

Fall - 2017: HPM206 - Economic Analysis

Hemenway, David

Students Enrolled: 59

Students Responded: 50

Response Rate: 84.7 %

Overall Course Ratings (1 being "poor" and 5 being "superior")

	Responded	Rating	
Please rate the overall quality and usefulness of the course content.	49	4.1/5	.
Please rate the overall quality and effectiveness of teaching in the course.	49	3.8/5	.
Please provide an overall course rating.	49	4.0/5	.

Course Design and Quality (1 being "strongly disagree" and 5 being "strongly agree")

	Responded	Rating	
The course met the learning objectives stated in the syllabus.	48	4.2/5	.
The course was presented in an appropriate format for the subject matter.	48	3.9/5	.
The syllabus was clear, organized, and complete.	48	3.9/5	.
The skills and knowledge from the course will be useful in my professional life.	47	4.1/5	.

Teaching Assistants (1 being "poor" and 5 being "superior")

1. Chan, Alex	Responded	Rating	
Please rate the overall effectiveness of the teaching assistant.	47	4.7/5	.

In what ways was the teaching assistant most effective? Why? [Show/hide the responses »](#)

- **Submitted on December 11, 2017 at 01:13:10 PM:**
Alex was the best.
- **Submitted on December 13, 2017 at 09:16:43 AM:**
Always made himself available, took the time to make sure students understand the topics that were not effectively covered in lectures
- **Submitted on December 11, 2017 at 04:46:08 PM:**
Weekly review sessions plus extra review sessions before quizzes and exams. Alex is very dedicated and a fantastic teacher.
- **Submitted on December 11, 2017 at 01:15:21 PM:**
So helpful during review sessions!

- **Submitted on December 15, 2017 at 12:30:26 PM:**
Alex is the most dedicated, smart, and approachable TA at Harvard. He held weekly review sessions to go over concepts, classroom material, and problem sets. Additionally, he held extra sessions before quizzes and midterms to ensure that everyone understood the concepts. He was so dedicated that we even had a teleconference call at 11:30pm after he got off a plane to make sure we felt comfortable with the material!
I hope he continues teaching after he finishes his MPH at Harvard.
 - **Submitted on December 14, 2017 at 08:02:54 PM:**
Alex is a legend. He schedules review sessions out of his personal time. He explains the concepts in simple effective ways. Responsive to emails. He is knowledgeable and an expert in the field of Economics.
 - **Submitted on December 13, 2017 at 09:23:30 AM:**
Alex is an incredible TA. He was so helpful for teaching the problem-set related material and made himself available despite his busy schedule to help us work through the quizzes and other issues. He went above and beyond for the course and I really appreciated his teaching in conjunction with Professor Hemenway.
 - **Submitted on December 11, 2017 at 05:30:39 PM:**
Very accessible
 - **Submitted on December 16, 2017 at 03:37:40 PM:**
Alex is amazing and I would have done poorly in this class without his help.
 - **Submitted on December 16, 2017 at 09:01:59 PM:**
Alex is amazing! He's very responsive to questions and offers to hold review sessions!
 - **Submitted on December 17, 2017 at 10:17:55 AM:**
Very accessible and approachable. Always made sure that concepts were explained clearly and put in a lot of effort.
 - **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 01:35:14 PM:**
Would like to please nominate Alex for a Teaching Award!
- Very available for struggling students, applied course content to our public health context.
- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 02:06:54 PM:**
Give this guy a raise; he is phenomenal, accessible, and amazing at teaching.
 - **Submitted on December 17, 2017 at 11:20:59 AM:**
Alex is very dedicated and enthusiastic in the course. He is very helpful and inspiring. I learned a lot from Alex. I think Alex will definitely be a phenomenal instructor in the future.
 - **Submitted on December 26, 2017 at 10:09:02 PM:**
addresses themes in relevant manner. very approachable and use memorable examples to help better understanding of economic concepts.
 - **Submitted on December 17, 2017 at 02:31:02 PM:**
If I could give Alex a 10, I would. This man is Gandalf, Dumbledore, and Merlin, all rolled into one. He is the greatest TA I have ever had, and also has the best hair in the U.S. He was extremely dedicated and held weekly review sessions, even though he has a full-time job to work. He was also very receptive to students' concerns and provided us with a lot of extra support to be able to do problem sets on our own and pass the exams. I don't think I've seen more dedication or passion from any other TA I've had. He was also enthusiastic about every concept, which made learning economics more fun.
 - **Submitted on December 17, 2017 at 10:35:54 AM:**
Presented topics in many different formats for mid-term and final exams. Thank you for recording your sessions when you could!!! Very helpful and supplemental to the course lectures. Alex was very available for student questions. Thank you!
 - **Submitted on December 11, 2017 at 09:10:10 PM:**
Very accessible, review sessions were useful I understand (didn't attend myself)
 - **Submitted on December 17, 2017 at 10:26:35 PM:**
Alex's review sessions for quizzes and exams were extremely useful, especially for some of the harder concepts throughout the course. Always sought to explain concepts in a different manner and provide many examples. He did an amazing job of being available, even hosting web conferences when out of town.
 - **Submitted on December 14, 2017 at 03:56:44 PM:**
his review sessions

- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 11:48:23 AM:**
Alex was an invaluable asset to the course. He was extremely generous in giving up his time to provide tutes and help whenever students needed it. He clearly has an excellent grasp on the subject matter and is able to communicate these concepts easily. Without the Friday sessions I would have struggled to keep up with the course.
- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 11:27:58 AM:**
Amazing TA. very friendly and approachable.
- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 12:26:59 PM:**
Friday sessions with examples
- **Submitted on January 3, 2018 at 12:38:02 PM:**
Alex was an amazing TA on this course - his teaching sessions were one of the most useful tools to facilitate learning. He was extremely dedicated, providing weekly review sessions, exam review sessions and feedback and help in office hours. The course would have been unmanageable were it not for his supplementary teaching.
- **Submitted on December 21, 2017 at 11:14:21 AM:**
Top-notch, and really goes out of his way to ensure students understand content. I must say that I would not have passed this course without Alex. He is very knowledgeable about course material and passionate about the subject. It was a pleasure having him as a TA.
- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 09:44:32 PM:**
Alex is an incredible TA. He consistently went above and beyond, filled the gaps in our knowledge/addressed confusing points from the lecture, was highly responsive in lab sessions, office hours, and emails, and helped us strategize how to solve problems without "teaching to the test". I really appreciated all his efforts.
- **Submitted on December 19, 2017 at 05:50:53 PM:**
Alex was great!! He was there every Friday to help us answer our questions and make sure we knew how to to the problem sets. He didn't hesitate to put the extra work and I think I could not have done it without him. Thanks Alex!!
- **Submitted on December 20, 2017 at 11:12:19 AM:**
Alex's review sessions were so very helpful in parsing out the material and going through the concepts.
- **Submitted on January 4, 2018 at 07:16:26 PM:**
AMAZING! Great ability to explain material with conceptual clarity, in multiple ways. Funny and enthusiastic in an infectious way. Responsive to concerns and great at really listening to and answering questions.
- **Submitted on December 21, 2017 at 06:07:30 PM:**
Labs were good.

What recommendations would you make to the teaching assistant to strengthen teaching practices or to make the course more valuable? [Show/hide the responses »](#)

- **Submitted on December 13, 2017 at 09:23:30 AM:**
Alex should always TA this course- he's awesome.
- **Submitted on December 11, 2017 at 01:15:21 PM:**
Sometimes review went quite quickly. would be more helpful to have longer sessions so that we could go through material slower.
- **Submitted on December 16, 2017 at 03:37:40 PM:**
Slow down and stay focused. He went off on tangents some times that we not relevant and made it difficult to follow.
- **Submitted on December 11, 2017 at 05:30:39 PM:**
I wasn't able to understand his way of teaching
- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 02:06:54 PM:**
Try to avoid using overly-complicated examples that end up confusing students even more. It's a good sign that you're ready to be a professor, but not a good sign of your progress in teaching! I think you're still aware of when you do it, though, because you verbally acknowledge it every so often.
- **Submitted on December 14, 2017 at 03:56:44 PM:**
It may be helpful to slow down and break things down fully during review sessions.
- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 03:49:23 PM:**
Alex conducted review sessions every Friday which were very helpful. However, I feel that students who were unable to attend were penalized. It was difficult to get the information from the sessions if

you were not present. In fact, for our final exam the session was not recorded and Alex would not distribute the practice questions or notes from the session. Given that these Friday sessions were not included on the course schedule when we signed up, I think this was unfair to students who had other commitments during this time.

- **Submitted on December 15, 2017 at 12:30:26 PM:**
Thank you for being an amazing TA in a class that wasn't always so straight forward.
- **Submitted on December 14, 2017 at 08:02:54 PM:**
Provide solutions to the questions that are provided in the review sessions
- **Submitted on December 17, 2017 at 02:31:02 PM:**
N/A. Alex is the best.
- **Submitted on December 26, 2017 at 10:09:02 PM:**
N/A.
- **Submitted on December 18, 2017 at 09:44:32 PM:**
Nothing, he did a great job.
- **Submitted on December 21, 2017 at 11:14:21 AM:**
Slow down when explaining material as he moves at a very fast-pace.
- **Submitted on December 21, 2017 at 06:07:30 PM:**
Sometimes he lab got a little off track with off topic questions. It'd be better to follow up with those later.