

## ECO 500: Mathematics for Economists - L01 - F. Sandomirskiy

### Response Table

Raters	Students
Responded	12
Invited	28

Declines:

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Department, division and career level statistics are survey-specific (i.e. the main survey, FRS, Writing Program, and graduate program surveys). Statistics below are based on responses of the course population that completed the same survey questionnaire as this course.

### Course Questions - Score Analysis

#### Class year

Class year			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Freshman	5	1	8%
Sophomore	4	0	0%
Junior	3	0	0%
Senior	2	0	0%
Graduate Student	1	11	92%

#### Primary reason for taking this course

Primary reason for taking this course			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Professor	5	0	0%
Distribution Requirement	4	0	0%
Departmental	3	12	100%
Certificate Program	2	0	0%
General Interest	1	0	0%

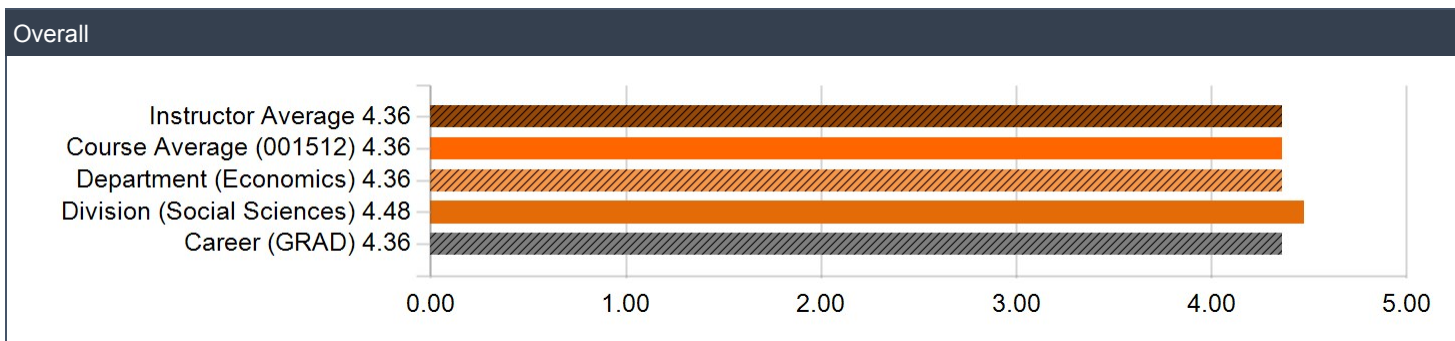
#### Percentage of classes you have attended

Percentage of classes you have attended			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
80-100%	5	12	100%
60-80%	4	0	0%
40-60%	3	0	0%
20-40%	2	0	0%
< 20%	1	0	0%

## Expected grade

Expected grade			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
A	6	3	25%
B	5	2	17%
C	4	0	0%
D	3	0	0%
F	2	0	0%
P	1	7	58%

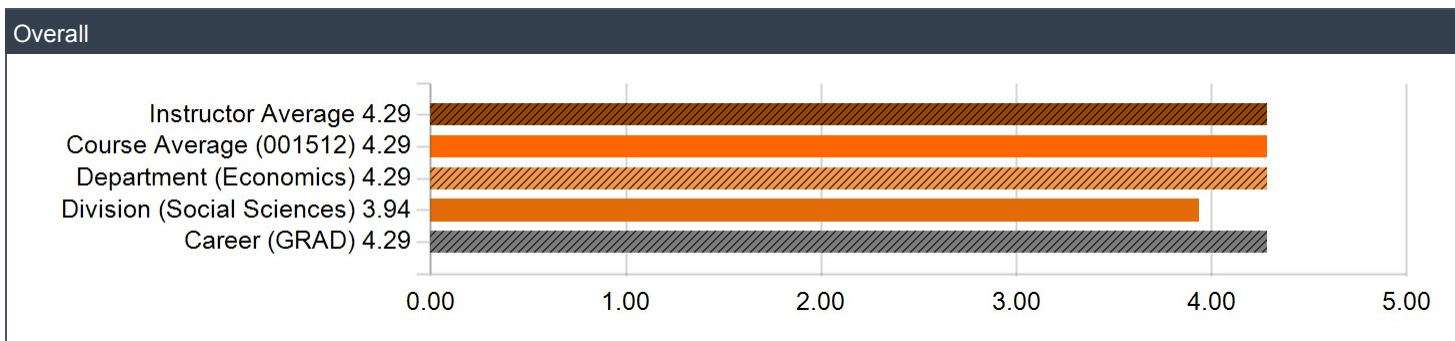
## I think that the overall quality of the written assignments was:



