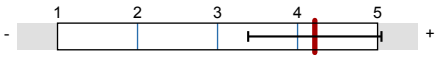
Finance (SP-23/24) (FINANCE-SP-23/24)
Lara Cathcart

No. surveyed = 85 No. of responses = 35
Response rate = 41.18%
Program of Study = Finance

Imperial College Business School

Overall indicators

Global Index



av.=4,22
dev.=0,83

3. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Module Content -

av.=4,63
dev.=0,69

4. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Instructor - Savitar Sundaresan -

av.=4,85
dev.=0,42

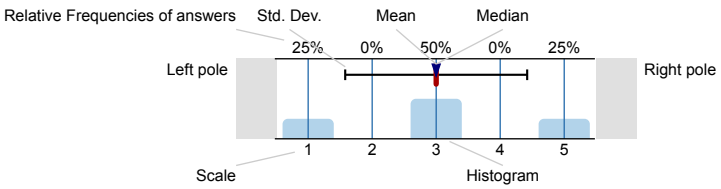
5. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Teaching Assistant - Jiarui Wang -

av.=4,51
dev.=0,74

Survey Results

Legend

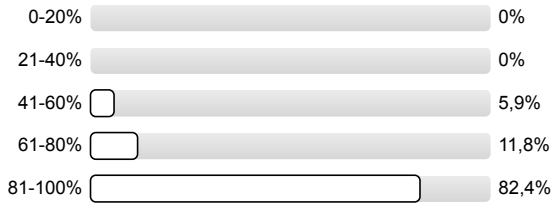
Question text



n=No. of responses
av.=Mean
md=Median
dev.=Std. Dev.
ab.=Abstention

2. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Attendance -

2.1) How often I attended class:



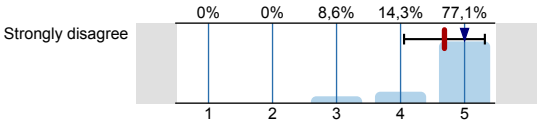
n=34

2.2) Could you please indicate how many of those classes you attended online:

n=34

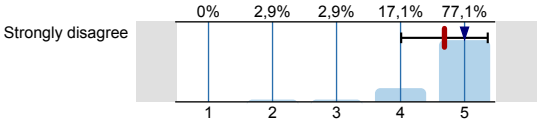
3. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Module Content -

3.1) The module has clear objectives.



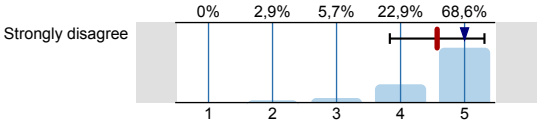
n=35
av.=4,69
md=5
dev.=0,63

3.2) The order of the module contents made sense.



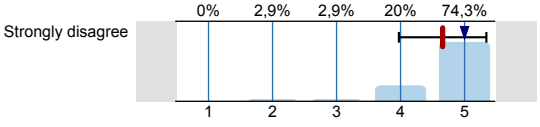
n=35
av.=4,69
md=5
dev.=0,68

3.3) The quality of the module materials (slides, readings, exercises, case studies, videos, quizzes etc.) for this module was good.



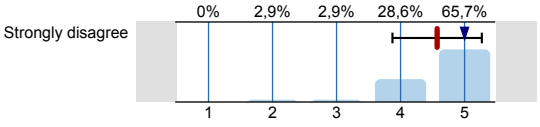
n=35
av.=4,57
md=5
dev.=0,74

3.4) The module components (e.g., sessions, tutorial sessions, coursework, etc.) enhanced my understanding of the topic.



n=35
av.=4,66
md=5
dev.=0,68

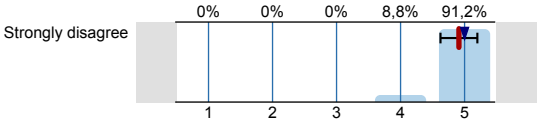
3.5) Overall, the module was effective in delivering its learning objectives.



n=35
av.=4,57
md=5
dev.=0,7

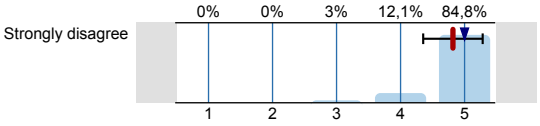
4. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Instructor - Savitar Sundaresan -

4.1) The instructor was knowledgeable about the module topics.



