Individual Teaching Assistant Report Fall 2022 for ECO 304K - INTRO TO MICROECONOMICS-WB (34580) (Paul Tran)

Project Title: **Instructor Course Evaluations Fall 2022**

Courses Audience: **1190**
Responses Received: **393**
Response Ratio: **33.0%**

Report Comments

Results were produced during the Fall 2022 implementation of new course evaluation questions and systems. Courses with final exams conducted on December 8th, 2022, may have overlapped with the evaluation window.

Guide to the Interpretation of Course Evaluations at UT Austin
The goal of course evaluation process at UT Austin is to drive teaching excellence and to support continuous improvement in teaching and learning experiences. The two sets of scales used for core evaluation questions and the associated weights are:

Strongly Agree (5)
Agree (4)
Neutral (3)
Disagree (2)
Strongly Disagree (1)

Excellent (5)
Very Good (4)
Satisfactory (3)
Unsatisfactory (2)
Very Unsatisfactory (1)

The Mean is calculated by adding all of the weights for a single question and dividing by the number of respondents. The course workload question is not averaged.

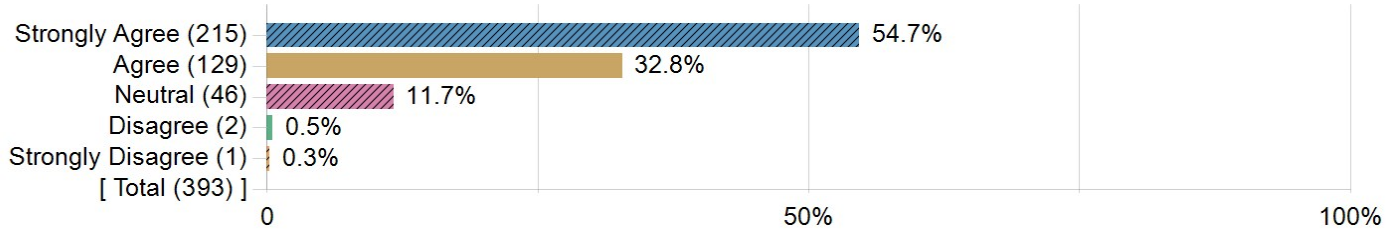
The number of students (e.g. Respondents) marking each option is reported for each of the items. These frequency distributions provide information about the level of student ratings and the spread and shape of the class distribution of responses. The distributions thus provide a picture of student perception of a course.

Course evaluations provide snapshots of student perspectives on their course-level learning experiences. Most experts on teaching evaluation advise that no one method gives the complete picture of an instructor's teaching effectiveness; multiple and diverse measures, on multiple occasions, are advised to give a full picture of the teaching effectiveness of a particular instructor. Moreover, other factors, such as size of class, level of the class, and content of the course, can cause small variations in the ratings. Therefore, student perspectives for a particular instructor or course should be interpreted as a snapshot, and not as providing complete information on the teaching effectiveness of that instructor.

Creation Date: **Friday, May 5, 2023**

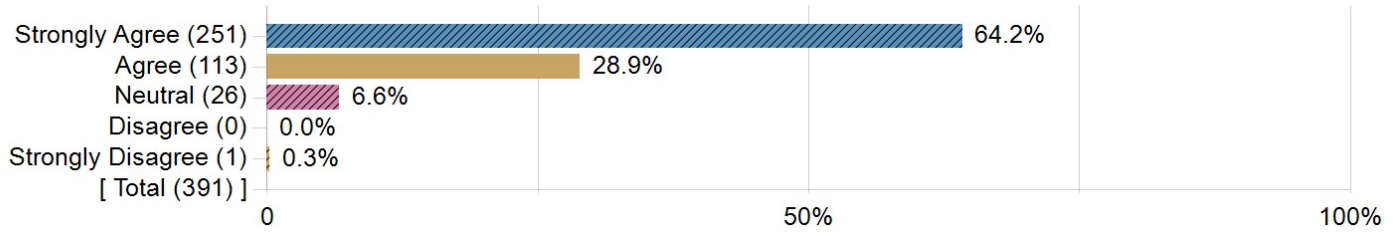
Teaching Assistant Questions

The TA was available to help me as needed.