## I think that the overall quality of the written assignments was:

I think that the overall quality of the written assignments was:			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	4	36%
Very Good	4	7	64%
Good	3	0	0%
Fair	2	0	0%
Poor	1	0	0%

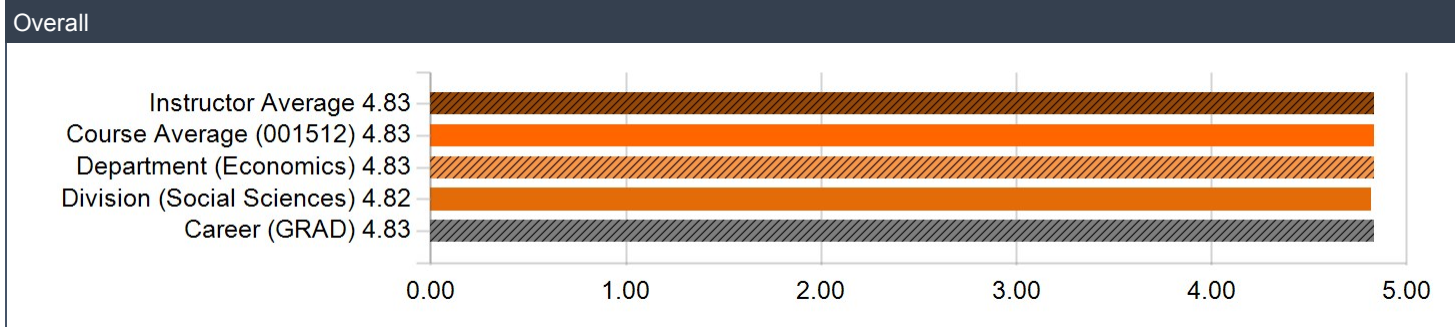
## I think that the overall quality of the readings was:



**I think that the overall quality of the readings was:**

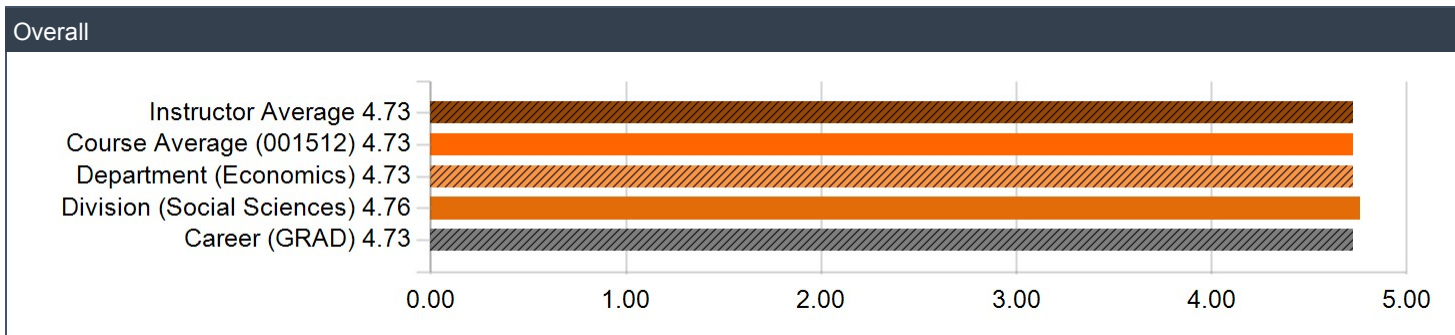
I think that the overall quality of the readings was:

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	4	57%
Very Good	4	2	29%
Good	3	0	0%
Fair	2	1	14%
Poor	1	0	0%

**I think that the overall quality of the course was:****I think that the overall quality of the course was:**

I think that the overall quality of the course was:

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	10	83%
Very Good	4	2	17%
Good	3	0	0%
Fair	2	0	0%
Poor	1	0	0%

