

# Does Watching Lecture Videos Improve Grades? Lessons from ENVIR 100

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## About the Course

### Environmental Studies 100: Introduction to Environmental Studies

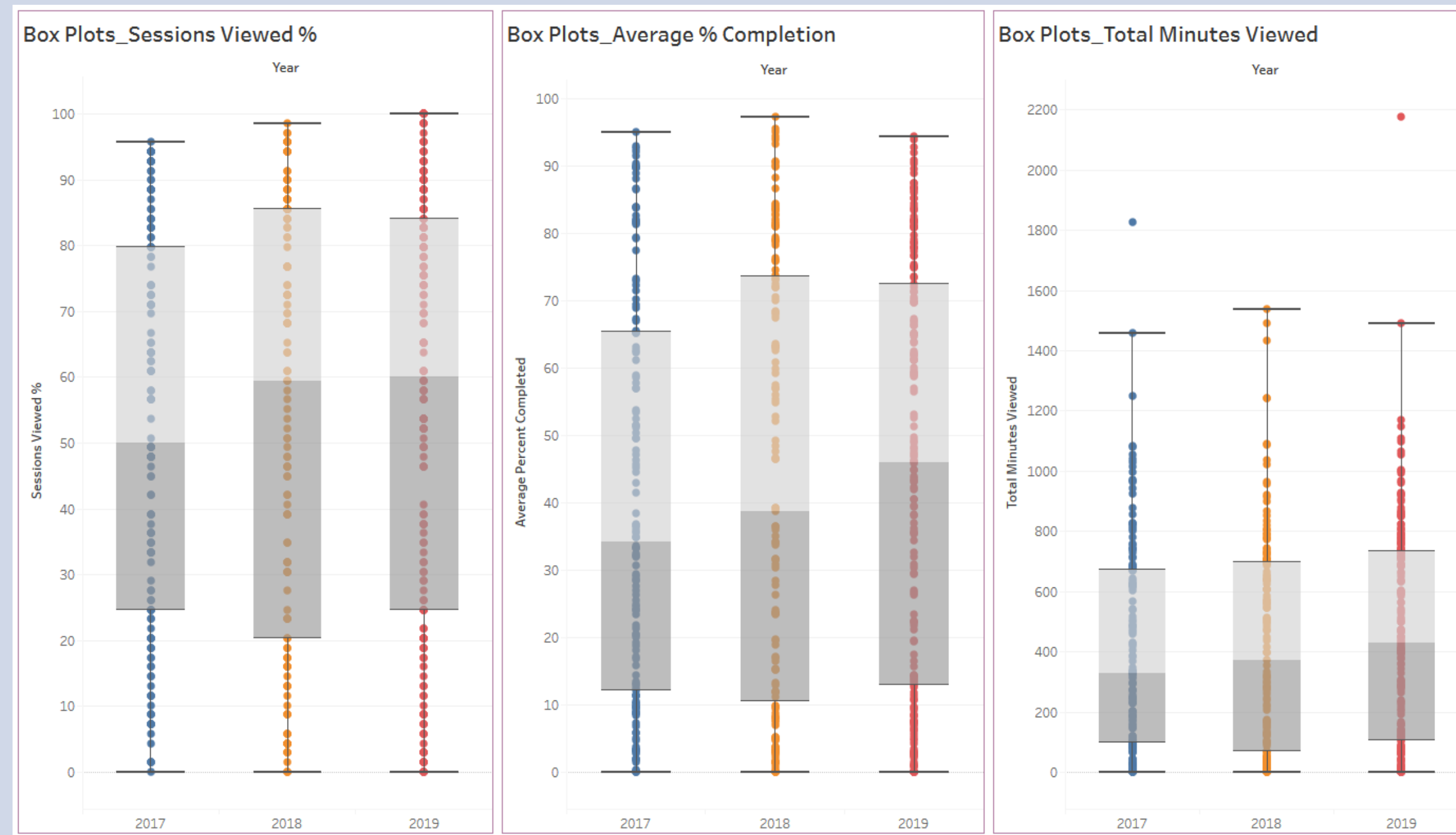
- An introductory survey course with 150-200 students
- Each Spring Quarter, the lectures are delivered online via Panopto recordings
- Quiz sections led by TAs remain in-person. Quiz sections include discussion, fieldwork, and projects
- This course has been taught in this hybrid format since 2016 with the same co-instructors

## The Organization of Panopto Lecture Videos

- Image above shows recorded lecture videos for a typical week
- About 8-10 videos for a typical week with a total of about 80 minutes of video recordings
- Each week includes a weekly overview and 2-3 lecture topics consisting of shorter video parts (~10 minutes)
- 69-73 video recordings in total for the entire quarter

