

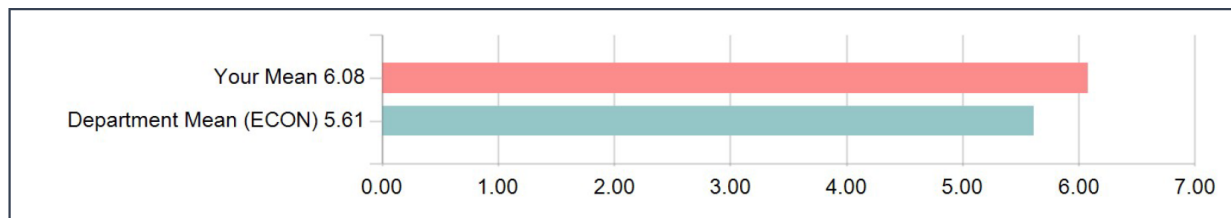
Teaching Evaluations – Econ 131 (Public Economics), Fall 2020
Sreeraahul Kancherla

Overview

For my teaching, I was selected as an Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor (GSI), which is given to the top 10% of GSIs at UC Berkeley.

Teaching Summary Measures

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?



From my perspective the graduate student instructor's grading appears to be
1=Unfair, 4=Satisfactory, 7=Very conscientious



Selected comments by students:

- "Sree is wonderful and so considering...he shows up and provides all the attention and guidance any student would want."
- "Sree is really great at explaining concepts."
- "Sree had very well organized notes and explained things clearly."
- "I think the material was presented with great clarity, and I appreciate Sree's ability to hold section in challenging times." [note: class taught in Fall 2020]
- The material was presented in a clear way. The link between theory/evidence/current debates was very relevant and interesting.
- "It was really helpful to watch Sree's sections!"
- "Sree was super engaged and helpful whenever we needed clarification on a specific part of section. I really appreciate his optimistic attitude and funny jokes he would occasionally make."
- "It is a very fun and interesting course with people who care about what you are learning...material is pretty tough but Carl, Sree, and Professor Yagan are goats!!!"

Project Title: **Fall 2020 Evaluations**

Courses Audience: **117**
Responses Received: **46**
Response Ratio: **39.32%**

Subject Details

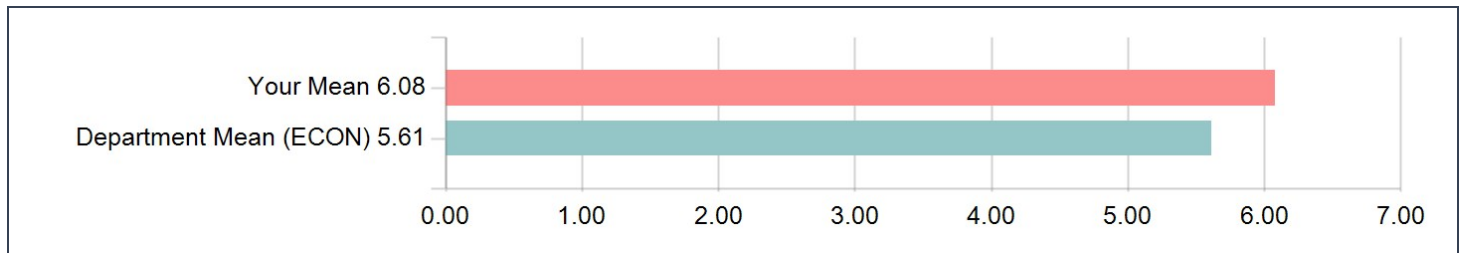
Name	ECON 131 LEC 001 PUBLIC ECONOMICS (EVAL FOR GSI)
DEPT_NAME	ECON
DEPT_FORM	ECON
EVALUATION_TYPE	G
First Name	Sreeraahul
Last Name	Kancherla

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Please note that "Department Mean" for each rating question is calculated using all sections in your department. This may include both Faculty and GSIs depending on whether the department has selected a question item to be used for both.

