

TEACHING EVALUATIONS

Each semester, students evaluate their instructors on a scale of 5 (strongly agree) to 1 (strongly disagree). I provide below the evaluations from the two semesters I was the primary instructor for my own summer course. Evaluations for terms where I was a graduate student instructor (section leader/teaching assistant) are available upon request.

I dramatically improved my teaching from the first spring/summer course to the second. This is clearly reflected in the evaluations below. Score indicates my median for the course, while median indicates the median for the school/college for questions 1-3 and university for other questions.

Selected Item	Score	Median
<i>Econ 102, Summer 2007 (8 students responding)</i>		
1. Overall, this was an excellent course	3.90	4.08
2. Overall, the instructor was an excellent teacher	3.90	4.20
3. I learned a great deal from the course	4.70	4.17
120. I learned a good deal of factual material in this course.	4.50	4.19
200. The instructor handles questions well	4.50	4.38
206. The instructor seemed to enjoy teaching	3.90	4.75
<i>Econ 102, Spring 2009 (16 students responding)</i>		
1. Overall, this was an excellent course	4.77	4.18
2. Overall, the instructor was an excellent teacher	4.77	4.58
3. I learned a great deal from the course	4.88	4.33
120. I learned a good deal of factual material in this course.	4.88	4.31
200. The instructor handles questions well	4.88	4.35
206. The instructor seemed to enjoy teaching	4.83	4.75

Written responses (summer 2007):

"Lectures and explanations were very thorough and clear. This was a very complicated subject for me, and the instructor helped me to understand. He handled questions very well."

"Very good instructor. The only thing I would suggest is to try to get people to participate more. He did a good job of this; I think it was just a shy class. Thanks for a good class."

"Was very knowledgeable, just think [he] needs to work a bit more in class control for his teaching but great overall."

These results clearly indicated that while my students felt they learned from the course, I had significant room for improvement in how I conveyed the material and my enthusiasm. In this very small class of fewer than ten students, I did not succeed in getting the level of class participation I wanted. I took these lessons to heart as I taught the course again two summers later.

Selected written responses (spring 2009):

"The instructor was incredibly helpful. I really appreciate that he centered the class around the relevant issues of the day."

"The instruction was wonderful. I really enjoyed how current economic issues were integrated into the factual material we were learning in class. It made it a lot easier to focus and maintain interest in an otherwise seemingly tedious topic. Logan was a great instructor - really interested in what he was teaching, which really came across in the class. He used good examples relating to news and the goings on of the world to better explain what we were learning. He really kept the class flowing and was always there if any questions needed answering, and was really flexible with office hours. One of the best instructors I've had here."

"Logan was a great Econ 102 instructor. I really enjoyed how he centered the class around the recession today. I thought the readings were great and enjoyed them and really helped the class understand what is going in the economy today. Also, I think Logan made very good quizzes that tested students on necessary information. Overall, I really enjoyed everything I learned from Logan this semester."

My class this term really responded to my restructuring the course around current events. I let my enthusiasm for the material show much more, which was reflected in the enthusiasm the students showed in class participation throughout the term.