Individual Instructor Report Fall 2024 Version A for ECO 304K - INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS (33830) (Sahil Khatkar)

Project Title: Course Evaluations Fall 2024

Courses Audience: **24**
Responses Received: **22**
Response Ratio: **91.7%**

Report Comments

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)
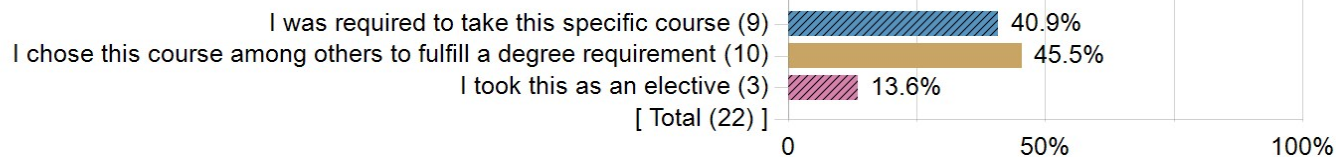Very Unsatisfactory (1)

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.
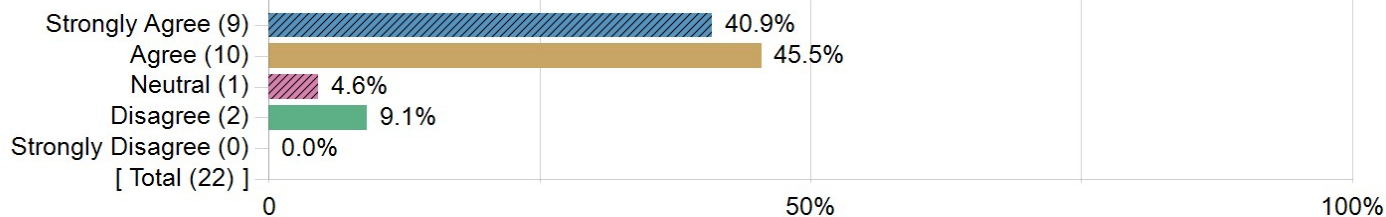
Course evaluations provide snapshots of student perspectives on their course-level learning experiences. Most experts on teaching evaluation advise that no individual method gives the complete picture of an instructor's teaching effectiveness; multiple and diverse measures, on multiple occasions, are 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: **Thursday, January 23, 2025**

Course Questions

Why did you take this course?

I was required to take this specific course (9)	40.9%
I chose this course among others to fulfill a degree requirement (10)	45.5%
I took this as an elective (3)	13.6%
[Total (22)]	

During this course, I gained a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

Strongly Agree (9)	40.9%
Agree (10)	45.5%
Neutral (1)	4.6%
Disagree (2)	9.1%
Strongly Disagree (0)	0.0%
[Total (22)]	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.18

The course was well organized.

Strongly Agree (5)	22.7%
Agree (7)	31.8%
Neutral (5)	22.7%
Disagree (3)	13.6%
Strongly Disagree (2)	9.1%
[Total (22)]	
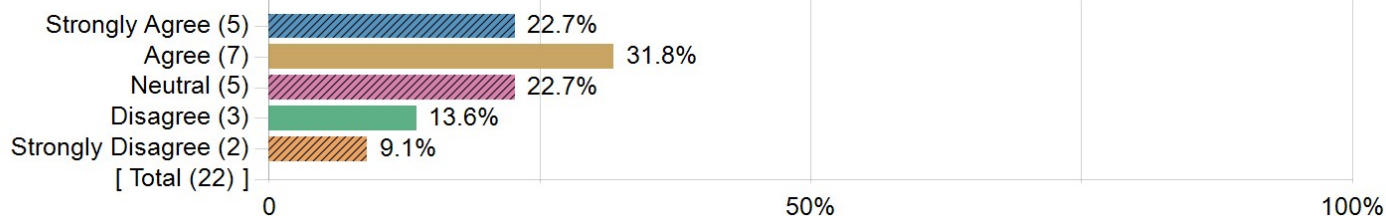
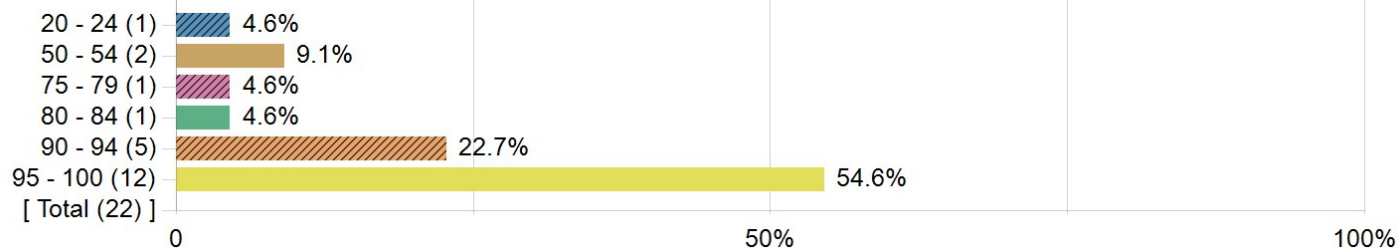| Statistics	Value
Mean	3.45