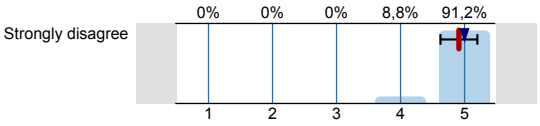
n=34
av.=4,91
md=5
dev.=0,29

4.2) The instructor presented the module topics in an engaging manner.



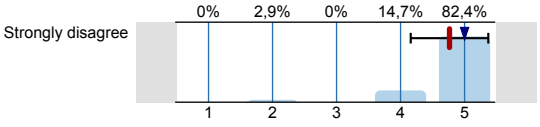
n=33
av.=4,82
md=5
dev.=0,46

4.3) The instructor was responsive to student questions.



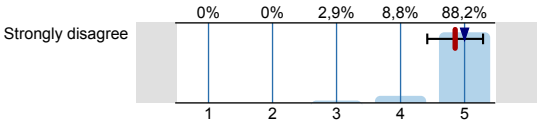
n=34
av.=4,91
md=5
dev.=0,29

4.4) The instructor helped me to understand the module content clearly.



n=34
av.=4,76
md=5
dev.=0,61

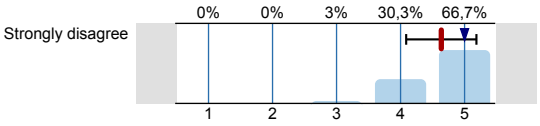
4.5) Overall, the instructor was effective.



n=34
av.=4,85
md=5
dev.=0,44

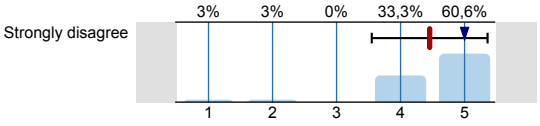
5. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Teaching Assistant - Jiarui Wang -

5.1) The teaching assistant was knowledgeable about the module topics.



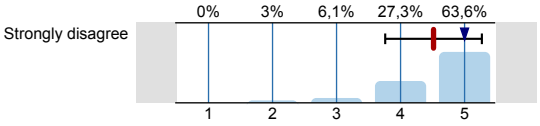
n=33
av.=4,64
md=5
dev.=0,55

5.2) The teaching assistant presented the module topics in an engaging manner.



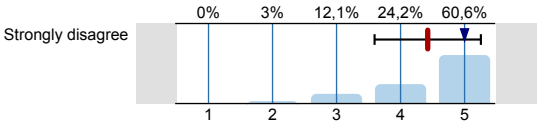
n=33
av.=4,45
md=5
dev.=0,9

5.3) The teaching assistant was responsive to student questions.



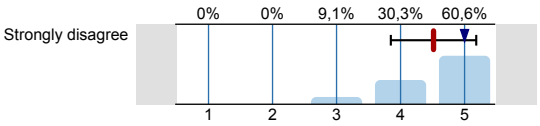
n=33
av.=4,52
md=5
dev.=0,76

5.4) The teaching assistant helped me to understand the module content clearly.



n=33
av.=4,42
md=5
dev.=0,83

5.5) Overall, the teaching assistant was effective.



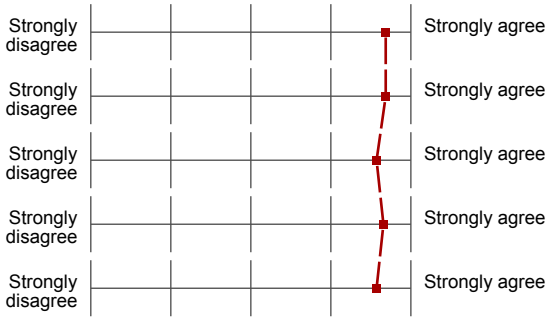
n=33
av.=4,52
md=5
dev.=0,67

Profile

Subunit: Imperial College Business School 2023/24
Responsible for modules: Lara Cathcart
Name of the course: (Name of the survey) Finance (SP-23/24)

