



Individual Teaching Assistant Report Spring 2023 for ECO 333K - DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS-WB (34510) (Francisco Pardo Pajuelo)

Project Title: **Instructor Course Evaluations Spring 2023**

Courses Audience: **44**

Responses Received: **33**

Response Ratio: **75.0%**

Report Comments

Results were collected during the implementation of a new course evaluation system.

Guide to the Interpretation of Course Evaluations at UT Austin

The goal of course evaluation process at UT Austin is to drive teaching excellence and to support continuous improvement in teaching and learning experiences. The two sets of scales used for core evaluation questions and the associated weights are:

Strongly Agree (5)
Agree (4)
Neutral (3)
Disagree (2)
Strongly Disagree (1)

Excellent (5)
Very Good (4)
Satisfactory (3)
Unsatisfactory (2)
Very Unsatisfactory (1)

The Mean is calculated by adding all of the weights for a single question and dividing by the number of respondents. The course workload question is not averaged.

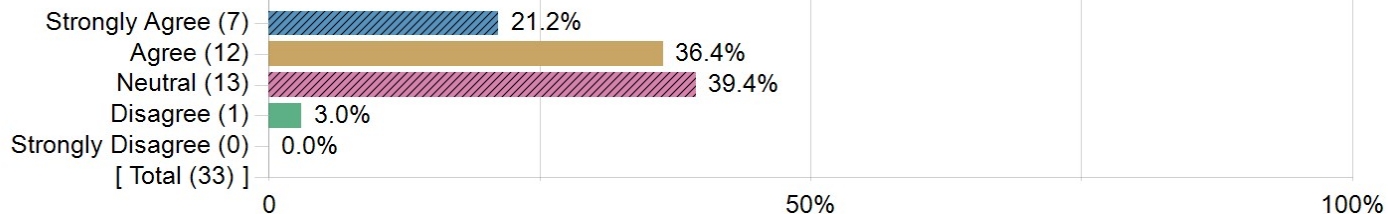
The number of students (e.g. Respondents) marking each option is reported for each of the items. These frequency distributions provide information about the level of student ratings and the spread and shape of the class distribution of responses. The distributions thus provide a picture of student perception of a course.

Course evaluations provide snapshots of student perspectives on their course-level learning experiences. Most experts on teaching evaluation advise that no one method gives the complete picture of an instructor's teaching effectiveness; multiple and diverse measures, on multiple occasions, are advised to give a full picture of the teaching effectiveness of a particular instructor. Moreover, other factors, such as size of class, level of the class, and content of the course, can cause small variations in the ratings. Therefore, student perspectives for a particular instructor or course should be interpreted as a snapshot, and not as providing complete information on the teaching effectiveness of that instructor.

Creation Date: **Friday, June 16, 2023**

Teaching Assistant Questions

The TA was available to help me as needed.



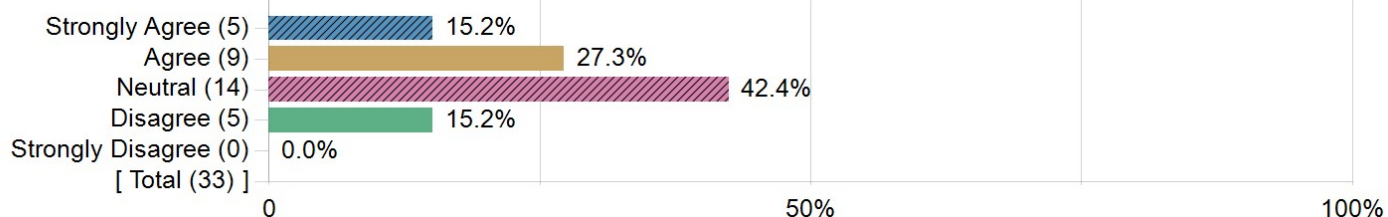
Statistics

Value

Mean

3.76

I felt the TA was approachable.