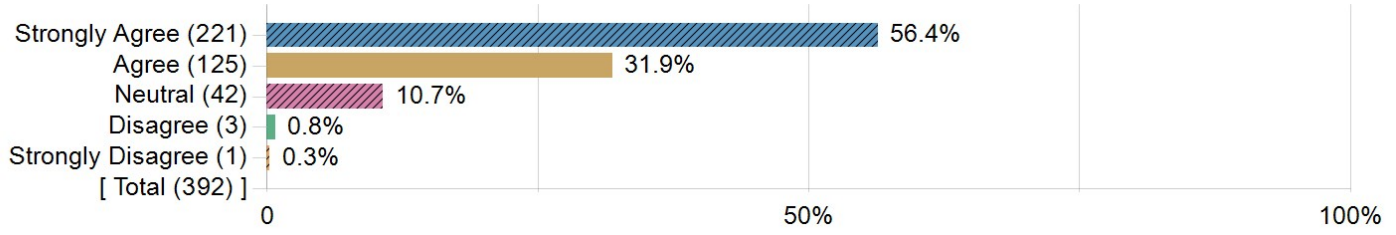
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.41

I felt the TA was approachable.



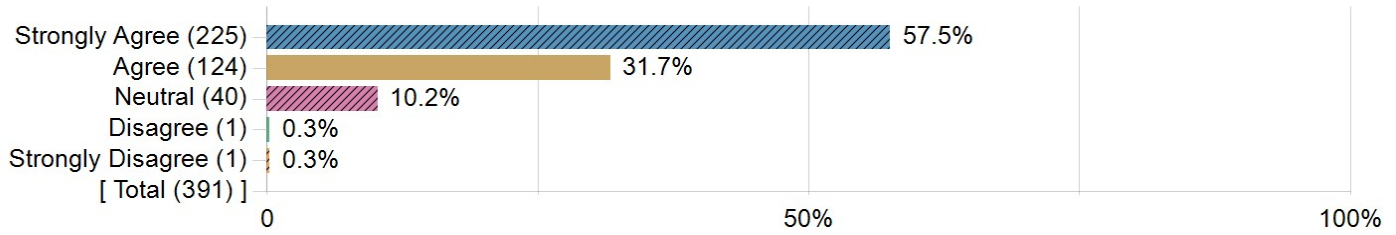
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.57

The TA explained course concepts, subject matter, or other course-related topics in a way that helped me learn.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.43

The TA was able to address most of my questions related to the course concepts, subject -matter, or topics.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.46

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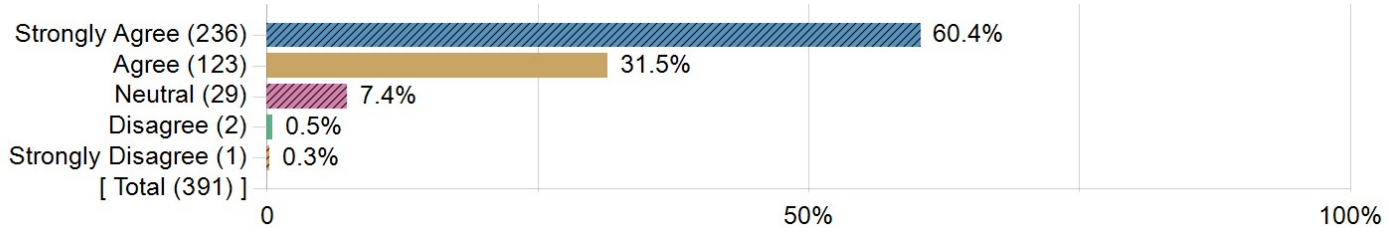
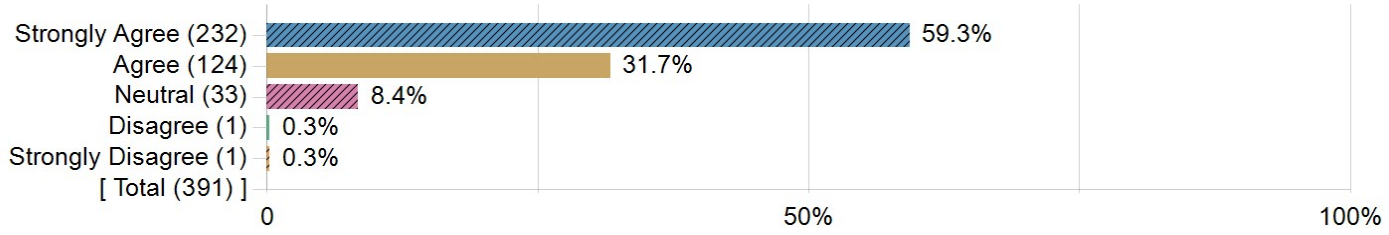
The TA communicated course content and subject matter with accuracy.



