

PP - Public Policy
 Course Name: Quantitative Approaches and Policy Analysis



Course ID: 05-PP455_AT25

Course Convenor: Dr Jeremiah Dittmar
 Subject of Survey: Thomas Monk

No. of Teacher Section survey responses = 60

Overall indicators

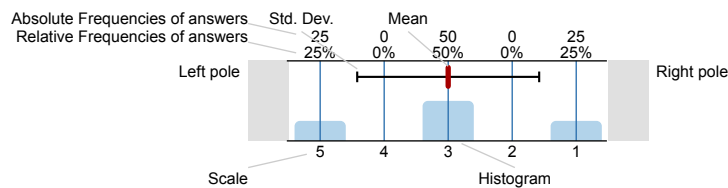
Teacher Questions Section Average



av.=4.8
 dev.=0.7

Legend

Question text

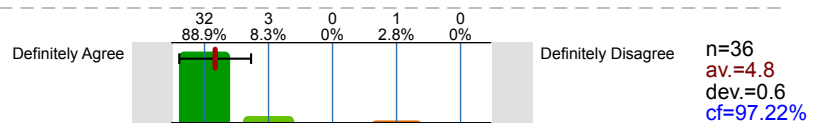


1. was my teacher

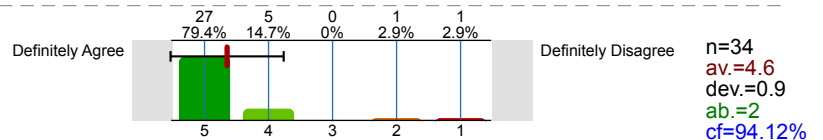
1.1)



1.2) The teacher communicated ideas and concepts effectively.



1.3) The feedback I received from this teacher has helped my learning and performance (select N/A if another teacher was responsible for providing you with feedback for this course)



1.4) Please comment on aspects of this teacher's teaching you think were particularly good.

- AMAZING TEACHER ! A crack in Math and Econ, you can feel it.
- Clearly goes through concepts and explains elements well. Ensures comprehension before moving on.
- Communication skills and pedagogical skills.
- He explains concepts very clearly, making them easy to understand, and is always open to questions. He promotes active participation in class by asking questions that keep students engaged throughout the session. Additionally, he constantly checks if we have understood the material, which is very valuable, and always seeks the simplest way to explain the concepts.
- He has a good pace to explain things.
- He is an excellent seminar teacher. Very engaging and always is open to questions.
- He is very knowledgeable on the subject.
 He creates a very nice environment for learning in the classroom.
 He knows how to fill in the space when students don't know the answers to his questions.
 All around a very positive experience.
- I am incredibly grateful that Tom was my TA. He is by far the best teacher I have come across. He has a natural talent for explaining complex topics in a very intuitive way. I appreciated him always pointing out why we learn the things we learn and what their use

cases will be in our future. He also made sure class was interactive. I always felt comfortable participating and asking questions.

