

Student Evaluation - Teacher Core

FINC302 Applied Investments

118 - Students
102 - Responses
86 - % Class

Q.ID: E16008191
Date of Survey: 27 May-10 Jun
2016

Note: For comments questions, numbers assigned to respondents, such as 1) or 3), will be missing if they have made no comment

Core Teacher Questions

1	How organised have you found Prof. Crack's contribution to this course?	Well organised	1	2	3	4	5	Disorganised	NIL	Median
		Number	89	10	1	1	1		0	1.1
		Distribution 1	87%	10%	1%	1%	1%		0%	
		Distribution 2*	97%	1%	2%					
2	How would you rate Prof. Crack's ability to communicate ideas and information?	Excellent	1	2	3	4	5	Poor	NIL	Median
		Number	67	28	6	0	1		0	1.3
		Distribution 1	66%	27%	6%	0%	1%		0%	
		Distribution 2*	93%	6%	1%					
3	How much has Prof. Crack stimulated your interest in the subject?	Very much	1	2	3	4	5	Not at all	NIL	Median
		Number	56	33	11	0	2		0	1.4
		Distribution 1	55%	32%	11%	0%	2%		0%	
		Distribution 2*	87%	11%	2%					
4	How would you describe Prof. Crack's attitude toward students in this course?	Very helpful	1	2	3	4	5	Not at all helpful	NIL	Median
		Number	75	21	4	1	1		0	1.2
		Distribution 1	74%	21%	4%	1%	1%		0%	
		Distribution 2*	94%	4%	2%					
5	Overall, how effective have you found Prof. Crack in teaching this course?	Very effective	1	2	3	4	5	Not at all effective	NIL	Median
		Number	69	27	4	1	1		0	1.2
		Distribution 1	68%	26%	4%	1%	1%		0%	
		Distribution 2*	94%	4%	2%					

6 Any other comments about Prof. Crack's teaching?

- 6) Best lecturer I have had at Otago University. Is a great role model to learn from. Appreciate all he has done
- 10) Great lecturer and had genuine interest in helping us/ensuring noone was left behind in class. Only thing to note is I think next year the class should be taught how to do some of the problem set stuff on EXCEL as it was hard to do something we had never been shown before (and with confusing instructions) but overall he taught the class well.
- 17) Thoroughly enjoyed Prof. Crack's course and his approach to teaching the content.
- 18) One of my favourite lecturers. Interesting, clear and concise.
- 19) The man is a genius!
- 20) I expected to struggle extremely before starting this class. However it has been a very interesting course, with so much practical content. The content is challenges you but is very rewarding and I have learnt much more than any other class I have taken. By far the best lecturer to date. A+++

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- 21) I have not enjoyed this course. The lectures consist primarily of Prof Crack reading from the textbook. This is not effective lecturing. I feel I could get just as much value simply reading the textbook at home. Despite this, attendance at the lectures is essential, as Prof Crack places emphasis on specific facts which will appear in the exams. For example, one of the questions in the mid-term exam asked the average dividend yield on a portfolio examined in the textbook. This doesn't feel like an opportunity to display our understanding of financial concepts - this feels like rote learning, and is less than I would expect from a 300 level course. The lectures are 2 hours, but include 3 breaks and several anecdotes. If Prof Crack cut down on these breaks and increased the pace of the lectures a bit I feel they could be cut down to a more manageable one hour slot. And finally, I was unimpressed with the management of the distribution of textbooks at the start of the semester. I understand this was a one-off due to printing problems, but books were sold to students before a copy was put on course reserve, when Prof Crack knew there were not enough to go around, and an assignment was due shortly after. A week before this assignment was due, an excerpt from the textbook was posted on blackboard, but the assignment had been available for a few weeks already. It may have been a one-off, but that's not much consolation to students who are only going to take this paper once. As for positives, I thought the assignments were very good. They were satisfying, an appropriate amount of work, and they were very instructive.
- 22) The only lecturer who seems to know what he's doing. Other instructors should have to sit in and take notes to realise how bad they are haha
- 23) Prof. Cracks text book is a bit overwhelming and there are quite a few sections that he has marked as un-examinable which is confusing and time consuming to go through and work out. On the other hand it is also incredibly thorough and I have referred to it on several occasions outside of FINC302 work. Prof. Cracks classes are ALWAYS well prepared and presented. He leaves plenty of opportunity for questions and discussion in class and I have found him very approachable during his office hours. I really enjoy and appreciate Prof. Cracks teaching that goes beyond the practicalities and theory of the course - his reflections on integrating our new found financial knowledge within the wider scope of life i.e. making educated decisions with our personal finances: being prepared for retirement, staying healthy, making the most of our privileged situations.
- 24) Such an amazing lecturer! He explains things so well, and in ways where we can actually understand it. The way he structures his lectures with breaks at the half hour mark is fantastic because it lets you have a bit of time to process the info and write some extra notes without missing out on any other info, also its nice to have a break as this is quite a full on course. Always look forward to going to his class. Story time is awesome, whether its a financial story or one to explain an idea/point, they are always interesting. He accepts any answers even if they are wrong and is in no way condescending which is fantastic. He provides us with so much information. Definitely the best lecturer i have had.
- 25) I like that he doesn't favor students who have a tendency to suck up to lecturers. He makes sure all information is shared equally. He has made me interested in an area of finance I didn't think I would be especially after first flipping through the text book. One of the best lecturers I've ever had and his passion for the paper transpires through the course.
- 28) I thought this course has been much more enlightening toward financial theory than any other paper i have taken. Prof. Crack is lecturing a paper that is closest to anything we will see in the real world
- 29) It would have been nice to hear more about the practical work he has completed while working in the industry.
- 31) Really enjoyed this paper! every lecture was interesting. the lecture about retirement blew my mind - that was a fantastic lecture. This paper is one of a very few papers ive taken at uni where i was exited to attend and attempt to answer questions out loud in class and engage in the lecture. I did however think that the excel material was very hard and we werent shown very clearly in class how to do it - the excel explanations seemed quite rushed on the board in class. Maybe would prefer if the exam had some MC and then some longer answer questions both written and calculation long answers - as answering these sorts of questions really locks in the learning for me personally when im studying. in the problem sets i thought there was so much reading and a lot of it was unnecessary and we had to wade through the info to find the relevant info/steps to do to do the problem. so maybe more concisely written PS would be good. thanks for the great classes Professor Crack!
- 32) Otago is lucky to have Professor Crack, we are getting a world class education with him!
- 33) Tutorials throughout the semester I feel would help students to further understand the theories and practical aspects of this class more thoroughly. While the tutorials before the midterm and final exam are helpful, I feel that in order to really grasp what is being taught, extra sessions with a tutor would be extremely helpful.
- 34) Very interesting to listen to, Cheers
- 35) One of the best lecturers I've had at Otago so far, can tell he knows what he's talking about.
- 42) The most i have learnt in a finance paper. Everything could be related to real world examples and aspects that can benefit us individually in the future, really enjoyed the paper.
- 44) by far the best finc course
very knowledgeable and helpful.