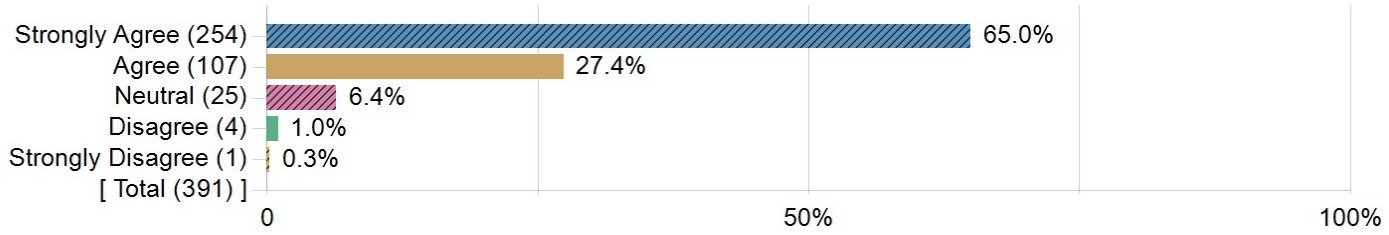
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.51

The TA communicated course expectations and instructions clearly.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.50

The TA appeared engaged throughout the course experience.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.56

Comment Questions

Identify aspects of your interactions with your teaching assistant that were most effective in helping your learning.

Comments
the explanantions in the chat during class helped
Being available and willing to help in class.
HIs ability to answer any questions in the chat.
Paul made sure to answer any questions there was in the chat with extreme detail which was very helpful in trying to understand.
Answering questions in the class chat
During lectures, he was very effective in answering questions and doubts that many students, including me, had.
Interaction w/ students and being easy to approach
Very friendly and approachable during video livestream. Helped answer any questions that we had in class
ta was very friendly and was a great addition to the course

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Comments
Paul was the best TA I have ever had in my short time at college, he had a great sense of humor and really knew the subject matter.
Paul was very active in the class chats and would answer anyone's questions. He also participated in the video stream with examples and exercises that further helped me understand topics.
none
Dude kept me interested the entire time I was in class in the chat
everything
Answer the question on the chat during video stream.
He answered questions in the chat during the live lecture quickly and clearly.
Great
He was very good at communication. He made sure we knew all the information about upcoming deadlines and had complete knowledge about the resources available.
Showed up to class with us. Engaged with class chat. Seemed to be "behind the scenes" for technical things in class. Answered questions about content in meaningful way.
His comments and assistance on the classroom chat
Was active in the chat.
Paul was a great TA!
Quick response time in the live chat, brief but effective explanations to questions about topics (via the live chat)
none
Didn't interact he was very quiet
I did not have any personal interactions, but Paul was very engaging in the chats during lectures and would always help students to understand the concepts when they had questions.
n/a
n/a
paul was so helpful and always made time to help us out
W Paul during class chats he would help
The demonstrations and constant engagement in the chat were helpful to my learning.
Paul was able to answer questions in the chat during class when we were confused.
Nice human
n/a
I texted Paul on the class text, and he did not answer my question. I think the best thing to do is actually go to the SI sessions or office hours.
chat box replying quickly
Paul answered questions in the chat promptly.
N/A
– actively in the chat – super nice when in the studio
In–class chats
he helped a lot with confusions in the chat
Keeping the chat log under control
He helped a lot in the class chat to clear up confusions i had.
he always replied to questions about the course in the chat
All of my interactions was during in chat from the live video stream of the lectures. Not only was he able to help me a few times, but he actively is helping dozens of other students at the same time.
He facilitated all of the questions by a huge class. He was inclusive and energetic.
He was very energetic and brought a good energy to the class.
The in class chats were very helpful with any questions I had.
Very nice personality, and was very helpful in answering student questions.

