



January 26, 2024

J. Andrew Smith
jasmith52@wisc.edu

Dear J. Andrew:

The Department of Economics Teaching Assistant Review Committee has examined student and faculty evaluations of your teaching performance during the Fall 2023 semester. Your average score on the "rate performance" question (#6) was **4.79**. 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 fall 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:

Fall 2023 Question (#6) Frequency Distribution of Average Scores on "Rate Performance"	
Range	Number of TAs Receiving this Score
4.70 - 5.00 (Distinguished)	15
4.40 - 4.69 (Excellent)	22
3.75 - 4.39 (Good)	26
3.00 - 3.74 (Satisfactory)	11
Below 3.0	0

Average TA rating on this question was 4.30.

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

Sincerely yours,

Marek Weretka
Stuart & Brenda McCroskey Professor of Economics
Chair, TA Review Committee

Fall 2023 End of Semester TA Survey Completed


2023 Fall / Student Course Evaluation (End of Term) / Anonymous Survey

Course Assignments: **215** / Survey Participants: **4548**

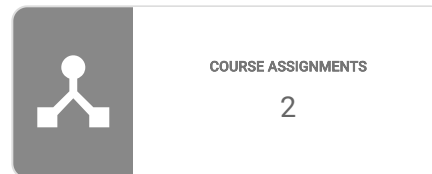
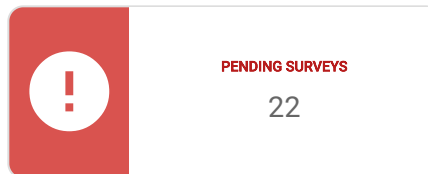
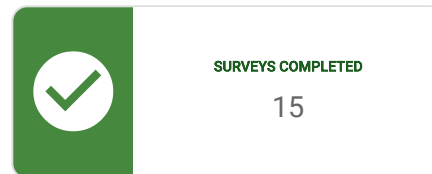
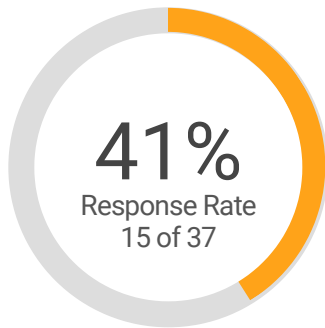
Schedule: 11/29/2023 to 12/13/2023

Results Available: 12/28/2023

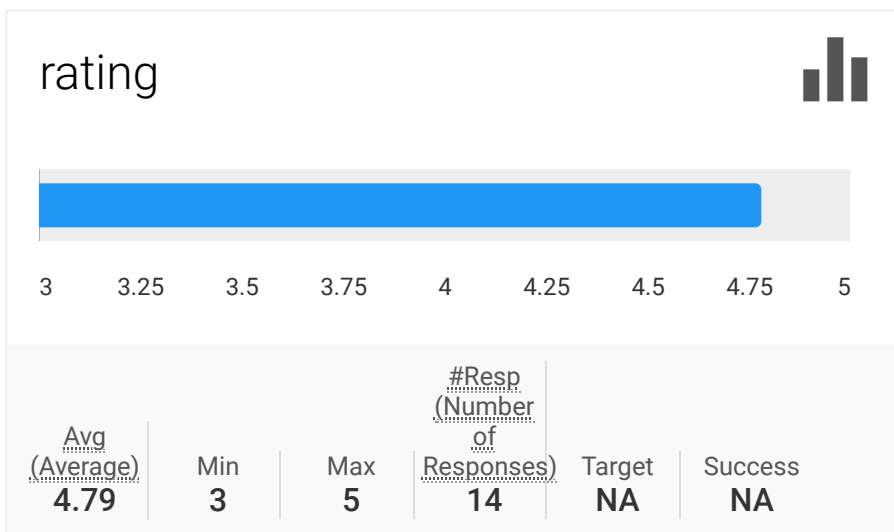
 This survey completed on **Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 11:59PM.**