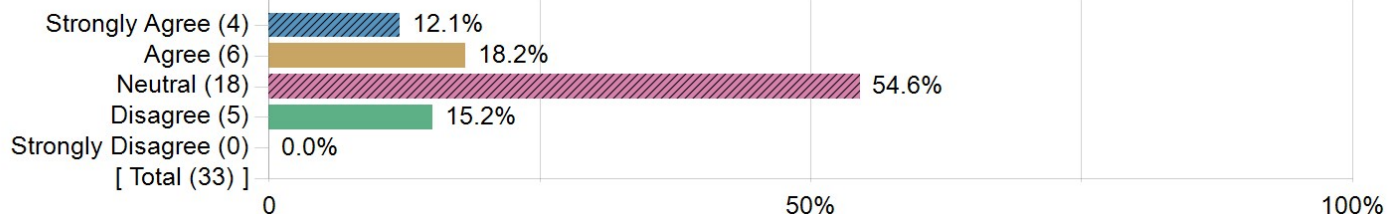
Statistics

Value

Mean

3.42

The TA explained course concepts, subject matter, or other course-related topics in a way that helped me learn.



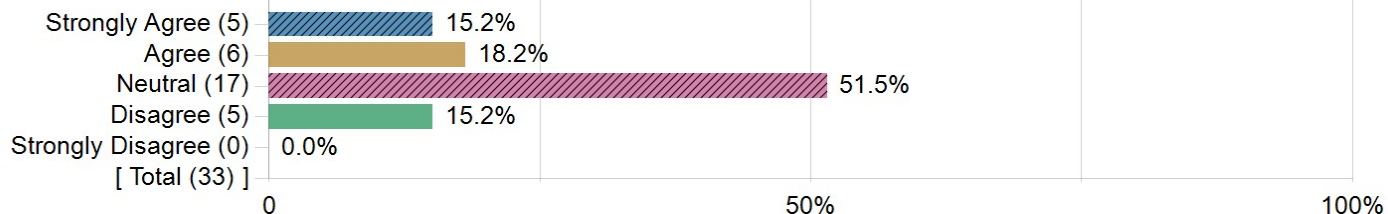
Statistics

Value

Mean

3.27

The TA was able to address most of my questions related to the course concepts, subject -matter, or topics.



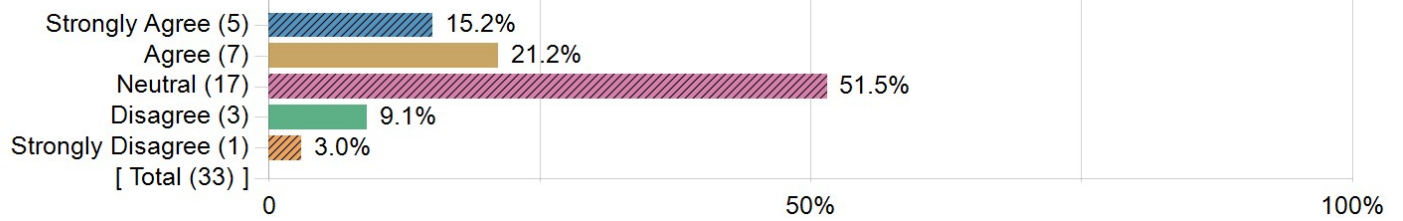
Statistics

Value

Mean

3.33

The TA communicated course content and subject matter with accuracy.



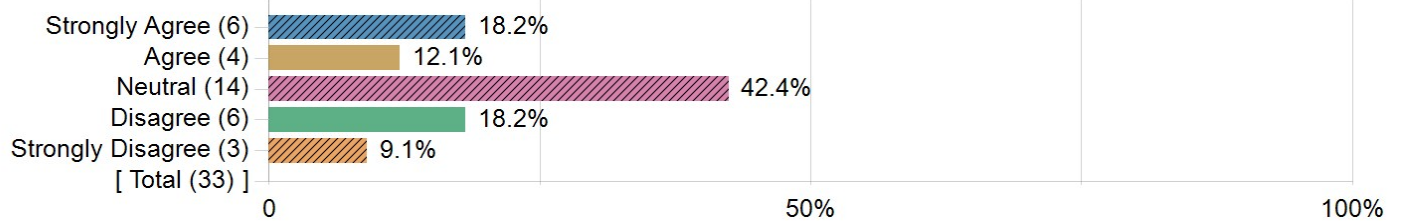
Statistics

Value

Mean

3.36

The TA communicated course expectations and instructions clearly.



