William A. Swanson
University of California, Davis

Evidence of Teaching Effectiveness

1 Summary

Here I provide summary statistics from student evaluations on my performance as a Teaching Assistant. All courses are listed below. Section 4 includes complete and unedited evaluations. Some courses are omitted because the files are too large (indicated with a ⋆), however, all files are available for download on my website (https://www.w-swanson.com/) or by request.

Table 1: Summary of Teaching Evaluations*

Criteria \Course	Mean	Spring 2018	Winter 2018	Fall 2017	Fall 2016
Overall teaching effectiveness of the teaching assistant.	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.1	4.4
Presents the material in a clear, organized manner	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.0	4.4
Speaks audibly and communicates effectively	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.1	4.5
Stimulates discussion in sections	4.1	4.2	4.2	3.7	4.4
Responsive to questions	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.5
Punctual for sections and office hours	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.4
Available and helpful to students during office hours	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.5
Responsive to difficulties students have	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.5
Grading was fair and timely	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.0	4.4
Discussion section was a good educational experience	4.1	4.1	4.2	3.8	4.4
Overall, the TA did a good job in this course	4.4	4.2	4.5	4.1	4.6

*This table includes only the four most recent quarters of teaching. All scores are out of 5.

2 List of Courses

- Spring 2018: Introduction to Microeconomics
- Winter 2018: Introduction to Microeconomics
- Fall 2017: Introduction to Microeconomics
- Spring 2016: Intermediate Macroeconomics (⋆)
- Winter 2016: Intermediate Macroeconomics (⋆)
- Fall 2016: Economic History
- Spring 2015: Financial Economics(⋆)
- Winter 2015: Economic History (⋆)
- Fall 2015: Economic History (⋆)
- Spring 2014: Introduction to Microeconomics (⋆)
- Winter 2014: Intermediate Microeconomics (⋆)
- Fall 2013: Public Economics (⋆)
- Spring 2013: Introduction to Microeconomics (⋆)
- Winter 2013: Financial Economics (⋆)
- Fall 2012: Introduction to Macroeconomics (⋆)

3 Selected Comments

- 'Billy is probably the best TA I've had here at UC Davis. He reviews concepts that Lombardi taught in class as well as teaching ahead so we had an idea of what comes next. That helped me understand the new concepts during class better.' (Winter 2018)

- 'William Swanson really understood the subject and was able to simplify concepts for us in discussion. It was easy to tell that economics is something he enjoys and is really good at.' (Winter 2018)

- 'William was a great resource to have during this course. Every week he opened up section to questions we may be having, and answered them and more. After sections, I would feel confident in my knowledge of the course material that week. He really helped us wrap our heads around the difficult subjects!' (Spring 2018)

- 'He was a great TA, during discussion he would explain all the questions the student had. Our discussion section was really shy so he would try his best to involve us as much as he could. He tried really hard for the students to get involved in discussion.' (Fall 2017)

- 'Great job at summarizing class lectures. Made sure students understood class content and homework assignments. Great job with study outlines of the midterm. Very helpful office hours. TA covered important key points from the textbook, which made it helpful for short answer questions on exams.' (Fall 2016)

- 'Billy was wonderful at explaining info that was presented in lecture and readings. Great clarification of main points, very clear. Very encouraging, always ready to help a student who had questions. Definitely made material easier to grasp. Would love to have Billy as a TA again!'(Winter 2016)

4 Complete and Unedited Evaluations

Teaching Assistant William Swanson

Winter Quarter 2018
Selected Evaluations* (4)

Enrollment 123
% responding 58%

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - DAVIS

Student Evaluation of Teaching

	Excellent		Very Good		Satisfactory		Fair		Poor					
	5	%	4	%	3	%	2	%	1	%	$\bar{x}$	SD	M	N
Please indicate the overall educational value of the course. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	23	32%	32	45%	16	23%	0	0%	0	0%	4.1	0.7	4.0	71
Please indicate the overall teaching effectiveness of the teaching assistant. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	39	58%	24	36%	3	4%	1	1%	0	0%	4.5	0.7	5.0	67
Overall, the instructor did a good job teaching this course	36	53%	22	32%	10	15%	0	0%	0	0%	4.4	0.7	5.0	68
The TA presents the material in a clear and and organized manner	40	60%	18	27%	8	12%	0	0%	1	1%	4.4	0.8	5.0	67
The TA speaks audibly and communicates effectively	40	60%	26	39%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	4.6	0.5	5.0	67
The TA stimulates discussion in sections	33	49%	23	34%	6	9%	4	6%	1	1%	4.2	0.9	4.0	67
The TA is responsive to questions	48	72%	18	27%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	4.7	0.5	5.0	67
The TA is punctual for sections and office hours	43	64%	19	28%	5	7%	0	0%	0	0%	4.6	0.6	5.0	67
The TA is available and helpful to students during office hours	34	63%	19	35%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	4.6	0.5	5.0	54
The TA is responsive to difficulties students have in understanding the material	37	57%	23	35%	4	6%	1	2%	0	0%	4.5	0.7	5.0	65
The grading was fair and timely	31	50%	27	44%	4	6%	0	0%	0	0%	4.4	0.6	4.5	62
The discussion section was a good educational experience	32	48%	21	31%	9	13%	5	7%	0	0%	4.2	0.9	4.0	67
Overall, the TA did a good job in this course	42	62%	21	31%	5	7%	0	0%	0	0%	4.5	0.6	5.0	68