Overall, approximately what percentage of the course meetings did you attend or complete (online, in person, or asynchronously)?
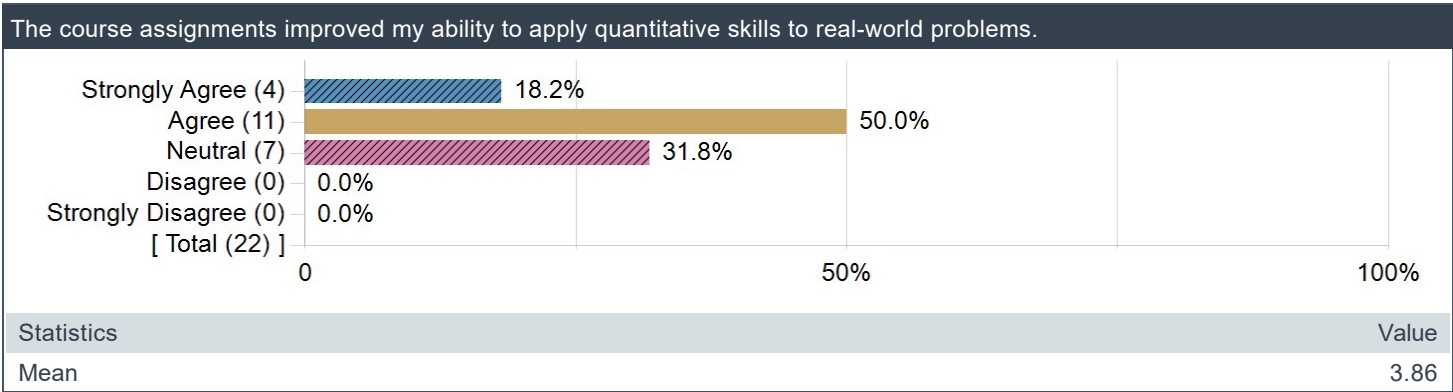
20 - 24 (1)	4.6%
50 - 54 (2)	9.1%
75 - 79 (1)	4.6%
80 - 84 (1)	4.6%
90 - 94 (5)	22.7%
95 - 100 (12)	54.6%
[Total (22)]	

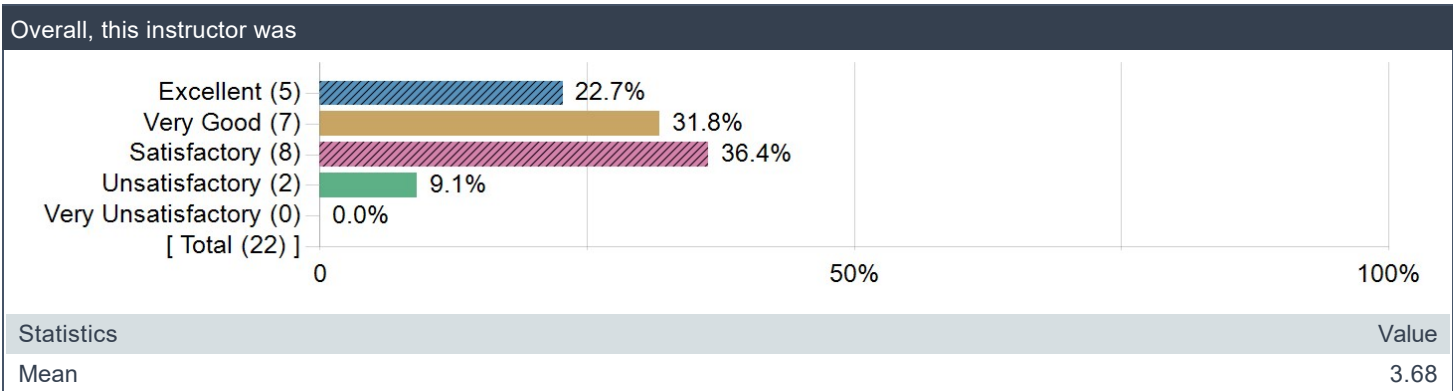| Statistics	Value
Mean	86.50

The course assignments improved my ability to apply quantitative skills to real-world problems. (Flag Question)

The course assignments improved my ability to apply quantitative skills to real-world problems.