**Would you recommend this course to other students?**

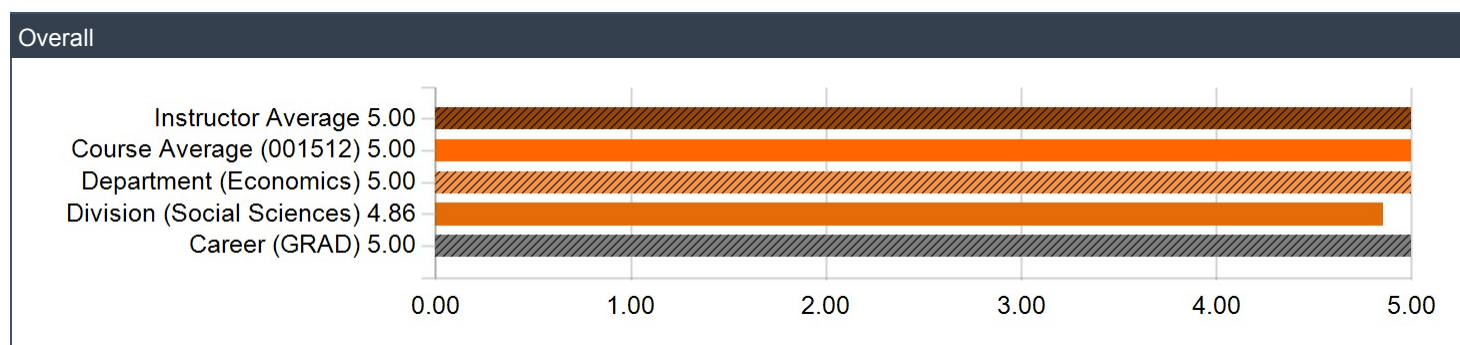
## Would you recommend this course to other students?

Would you recommend this course to other students?

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Recommend	5	8	73%
Recommend	4	3	27%
Neutral	3	0	0%
Recommend Against	2	0	0%
Strongly Recommend Against	1	0	0%

## Instructor Questions - Score Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the lectures was:



I think that the overall quality of the lectures was:

I think that the overall quality of the lectures was:

Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	12	100%
Very Good	4	0	0%
Good	3	0	0%
Fair	2	0	0%
Poor	1	0	0%

## Qualitative Feedback

**Why did you take this course? How would you describe your level of engagement in the course?**

Comments
It was the preparation for incoming economics graduate students. I enjoyed the course and attempted the problem sets
This is a required course for incoming Economics graduate students. I actively engaged in the material to prepare for theoretical work in the upcoming year.
Compulsory for my degree; very engaged in the course.
Math camp. High
I took this course to build the necessary mathematics foundation for graduate courses in economics.
To fulfill the requirements of my Ph.D. program. I have been fully devoted to this course.
Mandatory for incoming first years in the econ phd program.
This course is highly recommended as it covers the most important math concepts required for the first year of my program.

**How would you describe the overall quality of the lectures? Please comment, as appropriate, on how well the instructor presented the subject matter, stimulated your intellectual curiosity and independent thinking, and contributed to your knowledge of the subject matter.**

Comments
The lectures were very well presented and clear. I think the right balance was met given everyones maths background was so different.
The lectures were interesting and engaging. Fedor was very clever in presenting the materials in a way that was interesting for both those new and old to the material. I found the examples helpful and the proofs, although tough at times, very interesting.
The instructor did an excellent job presenting difficult material in a concise and accessible way.
Awesome.
Fedor is an extremely enthusiastic lecturer who is able to teach complex ideas in a complete manner. He also checks in with students to make sure they understand the content he teaches, and is extremely helpful during office hours. He has increased my interest in the mathematical aspects of economics.
Super great! Fedor delivers the concepts in a systematic way. His speaking speed is appropriate. And his notes on the blackboard are very organized and clear.
Fedor was a great lecturer and made 3 hour math review lectures as interesting as they could be. Very enthusiastic and did a good job connecting all the bits and pieces of the course together.
Lectures and sections were great. There was a lot of material to cover, but Fedor was clear and always took time for questions.
I really enjoyed class with Fedor – he was engaging and his knowledge of the material was exceptional. He was able to give complete 3 hour lectures seemingly without notes and was able to answer more advanced questions as they came up. He also seemed to really enjoy teaching the class, which made lectures that much more enjoyable for students. He also offered two bonus lectures for people who wanted more, and about 2/3 of the class showed up, a testament both to his dedication and to the quality of the classes.
Fedor not only is an excellent lecturer, but he also deeply cares about math and wants to make sure his students are learning. This class was fast paced and I was running always a bit from behind, but Fedor lectures may me want to continue studying math more formally in the future.

