

Course Name: Economics-482-C01 - Fall 2022

Mandatory Questions

The overall quality of the course was:

	Count	Str. Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str. Agree	Mean	Median*	Std Dev
Course content was related to graded assignments.	11	0	0	0	4	7	4.64	4.71	0.50
Course content was thought-provoking.	11	0	0	1	1	9	4.73	4.89	0.65
The course materials were useful to course objectives.	11	0	0	1	3	7	4.55	4.71	0.69

Overall my learning in the course was:

	Count	Very Poor	Poor	Avg or Fair	Good	Excellent	Mean	Median*	Std Dev
I would rate my learning in this course as	11	0	0	0	5	6	4.55	4.58	0.52

The instructors overall teaching effectiveness was:

	Count	Str. Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str. Agree	Mean	Median	Std Dev
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment.	11	0	0	1	0	10	4.82	4.95	0.60
The instructor was well organized.	11	0	0	0	1	10	4.91	4.95	0.30
The instructor provided helpful feedback.	11	0	0	1	1	9	4.73	4.89	0.65

* For an explanation of the *interpolated median*, please see http://spu.edu/depts/insdev/interpolated_median_explanation.pdf

General Comments

What recommendations do you have for changes? Applied Economic Research

Comments
The first presentations should be about the final project and make them earlier so that there is time to fix them.
I think the most important thing to change about this course would be the way that workshop days are done. I think having days to workshop specific aspects of the paper such as a day for the lit review and a day for data collection and tidying would be a great way to add a little bit more structure.
I thought this class was excellent. I had professor Marsella for Econ 301 as well. Professor Marsella is among the very best professors I've had here at WVU. He is very enthusiastic and knows his stuff. You can tell he likes teaching and wants the students to learn and do well, and the fact that he himself is a graduate student and is now trying to get a job is very helpful because he can relate to the position we are in as seniors, and he knows a lot about the job world in our field. The only suggestion I could possibly have for this class is maybe to have more of an outline as to what to do for the free workshop days and to start discussing possible topic ideas earlier in the class. Over all, I felt that the instructor did a phenomenal job. Grading and deadlines were very generous.
I personally work well in the less strictly structured environment of this class but I could see how others could have an issue with it. Rubrics would be my main suggestion.
N/A
Great class. It should be taught like this as the standard.
To WVU: Applied Econ. Research needs to be kept as an 18 week course, as Alex's course is/was. The 9 week option is disappointing and basic.
I don't have any recommendations for changes for the course, I just wished they required econometrics, because honestly I was just lost in this class. I kept showing up to class out of respect for the professor and because he was kind and patient with me. The course was just really difficult because I didn't take econometrics.
Maybe start working on the research paper earlier in the semester. I would have appreciated more hard deadlines because it is frustrating to cut corners on some assignments to be able to turn them in on time and get a less than satisfactory grade. More coding practice and less lectures in class could be helpful. Overall I still loved this class and Prof. Marsella's teaching style.
I think code feedback on R homework would be beneficial. There were times when I missed a problem due to coding error, but I did not know what I did wrong or what code I did not include.
More time to work on the final paper and research.

What helped you learn in this course? Applied Economic Research

Comments
The R homework were helpful with learning how the different strategies work and helped with the coding during the final project.
I believe that Professor Marsella is a good teacher. He made learning many different methods of causal inference interesting and easy to learn this semester, which honestly, I'm very thankful for because it pushed me to another level when it comes to my major.
Attending class. In class discussion was great. Needed to look at some online tutorials for help with coding.
Learning about the various econometric basics before getting into the causal inference method. It was also great to be able to practice causal inference methods in R after learning about them and reading a paper that uses those methods. This structure helped build understanding of the methods and the research process overall.
Mr. Marsella always put the students first. He was very understanding of students' shortcomings, and did his best to make accommodations that were fair to the class as a whole. In addition, he was always open to assist students with their success in the course, whether it be holding office hours immediately before class, offering to stay late to help students, or opening zoom review sessions throughout the semester. If the times were difficult for students to attend, Mr. Marsella would find a time to meet the student on their terms to ensure their ongoing success. The resources provided by Mr. Marsella were very helpful, in which I have saved many to my computer for future reference. Course material was made to always be available, so we were never left stranded when attempting to refer back to notes or lectures for additional assistance.
Alex is has been one of my favorite professors. The way he structures his class is awesome for our capstone, and his feedback is insightful and thorough. I had previously taken this course (briefly) with another professor and found it to be disappointing and too restrictive. Alex offered us freedom in our projects, and as a result, I've gained valuable experience in a field of research I've always been interested in. It has been a great experience, and I have learned a lot from it.
The professor provided many outside resources to help with all assignments.
Professor Marsella. The professor was very patient and kind when explaining concepts related to the course. He was more than willing to help out and explain. But in all honesty most of it was over my head. I felt like he wasn't judging me, maybe he was idk.
Homeworks and R tutorials helped a lot. I used Prof. Marsella's GitHub the most out of any course material. One pagers were helpful because I had little knowledge about reading and comprehending economics papers coming into this class.
The explanations and paper reviews were very beneficial. Having the PowerPoint slides available do use allowed me to go over them and better understand homework assignments.
Summary one-pagers, office hours, and presentation.