Columbia University: Arts & Sciences
A&S Fall 2021 Standard Evaluation

Course:	POLSUN3768_001_2021_3 - Experimental Research: POLSW3768_001_2021_3_127722
Instructor:	Yamil Velez
TA:	Julian Gerez *
Response Rate:	20/37 (54.05 %)

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1 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of Julian Gerez (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader) as an instructor, and how might Julian Gerez's teaching be improved?

Response Rate	13/37 (35.14%)

• Julian cleared the fog that was this course's content. Unlike the lectures, his discussion sections actually had a progression to them, and he was an engaging instructor.

• Julian Gerez is the most adept TA I have encountered at Columbia. His ability to concisely yet clearly explain complex statistics concepts is unmatched, he flawlessly kept class discussion flowing and ensured that no student was left behind. Frankly, Julian Gerez has almost no room for improvement in his teaching skills, and I hope other students have the pleasure of being in a class taught by him in his future academic career.

• Julian was a great TA, also approachable, would walk us through code step by step in discussion and was a very fair and generous grader. He always provided good feedback as well.

• Julian is an amazing TA and manages to concisely summarize everything we learned in lecture. Sometimes he is even more clear than the professor.

• Julian was awesome - the only reason I understood most things.

• Very good

• Julian is a fantastic TA. His discussion sections, plus his presentations, are so clear and informative. I always leave with a better understanding of the course materials. In addition, Julian provides great feedback that makes the areas that need improvement clear. Julian is also so responsive to questions in both office hours and emails.

• I am a current senior and he is the best TA I have ever had. Extremely invested in students understanding the material. Very generous with his time and effort. Clearly a natural teacher and it was a pleasure to have him as a TA and to learn from him.

• Very helpful- answers emails very quickly and is very clear in his responses. He won't give you the answers right away, but he'll make you work your way through them.

• Julian Gerez is refreshingly organized, and is able to explain complex concepts in ways that are accessible. Thank you!

• Julian Gerez made this class possible and made it manageable. Honestly, he deserves a raise and should have been the professor for this class. Every single student relied on him more than Professor Velez for instruction and clarity. He was able to teach us what we actually needed to know in a succinct manner during discussion section every week and was always accessible via email. Without Julian, this class would have fallen apart and I'm definitely grateful for him coming back and teaching us.

• Julian is a gem. He is so kind and so helpful. You can tell that he spends a lot of time developing his section presentations so that the content is clear and understandable. He made a whole step by step guide to R that I will definitely continue to reference in the future. I often went to office hours and he would spend a lot of time patiently explaining things to me because I struggled to understand some of the concepts. I thought he graded pretty fairly and gave specific feedback so that you could see where you went wrong. I appreciate all that he put into this class!

• Julian was very helpful and understanding throughout the semester. He bridged a lot of gaps with his discussion section slides and answered a lot of questions for me.

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2 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of Julian Gerez?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Excellent	(5)	18	90.00%		4.90
Very Good	(4)	2	10.00%		
Good	(3)	0	0.00%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		

	0	25	50	100	Question

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
20/37 (54.05%)	4.90	0.31	5.00

Course: POLSUN3769_001_2021_3 - EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH-DISC: POLSW3769_001_2021_3_135290

Instructor: Julian Gerez *

Response Rate: 6/15 (40.00 %)

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1 - What did you learn - in terms of knowledge, skills, or perspectives - in this course?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.	
Response Rate	1/15 (6.67%)

• I learned about experimental designs, statistical work in political science, DAGs, theories of persuasion, experimental measurements, and linear models in this class. Additionally, I learned how to use R coding to facilitate data collection and research.

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2 - What percentage of the work (including reading) assigned for this course did you complete on schedule?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
All or almost all	(1)	5	83.33%		
Most	(2)	1	16.67%		
Some	(3)	0	0.00%		
This question is not applicable	(4)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
6/15 (40.00%)					

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3 - What is your overall assessment of the course? What are its strengths? In what ways might it be improved? In answering this question, you might address the value of readings and assignments, the structure of the course (including the relationship of sections to lectures), the contribution of the course to your knowledge of the subject matter and to the development of your analytical and reasoning skills, etc. We encourage you to use specific examples where possible.	
Response Rate	1/15 (6.67%)

• This is a great course. The early structure of the class revolves around students learning the theoretical basics of making and conducting an experiment. After that, we started actually applying our knowledge in smaller experiments before expanding it to a large class-wide experiment focused on shifting scientific trust. In the latter half of the course, the readings fell off. Readings would have been good sources to have and to reference. I found our discussion section extremely helpful for slowing down and explaining the parts of lecture that went by too fast.