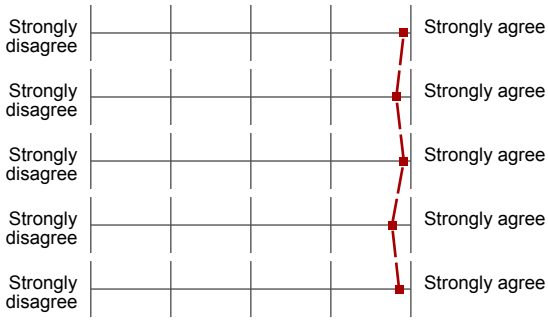
Values used in the profile line: Mean

3. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Module Content -



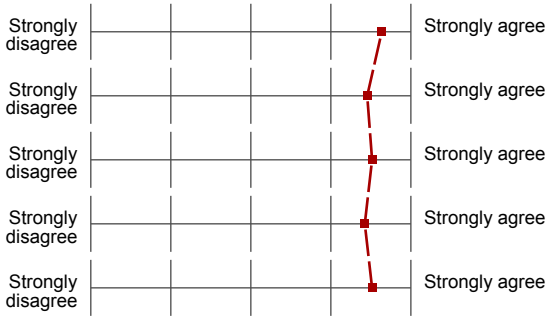
3.1)	The module has clear objectives.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=35	av.=4,69 md=5	dev.=0,63
3.2)	The order of the module contents made sense.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=35	av.=4,69 md=5	dev.=0,68
3.3)	The quality of the module materials (slides, readings, exercises, case studies, videos, quizzes etc.) for this module was good.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=35	av.=4,57 md=5	dev.=0,74
3.4)	The module components (e.g., sessions, tutorial sessions, coursework, etc.) enhanced my understanding of the topic.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=35	av.=4,66 md=5	dev.=0,68
3.5)	Overall, the module was effective in delivering its learning objectives.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=35	av.=4,57 md=5	dev.=0,7

4. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Instructor - Savitar Sundaresan -



4.1)	The instructor was knowledgeable about the module topics.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=34	av.=4,91 md=5	dev.=0,29
4.2)	The instructor presented the module topics in an engaging manner.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=33	av.=4,82 md=5	dev.=0,46
4.3)	The instructor was responsive to student questions.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=34	av.=4,91 md=5	dev.=0,29
4.4)	The instructor helped me to understand the module content clearly.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=34	av.=4,76 md=5	dev.=0,61
4.5)	Overall, the instructor was effective.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=34	av.=4,85 md=5	dev.=0,44

5. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Teaching Assistant - Jiarui Wang -



5.1)	The teaching assistant was knowledgeable about the module topics.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=33	av.=4,64 md=5	dev.=0,55
5.2)	The teaching assistant presented the module topics in an engaging manner.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=33	av.=4,45 md=5	dev.=0,9
5.3)	The teaching assistant was responsive to student questions.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=33	av.=4,52 md=5	dev.=0,76
5.4)	The teaching assistant helped me to understand the module content clearly.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=33	av.=4,42 md=5	dev.=0,83
5.5)	Overall, the teaching assistant was effective.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=33	av.=4,52 md=5	dev.=0,67

Comments Report

3. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Module Content -

3.6) Did you find this module sufficiently challenging? Please give comments below:

- Although not the most challenging module, do believe its core purpose is to get everyone to understand what may seem like a foreign subject. Not everyone wants to go into markets, so making it unnecessarily mathsy would have been aimless. I believe this class conveyed a correct amount of knowledge.
- I do find the questions shown in the revision weeks a bit more difficult than the questions in previous weeks.
  Overall the course sounds easy, but actually not. I mean it is not challenging to understand the lectures, but it is quite difficult to do the exercises.
- I reall enjoyed this module! It is challenging but also allows enough time and application and it reall improved my understanding. I even think it is more valuable in understanding Black Sholes and other processes because we don't look at the math side of things but pure understanding. Found this better and more intuitive to understand than maths for finance (where different maths skills made it more challenging for some)
- I really enjoyed the level of the module was challenging enough to deepen my understanding and curiosity for the subject
- It's acceptable
- It is sufficiently challenging.
- It is sufficiently challenging but would have liked to be taught in the way that the class was in the previous years
- It was sufficiently, challenging however a little more quantitative focus such as numerical emphasis (computational questions) would have added more understanding.
- Module for perfect level. He explains everything super clear, and if students want to learn more he is open for advanced questions and uploads tonnes of interesting articles and papers on Insendi.
- No.
- Perfect balance. Very practical outlook on derivatives and not overly mechanical or over complicated. Great overview of Derivatives and their practical uses with great examples used throughout.
- So easy
- Very deep
- Yes, but the way the professor approached the material, it was really helpful and made sure it was not becoming over-whelming.
- yes, perfect split between intuition and math.
- Yes, some high level concepts but clearly and concisely taught.
- Yes, the content taught in the lecture gave us a good foundation, while the exercises served as good practice to apply the things taught in the lectures.
- yes, the professor delivered the topic in a very clear structured way.
- Yes - it's just right.
- Yes. But lecturer handled it extremely well.
- Yes. I had no prior knowledge
- Yes this model was quite challenging and the difficulty increase through time which allowed for the first few sessions to be a bit easier.