Strongly Agree (4) — 18.2%
Agree (11) — 50.0%
Neutral (7) — 31.8%
Disagree (0) — 0.0%
Strongly Disagree (0) — 0.0%
[Total (22)]

Statistics	Value
Mean	3.86

Instructor Questions

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Responded	Mean
The instructor clearly explained the course objectives and expectations.	31.8%	31.8%	36.4%	0.0%	0.0%	22	3.95
The instructor fostered an inclusive learning environment.	54.5%	36.4%	9.1%	0.0%	0.0%	22	4.45
The instructor effectively explained the concepts and subject matter in this course.	22.7%	40.9%	18.2%	18.2%	0.0%	22	3.68
The instructional techniques kept me engaged in learning.	18.2%	27.3%	45.5%	0.0%	9.1%	22	3.45
The instructor checked for student understanding of the concepts presented in the course.	36.4%	40.9%	13.6%	9.1%	0.0%	22	4.05

Overall Questions

Overall, this course was

Excellent (1)	4.6%
Very Good (8)	36.4%
Satisfactory (10)	45.5%
Unsatisfactory (3)	13.6%
Very Unsatisfactory (0)	0.0%
[Total (22)]	

Statistics	Value
Mean	3.32

Overall, this instructor was

Excellent (5)	22.7%
Very Good (7)	31.8%
Satisfactory (8)	36.4%
Unsatisfactory (2)	9.1%
Very Unsatisfactory (0)	0.0%
[Total (22)]	

Statistics	Value
Mean	3.68
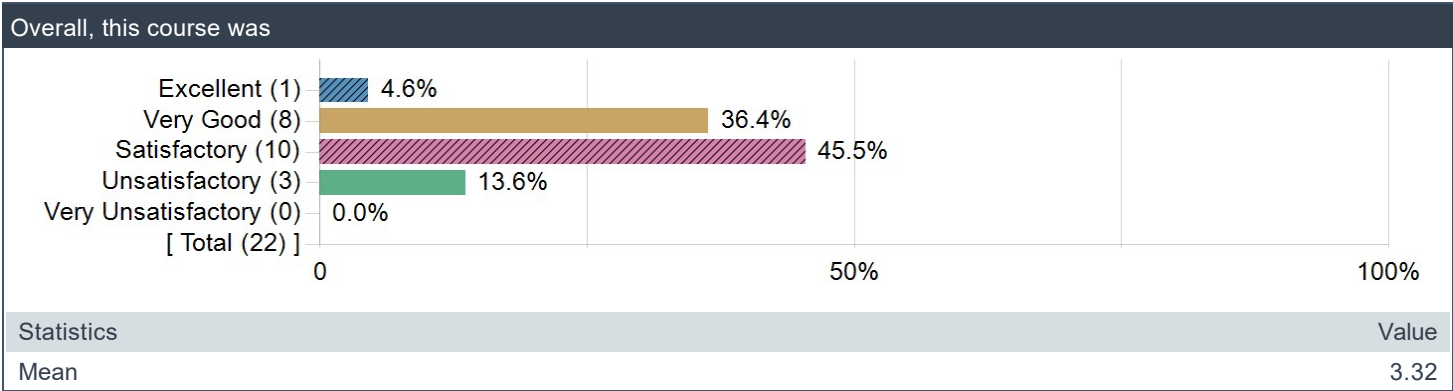
College, School, or Unit Questions

The instructor was available to students either electronically or in person.

Strongly Agree (15)		68.2%
Agree (5)		22.7%
Neutral (1)		4.6%
Disagree (1)		4.6%
Strongly Disagree (0)		0.0%
[Total (22)]		

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55

The instructor encouraged me to take an active role in my own learning.

