



May 20, 2022

Jonathan Andrew Smith
jasmith52@wisc.edu

Dear Andrew:

The Department of Economics Teaching Assistant Review Committee has examined student and faculty evaluations of your teaching performance during the Spring 2022 semester. Your average score on the "rate performance" question (#6) was **4.71**. It is a pleasure to inform you that the excellence of your teaching during the semester warrants a citation as a "Distinguished Teaching Assistant." The Committee concluded that you were one of the truly outstanding TAs in the spring semester. Being a highly successful TA involves considerable effort and dedication. This level of achievement involved a considerable commitment on your part. You have made a substantial contribution to the quality of our teaching program. We extend our congratulations and believe that your performance augurs well for your future, especially in the classroom.

The Committee thought it might be helpful for each TA to have the following information:

Spring 2022 Question (#6) Frequency Distribution of Average Scores on "Rate Performance"	
Range	Number of TA's Receiving this Average Score
4.68 – 5.00 (Distinguished)	14
4.38 – 4.67 (Excellent)	20
3.48 – 4.37 (Good)	27
3.0 – 3.47 (Satisfactory)	0
Below 3.0	0

Average TA rating on this question was 4.37

Copies of this letter, the faculty evaluation, and student evaluation summary will be included in your file.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Engel
Professor, Donald D. Hester Distinguished Chair
Chair, TA Review Committee

TA Review

TA: Andrew Smith

Reviewer: Chao Fu

Let me begin by saying that Andrew is by far one of the best TA's I have ever had.

Andrew is a very efficient TA. His review sessions are well-organized. He delivers ideas and answers questions clearly by combining different communication approaches: using the chalkboard, Q&A time as well as handouts. He is calm and confident in review sessions. Students have high respect for him.

I am very happy to have him as my TA and I am very thankful for all the hard work he has done to improve the class.

Andrew is also very passionate about teaching and he cares about students a lot.

University of Wisconsin Madison

Survey Results Aggregate

Spring 2022 End of Semester TA Survey Pending Results

2022 Spring / Student Course Evaluation (End of Term) / Anonymous Survey


Course Assignments: 182 / Survey Participants: 3814

Schedule: 4/22/2022 to 5/6/2022

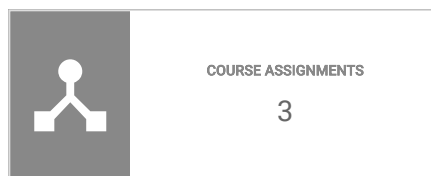
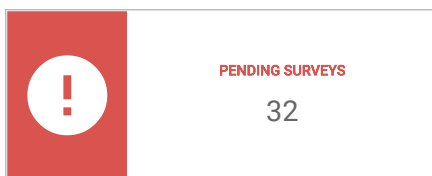
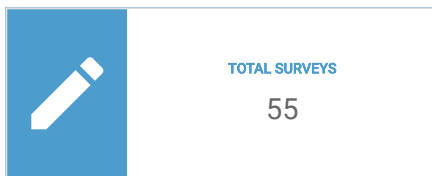
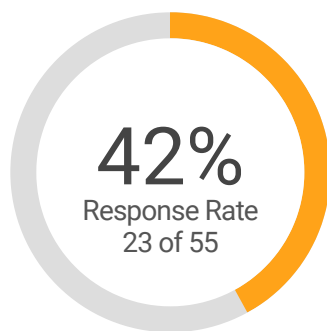
Results Available: 5/17/2022



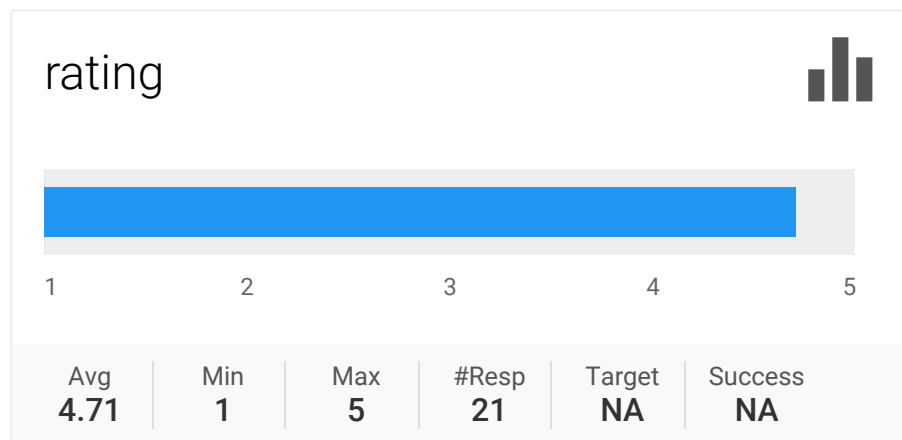
This survey has completed. However, results are not available for faculty to review until **Tuesday, May 17, 2022.**