Evaluate only the TA (s) with whom you attended discussion section and/or office hours.

I went only the William Swanson's discussion section.

He's great with his work and concepts!

William Swanson really understood the subject and was able to simplify concepts for us in discussion. It was easy to tell that economics is something he enjoys and is really good at.

The TA has clear explanations which were easy to understand.

A great lecturer who does a great job going over what profesor Lombardi had covered in class, always easier to follow and understand when after attending his discussion. He spends time asking us questions and engaging with us, drawing graphs to help us visualize and remember, and going over a lot of practice questions to help us review. Personally, I think he did a great job when he took over one lecture, even though there were some technical issues. Overall, a fantastic TA dedicated to make things clearer for students.

Supplemented what we learned in lecture

He explains things well

Swanson was a very good instructor but he sometimes explained the material in ways that weren't covered in lectures, which still is a good thing for giving us a new outlook but sometimes made it difficult for the discution to go with the midterm

Good.

He is very engaging and puts forth relevant concepts to help us learn for hw

Tyler, kepler, dandi

He explains concepts pretty well, except he is always ahead of the class.

Mr. Swanson is a great TA who is open to questions and answers them thoughtfully. He understands the material well and is a great listener.

Billy!!

n/a

never went to discussion

Please provide additional information and/or elaborate on any aspect of your evaluation. These comments are often the most valuable part of your evaluation. Every comment will be read!

Billy is probably the best TA I've had here at UC Davis. He reviews concepts that Lombardi taught in class as well as teaching ahead so we had an idea of what comes next. That helped me understand the new concepts during class better.

Knowledgeable of subject and cared about students. He made the subject interesting to learn

It didn't happen frequently, but toward the end of discussions, Swanson used phrases like "just answer the question so we can all go home." He let us leave 20 minutes early one discussion section, seeming very irritated with a lack of student participation, despite people making their best efforts to speak about material we didn't understand. Overall, he was very responsive to questions, but for him to not seem bored and annoyed would have made for a better discussion experience.

For discussion, I would have liked if part of the time was dedicated to clearing up the material in lecture, rather than the upcoming chapter.

Lectures are useful for academic acquiring, but not useful in terms of exam preparations. Although profesor Lombardi gives us past practice exams to prepare for the midterm and final, he does not provide the key to the short answer questions, do we would only get the key for the multiple questions, which is highly ineffective when reviewing for the exam. Overall, too little material to help us review for the exams.

I put N/A for 9. because I never attended William's office hours. I put N/A for 11. as well because William did not grade the homework and I'm not sure how good he was as a grader of the midterms.

Never felt the need to seek out TA

Since I did not learn much about how to solve the algebraic problems in class, I found discussion section extremely beneficial because he would solve problems similar to those on our homework, so I better understood the material. Also, he is very approachable and answers any questions we have in discussion.

Swanson was a very good instructor but he sometimes explained the material in ways that weren't covered in lectures, which still is a good thing for giving us a new outlook but sometimes made it difficult for the discution to go with the midterm

Did a good job engaging everyone even though only 5-10 people ever went to the class.

He goes over concepts kinda fast sometimes, but overall not a big problem.