UNIVERSITY WIDE QUESTIONS (QUANTITATIVE/RATING):

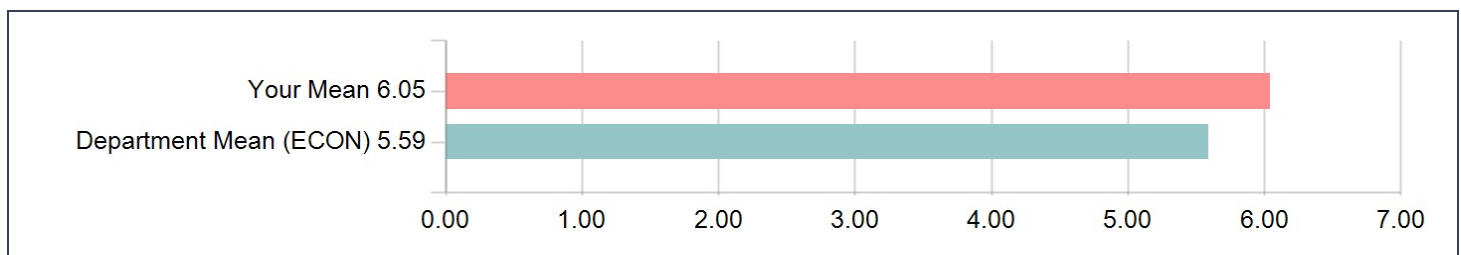
The items in this section are asked across all courses at Berkeley.

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?



Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Moderately Effective	4	10.53%
5	6	15.79%
6	11	28.95%
7-Extremely Effective	17	44.74%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	38	
Mean	6.08	
Median	6.00	
Standard Deviation	1.02	

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?



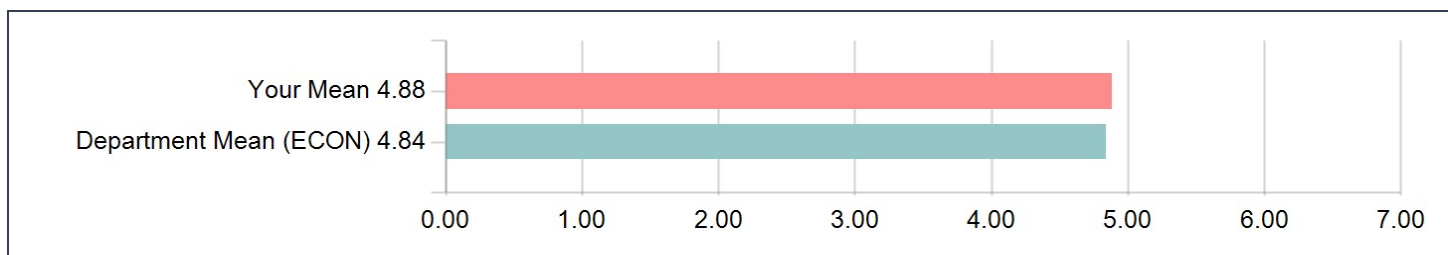
Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Moderately Effective	4	9.09%
5	7	15.91%
6	16	36.36%
7-Extremely Effective	17	38.64%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	44	
Mean	6.05	
Median	6.00	
Standard Deviation	0.96	

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS:

Items in this section were selected by ECON for inclusion on this evaluation.