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4 - What is your overall assessment of the course?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Excellent	(5)	3	50.00%		4.17
Very Good	(4)	1	16.67%		
Good	(3)	2	33.33%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate			Mean	STD	Median
6/15 (40.00%)			4.17	0.98	4.50

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5 - Would you recommend this course to another student?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Definitely recommend	(1)	3	50.00%		
Probably recommend	(2)	2	33.33%		
I'm not sure I'd recommend	(3)	1	16.67%		
Probably not recommend	(4)	0	0.00%		
Definitely not recommend	(5)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
6/15 (40.00%)					

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6 - Please qualify your recommendations if you wish:The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.	
Response Rate	1/15 (6.67%)

• It's a great class where you can gain a lot of applicable research experience.

Course: POLSUN3769_001_2021_3 - EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH-DISC: POLSW3769_001_2021_3_135290

Instructor: Julian Gerez *

Response Rate: 6/15 (40.00 %)

7 - How does the workload in this course compare to Columbia courses with a similar structure (e.g. a lecture, seminar, laboratory, or language course)?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Much heavier workload	(1)	1	16.67%		
Heavier workload	(2)	0	0.00%		
Similar workload	(3)	4	66.67%		
Lighter workload	(4)	1	16.67%		
Much lighter workload	(5)	0	0.00%		
No basis for comparison	(6)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate
6/15 (40.00%)

8 - How many hours a week did you devote to this course? (Note: Please include all time spent on this class including class time, discussion sections, readings, assignments, studying, etc.)The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Rate	0/15 (0%)

9 - Please evaluate Julian Gerez. What are Julian Gerez's strengths? In what ways might their teaching be improved? In answering this question, you might address the clarity of the lectures or presentations and their relationship to the other elements of the course, the ability of Julian Gerez to generate enthusiasm and facilitate discussion, the quality of feedback, availability, the timeliness of the return assignment, etc. -

Response Rate	3/15 (20%)

• Julian is a great TA. He gave in-depth explanations that clarified confusing parts of our lecture and readings. His use of slideshows was also very organized and helpful as they contextualized and explained the information that I was struggling with in a step-by-step way. Julian was thorough in his feedback for our submitted works—I always knew what my mistakes were and how to fix them. He held frequent office hours and fielded questions via email which was super helpful when I was confused by assignments.

• His discussion sections always helped clarify questions we had about lecture and the material we read for class. He was able to engage us with the material and was always available if we needed extra help.

• Julian was a great TA. He was very helpful and understanding throughout the semester, and spent a lot of time crafting lessons that bridged the gaps in our learning. He also was very accessible when we had questions about the course.

10 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of Julian Gerez? -

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Excellent	(5)	6	100.00%		5.00
Very Good	(4)	0	0.00%		
Good	(3)	0	0.00%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
6/15 (40.00%)	5.00	0.00	5.00

11 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader) as an instructor, and how might 's teaching be improved?

Response Rate	0/15 (0%)

12 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of ?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Excellent	(5)	0	0.00%		
Very Good	(4)	0	0.00%		
Good	(3)	0	0.00%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		0.00

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
0/15 (0.00%)	0.00	0.00	0.00

Columbia University: Arts & Sciences
A&S Fall 2021 Standard Evaluation

Course: POLSUN3769_002_2021_3 - EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH-DISC: POLSW3769_002_2021_3_135291

Instructor: Julian Gerez *

Response Rate: 8/20 (40.00 %)

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1 - What did you learn - in terms of knowledge, skills, or perspectives - in this course?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Rate	4/20 (20%)

• I learned

• I learned about how to conduct a study, how to analyze study results, and the importance of randomization. I also learned the reasoning and mathematics behind why randomization is done in a study as well as why we analyze a study the way we do. No other course went into such detail about things like average treatment effect, standard error, confidence intervals, etc. I'm leaving this course with a very solid grasp of basic statistics, and that is due almost entirely to this discussion section. The main course was good, however, had it not been for our weekly discussion meetings a lot of what is said in class would've gone over my head.

• A LOT of R.

• I learned how to conduct statistical analyses for the social sciences through R. I found it extremely rewarding to learn the material and know that I will be able to apply what I learned whatever field I choose to go into after college.

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2 - What percentage of the work (including reading) assigned for this course did you complete on schedule?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
All or almost all	(1)	6	75.00%		
Most	(2)	2	25.00%		
Some	(3)	0	0.00%		
This question is not applicable	(4)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
8/20 (40.00%)					

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3 - What is your overall assessment of the course? What are its strengths? In what ways might it be improved? In answering this question, you might address the value of readings and assignments, the structure of the course (including the relationship of sections to lectures), the contribution of the course to your knowledge of the subject matter and to the development of your analytical and reasoning skills, etc. We encourage you to use specific examples where possible.

Response Rate	3/20 (15%)

• This was a good course. Although at times it could feel a bit disorganized, I learned a lot and I'm grateful. This slight disorganization never made me unsure about how to do assignments or what needed to be done. My one critique would be to make sure the discussion sections really match up with class. 90% of the time they did, but there were a few weeks of "you don't really need to know this but it's cool" where I felt the discussion sections were lacking a bit. However, he was right, the information was cool.