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- 45) Prof. Crack has been my favourite lecturer/teacher in my schooling and University career to date. He has a different and unique teaching style which really stimulated my interest in the subject and managed to keep me engaged in every lecture. He also connects well with his students and it is appreciated that he makes an effort to remember student's names. He also goes beyond the course materials and has a genuine aim to equip us with real life skills in the financial/commercial/real world. I have walked out of every lecture having taken away something fascinating to share or to look into further. Thanks Prof. Crack.
- 46) No
- 47) Prof. Crack has probably been the best lecturer I've had out of my 3 years of uni. He gets ideas across easily, and seems very organised.
- 49) I found that prof. Crack made an excellent effort to make sure students understood concepts that he thought were hard and he would communicate them in a different way which was very helpful. Easily one of the best lecturers I had at Otago
- 50) Interesting teaching style, but passionate which is refreshing
- 51) I have really enjoyed his teaching style. He helped spark my interest in finance in bsns108 in 2010 and I have continued to enjoy his teaching this semester
- 54) I find this course really difficult, and I think some of the content taught could be explained a bit better/ simplified. I find we cover things really quickly and I find it hard to absorb some of it. It's good how he gives us breaks and changes topics throughout the lesson to keep us occupied.
- 58) Best Lecturer I've ever had teaching the best course I've ever taken. Made me decide to study in a simliar area for Post Grad
- 61) I really enjoyed this paper! The course content was useful not only for career purposes but also for general personal finance skills. Prof. Crack is a valuable asset to the finance and accounting department and I think that other lecturers could learn a thing or two from how he runs his paper.
- 64) Some other finance lecturers could take cues for how he teaches the course. Interesting, interactive, relates everything back to real world concepts.
Only negatives were that problem sets could be easy to get lost in. Heavy mathematical aspect of course could also be taken slightly more slowly. Other than that he is a very good lecturer with a bit of a quirky side
- 68) We need more guidance on problem sets
- 70) Cannot fault his teaching or lecturing - he keeps the class engaged & it's great that he is so passionate about the subject. A+
- 71) Would be cool to have some artificial simulation of a trading platform online, so we could put theory into practice and see how it works.
- 72) one of the best lecturer i've had throughout my time at university! VERY INTERESTING, very enjoyed his mid class breaks and the photos and stories he has!!!
- 75) The only negatives of the course are that there is a lot of content and at quite an advanced level. Considering that, the teaching has been very good.
- 77) I really like the way Prof. Crack sets out the lectures and the little stories / pictures he shows in class as a break. I do however think there is too much content covered for one paper, and the only way he can get through it all in class time is skimming over the text book- showing us what we have to learn rather than actually teaching the content.
- 79) Really enjoyed the course! Unlike other courses, I can see myself actually using the information and skills I've learnt in this course outside of university. Thanks!
- 80) The best lecturer I've had. Prof. Crack is very friendly and helpful, not to forget he is very knowledgeable as well. The short break after 30 minutes lectures is pretty awesome, I thought it will be even better to learn more about Prof. Crack's life experience!
- 81) best lecturer in otago
- 84) One of the best/if not the best lecturer i've ever had. Very good at communicating ideas and helping you understand them. Also feel as though he really cares about us.
- 85) Amazing teacher, so knowledgable!!
- 87) Talking too fast during the lectures
- 89) Conducts himself with utter professionalism. Made the subject very interesting and thus continued to receive my attention even though his lectures were on during the basketball. A job well done.
- 94) Greatful to have had a well published and respected academic teach me Finance.
- 95) Bloody legend
- 97) I find your text very well written and everything is clearly defined. One of if not the best organised class I have taken at UoO
- 99) I do find him very good at teaching however I find that as he teaches using his textbook that if you don't understand something we can't refer to another resource to make sense of it. Also I do find it a conflict of interest that we basically have to buy his textbook plus the question and answer booklet to do well in this paper. It would be different if we got a pdf, even just for the q&a.
- 102) Beginning lectures on stats were difficult to get head around. Weekly tutorials would be beneficial to solidify lecture materials.

Processed by: 