Instructor:  Andrew Smith

Survey Overview / Instructor Results Aggregate



Survey Metrics / Instructor Results Aggregate



Section 1

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS TA EVALUATION

I-Teaching Assistant

1

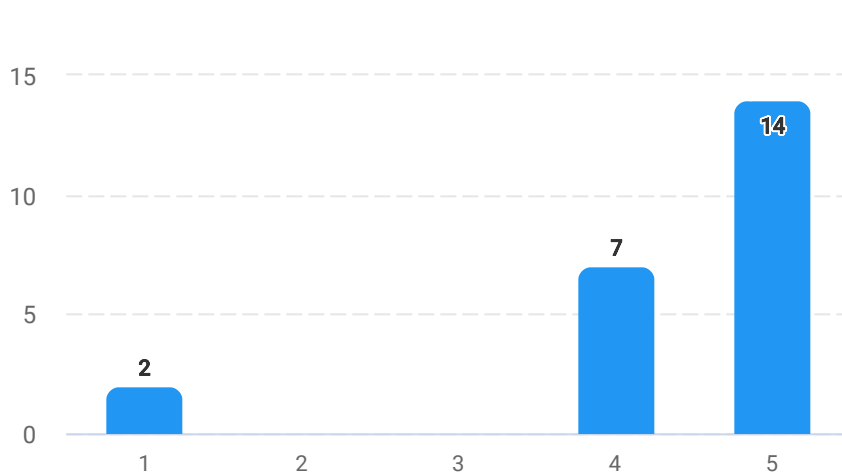
How many of the discussion or lab sections led by the TA have you attended so far?

(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew Smith Instructor

Value	Option	Total
1	None	2
2	One	0
3	Two - Five	0
4	Six - Ten	7
5	11 or more	14



Average	4.35
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev.	1.13
Variance	1.27

2

How would you rate the TA's ability to lead discussion or present material in your section?

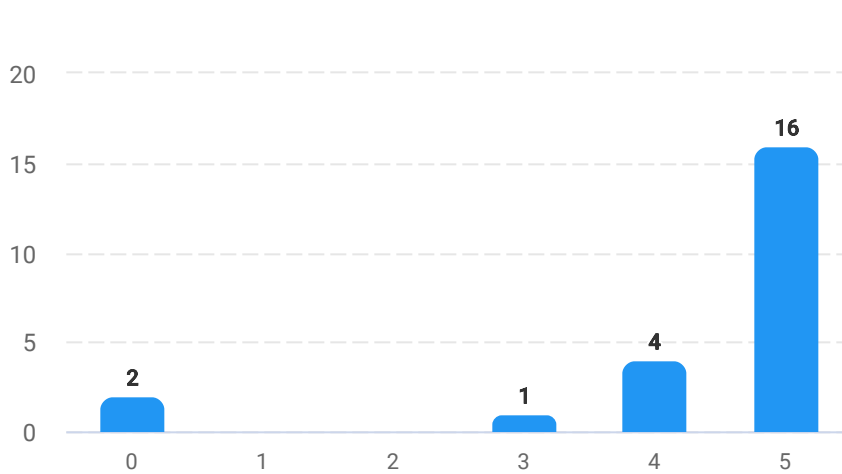
(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew Smith Instructor

Value	Option	Total
0	Did not attend	2

Value	Option	Total
1	Poor	0
2	Fair	0
3	Average	1
4	Good	4
5	Excellent	16



Average	4.71
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev.	0.55
Variance	0.30

3

Of those sections you have attended, what proportion were interesting and/or thought-provoking?

