Students felt comfortable asking questions. (Q892) | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.9 |
| Writing assignments were interesting and stimulating. (Q319) | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4.5 |
| I developed ability to carry out original research in this area. (Q128) | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4.8 |
| I developed an ability to evaluate new work in this field. (Q129) | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4.8 |
| I learned to identify main points and central issues in this field. (Q123) | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4.9 |
| My expected grade in this course is (SA=A, A=B, N=C, D=D, SD=E). (Q896) | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4.9 |

Responses to questions about the instructor:

| | SA | A | N | D | SD | N/A | Your Median |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|-----|-------------|
| Fabricio Vasselai stressed important points in lectures/discussions. (Q203) | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.0 |
| Fabricio Vasselai acknowledged all questions insofar as possible. (Q216) | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.0 |
| Fabricio Vasselai was willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q219) | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.9 |

The medians are calculated from Winter 2023 data. University-wide medians are based on all UM classes in which an item was used. The school/college medians in this report are based on classes that are graduate level with enrollment of 1 to 15 in Division of Social Sciences in the College of LS&A.

Written Comments

Comment on the quality of instruction in this course. (Q900)

Comments

Fabricio was excellent! He should teach more methods courses. He did a fantastic job.

Fabricio's lecture notes were incredibly detailed and useful for reference in both class assignments and for applicable preferences outside of this course and for my own research. Instruction was always passionate and assistance plentiful.

Fantastic instructor who deeply cares for the students. Any student would be lucky to have him!

Fabricio was a very helpful instructor and taught us some very useful things within the span of this course. However, the workload for this course was insane. With other courses in mind, the data camps, problem sets, and the amount of information taught to us in lecture was just a lot. I think the information he gave us was important and could be useful in my future work, however it was just too much and too complex for a 1st year course. The data camps take at least 3 hours for one portion of a chapter and is just a lot of time especially when we cannot get help with the problem sets, and use certain functions within them. I would suggest reducing the data camp assignments, because I do think they're helpful in the beginning to get familiar with basic functions. In all, the information in the course was great, I would have grasped more if the 1st year workload was not so heavy.

Fabricio is a great instructor with a mastery of different computational and methodological techniques. I would highly recommend taking methods courses with Fabricio. He has a unique way of teaching where no question is too stupid to ask. He carefully designs the assignments so that they help us gain familiarity with the concepts and code. He is also easily accessible after class and during office hours to talk about the class material and the application of methodological techniques to your own research. Highly recommend taking this course with Fabricio.