

Instructional Evaluation System Data Analysis Practices

Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment

Minnesota State University, Mankato's instructional evaluation system (i.e., course/class evaluations) provides our faculty with a rich source of student, faculty, and course relational data. As such, the data points collected through the instructional evaluation system are occasionally requested for additional analyses. Please note that all the data collected is absolutely confidential and private, and no additional analyses are conducted unless the data is aggregated to an appropriate level to protect the integrity of the confidential nature of the data. The Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment (IRPA) will accommodate most instructional evaluation system data requests provided that **at least five faculty/instructors** are included in the data sample requested. Information that may lead to the identification of a particular faculty member, student response, or course section will be suppressed from all data sets prepared in response to any data request.

Please find an example below of a request that meets IRPA's standards, and an example of a request that does not meet IRPA's standards:

- Meets standards:
 - Between the years 2006 – 2011, I need to know the mean, median, and mode of all the numerical questions included in the evaluation forms for the following courses: IRPA 100, 101, 145, 163, 279, 389, 392, 400, and all 500 and 600 level courses.
 - The aforementioned request meets IRPA's standards because during the years 2006 – 2011, 9 faculty/instructors taught one or more of the courses requested.
- Does not meet standards:
 - From the fall 2011 semester, I need to know the mean, median, and mode of all the numerical questions included in the evaluation forms for the following courses: IRPA courses at the 300 level.
 - The aforementioned request does not meet IRPA's standards because only 3 faculty/instructors taught IRPA courses at the 300 level during the fall 2011 semester.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding an instructional evaluation system data request, please do not hesitate to contact IRPA at extension 1333.

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