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Comments
Active in class group chat; easy to reach
He seemed approachable and other students were comfortable asking him questions for class so it showed he knew what he was saying.
Lots of communication via the in–class chat.
explanations during class and review sessions
Paul was a good TA. He made sure he was always adding tips and clearing up definitions the professors would teach. he made the class fun and was very approachable. Something to look forward to in the mornings was his enthusiasm during class and interactions with the students, it made learning better.
He was very engaged in the class chat and usually did not miss any questions in the class chat.
He would answer questions.
Paul tried to answer every question he is able to and it provided a lot of help.
Didn't directly interact with the TA too much, but he seemed very approachable and kind in the chats and when sending announcements on Canvas and through emails.
Eager to help
He was very approachable, so it was easy for me to ask questions.
Responding to emails in a quick and timely fashion.
It was helpful to have Paul answering questions in the chat because sometimes the professors couldn't stop to explain certain things.
Answering questions in the livestream chat was helpful in making sure that any confusion was cleared up quickly.
The TA responded quickly to a Kahoot issue I was dealing with and overall, with any questions the students had throughout the course.
The chats for class
Wad very engaged
Paul was available to answer and explain questions in an easily understandable way at any point during the lecture.
gave good answers to questions
Paul was always quick to answer questions in the live class chat or through email.
super approachable
Paul answering my questions in class helped greatly with my learning.
The TA was very understanding and very knowledgeable of the content covered in class.
He was available and made it easy to reach him.
Paul was extremely relatable and easy to talk to. He kept the course light–hearted and provided comedic relief when there were minor technical difficulties. I never felt insecure about asking him for help.
explaining topics
Answered questions effectively
Na
His help with demonstrations were beneficial.
He was really helpful during lectures.
Paul was absolutely stunning. I emailed him on Thanksgiving (thinking that he would reply the next day), and replied to me within an hour. You do not get that kind of dedication with just any TA. His answers to questions were thorough and understandable; he was always on top of his game.
n/a
n/a
Paul was constantly there in the chat clarifying confusing concepts and answering questions from students. He was very approachable and his emails were very well–phrased.
Paul was extremely helpful and understanding when it came to issues online.
Always was ready to answer questions during the class through the chat.
This TA was also available during class and quickly answered questions.
He was cool and helpful.
Paul was the studio TA so I didn't have very many direct interactions with him but he answered questions as fast as possible and to

