2016F Instructor Report for ECON 3600 02 - International Trade (Ebehireme Iyoha)

Vanderbilt University Course and Teaching Evaluations - 2016F

Project Audience 27
Responses Received 15
Response Ratio 55.56%

Prepared by Vanderbilt University Course and Teaching Evaluations
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Questions about this Course (ECON 3600 02):

Question	This Class Section		Department (ECON)		School (A&S)	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
This course helped me appreciate the significance of the subject matter.	4.27	1.22	4.00	1.12	4.26	0.95
The components of the course, such as class activities, assessments, and assignments, were consistent with the course goals.	4.27	0.70	4.08	1.05	4.38	0.84
The feedback I received during the course was helpful.	4.13	0.83	3.76	1.19	4.13	1.00
I felt comfortable asking questions in this course.	4.67	0.82	4.04	1.17	4.29	0.96
This course helped me consider connections between course material and other areas of my personal, academic, or professional life.	4.20	1.26	4.02	1.11	4.18	1.00
Overall, the course (ECON 3600 02) was:	3.67	0.90	3.58	1.15	3.92	0.99
Compared to other classes, the amount I learned in this course was:	3.80	0.94	3.34	1.12	3.63	1.02
Compared to requirements in other classes, the workload assigned in this class was:	4.13	0.83	3.00	0.93	3.26	0.99

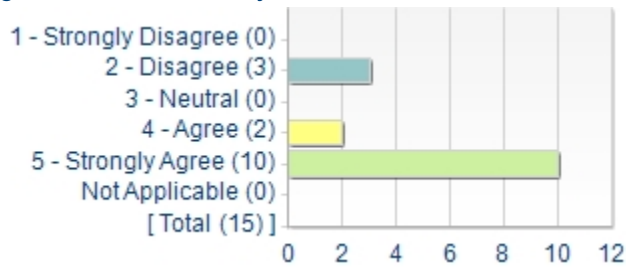## Overall, how effective was the instruction you received from this teaching assistant (Ebehireme Iyoha)?

Question	This Class Section		Department (ECON)		School (A&S)	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
Overall, how effective was the instruction you received from this teaching assistant (Ebehireme Iyoha)?	3.33	1.29	3.56	1.06	3.89	0.97

Questions about the Teaching Assistant (Ebehireme Iyoha).

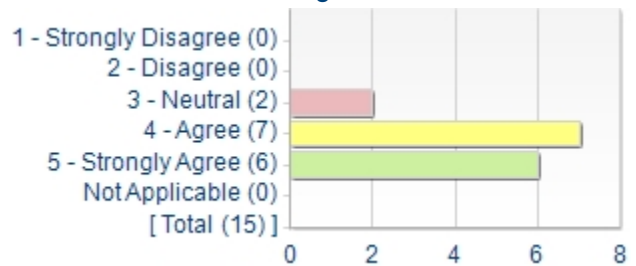| Question	This Class Section		Department (ECON)		School (A&S)	
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation	Mean	Standard Deviation
How available was the teaching assistant during their office hours?	4.23	0.93	4.11	0.93	4.11	0.93
How helpful and responsive was the teaching assistant?	4.00	1.29	3.93	1.04	3.93	1.04
How knowledgeable was the teaching assistant about the subject matter of this class?	3.54	0.97	4.06	0.94	4.06	0.94
How would you characterize the ability of the teaching assistant to communicate in English with students?	4.14	1.10	4.30	0.94	4.30	0.94

Questions About This Course (ECON 3600 02):

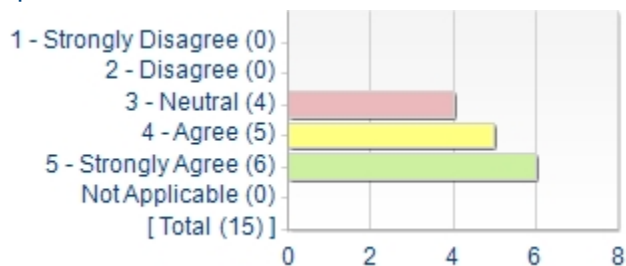### 1. This course helped me appreciate the significance of the subject matter.

```
1 - Strongly Disagree (0)
2 - Disagree (3)
3 - Neutral (0)
4 - Agree (2)
5 - Strongly Agree (10)
Not Applicable (0)
[ Total (15) ]
        0  2  4  6  8  10  12
```

Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.27
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	1.22

2. The components of the course, such as class activities, assessments, and assignments, were consistent with the course goals.
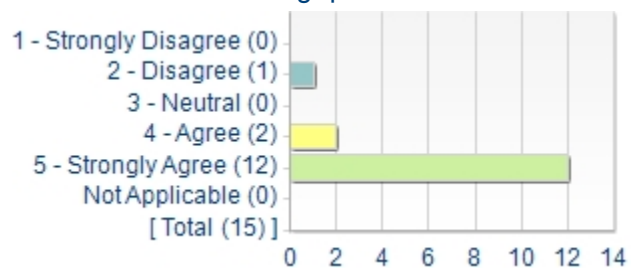
```
1 - Strongly Disagree (0)
2 - Disagree (0)
3 - Neutral (2)
4 - Agree (7)
5 - Strongly Agree (6)
Not Applicable (0)
[ Total (15) ]
        0  2  4  6  8
```

Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.27
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	0.70

3. The feedback I received during the course was helpful.

```
1 - Strongly Disagree (0)
2 - Disagree (0)
3 - Neutral (4)
4 - Agree (5)
5 - Strongly Agree (6)
Not Applicable (0)
[ Total (15) ]
        0  2  4  6  8
```

Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.13
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.83

4. I felt comfortable asking questions in this course.

```
1 - Strongly Disagree (0)
2 - Disagree (1)
3 - Neutral (0)
4 - Agree (2)
5 - Strongly Agree (12)
Not Applicable (0)
[ Total (15) ]
        0  2  4  6  8  10  12  14
```
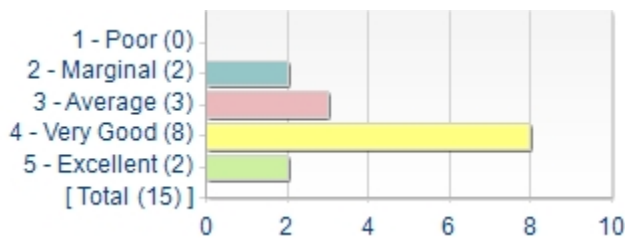
Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.67
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.82

5. This course helped me consider connections between course material and other areas of my personal, academic, or professional life.
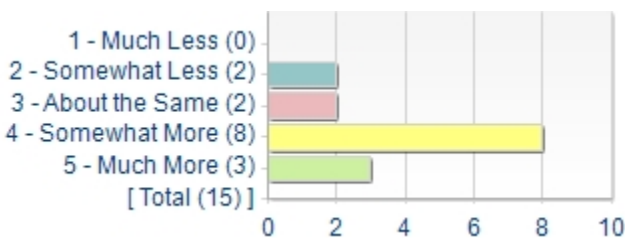
```
1 - Strongly Disagree (1)
      2 - Disagree (1)
       3 - Neutral (1)
        4 - Agree (3)
5 - Strongly Agree (9)
  Not Applicable (0)
      [ Total (15) ]
                      0   2   4   6   8   10
```
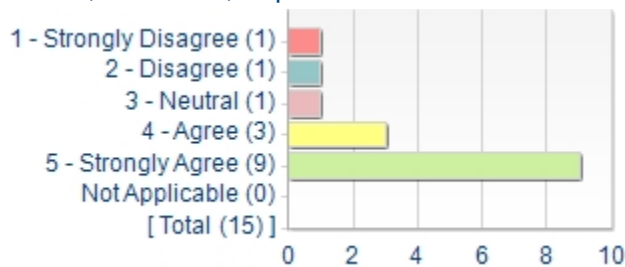
Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.20
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	1.26

Overall the course was:

```
    1 - Poor (0)
2 - Marginal (2)
 3 - Average (3)
4 - Very Good (8)
 5 - Excellent (2)
   [ Total (15) ]
                   0   2   4   6   8   10
```