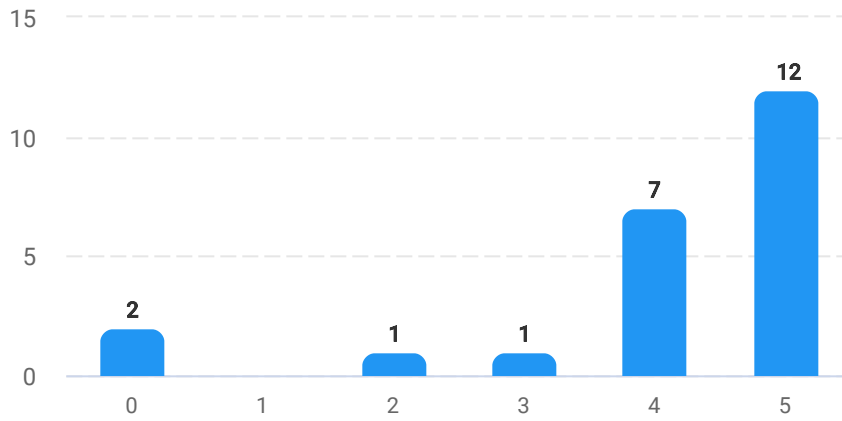
(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew Smith Instructor

Value	Option	Total
0	Did not attend	2
1	Almost none	0
2	Few	1
3	About Half	1
4	Most	7
5	Almost all	12





Average	4.43
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev.	0.79
Variance	0.63

4

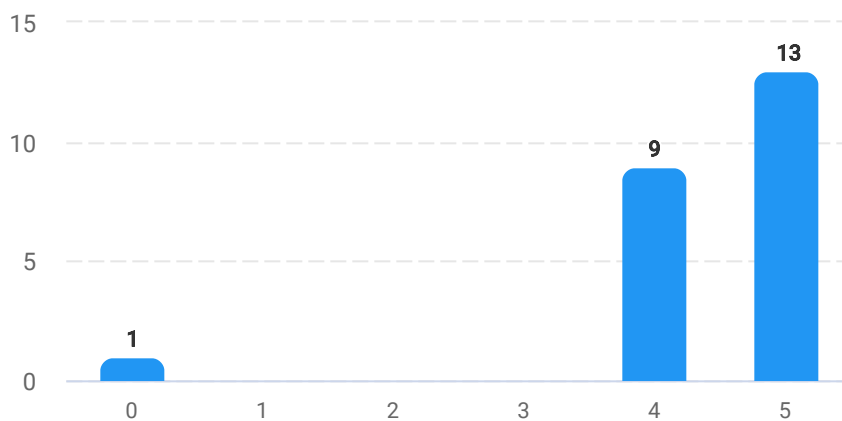
Overall, what is your assessment of the TA's knowledge of the material related to this course?

(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew Smith Instructor

Value	Option	Total
0	Did not attend	1
1	Poor	0
2	Fair	0
3	Average	0
4	Good	9
5	Excellent	13



Average	4.59
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev.	0.49
Variance	0.24

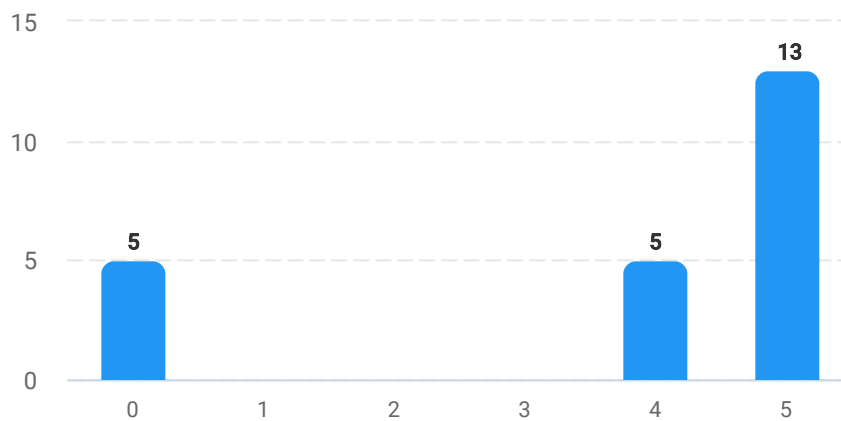
5

How responsive and helpful did you find your TA during office hours?