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Comments
the best of his abilities when he was answering in the live chat which was helpful because a lot o f my questions were instantaneously answered.
He was very chill and approachable and relatable. Top tier TA.
Him being communicative in the chat.
Paul would explain the concepts in the chat super well and addressed my questions
He was patient and nice
He was very helpful with in chat questions that anyone had during the lectures.
Most of them
Engagement
I liked how he took his time in teaching things I didn't know.
I didn’t have many interactions with him but he seemed very approachable
would participate in the examples and explain.
He helped us a lot by replying our concerns very fast.
He seemed very engaged in what we were learning & was able to clearly explain things I was struggling with
Answered emails quickly, answered chats quickly, and seemed nice and approachable.
Paul was extremely kind, patient, and helpful
I did not communicate or interact with Paul
he was very kind
the class chat during the call
his participation in live chats
Paul is great
Paul was very responsive in the class chat and made the class more enjoyable.
During the lectures, he was able to answer questions through the class chat. Having him answer questions that we had about the class material and expectations was effective in helping my learning. He also managed sending out the links for the google forms.
i did not have interaction with my TA
My TA was always available to answer questions and help.
Paul was very active in the live video stream chat and answered lots of questions.
Paul's responsiveness in the class chat was helpful.
He helped me when my kahoot glitched
The teaching assistant was helpful and he would be engaged.
While I did not have questions to ask Paul, I have friends who did. They said he effectively clarified information and was nonjudgmental. Students felt comfortable asking questions without feeling stupid or embarrassed.
I did not interact with the TA
He clarified things in the class chat
Helping in class and answering questions that were overlooked by the professors.
Although I never interacted with Paul one–on–one, he seemed very enthusiastic throughout the course.
I didn't need to reach out to him outside of class because concepts in class weren't that difficult
I felt Paul was really inviting and always tried his best to answer every question we had to help us succeed.
He spent most of his time joking around in chat with kids who already understood the subject, many other kids who had actual questions were often ignored and not acknowledged.
He was always active in the chat which meant he responded quickly
In class help within the chat was always extremely helpful.
He often helped with information I was lacking in
Did not interact
He was able to provide me with both accurate and helpful information about course material and class fundamentals.
Paul was a joy to have as a TA. Always clarified the information and made it fun to learn.
He is an interesting person and always interact with students in class which makes the class more engaging
Paul was the main TA that was present in the synchronous recordings. He helped the most by being very responsive in the live chat

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Comments
during class.
Always answered questions and clarified concepts for us in the chat; would send out emails explaining any misunderstandings from that day's class.
Very kind and approachable
Paul explaining material and helping with examples greatly helped me.
His participation encouraged everyone
Paul was very good at responding to questions and had a very chill and helpful attitude that helped fostered an environment that seemed non–stressful and fun, all while being approachable and kind. He also helped the course run smoothly as best he could.
actively questions in the chat
Paul was always very responsive in chat and took time to explain answers in a way that were accessible to non–economics students.
I never had contact with mt TA.
His use of the class chat was extremely helpful as I felt that I could ask him questions and he explained economic concepts extremely well.
His replying to the class chat
He was always there to answer questions during the live stream.
Nice and passionate about economics
Paul always responded to my questions in the large class chat during class, answering any questions that I had.
Exam questions
ee
Paul was always active and responsive in the class chat. This was very helpful with just ensuring that the class ran smoothly.
He was approachable.
Great TA Paul provided humor and a smile
He was always so quick to answer questions in the chat and post the links to necessary sites.
N/A
paul was just so great
Paul was so inclusive and relatable!! Really like how he fostered a welcoming learning environment
The most effective aspect of my interactions with Paul was his ability to explain concepts in easy–to–understand ways that helped me grasp challenging subjects.
N/A
Paul was awesome! He was very interactive in class, and made sure to answer his students' questions as effectively as he could. When I had my huge grade problem, I went to Paul and he tried to get in contact with the grade TAs to get it worked out. Thanks!
n/a
Paul was very approachable and encouraging as he always made it a point to emphasize that he was once like us, a student. This made it less intimidating to approach him with confusion on a topic.
The live chat where the TA was active was most effective.
They were always willing to go into more depth of the material.
He is very active and friendly to answer me any question that I have.
He was always available and helpful
Always available and ready to help students out. Also very kind and approachable.
He was present in class and often helped answer questions in the chat during lectures which proved to be helpful.
Was able to provide feedback whenever needed.
he was just really chill and always ready to answer questions
His answering questions in the live chat.
Paul is really diligent with answering questions in the chat. Also, this semester he’s been the most popular TA because he’s so funny.
He would always be active in the class chat answering any student's questions.
Guiding us through the online aspect of this course
n/a