Strongly Agree (6)		27.3%
Agree (14)		63.6%
Neutral (2)		9.1%
Disagree (0)		0.0%
Strongly Disagree (0)		0.0%
[Total (22)]		

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.18

Faculty Selected Questions

The instructor carefully explained difficult concepts, methods, and subject matter.

- Strongly Agree (7) — 31.8%
- Agree (7) — 31.8%
- Neutral (5) — 22.7%
- Disagree (3) — 13.6%
- Strongly Disagree (0) — 0.0%
- [Total (22)]
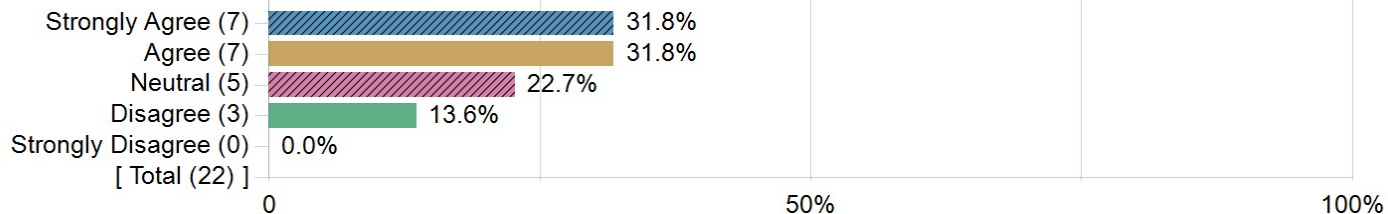
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.82

The course materials (e.g., text and supplemental materials) were helpful to me.

- Strongly Agree (5) — 22.7%
- Agree (6) — 27.3%
- Neutral (7) — 31.8%
- Disagree (2) — 9.1%
- Strongly Disagree (2) — 9.1%
- [Total (22)]
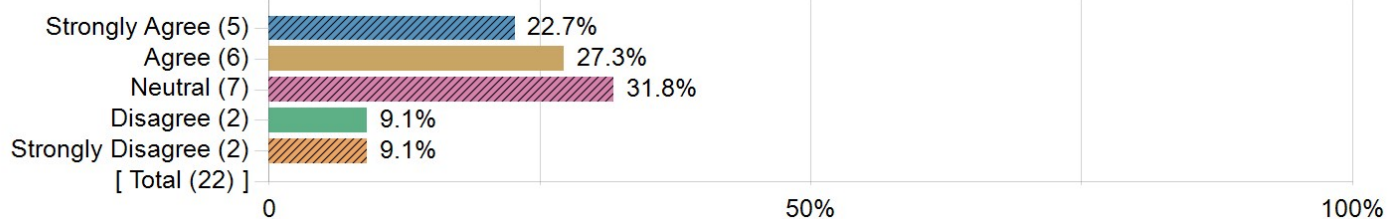
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.45

The instructor made me feel free to ask questions, disagree, and express my ideas.

- Strongly Agree (12) — 54.6%
- Agree (8) — 36.4%
- Neutral (1) — 4.6%
- Disagree (1) — 4.6%
- Strongly Disagree (0) — 0.0%
- [Total (22)]
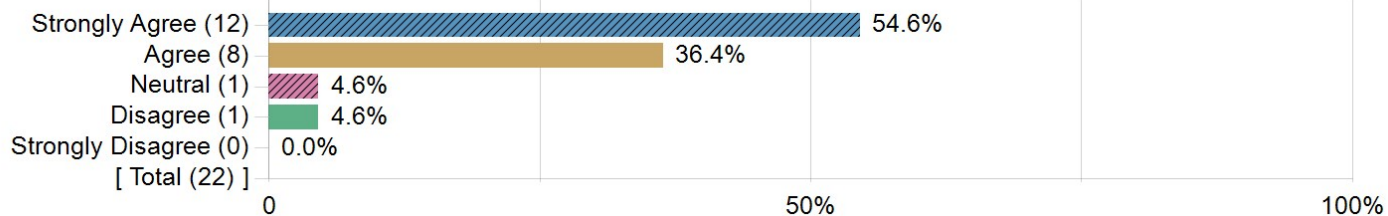
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.41

Comment Questions

Identify aspects of the course that were the most effective in helping your learning.