Instructor:  Andrew Smith

Survey Overview : Instructor Results Aggregate



Survey Metrics : Instructor Results Aggregate



Survey Data : Instructor Results Aggregate

Section 1

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS TA EVALUATION

I-Teaching Assistant

1

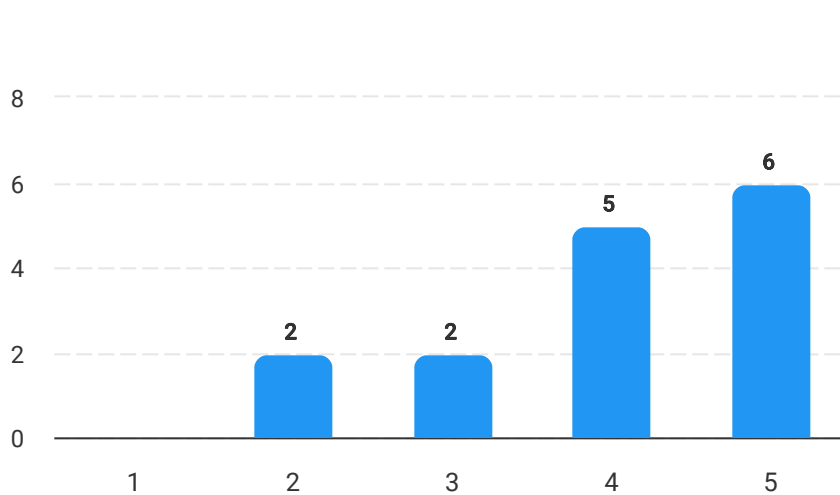
How many of the discussion or lab sections led by the TA have you attended so far?

(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew, Smith Instructor

Value Option	Total
1 None	0
2 One	2
3 Two - Five	2
4 Six - Ten	5
5 11 or more	6



Average	4.00
Median	4.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev. (Standard Deviation)	1.03
Variance	1.07

2

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

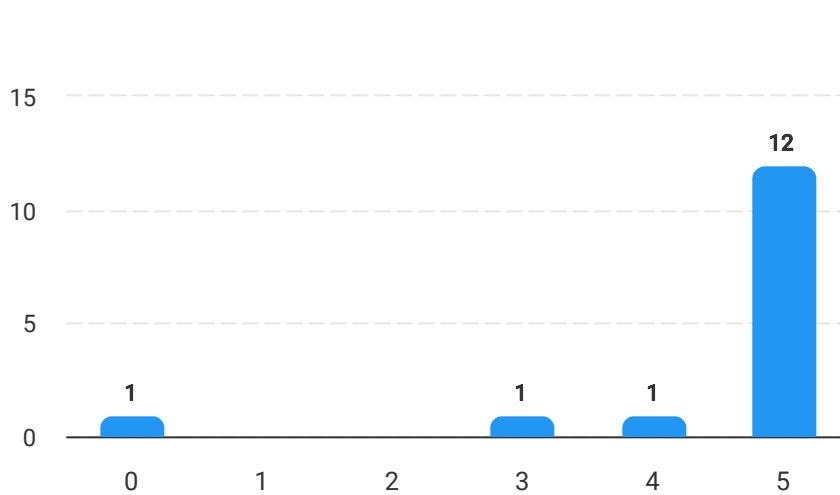
(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew, Smith Instructor

Value Option	Total
- Did not attend	1
1 Poor	0

Value	Option	Total
2	Fair	0
3	Average	1
4	Good	1
5	Excellent	12



Average	4.79
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev. (Standard Deviation)	0.56
Variance	0.31

3

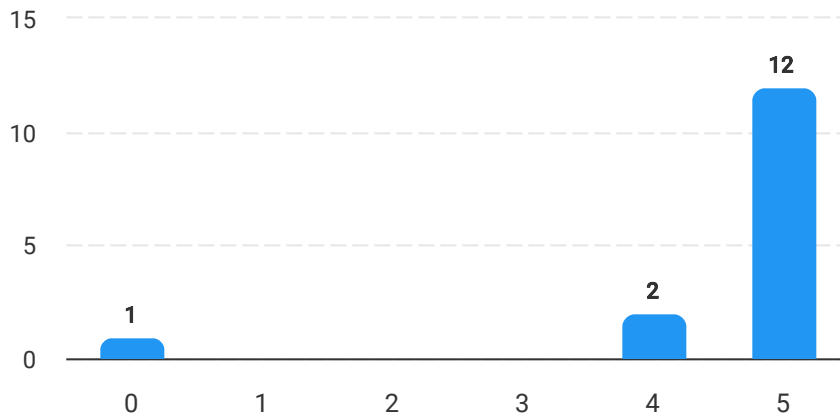
Of those sections you have attended, what proportion were interesting and/or thought-provoking?

(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew, Smith Instructor

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



Average	4.86
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev. (Standard Deviation)	0.35
Variance	0.12

4

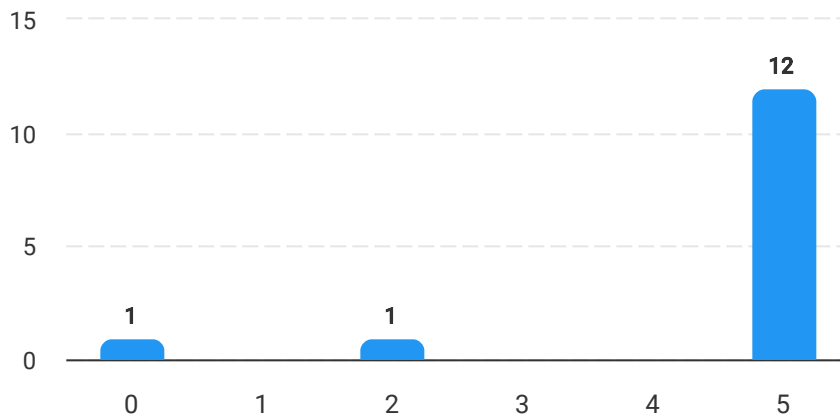
Overall, what is your assessment of the TA's knowledge of the material related to this course?

