

CLAIR NULL - UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING EVALUATION SUMMARIES

Rankings on a scale of 1 (not at all effective) to 7 (extremely effective):

	Microeconomic Theory (calculus-based) Fall, 2006	Introductory Applied Econometrics Fall, 2007
Overall teaching effectiveness	6.39	6.46
Attitude toward and concern for the student	6.45	6.43
Preparation and organization of section meetings	6.55	6.86
Knowledge of subject matter	6.23	6.51
Ability to communicate and to explain difficult material clearly	6.23	6.41
Willingness to answer questions and treat opposing views	6.70	6.70
Provides intellectual challenge	6.25	6.32
Provides breadth of perspective	6.04	6.34
Speaks well and clearly	6.55	6.78
Usefulness of assignments, projects, homework, exams, etc.	5.96	6.44
Provides for feedback on assignments , exams, etc.	6.30	6.25
Availability and usefulness of office hours	6.69	6.60
Effectiveness of discussion sections in relation to lectures	6.58	6.81
Overall effectiveness of section	6.43	6.54

Scores based on 31 evaluations for Microeconomic Theory (out of 49 registered students) and 37 evaluations for Introductory Applied Econometrics (out of 59 registered students).

COMMENTS FROM STUDENTS IN **MICROECONOMIC THEORY**

Section leader's most effective characteristics:

- Willingness to help
- She is very good at picking out things in class that are important and may have been difficult to understand and presenting them to us in section in a much clearer way.
- Good at simplifying material that was particularly complicated in class
- Overall, she is one of the best GSI's [graduate student instructors] I've had as far as clarifying lectures & such
- Clarity, organization, prudent choice of curriculum
- Very realistic about how we understood what was said in lecture. She was very easy to approach and always helpful.
- Sense of responsibility towards the students – she doesn't drop or dodge questions, if she doesn't know on the spot she emails later.
- She picks up on it if students are confused & addresses it immediately.
- Provides good examples, models, and activities (yeah, she spent time coming up w/ activities that were extremely useful!)
- Her attitude and concern for us; her preparation and organization.

Section leader's least effective characteristics:

- Grades too hard
- Everything was really great. I actually wish section was longer b/c I got so much out of it.
- None, Clair is the best!
- Clair rocks. The only improvement would be to know with certainty the answers to every single question we ask – a bit unrealistic. She should be a prof.
- Erasing the board too quickly.
- Sometimes covers topics too generally (but obviously constrained by time).

Most Effective aspects of section:

- Simplifying what was taught in lecture
- Hands on activities!
- Use of examples
- Really helps clarify lecture concepts and gives concrete examples that are neglected in lecture.
- Lecture outline, activities, working through examples
- Use of color in explaining difficult things

Least effective aspects of section:

- Too much to cover in too little time.
- N/A – This section should be the lecture, it's that helpful!
- Hire Clair as a prof!
- Too short, or too few per lecture.
- Nothing – she saved us all.

COMMENTS FROM STUDENTS IN **INTRODUCTORY APPLIED ECONOMETRICS**

Section leader's most effective characteristics:

- Clear, well organized, a great clarification for the lectures.
- I especially liked the handout on interacting variables; very useful!
- Clear explanations/concise; describes most important parts of lecture; useful handouts
- Clair is by far the best GSI [graduate student instructor] that I have had in 3 years. She always came prepared and she clearly and concisely presented the material.
- Clair is extremely well prepared & always has a plan. Sections review lecture (sometimes a little redundant, but helpful) & also expand on it with interesting & creative activities. She knows her stuff & communicates clearly & obviously cares that we learn it. In essence, Clair is an excellent teacher.
- Almost always resolves confusions that arise in lecture
- Understands and communicates material in a new and different way from lecture, allowing for greater understanding.
- Clair is awesome. She's very good at explaining things clearly in section and thinking of instructive practice problems
- Among the most prepared GSI's [graduate student instructors] I have had
- Clair is such an excellent GSI [graduate student instructor]. She is able to clarify concepts extremely clearly and answers students' questions/confusion right to the points. She really cares about the students and prepares so much and so well for each section. She is extremely willing to help and is always available at office hour.
- Organization, clarity of thought & communication, fairness, knowing everyone's names, strong examples, ability to think through challenging questions on her feet and provide clear examples, professionalism, timeliness (in grading, in starting & finishing class on time, in emailing responses to student questions)
- She is obviously very committed to teaching and to her responsibility towards the students. Good sense of humor and affable, makes section enjoyable.

Section leader's least effective characteristics:

- Great comments on problem set but grading is a little bit too harsh
- A little intimidating at first because very direct and efficient. But that's just the beginning (in other words, scary first impression)
- Sometimes has too much material planned & has to rush or skip stuff.
- Clair is a difficult grader and her grading methods lean towards harming the grade of the student.
- The section is a great, succinct review of what we covered in class. Section notes are good material b/c they are basic and straight forward
- None. Clair Null is one of the most effective instructors I have ever had. She is made to teach.
- Occasionally writes too small (for lack of something else to say)
- Speaks too fast (but time constrained)

Most Effective aspects of section:

- Clarifying lecture
- Great exercises. In my 4 years, she was the best GSI [graduate student instructor] I have ever had.
- Well organized, made me feel like I had a good idea of all the major sections of the course really needed to know
- The in-class exercises/handouts were very helpful

Least effective aspects of section:

- Going through theory that isn't required for tests
- Not enough time to cover everything
- Always running out of time. If this section can be longer then it will be more helpful.
- Could expand more instead of so much review – apply info to real-world examples (the couple times she did this was interesting and useful)
- Sometimes in class worksheets / questions seemed “out of left field”
- None. I thought the section was very well organized, all important content was given just the right amount of emphasis and time.
- Lots of material to cover, spread too thinly
- Some of the group work ended up being more class based than individual groups, not necessarily Clair's fault