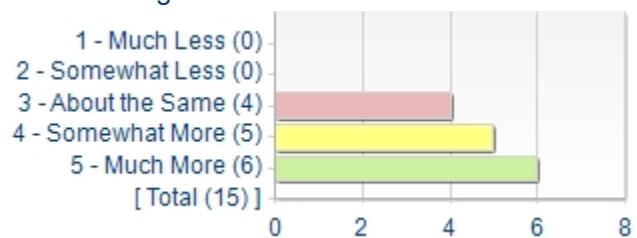| Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	3.67
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	0.90

1. Compared to other classes, the amount I learned in this course was:

```
   1 - Much Less (0)
2 - Somewhat Less (2)
3 - About the Same (2)
4 - Somewhat More (8)
  5 - Much More (3)
     [ Total (15) ]
                     0   2   4   6   8   10
```
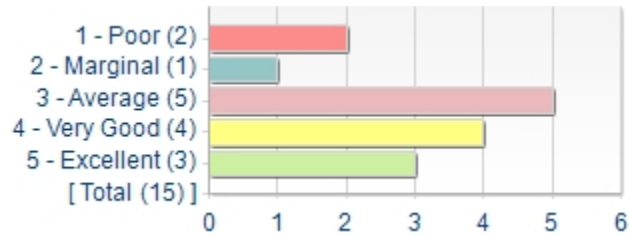
Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	3.80
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	0.94

2. Compared to requirements in other classes, the workload assigned in this class was:

```
   1 - Much Less (0)
2 - Somewhat Less (0)
3 - About the Same (4)
4 - Somewhat More (5)
  5 - Much More (6)
     [ Total (15) ]
                     0   2   4   6   8
```

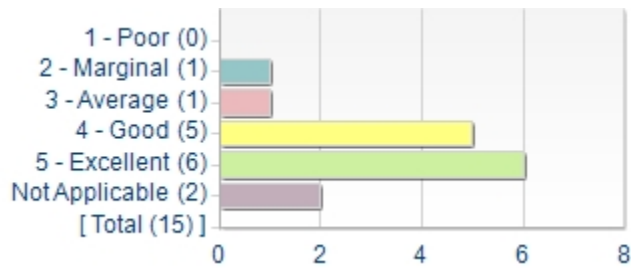| Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.13
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.83

Overall, how effective was the instruction you received from this teaching assistant (Ebehireme Iyoha)?

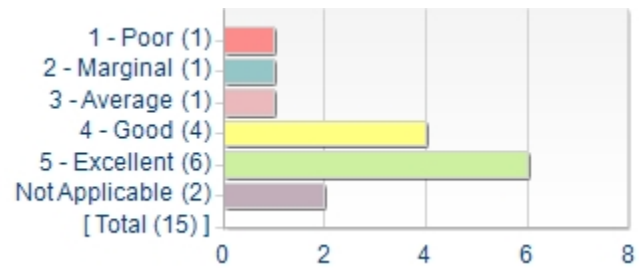| Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	3.33
Mode	3
Standard Deviation	1.29

Questions about the Teaching Assistant (Ebehireme Iyoha).

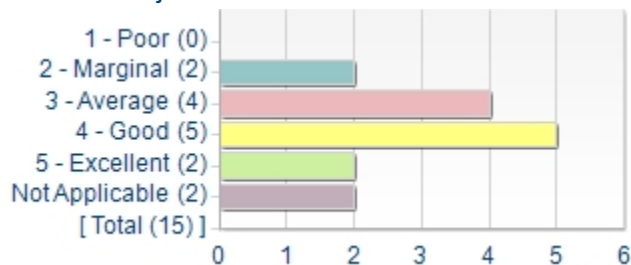**1. How available was the teaching assistant during their office hours?**

Rating	Count
1 - Poor	(0)
2 - Marginal	(1)
3 - Average	(1)
4 - Good	(5)
5 - Excellent	(6)
Not Applicable	(2)
[Total (15)]	

Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.23
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.93

2. How helpful and responsive was the teaching assistant?

Rating	Count
1 - Poor	(1)
2 - Marginal	(1)
3 - Average	(1)
4 - Good	(4)
5 - Excellent	(6)
Not Applicable	(2)
[Total (15)]	

Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	1.29

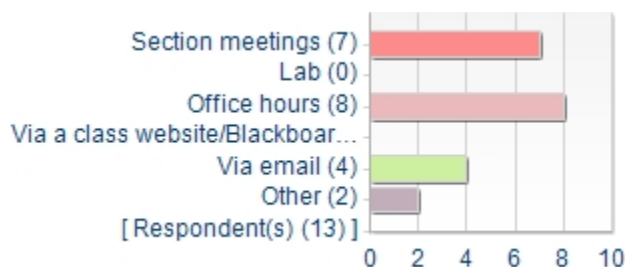**3. How knowledgeable was the teaching assistant about the subject matter of this class?**

Rating	Count
1 - Poor	(0)
2 - Marginal	(2)
3 - Average	(4)
4 - Good	(5)
5 - Excellent	(2)
Not Applicable	(2)
[Total (15)]	

Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	3.54
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	0.97

4. How would you characterize the ability of the teaching assistant to communicate in English with students?

Rating	Count
1 - Poor	(0)
2 - Marginal	(2)
3 - Average	(1)
4 - Good	(4)
5 - Excellent	(7)
Not Applicable	(1)
[Total (15)]	
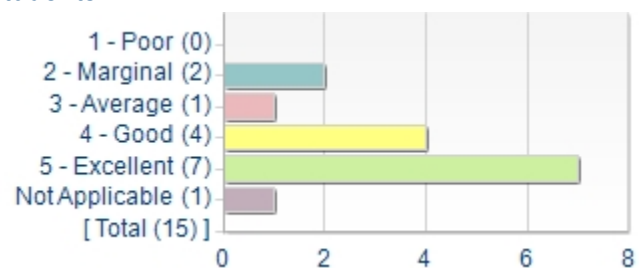
Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	4.14
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	1.10

In what way(s) did you interact with this teaching assistant (Ebehireme Iyoha)?

Way	Count
Section meetings	(7)
Lab	(0)
Office hours	(8)
Via a class website/Blackboar...	
Via email	(4)
Other	(2)
[Respondent(s) (13)]	

What aspects of this teaching assistant's (Ebehireme Iyoha) teaching were most helpful to you?

Comments
Ebehi was good at doing the same steps each time with the math. This is helpful for students just learning this material. She was very kind and understanding.
A lot of times TA's want to just tell you how to solve a problem when you don't know, but Ebehi did a really good job of asking questions and making sure that I really understood what I was doing rather than just giving me the answers. At the same time, I went to Ebehi to make sure that I was correctly solving the questions on the problem sets, so it was nice that she was also willing to confirm what problems I was solving correctly or incorrectly.
Honestly, there weren't many. The review session for the first exam, which was run by Ebehireme due to the Professor's absence, was a disaster. It took the entire class period to work through the first part of the first question on the exam review sheet.
In office hours she just gave the answers to the problem sets. Helpful in getting a good grade.

How can this teaching assistant's (Ebehireme Iyoha) teaching be improved?

Comments
I never sought her out in office hours, but I did attend the review sessions and the micro econ review she had early on in the semester. I found her teaching methods to be a little scattered and confusing. I don't doubt that she really understands the material, but her methods of conveying and teaching need improving. I found Professor Rodrigue's explanations and office hours to be much more helpful, so I went to him instead of going to her. However, I did hear from other students that she was helpful in office hours regarding the problem sets.
When doing a review session, etc. have the problems already worked out so that you arent doing the math up there because mistakes tend to happen.
I think maybe she could spend some time anticipating the questions that students would come in with or maybe completing the problem sets before they are assigned to the class. I felt like sometimes in office hours Ebehi would have to think for a while before answering a question which sometimes could be hard with timing because so many people came to office hours - I also think this wouldn't be an issue if the class struggled a little bit less with the problem sets and office hours were less crowded. This class could honestly have used more than one TA given the difficulty of the problem sets.
I feel like confidence goes a long way. I could tell that the TA was nervous standing in front of the class, and it made me feel unsure of what she was teaching. Also, when going through a practice problem or model, the TA would quickly mumble and erase things without really explaining why/what she was doing. Again, it seemed like she was just nervous, but it was rather hard to follow along with her teaching.
She should have helped teach more in office hours rather then just solving the problem in a way we could just copy it.