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Comments
helping us and making sure that the links for assignments are working.
Helpful in relating to situations.
N/A
rsponse to all chat questions
Paul was very approachable and available to students. This made asking questions through ECO 304K feasible.
He was very approachable and knowledgeable in the chat
Super approachable, and communication about the course was always clear.
Honestly I have no idea who my TA is for this class.
His full understanding of the material, along with his willingness to answer questions helped my learning.
thanks for being so nice in the chat
Engagement with students
I did not interact with him
I never interreacted with him but he was always so active in the chat when other students needed help or had questions.
Engagement through Canvas (like announcements) and responding to questions in in–class chat.
I didn’t really get to interact with my TA but he is always on top of everything and he is really fast at responding emails.
Very helpful and nice
Paul was helpful and fun and would always reach out for a helping hand if he saw that you were struggling. He was kind and active in the chat when we had class online and answered any of our lingering questions during the lecture. He was sweet and smart and made it easy to answer questions,
Paul was always available through the chat to answer questions.
The SI sessions were helpful
class chat
Very helpful
He answered questions in the class chat and was very helpful during class
He was helpful during class and in–class chats
very patient and welcoming to all.
He was always active in the class chat clarifying concepts so that we would not get behind during class.
He answered emails with questions really fast!
He was constantly monitoring the lecture chat and answered any questions that were communicated through the chat. He also sent out detailed Canvas Announcements about any changes in the course.
I thought paul answered a few of my questions in the chat well.
Paul was very responsive and engaging in the web chat, as well as in private messages
In the online chat they were very helpful and fast to answer questions.
I enjoyed how quick Paul responded to questions.
He always responded to emails and questions very quickly.
I asked him questions and he responded accordingly.
He would explain new topics to us more in–depth in the chat.
In chat
Paul is very down to Earth and apporachable, these qualities make him very easy to ask questions to.
answers and interacts with the chat during class
Paul provided accurate and quick responses to questions during class.
Paul was very helpful during the lectures to answer questions.
NA
Being accessible in the chat of video lectures
He was just very nice and funny and he sent us the kahoot link thinks so made it so much easier for us.
answering questions
All TAs were able to answer questions through the live chat or emails in a timely manner! The TAs also helped grade everything and

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Comments
updated all grades each week.
His explanations of things that the professors went over too fast helped my learning.
He was were knowledgeable on the material.
answering the questions in the class chat
Explaining in depth and never got annoyed with what i felt were stupid questions.
Paul Tran is based sexy and good at his job I guess. Also his accent is cool.
He would respond to comments.
He was there to support us all the way
Paul was just very energetic and inviting and I appreciated his warm presence. He did a good job of making me feel more open to learning about economics.
None
Paul made the learning environment really enjoyable.
Paul was cool, he was always available when I needed him so that was effective in helping me learn.
My TA was always available in the chat to answer any tech or course related problems. I also enjoyed his positive attitude and love for the class.
Paul was very approachable in the chat
Paul always presented himself as someone approachable
N/A
Very informing
I have only seen them on the Video Streams.
His emails really helped me to make sure I knew everything going on, exam details, lecture details... very approachable and always had comedic relief.
Paul was good in the chat.
I did not interact with the TA.
His voice
Mostly through the class chat answering questions during the live lecture. His announcements when addressing major questions were helpful.
Asking questions
He was clear in his explanations when studying confusing material
The TA was very responsive and easy to reach through email and the lecture chat. This made is very easy to have any questions answered in a timely and effective manner.
He was really helpful with questions.
Paul was always very helpful in class whether it was communicating via chat or even emails.
Active engagement in the demonstrations during class
They are great at helping us through problems
I thought it was great that Paul was able to answer pretty much every question in the chat even with such a big class
How quickly he answered chat questions showed that someone was always present and listening to your concerns.
Using the chat whenever anyone had a question, addressed all concerns right away.

What is one thing the teaching assistant could do differently to help improve future students' learning in this course?

Comments
n/a
.
Provide link or other material for extra practice.
I can't think of anything he could do differently.
Nothing. He did a great job!
I believe that Mr. Paul did everything extremely well, and nothing could have been done better.