**Please comment on the guidance of the instructor(s) in preparing you to do written work, comments in response to written work, and the overall value of the papers, reports, exams, and problem sets to the course.**

Comments
The problem sets were challenging, but I think that was by design. This seemed necessary to prepare us to do economic math in the future.
Really appreciated the detailed problem sets! Would have loved a few answer keys but understand that was difficult given that this was the first time the class was run.
Great
The problem set is a natural place for us to apply what we have learned in classes. And Fedor nicely categorizes them into different levels – basic, important, extra, hard, and fun, which is very thoughtful! The only thing I find hard is that after digesting what we learned in classes, there is no sufficient time for me to finish the problem set.
Psets were optional and reviewed in Michael's sections. Felt like the earlier psets were more engaging than the later ones (the later ones were extremely straightforward in my opinion, but that might have been a symptom of the material being more familiar)
The PSETs were good, and provided good practice to become familiar with the material. I only wish that PSET solutions were made available to students.
N/A

**Please comment on the quality of the readings and visuals in the course. Did the readings and visuals present the subject matter clearly? To what extent did the readings and visuals stimulate your intellectual curiosity and independent thinking?**

Comments
There were no required readings in this course.
Yes. Fedor's notes on the blackboard are super helpful.
I don't think this was really applicable? Everything was lecturers on the blackboard.
While I really appreciated Fedor's lectures, I do feel like I would have gotten significantly more out of the course if there were written notes online or an appropriately leveled textbook to go with the class. (There was a recommended textbook, but it was written at a significantly less advanced level than the class, so I didn't find it very helpful for the topics I had the most questions about.) I learn better by reading than by listening, and I often found myself trying to make sense of concepts after lecture using only my own notes, constantly questioning whether I was lost because I had written something down wrong or failed to capture an important point that was spoken but not written on the chalkboard – or if my notes were complete and I just needed to keep working at it.

**Please comment on the overall quality of the course. What worked particularly well and in what ways might the course be improved?**

Comments
Great course, very engaging lecturer
I think this was challenging and quick, but fully necessary given the mathematical requirements of the first two years of an economics PhD.
I would have appreciated more handouts/notes, which would have aided my preparation for the exit exam.
Really enjoyed the math camp! Of course, we covered a lot of material, but I think that having these notes will make the rest of the year easier.
A great and very helpful course. However, it really requires hard work to digest so many materials in three weeks.
Overall the course is great. Fedor is an excellent instructor and does his job very well. The only potential issue is that there is more material than can be covered in the 13 lectures. I think it might be optimal to discard the entrance exam and replace it with another lecture. The standards for testing out are extremely high and I don't think many (any) people expected to test out (and it is still useful to attend regardless). Provide the entrance exam to interested students outside of class on the first day.
I really appreciated the course and the effort both Fedor and Michael put into it. My biggest feedback is about written materials. As I noted above, I think I would have really benefited from written notes or a textbook. More importantly, though, is that we never got solutions to problem sets. Problem sets were not turned in or graded, which makes sense in such a fast paced class. But unless a problem was covered in precepts, we never got the answer. It's really difficult to learn math when you don't know whether you've been doing your homework correctly.
Lectures were great. It would have been really useful to have solutions for the psets, that would have made the precepts better.

**What advice would you give to another student considering taking this course? (Please note that your response to this particular question will be accessible to all members of the University community on the Course Offerings website.)**

Comments
Excellent course to prepare for PhD economics
Be prepared to see new content, and be prepared to be busy for a few weeks.
Take it, if it is taught by Fedor.
It's mandatory for first year econ PhDs, I don't think there's much "considering" going on here. It's a good review of things you might not have done for a while, especially if you did a predoc. You'll learn a handful of new things or see things from a slightly new angle and connect some topics together that might not have been connected during undergrad.
If you fall behind in this class, it will be very VERY hard to catch up. I recommend spending a couple hours in the lounge every afternoon working on problem sets with other students. You can and should spend evenings and weekends setting up your living space and getting to know your classmates, but you'll get a lot more out of the course if you reserve a few hours a day to stay mostly up to date on math camp.