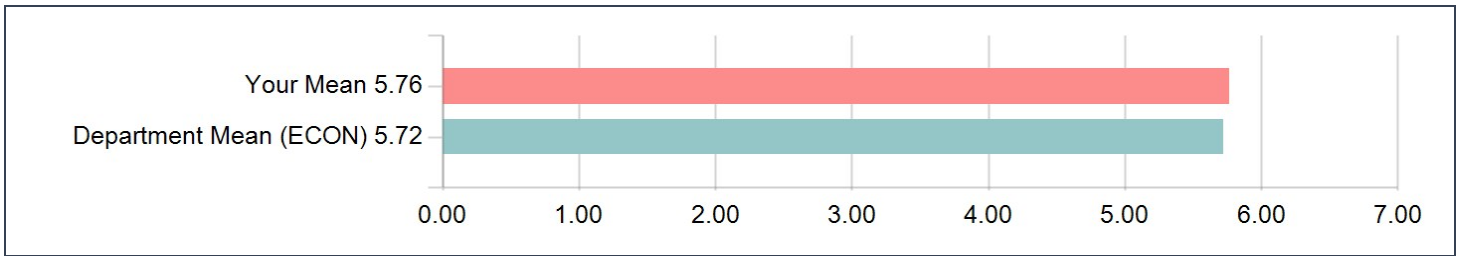
Considering my understanding of the material, the pace of the section meetings was
 1=Much too slow, 4=About right, 7=Much too fast



Considering my understanding of the material, the pace of the section meetings was
 1=Much too slow, 4=About right, 7=Much too fast

Options	Count	Percentage
1	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	1	2.94%
4	16	47.06%
5	7	20.59%
6	6	17.65%
7	4	11.76%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	34	
Mean	4.88	
Median	4.50	
Standard Deviation	1.12	

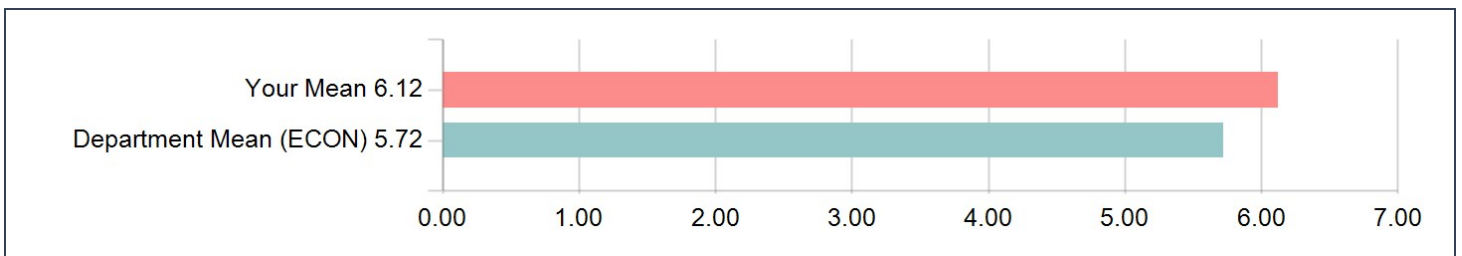
Considering how the professor structured the course, the material presented in section was
1=Poorly chosen, 4=Satisfactory, 7=Excellent



Considering how the professor structured the course, the material presented in section was
1=Poorly chosen, 4=Satisfactory, 7=Excellent

Options	Count	Percentage
1	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	2	5.88%
4	5	14.71%
5	5	14.71%
6	9	26.47%
7	13	38.24%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	34	
Mean	5.76	
Median	6.00	
Standard Deviation	1.28	

From my perspective the graduate student instructor's grading appears to be
1=Unfair, 4=Satisfactory, 7=Very conscientious



From my perspective the graduate student instructor's grading appears to be

1=Unfair, 4=Satisfactory, 7=Very conscientious

Options	Count	Percentage
1	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4	5	15.15%
5	3	9.09%
6	8	24.24%
7	17	51.52%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	33	
Mean	6.12	
Median	7.00	
Standard Deviation	1.11	

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED COURSE QUESTIONS:

Items in this section were selected by ECON for inclusion on this evaluation.

Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of the course (or section).

