Howard University

Spring 2021 Course Evaluation – Executive Summary

Overview

Course evaluations for the Spring 2021 academic semester were opened to Howard University students on April 12, 2021. The evaluation period was open for approximately 2 weeks, closing on April 26, 2021 before the beginning of final exams. The course evaluation instrument was comprised of 19 questions (8 course and 11 instructor). Approximately 52,339 evaluations were sent out and 29,773 evaluations were completed resulting in an overall engagement rate of 56.88%. This engagement rate includes students who completed a course evaluation(s) as well as students that chose to opt out of completing an evaluation(s). Looking at this further, there were 6,612 (12.63%) instances where students decided to opt out of taking a course evaluation. Consequently, the overall response rate for the university with opt outs removed was 44.25%.

Results

Quality of Remote Instruction

Given the current state of remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to look at questions and groupings of questions that explore students' perception of the quality, accessibility, and reliability of instruction in their course(s). When asked about their instructor's effectiveness in communicating the content of the course, 78.71% of students (undergraduate, graduate, and professional) either "agreed" or "strongly agreed" that their instructor succeeded in this regard (M = 4.18, SD = 1.07). Further, 81.09% and 78.93% of students either "agreed" or "strongly agreed" that their instructor was well prepared for class meetings and made effective use of class time, respectively (M = 4.30, SD = 0.96; M = 4.25, SD = 1.00). A majority of students also indicated that instructors provided timely and constructive feedback on exams/papers/performance. Approximately 73.13% of students "agreed" or "strongly agreed" that the feedback from instructors was timely, and 71.59% of students "agree" or "strongly agreed" that the feedback from instructors was constructive (M = 4.10, SD = 1.13; M = 4.08, SD = 1.14).

General Education

The course evaluation instrument used at Howard University contains questions that indirectly assess general education outcomes. Currently, Howard has 21 general education outcomes that are a part of the Howard University General Education (HUGE) experience. Four of these outcomes are indirectly assessed using the course evaluation instrument: critical thinking and problem solving, written and oral communication, foundation and skills lifelong learning, and integrative and applied learning. For the Spring 2021 semester, 80.89% of students "agreed" or "strongly agreed" that their course challenged them to think critically about the subject (M = 4.16, SD = 0.99). Looking at written and oral Created by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment communication, 76.10% of students

"agreed" or "strongly agreed" that the course helped them to communicate clearly about the subject (M = 4.04, SD = 1.06). Further, 77.51% of students "agreed" or "strongly agreed" that their course helped them consider connections between course material and other areas of their personal, academic, or professional life. This result speaks both to lifelong as well as integrative and applied learning (M = 4.08, SD = 1.06). While general education outcomes are traditionally captured for only undergraduate students, the data provided includes graduate and professional students. Future reports will disaggregate this data for a more nuanced picture of outcome attainment. An overall aggregate or grand mean was calculated for both course and instructor question sets at the university level. The mean for course questions (n = 9) was 4.09 and the mean for instructor questions (n = 10) was 4.21.

Howard University
Summer Session 2021 Course Evaluations

Level: Howard University

Response Rate: 1219/5356 (22.76 %)

Question		1	2	3	4	5	Mean	Std	Median
Please answer the following questions related to your course.: The workload and pace were appropriate for the course level.	n	47	76	109	349	493	4.08	1.11	4.00
	%	4.38%	7.08%	10.15%	32.50%	45.90%			
Please answer the following questions related to your course.: This course helped me consider connections between course material and other areas of my personal, academic, or professional life.	n	39	34	105	328	566	4.26	1.01	5.00
	%	3.64%	3.17%	9.79%	30.60%	52.80%			
Please answer the following questions related to your course.: This course challenged me to think critically about the subject.	n	32	23	82	330	599	4.35	0.93	5.00
	%	3.00%	2.16%	7.69%	30.96%	56.19%			
Please answer the following questions related to your course.: This course helped me to communicate clearly about the subject.	n	41	40	126	321	537	4.20	1.04	5.00
	%	3.85%	3.76%	11.83%	30.14%	50.42%			
Please answer the following questions related to your course.: This course provided appropriate knowledge in this subject area.	n	31	26	97	330	580	4.32	0.95	5.00
	%	2.91%	2.44%	9.12%	31.02%	54.51%			
Please answer the following questions related to your course.: The course assignments reflected what was covered in the course.	n	31	34	94	326	579	4.30	0.96	5.00
	%	2.91%	3.20%	8.83%	30.64%	54.42%			
Please answer the following questions related to your course.: The course stimulated my interest in the subject.	n	57	42	114	286	553	4.17	1.12	5.00
	%	5.42%	3.99%	10.84%	27.19%	52.57%			

Scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree

Question		1	2	3	4	5	Mean	Std	Median
Overall, this course was...	n	22	44	120	258	611	4.32	0.97	5.00
	%	2.09%	4.17%	11.37%	24.45%	57.91%			

Scale: 1 = Very Poor, 2 = Poor, 3 = Acceptable, 4 = Good, 5 = Very Good

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Question		1	2	3	4	5	0	Mean	Std	Median
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor was effective in communicating the content of the course.	n	33	58	107	247	747	17	4.36	1.02	5.00
	%	2.73%	4.80%	8.85%	20.43%	61.79%	1.41%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor was fair in evaluating student performance.	n	31	23	123	264	718	45	4.39	0.94	5.00
	%	2.57%	1.91%	10.22%	21.93%	59.63%	3.74%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor was well prepared for class meetings.	n	28	31	113	238	753	44	4.42	0.94	5.00
	%	2.32%	2.57%	9.36%	19.72%	62.39%	3.65%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor made effective use of class time.	n	34	37	107	239	736	53	4.39	0.99	5.00
	%	2.82%	3.07%	8.87%	19.82%	61.03%	4.39%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor was accessible during office hours.	n	25	16	131	229	679	126	4.41	0.92	5.00
	%	2.07%	1.33%	10.86%	18.99%	56.30%	10.45%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor clearly articulated their expectations for students in the course.	n	34	34	112	249	756	19	4.40	0.97	5.00
	%	2.82%	2.82%	9.30%	20.68%	62.79%	1.58%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor provided guidance for understanding course exercises/assignments.	n	31	47	110	256	731	30	4.37	0.99	5.00
	%	2.57%	3.90%	9.13%	21.24%	60.66%	2.49%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor provided timely feedback on exams/papers/performance.	n	54	38	120	232	707	57	4.30	1.09	5.00
	%	4.47%	3.15%	9.93%	19.21%	58.53%	4.72%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor provided constructive feedback on exams/papers/performance.	n	48	50	133	224	688	62	4.27	1.09	5.00
	%	3.98%	4.15%	11.04%	18.59%	57.10%	5.15%			
Please answer the following questions related to your instructor(s). Instructor(s): The instructor created a welcoming and inclusive classroom environment.	n	28	24	104	218	773	47	4.47	0.92	5.00
	%	2.35%	2.01%	8.71%	18.26%	64.74%	3.94%			

Scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree , 2 = Disagree , 3 = Neutral , 4 = Agree , 5 = Strongly Agree , 0 = N/A

Question		1	2	3	4	5	Mean	Std	Median
Overall, the instructor was... Instructor(s)	n	22	42	142	222	775	4.40	0.95	5.00
	%	1.83%	3.49%	11.80%	18.45%	64.42%			

Scale: 1 = Very Poor, 2 = Poor, 3 = Acceptable, 4 = Good, 5 = Very Good

Question		1	2	3	4	5	Mean	Std	Median
My instructor used technology in ways that helped my learning of concepts and principles.	n	27	38	151	365	607	4.25	0.95	5.00
	%	2.27%	3.20%	12.71%	30.72%	51.09%			
This course was appropriately modified for online learning.	n	32	42	128	311	530	4.21	1.01	5.00
	%	3.07%	4.03%	12.27%	29.82%	50.81%			

Scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree