

# Teaching Statement

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During my Ph.D., I have been the instructor of record for one course (Intermediate Macroeconomics) and a teaching assistant for 12 quarters. These experiences have been fulfilling and made me excited about teaching as an assistant professor. I am prepared to teach any Economics class at the undergraduate level, International trade or Macroeconomics at the master's level, and Business-Cycle Macroeconomics or Empirical Macroeconomics at the Ph.D. level.

## Teaching Evaluations

My care in teaching has been reflected in my evaluations. Table 1 below provides a summary of my instructional assistant evaluations during my Ph.D. I have averaged an 89 percent recommendation rate, and I have gotten better over time! My recommendation rate in the four courses I assisted in teaching in the 2020-2021 school year was 98 percent. I also received a department-level award for my instruction in 2017-2018.

Table 1: Teaching Assistant Evaluations 2017-Present

	Total	2017-2019	2020-2021
Number of Courses	12	8	4
Avg. % Recommend	89 %	86 %	98 %

Note: Avg. % recommend from anonymous teaching evaluations that asked, "I would recommend this Instructional Assistant to other students." Students could respond Strongly Agree, Agree, Neither Agree or Disagree, Disagree or Strongly Disagree. Students were coded as recommending me as a TA if they selected Agree or Strongly Agree. Average is the democratic mean of all student evaluations pooled across courses.

## Quotes from Students

I have been privileged to interact with great students. A few select quotes from anonymous teaching evaluations are below:

From PhD-Macro: *"I want to thank Jacob for always going above and beyond.... His discussion sections were always incredibly useful. Something I really appreciated was that he always spoke to us on our level, pre-empting confusing elements by explaining exactly why we were doing each part of a derivation or problem. This skill of empathizing with the audience and speaking to them in a way that shepherds them through the content will make Jacob a Professor who is also great at teaching!"*

International Trade: *"Jake has a very strong understanding of the subject as seen by his ability to reduce the large concepts taught in class to a few sentences that would basically sum up an 1 hour and 20 minutes worth of lecture"*

International Trade: *"Sometimes his explanation were more clear than the professor's."*

### **Teaching Philosophy**

I strive to connect classroom material with current events. For many students, economics in general and especially macroeconomics can feel disconnected or dull. I believe that the instructor's responsibility is to engage students and demonstrate the impact of economic policies in their daily lives. When I taught intermediate macro as the instructor-of-record, I held in-class discussions about contemporary articles in the *Economist* and *New York Times*. Connecting the macroeconomic theory with issues students already cared about helped them understand the material better. Students exhibited their newfound knowledge in an involved class project comparing classroom models with real-world events.

I still have a lot to learn as an instructor. I am excited to plan future courses, receive feedback from colleagues and students, and make improvements. While I have the background to teach topics in numerous areas, I am most interested in teaching Macroeconomics or International Economics, as well as advising students on research projects.