Good job Billy! Discussion was usefull and interesting and sometimes fun.

n/a

WINTER 2018

Term	Eval Opened	CRN	Subject	Course	Section	Enrollment	% Response
Winter Quarter 2018	3/9/2018 12:00 AM	74705	ECN	001A	B13	31	51
Winter Quarter 2018	3/9/2018 12:00 AM	74706	ECN	001A	B14	31	51
Winter Quarter 2018	3/9/2018 12:00 AM	74707	ECN	001A	B15	31	64
Winter Quarter 2018	3/9/2018 12:00 AM	74708	ECN	001A	B16	30	66

Teaching Assistant William Swanson

Spring Quarter 2018
Selected Evaluations* (4)

Enrollment 118
% responding 45%

	Excellent		Very Good		Satisfactory		Fair		Poor					
	5	%	4	%	3	%	2	%	1	%	$\bar{x}$	SD	M	N
Please indicate the overall educational value of the course. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	20	38%	20	38%	12	23%	1	2%	0	0%	4.1	0.8	4.0	53
Please indicate the overall teaching effectiveness of the teaching assistant. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	23	45%	16	31%	12	24%	0	0%	0	0%	4.2	0.8	4.0	51
Overall, the instructor did a good job teaching this course	21	46%	18	39%	6	13%	1	2%	0	0%	4.3	0.8	4.0	46
The TA presents the material in a clear and and organized manner	16	36%	18	41%	9	20%	1	2%	0	0%	4.1	0.8	4.0	44
The TA speaks audibly and communicates effectively	19	41%	20	43%	7	15%	0	0%	0	0%	4.3	0.7	4.0	46
The TA stimulates discussion in sections	18	39%	21	46%	5	11%	2	4%	0	0%	4.2	0.8	4.0	46
The TA is responsive to questions	21	45%	22	47%	4	9%	0	0%	0	0%	4.4	0.6	4.0	47
The TA is punctual for sections and office hours	22	49%	18	40%	5	11%	0	0%	0	0%	4.4	0.7	4.0	45
The TA is available and helpful to students during office hours	21	52%	15	38%	4	10%	0	0%	0	0%	4.4	0.7	5.0	40
The TA is responsive to difficulties students have in understanding the material	22	49%	19	42%	4	9%	0	0%	0	0%	4.4	0.6	4.0	45
The grading was fair and timely	21	46%	15	33%	8	17%	1	2%	1	2%	4.2	0.9	4.0	46
The discussion section was a good educational experience	17	36%	20	43%	8	17%	2	4%	0	0%	4.1	0.8	4.0	47
Overall, the TA did a good job in this course	19	40%	20	43%	8	17%	0	0%	0	0%	4.2	0.7	4.0	47

Evaluate only the TA (s) with whom you attended discussion section and/or office hours.

Billy was alright. Max was really good.
William Swanson
Helpful
Billy was very well versed in the material and even though it seemed like the material was straightforward, he was still able to generate good discussion and even better examples than those in class.
explained things well and helpful for exams
I attended the last discussion, but no one was there.
Very good at applying lessons we learned to real life. Very courteous and approachable. Always tried to make the material engaging for us.
Really patient, He explain everything in a really good way, sometimes a little better than the professor
Very helpful and approachable!
My TA was the most helpful part of this entire course and is probably the reason I passed

Please provide additional information and/or elaborate on any aspect of your evaluation. These comments are often the most valuable part of your evaluation. Every comment will be read!

I never went to the discussions.
William was very helpful in my understanding of Economics, although one thing that can be worked on is to organize the discussion sessions a little better, since sometimes he was unprepared.
N/A
William was a great resource to have during this course. Every week he opened up section to questions we may be having, and answered them and more. After sections, I would feel confident in my knowledge of the course material that week. He really helped us wrap our heads around the difficult subjects!
I did not usually go to discussion.
The class was a very good balance between challenging work that was interesting but wasn't too overwhelming. Exams were only based on the things we learned and did not variate from the taught material in lecture.
He answered every one of my questions and explained different economic concepts very clearly

SPRING 2018

Term	Eval Opened	CRN	Subject	Course	Section	Enrollment	% Response
Spring Quarter 2018	6/1/2018 12:00 AM	59576	ECN	001A	A05	30	30
Spring Quarter 2018	6/1/2018 12:00 AM	59577	ECN	001A	A06	30	56
Spring Quarter 2018	6/1/2018 12:00 AM	59578	ECN	001A	A07	30	53
Spring Quarter 2018	6/1/2018 12:00 AM	59579	ECN	001A	A08	28	42

Teaching Assistant William Swanson

Fall Quarter 2017
Selected Evaluations* (3)

