

Teaching Evaluations

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Course Evaluations Summary

Table 1 shows evaluations of my teaching assistant performance. Students were asked to evaluate the statement “Overall, the TA did a good job in this course” on a scale of 1 to 5 (very poor, poor, neutral, good, excellent).

Table 1: Teaching Assistant Evaluations

Term	Course	Score	% “Good” or “Excellent”
Fall 2011	Principles of Microeconomics	4.2	82%
Winter 2012	Principles of Microeconomics	4.5	96%
Spring 2012	Principles of Macroeconomics	4.6	92%
Summer 2012	Principles of Macroeconomics	4.8	98%
Summer 2013	Money and Banking	4.6	96%
Dept. Average, 2011-2016		4.36	

Table 2 shows evaluations of my performance as instructor in Summer 2014 for “Economics of Education”. Students were asked to evaluate a set of statements on the same 1-5 scale. Department means are only available for one statement.

Table 2: Instructor Evaluations

Statement	% “Good” or “Excellent”	Dept Mean, 2012-2013
Overall evaluation of instructor’s teaching	94%	84%
Overall teaching effectiveness	94%	
Clarity of organization	91%	
Instructor’s responsiveness to student difficulties	91%	
Intellectual challenge	94%	

Course Evaluations Transcriptions

Below are comments transcribed from evaluation sheets for all courses, with original copies immediately following. I included all comments as written, lightly edited for typos.

Economics of Education, *Instructor*, Summer 2014

- It is hard to believe that Michel is teaching for the first time. He explains clearer than some of the professors and the material he chose gave me a clear sense of how economic problems/models is related to our education. The class is well organized and clearly taught.
- One of the few teachers that encouraged THINKING & DISCUSSIONS rather than going over hw. One of the best teachers because really developed analysis & critical evaluation of problem at hand.
- Very interesting course. Michel did a great job making class enjoyable, and I really did learn a lot. This course actually made me want to look more into this field, which I hope to do once summer classes are over. The only thing I would say is that the homework was really long and at times pretty difficult, but that helped me to do well on the exam. Really awesome for the first time teaching a course. :)

- This class was very stressful but you made it easier.
- Presentations had some minor typos but nothing too problematic. Overall, good teacher especially for the first time teaching, too.
- For his first class Michel did a good job. He was kind & easy to approach with questions. He also showed great enthusiasm for the material he was teaching.
- Answered all questions in a manner that simplified material and was easily understandable. Does a great job of dunning material down to make it understandable for students. Wish the homework had been shorter and less tedious. The Excel stuff was irrelevant and just made it harder to do than it needed to be. Need to figure out schedule of having homework due after office hours but before tests. Overall a good job! Learned a lot.
- Helpful lecture slides.
- I really like the subject material of this class and thought Michel did great. Wish I learned more ie. Divide students for group presentation on topics like CA schools finance funding. Maximize knowledge.
- Excellent instructor! Presented material well.
- Great teacher. Clear and concise. Helps us know what he wants and needs in homework and exams.
- Always responsive and never leaves a question unanswered. Class was great, I think explaining the full context in a more easy to understand manner before diving in to the subject matter might help. Maybe an inclass discussion of what we think the topics about to stimulate interest.
- I really enjoyed having Michel as an instructor. He was very knowledgeable and helpful. He did a great job.
- Course was different than what I expected. Would like to have had more time to review homework and problems in class.
- Go over your homework problems in class or do some examples of the problems in class so people don't have difficulty understanding the homework. Course was pretty good. The only thing I recommend is making the homeworks shorter.

Principles of Microeconomics, Teaching Assistant, Fall 2011

- Favorite TA of all time! Answered all questions and often guided me to the answer rather than just telling me. Very energetic and motivational during section. Was a pleasure attending section.
- Michel was great. He made the course a great deal more understandable.
- Thank you! Well done!
- Used very easy [example] to explain the confusion. Well organized class material.
- He does his best to teach us and to help us learn. Very good TA that I would like to have again.
- Recommended hws were very helpful without being burdensome.
- Michel does a great job.
- A wise young man.
- He responded quickly to email and always enthusiastic about helping students.
- Michel is a very committed TA. He works hard to make sure we understand the material. But he should be more articulate when speaking. He knows the material, but he could communicate it better.
- Discussion did not seem necessary for this course.
- When it came to preparing for the midterm, doing problems similar to the midterm would be helpful instead of a general outline. Midterm 2 was more difficult and didn't feel as prepared.