• Very informative, really clears up the lecture content- otherwise I wouldn't know what was going on in the class.

• Would need to be a bit more organized but Julian did an amazing job of providing us with all the information we needed as it was made available to him.

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4 - What is your overall assessment of the course?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Excellent	(5)	7	87.50%		4.88
Very Good	(4)	1	12.50%		
Good	(3)	0	0.00%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
8/20 (40.00%)	4.88	0.35	5.00

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5 - Would you recommend this course to another student?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Definitely recommend	(1)	7	87.50%		
Probably recommend	(2)	1	12.50%		
I'm not sure I'd recommend	(3)	0	0.00%		
Probably not recommend	(4)	0	0.00%		
Definitely not recommend	(5)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
8/20 (40.00%)					

Course: POLSUN3769_002_2021_3 - EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH-DISC: POLSW3769_002_2021_3_135291

Instructor: Julian Gerez *

Response Rate: 8/20 (40.00 %)

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6 - Please qualify your recommendations if you wish:The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Rate	2/20 (10%)

- This class is great if you are a poli sci student who is incredibly intimidated by statistics. You learn tough concepts in a very digestable and non-intimidating way.

- Maybe can be clearer when discussing the instructions for the assignments.

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7 - How does the workload in this course compare to Columbia courses with a similar structure (e.g. a lecture, seminar, laboratory, or language course)?The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Much heavier workload	(1)	0	0.00%		
Heavier workload	(2)	0	0.00%		
Similar workload	(3)	6	75.00%		
Lighter workload	(4)	2	25.00%		
Much lighter workload	(5)	0	0.00%		
No basis for comparison	(6)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate
8/20 (40.00%)

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8 - How many hours a week did you devote to this course? (Note: Please include all time spent on this class including class time, discussion sections, readings, assignments, studying, etc.)The answer to this question will generally be available in Vergil.

Response Rate	2/20 (10%)

- About 2 hours if there was no assignment due, and about 5-6 hours if there was an assignment.

- 1 hour

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9 - Please evaluate Julian Gerez. What are Julian Gerez's strengths? In what ways might their teaching be improved? In answering this question, you might address the clarity of the lectures or presentations and their relationship to the other elements of the course, the ability of Julian Gerez to generate enthusiasm and facilitate discussion, the quality of feedback, availability, the timeliness of the return assignment, etc. -

Response Rate	3/20 (15%)

- I want to be very clear: this course would've been impossible without Julian Gerez. Someone who has the skill to take complex topics and make them digestable to undergrad, non-math, 'scared by statistics' students deserves an award. The very first week of class, we were given a reading, 95% of which I did not understand. Attending the main course did nothing to sway my nerves, with a lot of it going over my head. However, when I stepped into our discussion section, Julian explained everything we needed to know in a 30 page reading in under 30 minutes. I and the entire class understood everything he said. He comes prepared for section, speaks slowly and clearly, and stops for questions every chance he gets. Julian is patient, eager to teach, and a great teacher. I am a student who tends to be very shy speaking up in class, but he always encouraged us to reach out by any means we felt comfortable doing. My means was email, and every time I emailed he responded within 15 minutes and was always happy to help. His demeanor in class is light hearted, fun, and engaging and he always completed everything we needed to do within our short 50 minute window. As someone who also teaches kids younger than her, it is very rare that I stand truly impressed by someone else's ability to teach and from day 1 Julian impressed me. I will genuinely miss having a discussion section taught by such an amazing TA.

- He's not a good TA- he's a good professor. I wish he would teach the class, he's great at explaining.

- Julian is possibly one of the main reasons I enjoyed this class. Despite the disorganized nature of a new class, Julian did his best to provide clarification when he had the information. Beyond just logistics, Julian is fantastic at explaining complex material in a simple way which students can understand. I am not particularly good at stats but found that when Julian explained the material, I actually seemed to do well. His grading is fair, and even though there were sections I did not score well on, Julian justified his grading which makes it entirely palatable. Overall, Julian was amazing; 10/10 would recommend and take his class if he taught one.

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10 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of Julian Gerez? -

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Excellent	(5)	8	100.00%		5.00
Very Good	(4)	0	0.00%		
Good	(3)	0	0.00%		
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
8/20 (40.00%)	5.00	0.00	5.00

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11 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader) as an instructor, and how might 's teaching be improved?

Response Rate	0/20 (0%)

Course: POLSUN3769_002_2021_3 - EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH-DISC: POLSW3769_002_2021_3_135291
Instructor: Julian Gerez *
Response Rate: 8/20 (40.00 %)

12 - What is the overall teaching effectiveness of ?								
Response Option	**Weight**	**Frequency**	**Percent**	**Percent Responses**	**Means**			
Excellent	(5)	0	0.00%					
Very Good	(4)	0	0.00%					
Good	(3)	0	0.00%					
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%					
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		0.00			
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				**Mean**		**STD**		**Median**
0/20 (0.00%)				0.00		0.00		0.00