

Reflection on Courses Taught

Solo Instructor

1. Intermediate Macroeconomics Summer 2023

1.1. Teaching Effectiveness 4.77 (department mean 4.3) (N=13)

1.2. Overall Quality of Course 4.69 (department mean 4.22) (N=13)

1.3. Selected Comments from Teaching Evaluations

1.3.1. What, specifically, were the strengths of the class?

1.3.1.1. The class had an engaging teaching style and ability to simplify complex concepts made the learning experience enjoyable

1.3.1.2. I really enjoyed the group activities because they were an opportunity to think about the course material in a different way and it made the lectures more fun.

1.3.1.3. One of the strengths would have to be engaging the students in group activities. Before and/or after lectures, he would gather us in a group where we have to state the reasons why and demonstrate on the board for that reasoning. If people never had a real life job, this is what I would imagine it if you were talking to different peers in your work environment. You will meet people who are very different, structural, creative, and knowledgeable. Encouraging students to present a piece within five minutes and coming up with something within five minutes definitely took a lot of effort from everyone, but made everyone participate. The incentives in this class was very well met with the instructor's expectations and definitely changed a lot of student's to be more proficient and provide critical thinking along with problem solving.

1.3.2. Would you recommend this instructor to other students? Why?

1.3.2.1. Absolutely! I would recommend this instructor to other students. The instructor's dedication to student success and willingness to go above and beyond make them a standout educator worth recommending to anyone

1.3.2.2. This instructor is graduating next semester and will move onto greater opportunities in life. I would recommend him in general because you need someone in the field who is passionate about the major as much as he was. Thank you for hiring him because he is actually one of the best professors that I have taken twice now.

1.3.2.3. yes because I feel like the way this teacher explained things was very good. He used real life examples and activities so it did not feel like we were doing this all for no reason but could actually see how the material works in the real world.

1.4. Plans for Improvement:

1.4.1. In the LMS

1.4.1.1. Develop video resources for reference during at-home study

1.4.1.2. Offer notes with clear step-by-step examples for solving the models

1.4.2. In Class

1.4.2.1. Tighten up the timing on group exercises to prevent late dismissals

1.4.2.2. Classroom architecture matters.

2. Intermediate Macroeconomics Summer 2022

2.1. Teaching Effectiveness 5.00 (department mean 4.37) (N=11)

2.2. Overall Quality of Course 5.00 (department mean 4.36) (N=11)

2.3. Selected Comments from Teaching Evaluations

2.3.1. **What, specifically, were the strengths of the class?**

2.3.1.1. This class focused very heavily on student participation and group work, which he provided help when needed, and this made the material much easier to grasp for a more difficult course.

2.3.1.2. This class was challenging in a good way. I learned so much.

2.3.1.3. The professor pushed students to think like a real economist.

2.3.1.4. He was very concise with his material and gave excellent explanations. He also checked in with students regularly to make sure that the class was following.

2.3.2. **Would you recommend this instructor to other students? Why?**

2.3.2.1. Yes. Ryan cares about his students deeply. He wants to see them succeed and wants them to think outside the box. He is one of the greatest professors I've had at UH. His passion of economics is shown through his teaching. He shows students why it matters and explains the fine details.

2.3.2.2. Yes because Professor McGregor was very helpful and the increase in participation and group work was extremely helpful for success in this course.

2.3.2.3. Absolutely. Professor McGregor was very concerned about teaching the material effectively and cared about the success of his students.

2.4. Plans for Improvement

2.4.1. There was a magic to this class, and the report of the students in it. I know that a good deal of that was due to having some really wonderful students. Not every classroom will have such receptive and participatory students, and I want to figure out how I can both maximize the probability of "classroom magic" with other students (via my presence, participation, and demeanor), and ensure that less-magical classes get a good fraction of this experience.

2.4.2. Classroom architecture matters.

2.4.3. Have more materials available for reference outside of class. Publish lecture slides/materials in advance.

3. Principles of Microeconomics Spring 2023

3.1. Teaching Effectiveness 4.27 (department mean 4.05) (N=70)

3.2. Overall Quality of Course 4.17 (department mean 3.98) (N=70)

3.3. Selected Comments from Teaching Evaluations

3.3.1. **What, specifically, were the strengths of the class?**

3.3.1.1. The professors keen abilities to provide offscript examples and engage with the students during lecture. Very creative and honorable teaching style.