Comments
N/A
more involved in lecture on screen
NOTHING.
Be more open to talking and explaining things through the chat
I wish that there were more reminders sent out about assignments like the InQuizitives.
none
His knowledge of the subject material.
nothing
He explains the content very clearly and was understandable.
Great
He could be more interactive in class time.
TA hours? Have other TA's be more "prominent" in class chat and activities?
not sure
N/A
none
Engage with the students
I though Paul was a very good TA, I can not think of anything he could do differently.
n/a
n/a
n/a
Add more of him into the curriculum!
Perhaps making the puzzlers available after course as a study material would be very helpful to improve future students' learning.
Nothing, Paul was able to assist me pretty well.
He was perfect
n/a
answer more questions, and be more empathic.
everything is great
He could offer more help in the chat to provide more information for student understanding.
N/A
– give more resources to students.
maybe more office hours
nothing, Paul is a great TA.
I don't think he could have done anything better, he was awesome.
n/a
There is nothing better that Paul is able to do to improve to help students learn in the future.
Looking for a bit more understanding on students' frustrations with technology since the course was online.
I felt communication was not that effective with the TA only because the class is online and we could only communicate through email or online chat during live lectures. It was nice being able to ask questions during the live lectures but online communication restricted how well of an explanation I received to my questions.
Sometimes he would be late.
Nothing comes to mind.
Filter to class chat more to include more relevant course discussion
Try not to get off track too much.
None.
n/a
N/A

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Comments
Maybe if he also helped explained kahoot answers, it would help the students gain perspectives from both the professors and TAs
Answer questions even faster in the chat.
Paul could also communicate with students through the video stream
N/A
Better management of chat
Talk more in the video streams.
Paul did a good job of answering questions in the chat and giving time checks.
I am not sure what the ta could have done differently because he did a good job, especially with this class being online and having over a thousand students in it.
Everything was great the way it is, quick responses, detailed information, attentive to emails, etc..
Nothing he was the a goat TA
Nothing! Paul was an excellent teaching assistant.
only available some days
NA
more engagement with students in the class
N/A
The TA could set up more office hours for students.
Maybe be a bit more helpful when lots of people are clearly confused about a concept instead of telling us to just study.
A lot of the students didn't like the format of the puzzlers, so it would have been nice to see Paul advocate for a more productive way of completing them, but he still advocated for us by having the instructors at least give us a timer and a warning before closing the activity. Paul is a 10/10
N/a
Na
N/A
He did everything well.
No critiques.
n/a
n/a
I don’t have a suggestion.
He did everything well
Everything was good.
Using the online chat during class was difficult because a lot of people used it and questions were easily lost. I think having multiple TAs available during class using different chats could help mitigate this problem since the professors cannot be asked directly.
I feel like he did everything he could.
I think that there can be more TAs present in the chat during lectures because sometimes some of the questions get missed. This however isn't that big of a deal and the class does go pretty smoothly in my experience.
He has a British/Australian accent so if you arent familiar with some of their terminology, get ready because they're all amazing lol
N/a
n/a
He was a amazing no notes
nothing he was awesome
making things less complicated
I wish he could do longer time frames for his teaching hours.
n/a
I have no suggestion for Paul
I'm not sure
Appear more on screen in order to answer common chat questions.