Principles of Microeconomics, Teaching Assistant, Winter 2012

- Super nice and always able to answer my questions.
- Seems like a nice guy
- Michel was a really great TA and I feel like his review and discussion sections really helped my understanding of the course materials, pretty much everything we did during discussion was helpful in this course. The discussion sections were always pretty engaging and he easily taught us all the materials.
- Effective TA!
- Only attended discussion twice: the lecture material was clear enough most of the time.
- This isnt really a discussion type of class, so he didnt need to stimulate discussion in section. Also, I never went to his office hours so I cant speak on the effectiveness of those. But Im sure they were great!
- Best TA Ive ever had. Period (:
- Michel did a great job in TAing this course. Any material which I was unclear during lecture was explained thoroughly in discussion. After discussion I always felt that I knew the material better. Michel was enthusiastic about the subject matter making econ more enjoyable. He did a GREAT job!
- Michel Grosz was the best TA I have had at Davis. His discussions were well planned, but more importantly very useful as supplementary support of the lectures. You could tell he is very passionate about economics and made sure we understood the material, often adding creative examples to help us understand the concepts.
- There were test questions in which it sometimes seemed the point was to decipher the question as opposed to measure understanding of the material.
- Michel was an excellent TA. He was available during office hrs & made exceptions to meet outside of scheduled hrs. Took time to explain questions & spend addition one on one time as needed.
- Thoroughly enjoyed having him as my TA!
- Very responsive to questions students had, & did a good job of making complex material seem simple & easy to understand. Discussion was very helpful to learning the material presented in lecture. Overall, I thought my TA was good at explaining the material and responding to students needs. However, there was little class participation, which he rarely did anything to change. But I think that was more due to the quieter personalities in the class.
- This TA is friendly and excellent at explaining the material. He immensely expanded my understanding of the material.
- I did not find section helpful.
- Thank you!
- Seemed to care about the students, his colored chalk was helpful to see within graphs, always came prepared.
- Always asked where we had problems, very helpful. Also graded our tests extremely fast. Thank you!
- I actually didnt find sections very helpful/needed in addition to normal lecture, so usually I skipped them
- Good TA that explains topics cleanly. And hes fine
- I thought you did a good job supplementing the lecture material with actual problems. Grosz is helpful but at times speaks too soft. I wish we did more math problems because the homework and tests had more math problems that weve ever discussed in class.
- Groszs section was fair-it neither helped nor hindered my understanding of the course.

- He was very helpful!
- I often understood material that I was confused on during lecture after going to discussion.
- Very great TA! Prepared for sections thoroughly & helped explain concepts I did not fully understand during lecture. Very approachable! A+ TA.
- Although I didn't regularly attend my discussion section, Michel was always available during OH and responded to email. However, his emails were often lagging especially during midterms week. Solutions: check email more frequently or schedule more office hours.
- The TA was good with explaining course material but I felt he didn't prepare us well enough for exams. A lot of the time he was going over way too simplistic of problems. The tests were way harder.
- Felt like discussion needed to have harder questions like the test instead of questions just like we did in class.
- I rarely went to discussion because I understood the material very well and had no problems with the test or homework. However, the TA did a good job going over the midterms and answering students questions.
- A great guy, knows his stuff, comes prepared; funny, makes it interesting; very helpful sections; give him a raise or something.
- Section= enjoyable; tells jokes, sarcastic ones at that; uses color chalk; covers material in a prompt manner; more predictions for exam? Lots of useful examples provided in discussion
- Sometimes the material covered in section seemed redundant rather than helping us to understand it better & rather than focusing on the more difficult material. ON the other hand, Michel was very approachable & was always trying to engage our fairly unresponsive class.
- Michel was very good at explaining econ materials that were difficult to understand in lecture. He tried his best to stimulate the class even if we were unresponsive. I could tell he really cared. He did a good job explaining things. Also, I enjoyed the little remarks he said under his breath. However, he is always looking for during lecture?!
- My TA needed to work on answering the questions. He knew what he was talking about but when taught to the class made it confusing.
- The TA was helpful in explaining the material and clarify material covered in lecture.
- He made sure to address student questions and concerns
- Michel provided a lot of examples to help us understand concepts
- Michel, you did a wonderful job as my TA. Although, I wish you could cover more in discussion. But of course, the class is limited in time. You did a good job explaining by drawing, but one thing you can do to make discussion better is to write a list of the topics you are going to cover like you did on the 1st day.

