Instructor IA Evaluation for Vedant Vohra
Department of Economics

ECON 220A - Econometrics A (Elliott, Graham)
Fall 2023

Evaluation Responses

1. What is your overall rating of the Instructional Assistant?

Excellent

2. Do you have any other comments to add to your evaluation?
Please keep your comments constructive and professional, abiding by the Principles of Community

- Vedant conducts himself with complete professional attitude, and is a fantastic TA. I have only positive things to say about his work.

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Student IA Evaluation for Vedant Vohra
Department of Economics

ECON 220A - Econometrics A (Elliott, Graham)
Fall 2023

Number of Evaluations Submitted: 23
Number of Students Enrolled: 29

1. The Instructional Assistant graded fairly and consistently.

20 (87.0%):	Strongly Agree
3 (13.0%):	Agree
0 (0.0%):	Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

2. I went to the Instructional Assistant's office hours.

14 (60.9%):	Yes
8 (34.8%):	No
1 (4.3%):	Not Applicable

3. The Instructional Assistant's assistance during office hours was well-informed, clearly presented and valuable.

13 (56.5%):	Strongly Agree
2 (8.7%):	Agree
1 (4.3%):	Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
7 (30.4%):	Not Applicable

4. In general, material covered during office hours was beneficial and helpful in my overall understanding of the course.

18 (81.8%):   Strongly Agree
2 (9.1%):   Agree
2 (9.1%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree
1:              [No Response]

5. I went to the Instructional Assistant's discussion sections.

22 (95.7%):   Yes
1 (4.3%):   No
0 (0.0%):   Not Applicable

6. The Instructional Assistant came prepared and well organized to lead discussion sections.

21 (91.3%):   Strongly Agree
2 (8.7%):   Agree
0 (0.0%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Not Applicable

7. The Instructional Assistant presented course material clearly and answered questions accurately at discussion sections.

17 (73.9%):   Strongly Agree
5 (21.7%):   Agree
1 (4.3%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Not Applicable

8. In general, discussion sections enhanced my understanding of the course material.

18 (78.3%):   Strongly Agree
5 (21.7%):   Agree
0 (0.0%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree

9. I went to the Instructional Assistant's midterm exam review session(s).

16 (72.7%):   Yes
1 (4.5%):   No
5 (22.7%):   Not Applicable
1:           [No Response]

10. The Instructional Assistant came prepared and well organized to exam reviews.

19 (82.6%):   Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):   Agree
0 (0.0%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree
4 (17.4%):   Not Applicable

11. The Instructional Assistant presented course material clearly and answered questions accurately at exam reviews.

17 (73.9%):   Strongly Agree
2 (8.7%):   Agree
0 (0.0%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree
4 (17.4%):   Not Applicable

12. In general, exam reviews enhanced my understanding of the course material.

17 (77.3%):   Strongly Agree
5 (22.7%):   Agree
0 (0.0%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree
1:           [No Response]

13. The Instructional Assistant was approachable, courteous and showed interest and concern for students' learning and understanding.

21 (91.3%):   Strongly Agree
2 (8.7%):   Agree
0 (0.0%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Not Applicable

14. I would recommend this Instructional Assistant to other students.

21 (91.3%):   Strongly Agree
2 (8.7%):   Agree
0 (0.0%):   Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Disagree
0 (0.0%):   Strongly Disagree

15. Do you have any other comments to add to your evaluation?
Please keep your comments constructive and professional, abiding by the Principles of Community

- Excellent at making the course material accessible for students from a range of backgrounds. Gave valuable advice on how to parse and approach problems in assignments and exams and on strategic studying under time constraints.
  Very responsible and easy to work with: proactive in scheduling discussion section, office hour, and exam review sessions, and follows up with more carefully thought-through answers when the answer to a student's question is not clear at the outset.

  Suggestions for improvement:
  Sometimes I get lost because you say something a bit too fast for me to follow, so it takes me a moment to repeat the sentence in my head and digest it, but this is hard to do when you ask for immediate feedback on whether we understood what you just said. If the students are too quiet and you are not sure if they understand, I suggest repeating just at a slower pace of speaking, or letting it simmer ten more seconds before asking if students understand.
  It is good to present definitions, but sometimes it is helpful to use examples. For example, when you introduced the concept of size in discussion section, I got confused by the abstract mathematical expressions, so it would have been helpful if you had said "size is alpha, usually 5%". I suggest presenting concepts through a mix of definitions, intuition, and examples (and trying an alternative approach when the first seems to have confused students) and linking concepts by posing questions that arise naturally from one part to the next. Examples are likely more helpful for concepts that are regularly used in applied research.
  For visual learners, drawing on the board can be very helpful. For example, the example in discussion in which the parameter depended on the support made much more sense to me once you drew the partition of the parameter space on the board. I suggest using visuals more if possible.

- He is very nice and supportive!

- I appreciate very much Vedant's help in the sense that he can explain complicated and abstract concepts in an intuitive way. I don't think the poll on canvas collecting the questions is helpful, though. The better way is to send email to address confusions directly.

- I really enjoyed the focus on solving problems during the session especially the opportunity to solve problems on our own before being presented with the answers. I also like the interspersed use of material review with solving problems from various settings.

- Thanks!!

- The discussion sections were very helpful as we could review the material and more so because we got time to apply it independently without directly seeing the solution.

- This TA is probably the TA that most student would prefer to meet the first year, considering as his focus on covering the relevant course material is perfect in the face of the unnecessary uncertainty imposed upon us due to quals. The only thing that can be improved is the reduction

of amount of typos in his slide, however this is a short term problem that will be eliminated by next year considering that we are the first people to be exposed to his slides.

- Vedant is a very good TA. Someday, he will be a great TA. His idea to create a google form for us to submit feedback at any time is brilliant. He is very skilled at zooming out, helping us figure out what is important and what is unimportant from the lectures. He has a very strong grasp of the materials. I am not convinced that asking us to do exercises in class is the best use of time.

- Vedant is an excellent TA and truly cares about the success of his students. His kind and caring approach to helping students is very appreciated. It was a pleasure having him as a TA.

- Vedant is an incredible and compassionate instructor who makes what is typically dense and inaccessible coursework digestible and clear. He always made himself available for extra questions and feedback, and genuinely cares about our ability to understand and apply econometrics in this class and beyond! 10/10!!!!!! I hope he TAs again next year, though I wish he could TA the entire sequence for us this year!!!!

- Vedant was an excellent TA. It was very clear that he cared about our understanding of course material. He presented concepts in different ways to ensure we thoroughly understood material. His discussion materials were great and thorough and were great material I used to study for exams and the course.

- Vedant's classes were very helpful for me in understanding the key concepts in Econometrics. He prepared excellent materials with clear explanations and examples. I also appreciate that he encouraged us to ask questions to ensure that everyone understood the class. Additionally, he had a great disposition to help, even offering extra office hours if needed. I believe he improved his teaching skills throughout the quarter; with each class, he became more confident. Thanks, Vedant!

- Vedant's discussion sessions were good. However, some times he solved exercises from the problem sets, which I think is not good since we can see the answers when the professor uploads them. So, my recommendation will be to keep the examples that are not in the PS and add some new examples that can enhance the knowledge of the class.

- Vedant's sessions, especially in the latter half of the quarter, were the best of any TA I had this quarter. He did an outstanding job!

- Very useful discussion sessions, would barely understand the course without them.