## Overall, Students Watched Very Little Videos

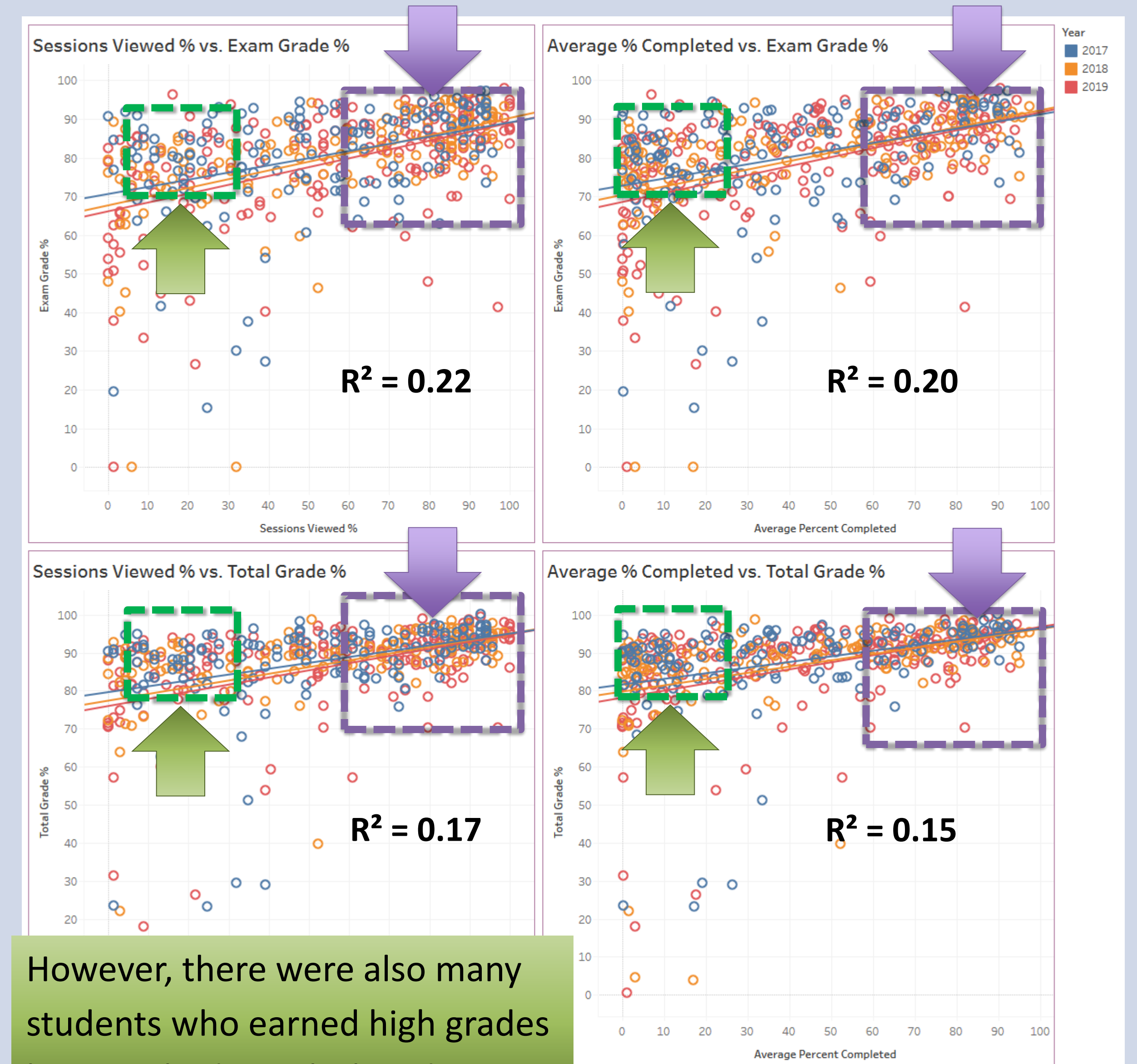
### Sessions Viewed %    Average % Completed    Total Minutes Viewed



	Sessions Viewed %	Average % Completed	Total Minutes Viewed
Mean	53.76	42.85	433.52
Median	57.97	40.46	396.02

## Comparing Videos Watched and Course Grades

There was a weak positive correlation between video watching and course grades (both exam grades and total grades). Students who watched more lecture videos tended to earn higher grades.



However, there were also many students who earned high grades but watched very little videos.

## Possible Explanations and Recommendations

Assessment & Grading Structure

Detailed Lecture Notes

### Explanations:

- Exams only accounted for 40% of the course grade. The other components of the course grade were not directly related to watching lecture videos
- Detailed lecture notes were provided - perhaps studying the lecture notes was enough to grasp the course materials

Interactive Videos

Embedded Quizzes

### Recommendations:

- Shorter and interactive videos intermixed with readings
- Embedded quizzes to engage students in an online course