Comments
Homework, Lectures, personal office hours
I believe the homework assignments were effective with my learning.
Giving us time to discuss in groups
I liked that the lectures were simplified and taught in daily lingo in order to help students understand better.
Lots of help outside of class, understanding about struggles
The homeworks encouraged us to think about real–life applications to what we were learning in class. Professor Khatkar was very helpful and open to any of our questions and wishes.
visual representations besides graph
taking notes
Taking time to meet with me outside of class.
The lectures were immersive and homework covered the topics well.
I liked how thorough the class slides were, it made it easy to follow along.
Professor Khatkar being a very friendly and inviting professor helped foster a learning environment that was conducive to learning and clarifying any confusion that we had on the course material. He is also very understanding to the fact that many of us struggled on the first midterm. He wasn't reluctant to admit that the first midterm did not match the difficulty of the material provided to us to prepare for the test. Many professors would hold students accountable, claiming that they didn't study enough, but Professor Khatkar took responsibility for the extreme difficulty of the test and even provided us with extra credit opportunities to help recover our grades. Overall, he is a very understanding professor and though the class isn't always easy, I know for sure that I have a professor who cares about the academic success of his students. He's not one of those professors who makes things unnecessarily difficult just because they can.
the homework assignments, and extra credit work
The homework
I think the graphs in the textbook/lectures best explained a concept when I was confused.
The instructor was very approachable.
The professor is an awesome guy who truly cares about his students and the material he is teaching. He is extremely understanding whenever you have any questions, and is always available to offer you any help whenever you need it. He also has a good sense of humor, and is able to help us focus whenever we zone out through his witty and clever remarks.
He would usually do more in class than what was just in slides which gave a better explanation.
He used the blackboard a lot in addition to the slides what makes it somehow easier to understand the topic.
Class participation
Throughout this course, I was able to gain a better understanding of the topic through real–world examples, helping me understand how it can be applied in my life.

Identify the aspect of the course that you found most challenging, why you found it was challenging, and suggest one thing that could be done to help future students meet that challenge more effectively.

Comments
Exams with a rough time constraint
i think it would have been more helpful to study for the exams if we were given more practice problems similar to the ones on the exam, I think this is why so many people did badly on them.
Tests questions were too deleted and made everyone preform poorly
I found the contrast in difficulty between the exams versus the lectures quite challenging. I felt the lectures were very doable and easy to understand, but it did not match the rigor of difficulty presented on the exams. Something that can be done to help future students would be teach the content in the way/pattern as presented on exams. It's stressful for students to study for the exam because we know that the exam is presented with different formatting/difficulty of content, so having uniform structure regarding the content would be helpful.
The exams were very hard and the homeworks took a lot of time
One aspect of the class that I found most challenging was understanding the math that was incorporated into the course. I believe this is a personal shortcoming.
When the professor tried drawing graphs on the board about scenarios , the graphs would eventually get too messy to read and understand so it made it hard to be on the same page as the professor
the exams
The first mid term. It was just too long it needed to be shorter.
I found the homeworks pretty difficult as they were graded like a test and had a big effect on your grade.
I personally felt like the exams were too long for the time given. For the first two exams I found myself not being able to start the last open ended question due to time, immediately losing points.
I felt that Professor Khatkar moved through course material very quickly. Though it was likely out of his control, it would have been nice for there to be a way to record lectures so that we could review the course material with Professor Khatkar's in–depth explanations. The PowerPoints alone lacked the information that was verbally taught to us during class. Perhaps, in the notes section of PowerPoint slides, in–depth explanations could be included. I think it would have been helpful to have more assignments in–between Homework assignments. Something like a short quiz at the end of each class to check for understanding would have been really helpful.
the subject
The first midterm was too much work for the amount of time given
I think the application of what we were learning was most challenging. I would understand the concept for the most part but when it came to applying the concept I would get confused or make a mistake.
The lecture was overly technical for an introductory course. There were very little assignments therefore feedback was far and few between and left little oppuirtunity to understand mistakes and gain a deeper understanding.
Unfortunately, it was often difficult to understand some of the topics that were being covered. I studied extremely hard for both midterms, but the study materials and homework assignments were nothing like the curriculum that was tested on the exams. For the future, I would maybe include more relevant study materials, as I have heard other classes have Inquizitive, videos, and many other resources they can fall back on for exams.
The free response were tricky a bit
Maybe some more practice problems during the class would be nice
Homework assignments
Sometimes, the topics would go on tangents, sometimes making it difficult to focus on one particular part of the lesson. I felt like some economic principles were way ahead of what we currently knew, jumping from introductions to difficult situations where it would apply.