(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew, Smith Instructor

Value Option	Total
- Did not attend	1
1 Poor	0
2 Fair	1
3 Average	0
4 Good	0
5 Excellent	12



Average	4.77
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev. (Standard Deviation)	0.80
Variance	0.64

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

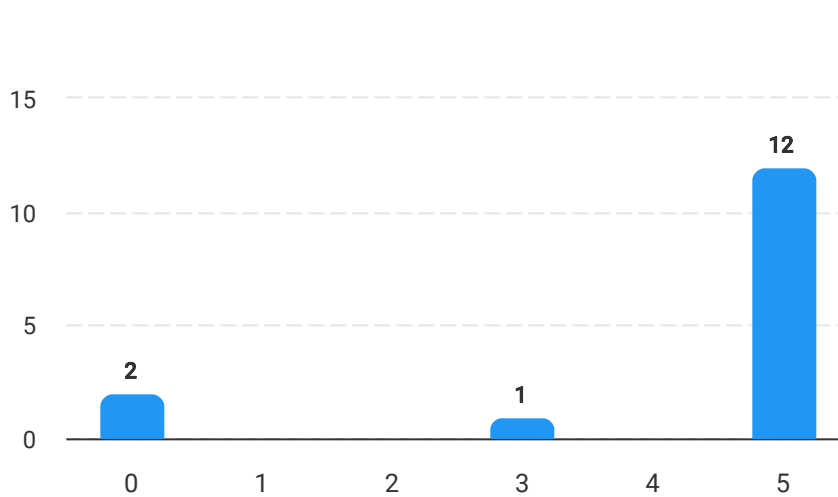
5

(Instructor Multi-Choice)



Andrew, Smith Instructor

Value	Option	Total
-	Did not attend	2
1	Not at all helpful	0
2	Slightly helpful	0
3	Of average helpfulness	1
4	Better than average helpfulness	0
5	Extremely helpful	12



Average	4.85
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev. (Standard Deviation)	0.53
Variance	0.28

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?

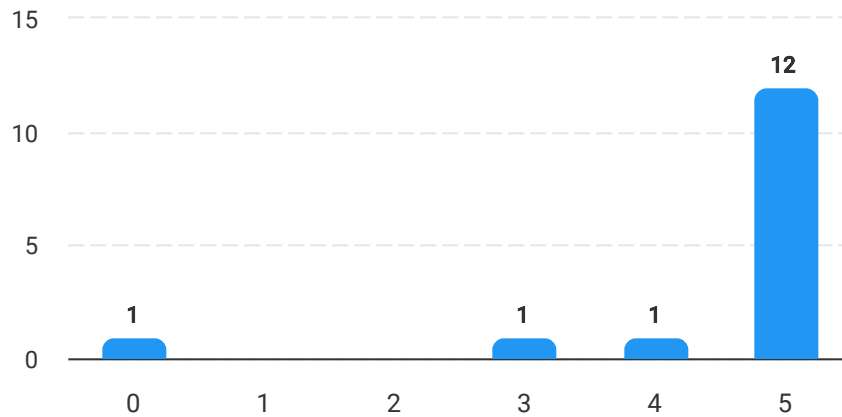
(Instructor Multi-Choice)

rating



Andrew, Smith Instructor

Value	Option	Total
-	No Answer	1
1	Poor	0
2	Fair	0
3	Average	1
4	Good	1
5	Excellent	12



Average	4.79
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Std. Dev. (Standard Deviation)	0.56
Variance	0.31

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)



Andrew, Smith Instructor

- Never needed to go to discussion but if I were to struggle with something I am sure that Andrew would be very helpful.
- He made discussion fun and not too serious. Very comfortable classroom setting. He made this course doable for me and explains how to do the problems well!
- Best TA
- I found his teaching very helpful when doing exercises and taking time to explain what different variables are and how parts of equations function. When asking questions he commonly added clarity to material from lecture.
- Andrew was a very good TA. I always had time to get my questions answered and hes very smart so could help me very easily. Discussions were easy to follow and covered that material that would be on exams. I felt good after leaving discussions like it was a good use of my time.
- I really appreciate how he showed the class the he was human and didn't expect our knowledge of economics to be perfect, I never felt dumb in his sessions (which I have in other economic TA discussions). He is also very easy to work with and get along with
- I thought Andrew did a great job leading section and was extremely helpful while also being a great teacher. The pace of covering material in section was perfect.

discussions
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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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TA Review

TA: Andrew Smith

Reviewer: Chao Fu

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.