Enrollment 88
% responding 65%

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - DAVIS

Student Evaluation of Teaching

	Excellent		Very Good		Satisfactory		Fair		Poor		$\bar{x}$	SD	M	N
	5	%	4	%	3	%	2	%	1	%				
Please indicate the overall educational value of the course. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	16	28%	24	41%	11	19%	7	12%	0	0%	3.8	1.0	4.0	58
Please indicate the overall teaching effectiveness of the teaching assistant. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	19	35%	25	46%	7	13%	2	4%	1	2%	4.1	0.9	4.0	54
Overall, the instructor did a good job teaching this course	18	35%	20	39%	10	20%	2	4%	1	2%	4.0	0.9	4.0	51
The TA presents the material in a clear and and organized manner	17	33%	22	42%	9	17%	2	4%	2	4%	4.0	1.0	4.0	52
The TA speaks audibly and communicates effectively	21	42%	18	36%	7	14%	3	6%	1	2%	4.1	1.0	4.0	50
The TA stimulates discussion in sections	18	36%	12	24%	10	20%	8	16%	2	4%	3.7	1.2	4.0	50
The TA is responsive to questions	25	49%	19	37%	6	12%	1	2%	0	0%	4.3	0.8	4.0	51
The TA is punctual for sections and office hours	26	54%	14	29%	6	13%	2	4%	0	0%	4.3	0.8	5.0	48
The TA is available and helpful to students during office hours	19	53%	11	31%	5	14%	0	0%	1	3%	4.3	0.9	5.0	36
The TA is responsive to difficulties students have in understanding the material	22	44%	20	40%	6	12%	1	2%	1	2%	4.2	0.9	4.0	50
The grading was fair and timely	17	36%	19	40%	8	17%	3	6%	0	0%	4.1	0.9	4.0	47
The discussion section was a good educational experience	19	38%	13	26%	12	24%	2	4%	4	8%	3.8	1.2	4.0	50
Overall, the TA did a good job in this course	22	44%	17	34%	7	14%	3	6%	1	2%	4.1	1.0	4.0	50

Evaluate only the TA (s) with whom you attended discussion section and/or office hours.

Billy Swanson was a very helpful and instructive TA. Really goes out of his way to help students.
Good
Very helpful but had trouble explaining some things.
Trying his best
Good
William is a great TA! He knows the subjects we are taught very well and he clears my confusion on several topics.
Good
He was a great TA, during discussion he would explain all the questions the student had. Our discussion section was really shy so he would try his best to involve us as much as he could. He tried really hard for the students to get involved in discussion.
He was helpful.
Billy Swanson is the perfect TA
He is a very good TA!
He is a great guy and will take the time to help you through the problems you are having with the material.
Good TA, helpful
William Swanson
Goes over material in a very calm manner
Very good.
My TA was an effective teacher and was willing to go over anything the students in the section asked him; helped us prepare for tests and made sure we took advantage of our online resources.
William Swanson
William was a very engaging, understanding, and helpful TA. Whenever I had a question he was willing to help me understand by providing visuals and a better definition of the main concepts. Eager to help! Could use better teaching methods, like providing more examples/worksheets during discussion by making groups and allowing students to engage with the material. Overall, great TA-- nice and funny.
Present at each section. Answered questions.
He was had strong knowledge on the subject matter and made it easy to understand part that were difficult.
He was very nice and helped answer questions to the best of his abilities.
I really enjoyed being in William's discussions. He makes subjects clear.

Please provide additional information and/or elaborate on any aspect of your evaluation. These comments are often the most valuable part of your evaluation. Every comment will be read!

Billy tried helping us as much as he could but some people couldn't really grasp the material he explained.

Students are not perticipating in answering nor discussions

Good

Loved Billy. When he got his haircut half way trough the quarter, I was like: "Damn Billy, you poppin'!" Other than that, he is a great TA and is very excited about the topic of economics.

N/A

Very good TA. Reviews what we're learning, answers questions, and explains thoroughly.

The course was very useful when I found myself struggling with any material in the class.

I didn't go to any of his discussions so I can't give him a review.

TA is very nice and listens to students' questions and concerns.

Billy was a great TA but class was not very responsive. It was hard to get most people to ask questions, so it was hard to judge his teaching abilities.

N/A

Encourage students to read the book. With slides posted, students assume the book isn't needed. They learn after a bad midterm that the slides didn't cover everything, and that the information they needed was from the book.

Nice guy. A little awkward, but responsive to questions.

He did his job and could connect to the students to get them to understand the subject matter from their perspective.