Comments
Intelligent, patient, and explained concepts of the course very well. Thank you for being a great GSI!
Carl keeps a good pace when he is in the section. I feel like more students should turn on their cameras though as they often don't. Another strength he has is his interactions with students which allows him to make sure they are keeping up and understanding the material at hand. He is a good GSI and I would recommend him to any and all future students.
I think the material was presented with great clarity, and I appreciate Sree's ability to hold section in challenging times. While I miss the real whiteboard (but don't quite miss the seats that the classrooms had), discussion section was nice this semester.
I really did enjoy that the GSI walked through or at least mentioned the majority of the information of the section notes. Having him go through it and writing hand-written notes really allowed me to follow along and understand the material by doing alongside the class
Sree is really great at explaining concepts and the worksheets greatly helped me understand the concepts and do the problem sets. Also, Sree was really helpful during problem sets.
The section was a great space to be able to draw graphs, do math, and ask questions related to the class. Carl was a great GSI and was very effective and kind while teaching.
Sree had very well organized notes and explained things clearly.
The handouts were very well-made and helpful for the problem sets and exams.
GSI is attentive
Well structured + Everything is well explained
Carl answers questions patiently and clearly cares a lot about his students and their understanding of the course, attempting different methods of explanation until students understand. He's also clearly enthusiastic about the course content.
Sree is wonderful and so considering. He was in two sections and one of them usually only has one or two students which he rightfully could cancel but he still shows up and provides all the attention and guidance any student would want.
The section was clearly structured and beneficial because it provided practice solving problems that would be present on problem sets and exams. Sree did a good job of walking through the problems and being clear in his explanations. I also liked that there were additional practice problems at the end of some of the section handouts.
i liked that the section covered the math that is not covered during the lectures, instead of just focusing on the public econ theories.
Carl was very good at taking the time to thoroughly explain topics we didn't really touch on in lecture. He was very patient and made sure we understood the content.
Carl covered important topics that the professor did not cover in depth during the class and made sure that we understand those topics.
The GSI was very approachable and responsive when I had questions and explained things in detail.
Section was very comprehensive and the examples provided were very helpful for PSETs/exams.
Sree was super engaged and helpful whenever we needed clarification on a specific part of section. I really appreciate his optimistic attitude and funny jokes he would occasionally make.
Great explanations, easy to follow
I like how thorough sections were, to both cover lecture material but also to review before exams. It was really helpful to watch Sree's sections!
Both lectures and sections were very clear. The material was presented in a clear way. The link between theory/evidence/current debates was very relevant and interesting.
Carl is very knowledgeable of the topics and good at explaining the material. Given the limitations of being virtual/not having a tablet, he does a great job making it work by using his phone to record the section notes/problems. Also super helpful at office hours and quickly responds to emails! Overall cool guy B-)
Give us a lot of practice.
Flexibility (live attendance was not required)

Please identify area(s) where you think the course could be improved.

Comments
I wish there were more practice problems which did look like what was going to be on the exam. Perhaps the level of difficulty for the math problems could be bumped up to make them comparable to exam questions.
I think there could have been more care devoted towards fostering more student engagement in section. Section in my non-humanities classes could have more student involvement, and I think that would certainly help keep us engaged throughout the hour.
I can't think of any particular major improvement. I really do feel like the teaching staff did a great job at accommodating different learning styles/ environments. The live lectures were helpful and the recorder lectures were a huge resource for me to go back and review any material
I wish the sections notes were more utilized during section. Since most was written on a white board/notebook, I would have to independently look at section notes.
I wish Carl could give us a few minutes to look over the problems and try to solve them on our own before he goes over them.
N/A
I think that pausing to ask questions about what a student will do as the next steps in a problem would be beneficial to increase student engagement. Additionally, pausing for a minute or so to allow for students to try out the problems themselves would be helpful so they can correct mistakes that might emerge or realize errors in their thoughts that could later be identified when you go through and solve the problem yourself.
i wish the sections covered more stuff from the midterm. IT often does, but it's usually the super-hard problems on the midterm that I have no idea at all how to do and I wish we foreshadowed them at least a little bit in section.
Granted, this pacing may be a bit slow for some people, but it was not for me.
It would be great if he can write more readably
It'd be helpful to clarify the connection between the section material and the lecture material. At times, it was unclear how the section material directly applied to the concepts covered in lecture.
N/A
The exams are way too long
n/a
In section maybe spend less time on concepts to have more time and cover all the problems, instead of cover only part of the problems.
Sometimes the section notes don't reflect lecture from that week, but in the end, everything is covered.
Can explain the problem slowly.
More practice material for problems/exams

What advice would you give to another student who is considering taking this course?