Principles of Macroeconomics, *Teaching Assistant*, Spring 2012

- Great TA not even my assigned one but I went to him for 1A and this class.
- Make discussion mandatory!
- Very good TA. I had him for ECN1A and I was really stoked to have him again.
- Review in section was helpful. Maybe more on concepts, less on homework, since answers are posted.
- He explained all concepts very clearly. He did a good job with breaking down difficult concepts into small parts that were easier to understand.
- Really great, other TAs should follow his example. Unless they are already great.

- TA was enthusiastic about macroeconomics. He clearly explained topics that seemed confusing in class, such as the Taylor Rule.
- Try to give extra credit to students that attend discussion.
- He is very nice and wants to help the students.
- Michel is an extremely dedicating and overall great instructor. Whatever problems I had, he was always willing to help. I couldnt have done it without him.
- Michel was good but the class before tests he would stress irrelevant topics and graphs.
- You helped me understand the class!
- He needs to teach material that is important to the exams.
- Very helpful during OH. Cant say much about discussion—never went.
- Very enthusiastic and charming. Im impressed. It takes a lot to sweep this prince off his feet.
- Clarified things a lot better than the professor, tried to make our learning experience fun. :)
- Although I did not have many interactions with Michel, he is a fast and efficient grader and is a very fair exam grader.
- I think Michel did a good job with section. He explaiuned some of the material much more clearly and simply than the prof. It was beneficial to go to section to better understand concepts.
- I thought that he was a great TA. He explained things that were unclear in lecture in a way that was easily understood. I thought discussion was extremely helpful. He also gave us good examples and even gave short study guides for 2 chapters that were confusing.
- Michel is one of the best TAs Ive ever had. He was always helpful during office hourse and explained confusing concepts in a different way that made it easier to understand it. He clearly knew what he was talking about and is a very effective TA. Thanks for a great learning experience!
- Michel spoke clearly but he couldve gone through explaining the homework questions faster but efficiently.
- A little sloppy, disorganized, but still pretty helpful.
- Good section, responsive to questions and overall good experience.
- He is a great TA. The discussion sections have been crucial for my success in this class. He does a good job. Pavel looks like Gregory Clark.
- He is a great TA. Not always the most organized but presents the material very well and is very helpful in section.
- Michel made time to meet with me outside of his office hours in order to accommodate me. He was super helpful. Very considerate of other. He has a good humor not to mention he always kept us entertained trying to simplify economics. Helped me understand basic comments. Really good looking!
- He was inviting, entertaining, and helpful. Always punctual and organized, and tried to summarize the lecture material in a way to aid in comprehension. Really enjoyed this TA.
- Well done Michel
- Michel was funny and kept us engage in discussion. Plus, he was very helpful in reviewing for exam. Great econ T.A.!
- T.A. Michel Grosz always encouraged student participation in section and was happy to answer all questions. He was always punctual, respectful of his students, and highly informative on class material.
- Michel was always very helpful and answeredall questions clearly. He was a great TA!
- Would be better if there was less just review of what we did in class and more explanation.

- Excellent TA. Really found it useful how he made up sample problems for further practice during discussion.
- Michel was always trying to think of ways to present material in an understandable way. Greatly appreciate his efforts.
- Great TA!
- Overall ok job, learned extra info and absorbed not from class.
- I think you did a great job clearing up confusion about topics from lecture. Thanks for making econ slightly more enjoyable!