FALL 2017

Term	Eval Opened	CRN	Subject	Course	Section	Enrollment	% Response
Fall Quarter 2017	12/1/2017 12:00 AM	39563	ECN	001A	A04	30	66
Fall Quarter 2017	12/1/2017 12:00 AM	39564	ECN	001A	A05	30	63
Fall Quarter 2017	12/1/2017 12:00 AM	39565	ECN	001A	A06	28	67

Teaching Assistant William Swanson

Fall Quarter 2016
Selected Evaluations* (2)

Enrollment 84
% responding 77%

	Excellent		Very Good		Satisfactory		Fair		Poor					
	5	%	4	%	3	%	2	%	1	%	$\bar{x}$	SD	M	N
Please indicate the overall educational value of the course. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	36	55%	22	34%	5	8%	2	3%	0	0%	4.4	0.8	5.0	65
Please indicate the overall teaching effectiveness of the teaching assistant. (excellent | very good | satisfactory | fair | poor)	39	61%	15	23%	8	13%	2	3%	0	0%	4.4	0.8	5.0	64
Overall, the instructor did a good job teaching this course	40	63%	15	24%	6	10%	2	3%	0	0%	4.5	0.8	5.0	63
The TA presents the material in a clear and and organized manner	38	60%	16	25%	6	10%	3	5%	0	0%	4.4	0.8	5.0	63
The TA speaks audibly and communicates effectively	39	62%	17	27%	6	10%	1	2%	0	0%	4.5	0.7	5.0	63
The TA stimulates discussion in sections	35	56%	19	30%	8	13%	1	2%	0	0%	4.4	0.8	5.0	63
The TA is responsive to questions	40	63%	15	24%	7	11%	1	2%	0	0%	4.5	0.8	5.0	63
The TA is punctual for sections and office hours	34	55%	18	29%	9	15%	1	2%	0	0%	4.4	0.8	5.0	62
The TA is available and helpful to students during office hours	32	62%	13	25%	6	12%	1	2%	0	0%	4.5	0.8	5.0	52
The TA is responsive to difficulties students have in understanding the material	41	66%	12	19%	8	13%	1	2%	0	0%	4.5	0.8	5.0	62
The grading was fair and timely	40	67%	10	17%	6	10%	3	5%	1	2%	4.4	1.0	5.0	60
The discussion section was a good educational experience	39	62%	13	21%	8	13%	3	5%	0	0%	4.4	0.9	5.0	63
Overall, the TA did a good job in this course	42	67%	16	25%	4	6%	1	2%	0	0%	4.6	0.7	5.0	63

Please provide additional information and/or elaborate on any aspect of your evaluation. These comments are often the most valuable part of your evaluation. Every comment will be read!

I enjoy the discussions we have during class. They go over the material we went over in lecture a little more in depth and in context.

Enjoyed his discussions! would love to take a class of his whenever possible. Great teacher assistant and keeps the class involved.

The TA was very helpful in discussions. He would always ask if anyone had questions. His discussions were about the lecture we recently learned. He very good at communicating to the class and his materials were easy to understand.

He is one of the two most patient TA I ever had! His teaching is also effective

Good TA!

I like how he elaborated on the lectures and gave us hw and test tips.

He's a good TA. Next time he should be more clear with his examples. Also fix the handwriting.

Well organized section. The material covered was really helpful for the homework and exams.

Great TA

Really good discussion, minor issue with grading one midterm question but overall good.

Section was extremely helpful in helping me completely grasp the subjects covered in lecture.

It is definitively a good add-on to the course and I enjoyed the sections.

William is not my TA so I do not have a comment =]

The discussion sections were very helpful in solidifying the information that was taught in class. I found that the sections helped my most with my homework and with test prep.

I like his way of teaching, logical and organized, and also helps me better understand the course. However, he has the need to improve his writing because a girl stops coming because of his writing.

Great job at summarizing class lectures. Made sure students understood class content and homework assignments. Great job with study outlines of the midterm. Very helpful office hours. TA covered important key points from the textbook, which made it helpful for short answer questions on exams.

FALL 2016

Term	Eval Opened	CRN	Subject	Course	Section	Enrollment	% Response
Fall Quarter 2016	11/28/2016 12:00 AM	53947	ECN	111A	A01	42	73
Fall Quarter 2016	11/28/2016 12:00 AM	53948	ECN	111A	A02	42	80

SPRING 2016 Omitted due to size constraints.
WINTER 2016 Omitted due to size constraints.
FALL 2015 Omitted due to size constraints.
SPRING 2015 Omitted due to size constraints.
WINTER 2015 Omitted due to size constraints.
FALL 2014 Omitted due to size constraints.
SPRING 2014 Omitted due to size constraints.
WINTER 2014 Omitted due to size constraints.
FALL 2013 Omitted due to size constraints.
SPRING 2013 Omitted due to size constraints.
Winter 2013 Omitted due to size constraints.
FALL 2012 Omitted due to size constraints.