Comments
Take this course. It is a very fun and interesting course with people who care about what you are learning. Would 100% recommend this course to anybody interested in economics or economics in the public sector. Would recommend attending as many sections as you can as well. Material is pretty tough but Carl, Sree, and Professor Yagan are goats!!!
Don't be afraid to ask questions when something is confusing! I feel that students here don't ask enough of them—oftentimes you're not the only one with that question.
ask any questions/concerns early on. Ask about any questions regarding the problem sets because they are crucial to doing well in the exams
Get a study group for the problem sets. Also, make sure to keep up with concepts and don't fall behind. There are a lot of concepts and falling behind will cause you to become overwhelmed at the semester. (I was not one of these students)
Make sure to go to sections, because they are very helpful for exams and problem sets.
Try to really understand the logic behind the equations...
Go to section and office hours and check problem sets with a friend.
Come to the section, don't watch it online. Ask questions. Do the problem live. Be engaged and try to be ahead of the course
Go to section. It is extremely helpful and gives you much-needed practice applying concepts and actually learning the math that is not covered in the actual lecture.
go to section and class. super interesting and actually important if you aren't the most familiar with how econ classes work.
Especially during Zoom classes, be sure to attend sections, as they sometimes aren't recorded and cover material not discussed in lecture.
Go to office hours if you have any questions and stay up to speed with all of the material!
Go to class and attend section!
Engage with lectures, as questions in OH, and start problem sets EARLY
To review section handouts and the midterm review sessions multiple times!
Attending sections is necessary to better understand the expectations of problems sets and exams. Doing weekly learning confirmations and reviewing solved versions too.
This is a very doable upper div econ course. Just refresh micro knowledge, though the GSIs did review some of the key topics. Would recommend taking this class if you're also interested in public policy!
Do all the worksheet.
Focus a lot on the math involved

DEPARTMENT PROVIDED STUDENT INFORMATION QUESTIONS

Items in this section were selected by ECON for inclusion on this evaluation.

On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?

On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?		
Options	Count	Percentage
3 or fewer	6	13.64%
4-6	18	40.91%
7-9	16	36.36%
10-12	2	4.55%
13-15	1	2.27%
16-18	1	2.27%
More than 18	0	0.00%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	44	
Mean	1.00	
Median	1.00	
Standard Deviation	0.00	

How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?

How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?		
Options	Count	Percentage
None	5	11.36%
Fewer than half	7	15.91%
About half	4	9.09%
More than half	9	20.45%
All	19	43.18%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	44	
Mean	1.00	
Median	1.00	
Standard Deviation	0.00	

Class?

Class?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Freshman	0	0.00%
Sophomore	4	9.09%
Junior	12	27.27%
Senior	19	43.18%
Graduate - First Year	0	0.00%
Graduate - Second Year	0	0.00%
Graduate - Third Year	0	0.00%
Graduate - Fourth Year and Beyond	1	2.27%
Visiting Student/Concurrent Enrollment	8	18.18%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	44	
Mean	1.00	
Median	1.00	
Standard Deviation	0.00	

Major?

Major?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Declared	31	81.58%
Undeclared	7	18.42%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	38	
Mean	1.00	
Median	1.00	
Standard Deviation	0.00	

Your Major? (List All)

Comments
economics
Economics
Economics, Global Studies
Data Science and Economics
Economics
Economics
History, Economics, and Philosophy
Political Economy
Economics + Data Science
Economics and undeclared psychology
Economics
Political Economy
Economics and Political Science
economics
Mathematics and Economics
Economics, Rhetoric
Economics
Econ, Applied Math
Economics, Statistics
Economics
Economics & Political Science
Stat
econ, GWS
Economics
economics
Economics
Economics
Economics
Econ
Political Economics
Sociology
Political Economy
Political Economy
Economy and Society (at my home university)
Economics
Economics
Political Science