3.7) Did you find that this module provided the necessary tools/methodologies/intellectual development to help you advance your career or improve your job prospects? Please give comments below:

- Best lecturer I had. Loved the classes. Wish we had more.
- Content learnt is useful for interviews.
- It isn't the field I will be going into but it was definitely good to understand the subject
- It provides a lot of understanding, intuitions and practical thoughts that are not easy to find elsewhere. Thus, it provided value above the theory itself.
- Its great. It was well taught, materials are great too

- No
- Not many things that i didnt already know from IPM and most of the new content i didnt find very useful
- Not necessarily for myself, but I can imagine how it would for others,
- Yes (2 Counts)
- yes
- yes! Perfect preparation
- Yes, all the supplementary notes and articles are great.
- Yes, especially I am looking for jobs in trading or asset management.
- Yes, sufficient.
- Yes, the exercises are quite sufficient. One comment would be if there could be more support on the essay question, like offering possible answers for the questions given, marked samples or something similar.
- Yes, this module was extremely useful, not only for job prospects, but provides very important knowledge and skills if one decided to trade themselves. Definitely the most useful out of the three core modules.
- Yes.
- YES. I gave one interview and prepared just using the lecture slides and material. It helped me answer most of the technical questions.
- Yes. We analyzed different graphs and events that occurred in the past, using the tools and knowledge we studied to understand them and interpret them which can be useful for job interviews.
- Yes practical
- Yes very much enjoyed this course

5. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Teaching Assistant - Jiarui Wang -

5.6) Please enter any feedback on the Teaching Assistant below.

- He's good.
- He is very knowledgeable, but not a good teacher.
- I didn’t find the TA sessions for this course helpful since the TA was mostly reading out of a paper the whole class.
- I would say he did a consistently splendid job in both semesters. He is the kind of tutor that I would recommend to others if we can choose among tutorial sessions. The highest comments I could give to teaching assistants.
- Jiarui is a great teacher- clearly explaining the concepts
- Maybe have some extra questions to practice.
- N/A
- Nice guy
- Not attended many classes, as did not feel the need.
- One of the best teaching assistants at Imperial!! Always takes the time to explain everything in detail also in maths for finance he was better that the lecturer as he took the time to explain it for everyone to understand
- Post more clear answers online. Not just the correct option but also a short sentence way or what topic might the useful to revisit when confused.
- The TA takes the time to answer any questions which is really nice and useful.
- very good
- Very helpful

6. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Learning Environment and Support -

6.1) Please comment on the learning environment that impacted your experience in this module (for example: the Hub, video conferencing technology and discussion platforms if you are a student attending online. For students attending in person please also consider the lecture theatre equipment, rooms and facilities).

- All good
- all good.
- Being put in the RGS for the first half of the semester was very disappointing. A dark lecture hall where half of the tables built into the chairs are broken are not ideal learning environments, especially considering the price paid.
- good
- I didn’t really use anything except the extra notes
- Learning environment is great. But sometimes the projector can block the view when the teacher is writing on the board when joining online
- Lecture theatre of the royal geographic society (Ondaatje) was not comfortable. The extendable desks are too small to fit anything and if you write by hand the armrest makes it impossible to relax your hand when writing. Moreover, many desks were not working. Whiteboards were small and they had to be moved around due to huge pulpit covering them. Huge screen was very high up so it was not comfortable looking at it for extended period of time.
- N/A
- No problem. The module was planned and executed perfectly.
- Overall fine. The lecture hall outside the campus is an intriguing place to go to.
- Perfect. A bit weird in the beginning with the lectures in the museum thing - but it worked.
- The course material, slides, additional notes, and tutorial questions provided were sufficient.
- Was very good, slides were great and was a great project to use the combined knowledge of the class

7. BUSI97048 Derivatives - Overall Feedback -

7.1) What did you like most about this module?

- applied and I am personally interested
- By far the best module I’ve taken. Professor really engaging in class. Good combination of materials. The examples where great would like to see more of them.
- Definitely the content. Was very useful and exactly the type of knowledge that I wanted to learn coming to the business school and the MSc. Finance programme. The coursework was also the best designed out of the three core modules, allowing the groups allocated to input their various skills and backgrounds equally.
- efficiency
- Good slides, lots of materials provided
- I don’t like it
- I really liked that the model leader was very knowledgeable and passionate about his subject, which made the lectures very interesting. Moreover, he linked a lot of what we learned to real events which helped the content be less theoretical.
- It's the best module I have had so far at Imperial. Everything is good.
- It taught me things I could not teach myself.
- Lecturer.
- Lecturer delivers the content effectively. Module content is relevant to my career path.
- Professor Savitar Sundaresan
- Savitar is a very good professor. The module doesnt overcomplicate/"over quantify" stuff and are focused on understanding and learning. This module (and its coursework) is the only course during this master that I am impressed with. This course is what I expected from other courses - clear learning, interesting professor, applications. Savitar is the only professor I have been impressed by in this MSc in Finance. I honestly think he could teach us some of the other courses, and that would have been better.
- Teacher and way of teaching

- The course contents were perfectly designed.
- The course is a comprehensive introduction to derivatives. And it did take one step further from introductory material (for some courses I took with the same name during my bachelor's they were introductory) to some more advanced topics.
- The lecturer was young, interactive, open to questions and understood the aim of this course. Very good classes, and pace was nice.
- The professor. Hands down the most knowledgeable and friendly lecturer we had. No problem re-explaining content if needed and was incredibly knowledgeable and convincing in everything he said.
- The professor can really explain complex topics and break them down to be very simple. I wish he would have taught us last semester as well!
- The professor made the class very enjoyable and deepened my understanding and curiosity for the subject matter
- The structure of the module and the way the professor approached the module.
- very structured

7.2) What would you most like to improve in this module?

- Better explained/more content heavy lecture slides would be good for revision, but not a big issue.
- Better TA could be good, but not much to improve.
- I would say some lectures were slowed paced while others too fast paced. The professor knows the material and is efficient communicating but sometimes he gets too enthusiastic and just goes too fast in complex topics. Had to rewatch majority of his lectures.
- More coursework / Assignments. Loved the application and motivation for this class.
- More emphasis on computational questions would add more challenge and intuition to the course.
- More real world exercice and more info on coursework to be more aligned with the classes
- n/a
- NA
- nothing
- Nothing - I wish other modules are all like this one.
- Nothing.
- Not much
- Not much.
- One thing to improve would be to move the assignment deadline further away from exams. It stole 3-4 days of studying which is currently stressing me out quite a lot, other than the great course.
- Probably the slides - sometimes there was very little text on the slide with minimal information, making it a little bit harder to comprehend during revision. Also some of the graphs were a bit lazy (no axis labels, etc.), once again making it a bit hard to understand. For reference, professor Jamie Cohen (Corporate Finance lecturer) had the most amazing slides, making it incredibly easy and efficient to revise for the module.
- Remove students with no mathematical background. They ruined the entire experience
- The assessments are not correlated to the lectures enough. For instance we are given almost no clue regarding the coursework. The final exam questions are designed in a way that is not strongly connected to the lectures.
- The lecturer was told that he had to release us 10/15 minutes before the end of class so that we could get to our next lectures. WHY??? We have plenty of time in between modules, and if it's anyone's responsibility, it's the timetabling team, not the lecturer!!! Hence we missed out on a lot of critical time to cover content and questions. Please sort it out! (We are paying to attend the full class)
- The professor explains very well but sometimes talks very fast, especially when the content gets more challenging. Moreover, the lecture slides could be more detailed. Especially, the more challenging slides did not have many (or none) explanations. So, it would be helpful to put explanations on the slides for the more challenging topics or go through them more slowly.
- the TA sessions