3.3.1.2. One of the strengths was that he brought real life situations that related to this course that made it easier for a student to understand a certain subject

3.3.1.3. He kept the students engaged and rarely strayed off topic. If he did it was still relevant to the material and he would get back on track shortly. He was also very clear about expectations and exams.

3.3.1.4. He kept the students engaged and rarely strayed off topic. If he did it was still relevant to the material and he would get back on track shortly. He was also very clear about expectations and exams.

3.3.2. **Would you recommend this instructor to other students? Why?**

3.3.2.1. yes! professor mcgregor is one of my favorite professors, he makes everyone feel welcome and his energy makes you excited about the subject

3.3.2.2. Yes, little to no disconnect between students and Mr. McGregor, recommended a student to take a walk outside class during exam because the student was in distress. Very fun and not hard to learn from.

3.3.2.3. Yes, I enjoyed learning from professor McGregor, as he is educated and passionate about the subject. He also keeps the class entertaining by using fun examples and is very helpful.

3.3.2.4. Of course. He is young and engaging which gives him an ability to keep the classroom morale alive without deviating from the objective materials.

3.4. Plans for Improvement

3.4.1. In the short term: Every semester that I teach this course I make marginal progress toward teaching early concepts at a more human level, and to create better lessons for the major equilibrium concepts (and their derivations). Ideally, I'd like to teach the course so that students could come into the exam on Industrial Organization and derive the short run and long run traits of those markets for themselves without memorizing them.

3.4.2. In the long term: I don't really like the Mankiw textbook, and would prefer to structure the course very differently.

4. Principles of Microeconomics Fall 2021

4.1. Teaching Effectiveness 4.00 (department mean 3.89) (N=44)

4.2. Overall Quality of Course 3.86 (department mean 3.86) (N=44)

4.3. Selected Comments from Teaching Evaluations

4.3.1. **What, specifically, were the strengths of the class?**

4.3.1.1. The creative examples used to describe and discuss certain topics were some of the highlights of the class because they helped to remember the material in better detail when studying and during the exams.

4.3.1.2. The Professor took great effort to provide clear and detailed explanations of the concepts, and regularly used both visual aids and analogies as aids. He is also open to student questions, and will gladly go over a concept again if someone does not understand it.

4.3.1.3. The professor was Super attentive to my question during and outside of class. He encourages his students to clear any doubts by asking him question and offered office hours for struggling students.

4.3.2. **Would you recommend this instructor to other students? Why?**

4.3.2.1. I would definitely recommend this instructor to other students because he is a kind and understanding person. Also, he is naturally funny which keeps you invested during the lecture.

4.3.2.2. Yes, I would recommend this instructor to other students. Even though it was his first semester teaching, he did an awesome job at teaching the material even though I am not interested in the subject. He was much better than professors that I have had in the past at junior college who taught similar subjects for the first time. I can say that I legitimately learned the material, even if my grade is not necessarily the best. He actually tried to help the students by offering extra credit and took responsibility if some of the questions tested were harder than expected.

4.3.2.3. No, he only curves the tests by four points, while other instructors do more to ensure the students pass.

4.3.3. Plans for Improvement

4.3.3.1. I need to master the management of a classroom, and figure out how best to manage that with hybrid instruction. Probably, online students need to be engaged differently and separately from in person students. Pausing for questions in person and online seems to lose a great deal of attention and momentum from students, especially online students.

4.3.3.2. I think I should slow the course down by about 1 class period in the first third, and spend that time helping students master supply and demand and their interpretations, so that fewer students are playing catch-up later on.

TA / Co-Instructor

5. Principles of Microeconomics – Fall 2019, Spring 2020
6. Principles of Macroeconomics – Fall 2022
7. Environmental Economics – Spring 2021, Fall 2023
8. Urban Economics – Spring 2021, Fall 2023
9. Intermediate Microeconomics – Spring 2022