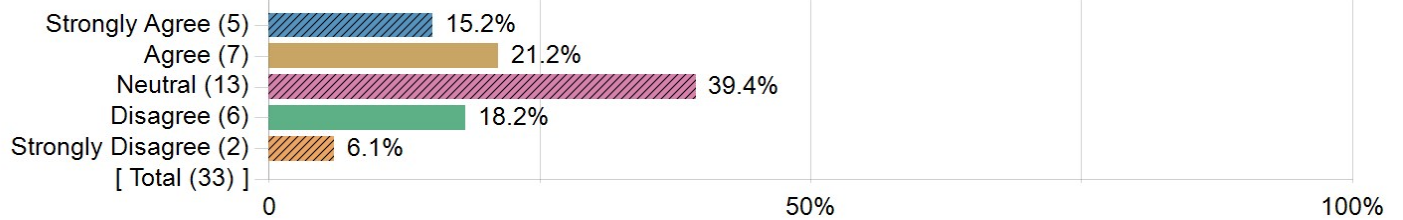
Statistics

Value

Mean

3.12

The TA appeared engaged throughout the course experience.



Statistics

Value

Mean

3.21

Comment Questions

Identify aspects of your interactions with your teaching assistant that were most effective in helping your learning.

Comments
N/A
He was friendly and responsive to emails.
I never onced talked to Francisco
He was very punctual in his response time.
I did not have interactions beyond on exam days, he was attentive during exams.
I did not really get much of him and speaking to him was very pointless. The answer key was already very detailed, and he took it upon himself to expect even more from us. Very much felt like the TA enjoyed taking points off and the position of power he held. Not as bad as the professor but he definitely did not make things better.
Was always available in office hours!
I never heard back from the TA when I emailed
I think the TA did a good job of clarifying confusing concepts.
N/A
Helped me understand content further! Awesome TA, and helped me learn a lot.
Very easy to reach, felt friendly and approachable
Nothing
Was able to schedule times to meet with Francisco to discuss problems over the exm.
He was helping in providing my accommodations.
No interactions with the TA
NA
I had very little interactions with the TA.
N/A
Easy to meet with outside of office hours and understood materials
n/a
easy to communicate with
was quick to respond to emails

What is one thing the teaching assistant could do differently to help improve future students' learning in this course?

Comments
The TA was the one grading our exams, and I know he's only going off the professor's rubric/guidelines, but it was extremely harsh. I hope both the professor and whoever is the next TA (or the current one) can figure out a way to make the average exam grades higher than 50s for each exam.
I have not interacted with Francisco enough to provide substantial feedback
I never once talked to Francisco
He was responsible for grading a lot of our tests, and I think he could have communicated with the professor a little better on what should be counted as correct. Instead, he followed blindly what the answer key given to him said. Even though we were told that a basic understanding of the material would suffice, if the answers we wrote did not almost exactly match the answer key, we were going to get it wrong.
Nothing.
Follow the answer key exactly without making your own criteria on top of it.
N/A
He seems distracted in office hours
to be more inclusive
I think being clear on grading standards would help us know how to study and tailor our responses in order to fairly get points.
N/A
Nothing they were amazing!
I wish the nature of exams were communicated more effectively or review study sessions were held. On canvas, it says the exam will be multiple choice with true or false questions, but that is not the case
Like I said earlier, I'm not sure if this was the issue or not, but from my observations and conversations with other students, it seemed as though the TA graded the exams with higher expectations than the professor, which contributed to the issues in performances
Explain his grading
Usually took a few tries emailing him before he would respond
Be more lenient on grading exams as they were very hard and detailed specific for so much information.
Be introduced to the class and explain what part he plays in the course and how he can help. Only saw the TA during the test.
NA
Announce their hours. Be more approachable.
N/A
He graded too hard and on the definition based questions on the test, he wanted them to be similar to the textbook which is unfair to expect. It also didn't seem like much partial credit was given on exams.
n/a
none
n/a