

Teaching Statement

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Teaching has been a very rewarding aspect of my life from a very young age. I started teaching informally at the age of 14 when I volunteered to teach poor children of maids and construction workers in my neighborhood, and also helped my classmates and siblings with mathematical problem-solving. That is when I realized, teaching helps me gain clarity, builds my confidence, and allows me to meaningfully give back to society. Since then, I have continued to tutor kids, and teaching has become a crucial addition to my long-term career goals.

Coming to NYU, I got the opportunity to teach in a more formal setting and at a more advanced level. I have been a teaching assistant for a variety of undergraduate courses during my PhD (money and banking, statistics, international trade, and intermediate macro-economics) with class sizes of up to 100+ students. Teaching different classes at NYU has helped me grow as a teacher, with constant improvement based on feedback from students in my teaching evaluations.

My teaching philosophy is to promote an interactive classroom environment in all my classes. For example, I often divide my class into two groups and turn the concepts into quizzes where each group of students works like a team. This way, I instill collaboration between them to help each other and I also encourage them to explain their solutions on the board. This approach helps the students gain confidence and improves their attentiveness in, and recall from my classes. I also add some thought-provoking exercises wherever possible to challenge the more enthusiastic students and prepare them better for more complex economic issues in society. For example, in my international trade class, I discussed the US-China trade barriers through the lens of tariff models. In money and banking, we took the students to the NY Fed gold vaults, and also showed them the 2013 movie "Money for Nothing: Inside the Federal Reserve" featuring Janet Yellen, Paul Volcker, and many leading economists.

My experience as a teaching assistant over six semesters made me confident in taking my teaching potential a notch higher, as I became the primary instructor for Intermediate Macroeconomics over the summer of 2019. This experience taught me to navigate independently, because I was solely responsible for designing the curriculum and exams, and gave me first-hand experience for the kind of responsibilities I will take on once I graduate. In fact, for one of my students, I wrote recommendation letters for his master's admissions.

Going forward, I would feel comfortable teaching any course at the undergraduate or masters level. I would be excited to teach sections of the PhD-level macroeconomics core sequence, including theory, applications, and computational methods, or any undergraduate course in macroeconomics, money and banking, or international economics and finance. Besides lecturing, I have greatly benefited from participating in reading groups

and seminars at NYU, and I would be excited to organize those going forward.

Teaching Evaluations

NYU teaching evaluation questions for undergraduate students are 5-fold, and students evaluate on a 5-point scale ranging from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree. The questions are as follows:

1. Overall, the recitation instructor was effective at helping me learn.
2. The recitation was useful for achieving the goals of the course.
3. The recitation instructor provided helpful feedback on assignments (e.g., exams, papers, homework, lab reports, etc.).
4. The recitation instructor was accessible to students (e.g., via e-mail and office hours).
5. The recitation instructor created an environment that promoted the success of students with diverse backgrounds and experiences.

I summarize my average performance for each question across my classes as follows,

Term	Course	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Resp.	Enroll
Spring 2020	International Economics	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.5	29	89
Fall 2019	Statistics	4.4	4.3	3.5	3.8	4.4	29	64
Spring 2019	Intermediate Macroeconomics	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.2	28	77
Fall 2018	Intermediate Macroeconomics	5	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.9	11	44
Fall 2016	Money and Banking	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.9	38	106

Selected Comments:

- “She’s a great TA! She’s super helpful and informative, and is always checking throughout the recitation to make sure that everyone is keeping up with her. I can appreciate how she always tries to encourage participation in the section, even though sometimes it’s hard to get. 10/10 would recommend. She really does clear any confusion I have about concepts during lecture!”
- “I liked that my TA was very engaging and tried her best to keep our attention. She walked us through step by step and explained everything very very clear. Thank you so much for your hard work!”
- “She is the best TA I have ever had. Clear, concise, patient, and interactive.”