(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Value	Option	Total
0	Did not attend	5
1	Not at all helpful	0
2	Slightly helpful	0
3	Of average helpfulness	0
4	Better than average helpfulness	5
5	Extremely helpful	13




Average	4.72
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev.	0.45
Variance	0.20

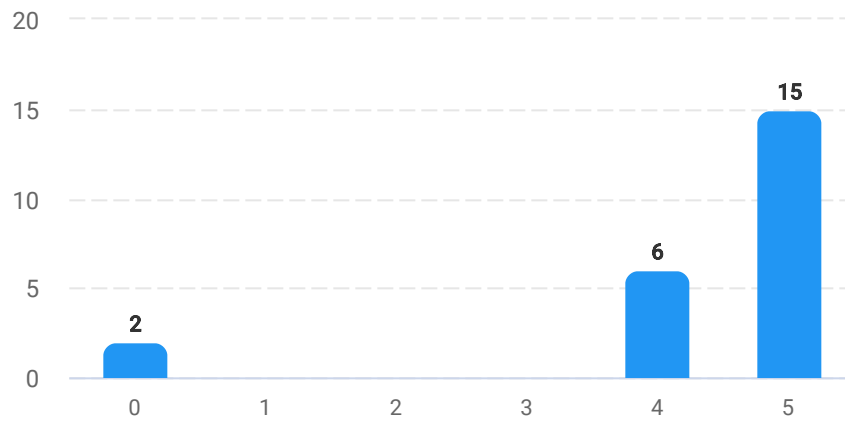
6

We know that how the professor conducts the course often influences what a TA is able to do in a course. Given the professor's role and the structure of this course, how would you evaluate your TA's performance?

(Instructor Multi-Choice)

 rating

Value	Option	Total
0	No Answer	2
1	Poor	0
2	Fair	0
3	Average	0
4	Good	6
5	Excellent	15



Average	4.71
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev.	0.45
Variance	0.20

II-TA Open-ended Questions

7

Please comment on any aspects of the section which you consider particularly satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Since this information will be given to the TA for improvement in his or her teaching, be as specific as you can in discussing and evaluating any phase of the section: presentation, responsiveness to questions, command of material, organization, mannerisms, teaching aids, etc.

(Instructor Text/Memo)



- Teaching style and handouts have been great. Could be slightly more condensed to follow but are informative and well written. Could print out more things on handouts for reminders of topics being discussed currently in class
- His teaching method was very approachable and the discussion section handouts were a great supplement to the course material. It was clear that he made sure he understood the concepts before teaching them to us and would sometimes teach the concepts in a different way from the professor which helped my understanding of some of the concepts. He also added in stuff from the economics history to the material, which was cool.
- Andrew was extremely responsive and always helped me out when I had questions. He was also extremely organized in the way he led this class as a TA, which is always appreciated!
- Andrew is one of the best TAs I've had in college so far. His discussion sessions helped me a lot with reviewing exams and understanding course content more than lectures. His teaching style was very engaging and well-paced. Thank you Andrew!
- Andrew was one of the best TA's I have ever had on campus, he always gave good advice towards the exam and went over helpful examples of what he thought was going to be on the evaluations throughout the semester. I felt as though I could anticipate what we would learn next based on his discussion. Lastly, he always came in with a great attitude that made me feel better about class at 8:50 am.
- Andrew was one of the best TAs I have ever met. He organized the class materials very well and all the solutions that he wrote were very easy to and really helped us understand the course materials. He is passionate when presenting and is responsive to all questions that we have. It was great to have a such a nice and helpful TA like Andrew.
- Ability to show where concepts come from was super helpful and explained them in a great way. One of the best TA's I've had.
- The materials you selected are very relevant and helpful for the exam. They are good practice problems for the exam.
- Andrew was a great TA. He was interesting and had extensive knowledge of the material we were learning about in class and beyond that. I enjoyed his style of teaching and showing us problems on the board weekly. He has helped me personally better understand the material of this class.
- Andrew is excellent at teaching. He is really helpful.
- Andrew was amazing this semester. He was extremely helpful with understanding concepts and how to solve problems. He was very transparent with what was expected from the course and provided us as much information as possible. For me in particular, he helped me a great amount and would have done significantly worse in the course if it weren't for him. I highly recommend him to be a TA for any economics course at this university.
- Excellent

economics
responsive
questions
organized
excellent

had concepts
good
class great
helped
course

helpful material best understand

8

What, if anything, limited your participation in section? (TA's style, other students, course structure, time of section, lack of preparation, etc.)

(Text/Memo)

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