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Comments
Paul needs more confidence
N/A
offer more hours
Maybe be more communicative
nothing
Be more involved with the broadcast of the class. At the beginning he was but slowly drifted away; he made the class more fun for everyone.
It would be nice to have a way to look back at the class chats so that if we have to look back at the answer to a question we could.
Reaching out to more students.
Continue doing what he does right now.
I can not think of any improvements.
The TA can be more interactive with the students to help learning,
ensure that links sent into the chat are working
He was very helpful
Paul was a great TA! Seeing as I did not ask for help, I can't really give accurate feedback for improvements.
He did a great job in class
NA
Not much, he did great.
The class chat was a bit overwhelming, so I eventually stopped using it. I'm not sure if it is possible to use another platform to ask questions during class.
none
I have no complaints/recommendations, I think Paul did everything he should have.
Stop trying to be friends with every student that hypes him up and actually help the kids who need help
nothing
Nothing.
Have more interactive experiences for students
None
There is nothing about our TA that I feel needs improvement based on our interactions
Nothing.
he is doing great!
N/A
N/A
More time with him
I can't think of anything
I think one thing Paul could improve on is perhaps being more present in actual lectures, rather than behind the scenes, if the professors, or university allows him.
none
N/A
I never had contact with my TA.
Nothing! He did an excellent job, and his use of the chat kept me engaged in the course.
N/A. Everyone loves Paul
I do not think he should change a thing.
Maybe there could be more teaching assistants to help answer questions just because of the size of the class.
Not sure
ee
I never tried to meet with Paul or anything directly, but I think he did a great job— especially considering how many students were in the large online class.
He could perhaps make a review sheet to give out before exams.

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Comments
Amazing TA really funny and kind and helpful
Nothing. He did well.
N/A
idk paul is great
Honestly, Paul was amazing.
N/A
I think his availability was mainly during class? I didn't see many office hours for him personally, but he was very active with the students during his times in class and was just a really great TA!
n/a
The TA could have better knowledge on course logistics as sometimes I would approach him with questions regarding grading/ due dates and he would not have an answer.
They could engage a lot more with the students, and hold personal office hours to help them.
He is good enough since this is a virtual class.
N/A
n/a
n/a
TA surpassed my expectations. Great TA!
not much,, ,he was great
Post reviews to help explain topics frequently confused by students.
Nothing, you were great!
Maybe hold a discussion session
More announcements about upcoming events
n/a
help make class a little more fun
More helpful content through announcements.
N/A
nothing
I cannot identify an aspect of Paul's performance that was unsatisfactory.
N/A
N/A
Nothing really he could do better, he was very helpful.
continue to be present in the chat
He can be more approachable to more students
He did a good job and made everyone comfortable to ask questions.
N/A
I feel like the TA was really good with everything, he was really organized, so I don’t really have anything to say about what he could do different.
N/A
n/a
nothing, he was great
N/A
I would love to see him more involved with the class on screen or hold essentially an "economics for dummies" study group
Engage with the students and their questions more
Nothing
Nothing in particular
He should've been on camera more. He mention that he was the TA that went in person, but I wasn't sure as to what his role was besides releasing the activities and monitoring the chat.

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Comments
I think to encourage students not to mess around in the chat.
nothing of note
None
Nothing really
N/a
I would try to improve on communication with students
N/a
he the best
N/A
nothing
n/a
I can't think of any right now. I think all the TAs are amazing.
NA
N/A
I think whatever and all that the TAs were doing were effective, and I wouldn't change anything. I do suggest that in the live chat they could pin messages that were sent from the TAs for specific questions as it gets lost quickly with 1000+ students.
By explaining some more things in the chat when needed.
I though he was a great TA that doesn't need to improve.
be more involved on camera
I feel they did their job perfectly.
I like his British accent, but he is British which is a little gross I guess but there isn't much he can do about that. :p
N/A
nothing he is literally perfect
Nothing really, maybe just continue to engage in class, and try and engage in class more because he was very well liked amongst most of the students who I knew in the course.
None
Paul brought up personal experiences that really help me with how to study.
I think just sending out the google form a few seconds earlier to allow us to actually open it in time would be nice
The TA could appear in the lectures more often.
N/A
n/a
N/A
Nothing
I did not really get to know this TA that well.
n/a
More office hours
I did not interact with the TA.
More easily accessible
He didn't always answer the question I had, but that is probably because of the large number of students in the class. I wish there was a more effective way to separate questions from commentary in the class chat.
NA
He was very articulate
I have no suggestions.
N/A
I can't think of anything particular!
Management of the chat room
Maybe less emails?

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Comments
N/A
Have more TA's responding to the chat so questions don't go missed in case there is an influx.
N/A

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