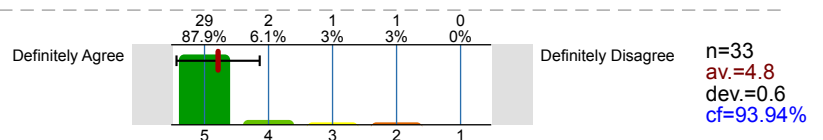
- I think he's really good at making the content engaging and relatable. Usually math can feel very daunting, but he makes it seem possible to solve.
- I think he tries his best to explain and seems like a nice guy.
- Their ability to explain mathematical concepts in detail, but in a relatable and modular manner (such that you can understand the sub-components of a complex concept) has been invaluable.
- The professor demonstrated a strong understanding of the content and provided additional explanations to deepen the material, offering more detailed insights.
- The seminars with Thomas were particularly helpful; his teaching style and presence really brought the rather dry material to life. I'm not a quant fan by nature, but he is helping. He really took the time to answer individual questions, never jumped down anyone's throat and was patient.
- The teacher explained difficult concepts clearly and helped understanding particularly through interactive Q&A sessions with students.
- Thomas has been one of the strongest parts of the course so far. He puts a lot of effort into engaging students with the content and addressing everyone's questions
- Thomas has been really helpful in reiterating concepts and going through problem sets in a way that builds our intuition for approaching quant from a policy making perspective
- Thomas Monk is an excellent teacher. His classes and instruction are the reason I feel confident in my grasp on the course concepts. He leads our seminars in a very engaging way, often using repetition but with a variety of examples to help ensure that we understand the course topics. He has such a strong grasp on the course material but is able to convey his lessons in a way that is suited to both quantitative and non-quantitative students. I can tell he really cares about his students as well, he often goes out of his way to send us examples of the course concepts in the real world outside of class time. I can't say enough good things about him, I feel he is one of the best instructors that LSE has to offer. His teaching style is perfectly suited to the diverse cohorts at LSE and what I have learned in the interactive discussions in his class are something I will carry with me throughout my career.
- Tom's seminars are extremely well structured, and he always comes prepared for each session. He is very clear in his explanations and excellent at breaking down very technical concepts in a way that makes them understandable. I also like how he goes beyond the material to make us consider how what we are learning can be applied to other situations and case studies.
Overall, I think he is an excellent instructor - knowledgeable, incredibly patient and able to explain things clearly. I also really like how he manages the class: he is very good at promoting class participation and discussion through questions, and the energy he brings also encourages the class to engage enthusiastically with the material. He creates a very comfortable environment to ask questions and make mistakes, which is very ideal - especially given that the concepts are very new for a lot of students.
- Tom did an incredible job of explaining content in a way that was both accessible to people who were seeing these things for the first time and really enriching for people (like me) who have taken at least one econometrics course previously. He is engaging and can bounce between technical precision and real-world application with great ease. He was also able to consistently get through a large amount of content in each class while still leaving room for questions and discussion.
- Tom is a fantastic TA! He's personable, respectful and very intelligent. It's very clear that he wants his students to not only understand concepts discussed in class, but also to succeed. He came to seminar every week very prepared, made sure students were comfortable to ask questions, and always eager to answer questions / go over any material that was confusing for the students. Additionally, I really liked that when he posed a question, paused for a moment to wait for student engagement, and noticed that when no one was answering would find another way to phrase the question, rather than just supplying us with the answer. He always makes sure that we're involved, engaged and participate without making us feel unknowledgeable.
- Tom is an excellent communicator, making topics that seemed very complex and confusing in lecture seem to make sense. He also creates a very supportive environment in the classroom, allowing us to make mistakes and learn from them.
- Tom is an excellent teacher. He does a great job walking students through the material and explaining concepts in the most simple way possible, despite the complexity of material. He also does an excellent job connecting our coursework to real policy, such as by sending us relevant news articles or research. He also regularly solicits feedback from students about what we feel we need most review on.
- Tom is very patient and walks through the material clearly in seminar and office hours. He really focused on helping us build intuition and developing critical thinking skills. He was also very interactive and always tried to get the class to participate by asking us to answer questions. Also, when I have gone for office hours, he has followed up with further resources that he thinks would be helpful for my questions, which I really appreciate. Lastly, he sends us emails with real world applications of the concepts we are learning from class, for us to think about and evaluate, which I really like.
- Tom Monk is a fantastic teacher. His seminar is essential to a real understanding of the course material. He is able to clearly break down concepts that were unclear in lecture and tie them back to practical considerations in policymaking and research.
- Tom was an incredible TA. His classes are very engaging and well structured. It's very clear that he cares about students' understanding of class concepts and he goes above and beyond to ensure that we are grasping the material. Thanks to Tom, I'm closer than I've ever been to understanding what a p-value is.
- Tom was fantastic in clearly communicating the course material in an approachable way, emphasizing important concepts, and pushing the class' understanding of the subject. Without Tom's teaching, I would have been incredibly lost in this completely new subject. He presented the material clearly and compellingly to also thoroughly keep the class engaged.
- very pedagogical, really simplified my understanding of stats in general, clear and engaging seminars. coming from a non-math

background I really feel like I learned a lot with Thomas in 11 weeks. also very accessible during office hours

1.5) Please comment on aspects of this teacher's teaching you think could be improved.

- don't change anything!
- During the seminar, which lasted an hour and a half, perhaps the professor rushed through the explanations
- He could be clearer about which concepts are most essential at this stage and which details are less critical, so students can better prioritise their learning.
- He doesn't learn our names, he encouraged us to use Claude or ChatGPT when we don't understand something instead of explaining the question to us and will oftentimes say when someone has a question that we don't have time to get into this right now so we should try to understand it with Claude but that we need to have grasped this concept by next week. I understand he's busy with his PhD but I do think that a bit more of a personal approach would be good and I also just know that Gen AI often gives false answers so I'm not sure about encouraging that in this context.
- He is one of the best teachers I have ever had.
- I felt very intimidated when I didn't understand something. Also, goes way too fast through the problem set review.
- more office hours :)
- No comments! He rocks!
- No complaints!
- None
- None.
- No notes, thanks, Tom.
- Nothing! He is amazing and I'm surprised he isn't a professor with his own lectures yet.
- Nothing, very clear, very factual, we love that.
- Nothing to improve.
- Nothing to say, except maybe cold calling in seminars might help with participation.
- Participation got better over the course of the semester, but it would be nice to have ways to encourage more engagement in seminar. Doing small things like having us briefly discuss a question with the people around us before returning to the full group discussion really helped with this, and should be continued!
- Sometimes he is not in the best mood. I sent him an email because I had an NHS appointment and could not attend his seminar, but he did not answer.
- Usually unable to completely go through the problem set due to time constraints.

1.6) Overall, I am satisfied with the teaching by this teacher on the course.



Profile

Subunit: PP - Public Policy
Responsible for modules: Dr Jeremiah Dittmar
Name of the course: Thomas Monk
(Name of the survey)
Comparative line: School Average 24/25 - Instructor Questions

Values used in the profile line: Mean

1. was my teacher

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------|--|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1.2) The teacher communicated ideas and concepts effectively. | Definitely Agree | | Definitely Disagree | n=36 n=1 | av.=4.8 av.=4.6 |
| 1.3) The feedback I received from this teacher has helped my learning and performance (select N/A if another teacher was responsible for providing you with | Definitely Agree | | Definitely Disagree | n=34 n=1 | av.=4.6 av.=4.5 |
| 1.6) Overall, I am satisfied with the teaching by this teacher on the course. | Definitely Agree | | Definitely Disagree | n=33 n=1 | av.=4.8 av.=4.5 |