Principles of Macroeconomics, *Teaching Assistant*, Summer 2012

- His facial hair was top notch. What else do you need in a TA? I wish you told that one kid who kept asking stupid questions to shut up though. You shouldn't encourage people to blather.
- Michel is a great TA. He made discussion enjoyable and explained everything clearly.
- Enjoyable lectures. Essay questions were confusing. Class was a bit disorganized, especially due to lack of textbook.
- I thoroughly enjoyed section because of the smaller class ratio and slower pace of teaching.
- Michel was by far the best T.A. I have had here in Davis. Very helpful and openminded, clarifies lectures our professor had made difficult.
- The discussions were good in reinforcing the material. It could have been presented in a faster pace (discussion was very dragged out) but discussion was 1.50 long so its ok.
- He always easy to teach clearly, then I can understand what he try to teach for sure. Actually, Im international student, but hes really good at telling what exactly he want to teach.
- Thought TA was the only good thing about this class. He was clear and concise with his point and really helped me in understaning the concepts. Sometimes thought his discussions were a little slow paced though.
- Michel explained the concepts in an easier and fun way. He relates the problems to life which helped understanding.
- Michel was very fair with grading and was very approachable. He took the time to remember students names and get to know them on a more personal level. He fostered a very relaxed and comfortable environment to learn, making sure to answer everyones questions and pausing to ask if there were any questions to be asked. Overall, a very good/helpful TA.
- The pace of the discussion was very good. Very good job at explaining. Very helpful and friendly TA. Discussed and explained the material thoroughly.
- I think the TA was a better teacher than the professor. This class really lacked organization, and the TA was the only one who it some, if only a little.
- Michel was an excellent TA in my opinion. He was always very enthusiastic and genuine when teaching. I enjoyed ECN1B section very much.
- Good sense of humor made it fun and easy to remember material.
- Michel was always well prepared during class and section to answer any questions I had on homework. Great job!
- TA is helpful throughout the course. He tried his best to answer questions or teach us new concepts.
- Spoke a little too quietly sometimes. But other than that, very nice & clear & helpful. Very good TA.
- He had every discussion organized well and it was helpful.

- Excellent & helpful TA :)
- The TA was good at explaining the material we needed to know & clarified class material.
- He is a good TA. He explains material very clearly. He has a good sense of humor.
- Michel was an extremely helpful TA. He was available pretty much whenever I needed him & was always helpful.
- TA was helpful and reliable and understanding.
- Great TA! Approachable and friendly.
- One of the best econ TAs I have ever had. Very helpful.
- The TA has a very soft voice that made him sometimes difficult to understand but overall, he did a really good job breaking down more difficult concepts and helping us understand them more thoroughly. Very good TA. Very organized & clear.
- TA is very helpful and open. Welcomes critical thinking. Organized when teaching but could be better.

Money and Banking, *Teaching Assistant*, Summer 2013

- Great TA
- TA did great job. Very helpful when I had difficulty with the material. Stimulated discussion sections by being interactive. Asking questions and provoking response. He was always helpful and available at office hours.
- Feel like a more detail lecture (add info to lecture) rather than a regular discussion class.
- Michel is obviously knowledgeable but I felt he was sometimes lazy in sections because he would choose to list items instead of explaining them. Needs to be more confident in himself.
- Michel did a great job answering questions. Also creating a helpful study guide for exams.
- Cool guy. Paritucularly like how he ran through and explained economic crisis.
- TA mumbled and spoke softly and slowly during discussion. Constantly stated that he though he was confusing things for the class. Grading involved checking for answers actually completed, but no actual evaluation of answers was done. However, I found his discussions to be beneficial for review and performance.
- I put all 5s but I actually mean it! Fantastic TA I wish they were all like this.
- One of the better ECN TAs Ive had.
- He presented many confusing topics in an organized way and made it more comprehensible.
- Very prompt and helpful. Follows up on email in a timely manner.
- I really like how Michel went over in class assignments thoroughly. I like how he gave us his version of a study guide to guide us on what to know for the exam (or what we should know in his opinion)