

Evidence of Teaching Effectiveness

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i. Summary Statistics of Student Evaluation Scores

Below, I report the average student evaluation scores for each course I taught at UW-Madison and the University of Chicago. Student evaluations are on a Likert scale from 1 (worst) to 5 (best). The summary statistics include the course title, my instructional role, the semester when a course was taught, and two different performance measures (*office hour performance* and *overall evaluation score*).

Course Name	Role	Semester	Office Hour Performance	Overall Evaluation
<i>Courses taught at the University of Chicago</i>				
PLSC31903: Chinese Politics	Instructor	Spring 2024	5.0/5.0	4.67/5.0
MAPS 30000: Perspectives in Social Science	Instructor	Fall 2023	4.83/5.0	4.60/5.0
SOSC 13110: Formal Theory I	Instructor	Fall 2023	4.67/5.0	4.51/5.0
<i>Courses taught at UW-Madison</i>				
PS324: Chinese Politics	Instructor	Spring 2023	5.0/5.0	4.30/5.0
PS348: Analysis of International Relations	TA	Fall 2022 Fall 2021	4.65/5.0	4.51/5.0
PS270: Understanding Political Numbers	TA/Lab Instructor	Spring 2021 Spring 2020	4.48/5.0	3.80/5.0*
PS400: Introduction to Chinese Politics	TA	Fall 2020	4.46/5.0	4.71/5.0
PS120: Introduction to Comparative Politics	TA	Fall 2019 Spring 2019 Fall 2018	4.31/5.0	4.05/5.0
* The lower student evaluation score was partially because the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the Spring 2020 semester, and all courses were moved online abruptly. The department average for this course was 3.43/5.0.				

ii. Selected Student Testimonials and Feedback

PS324/400, PLSC31903: Chinese Politics

Semester offered: Winter 2024 (UChicago); Spring 2023, Fall 2020 (UW–Madison)

- “Prof. Qian is very responsible at distributing materials and he is really knowledgeable about the class contents and any related topics. Very nice and approachable! He was very smart and knew a lot about the topic of the class. Also made himself available whenever I needed help.”
- “He went above and beyond by helping us with study guides, truly one of the best teachers I have had. Excellent in helping the student succeed in this course.”
- “He was very respectful. He is so knowledgeable and does a very good job of making difficult material easier to understand. I will miss his recitation sessions.”
- “Juan created excellent study guides and was incredibly helpful. He certainly deserves recognition for how well he adapted to the online format.”
- “Juan is beyond knowledge on the subject matter of this course but further, he communicated and explained the subject matter in a succinct and easy to comprehend way. He went above and beyond for his students by creating study guides, practice exams, and review sessions. Juan is an amazing professor that has demonstrated a clear passion for not only his field of academic research but also students in his class.”
- “Juan was highly educated on all the topics presented in class and I think he did a very great job running this course! All of Juan's discussions were very helpful in clarifying lecture content and introducing new content. His presentation was easy to understand.”

SOSC 13110: Social Science Inquiry – Formal Theory

Semester offered: Fall 2023 (UChicago)

- “Prof. Qian motivates all the theoretical concepts of discussion with concrete, real-world examples which makes things every easy to visualize. As a single math major, I found it enjoyable to see rigorous application of math in a social science context.”
- “Juan's lectures were great, though the fact that he was very accessible outside of class was also immensely helpful.”
- “I can see how Professor Qian put a lot of effort into this class. I would recommend it to anyone interested in mathematical game theory, no previous knowledge required.”
- “The lectures are well-organized and the slides are useful. Prof. Qian is very passionate about the subject he's teaching and he's also quite funny.”
- “Lectures are well-paced and helpful, assignments are interesting and doesn't take up a lot of time. Readings are a joy to a math major.”
- “One of my favorite classes at UChicago. Love the teacher.”

MAPS 30000: Perspectives in Social Science

Semesters offered: Fall 2023 (UChicago)

- “Juan was extremely engaging and respectful. He was always encouraging all students to participate and respected every response made in class while still encouraging debate and discussion.”
- “I think Juan's breadth of knowledge helped make the lessons widely understandable, especially in the way he used it to frame comments during discussion in ways that were helpful to the entire class.”
- “Overall this course was very helpful in developing my understanding of perspectives of analysis in the social sciences. My work was hindered by unfortunate personal circumstances but the course itself was more than adequate.”
- “Overall, this course was a good introduction to various social science disciplines and frameworks. It was also helpful in pushing me to think through my thesis question and explore methods of research and ways to communicate my interest.”
- “I felt extremely respected and valued. Juan made sure that all students were participating at least every other class and asked engaging questions each day.”

PS348: Analysis of International Relations

Semesters offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2022 (UW–Madison)

- “I think our TA did a great job of working with what he had. Our TA took the time each week to walk through every problem from the problem set in-depth and do extra problems if we had time. He was really helpful in explaining the mathematical equations and the mathematical side of the class.”
- “My TA was very kind and a welcome educational presence in my semester. He is very approachable and never made you feel uncomfortable asking something.”
- “My TA is obviously well versed in the subject material and fantastic at explaining the material. ”
- “He did a great job explaining material which I found confusing and did so consistently with every topic. He was overall very kind and accommodating and seemed like he cared about the students.”

PS120: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Semesters offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019 (UW–Madison)

- “My TA was Juan and he was incredible. He used discussion time well to recap the topics discussed in class, and broke down large concepts to help me understand. Whenever I stayed after to ask small questions he would readily and happily answer them & clear up any confusion. He would make additional learning guides for us and always had our best interest in mind. Juan did a fantastic job!!

- “Juan was always very helpful and inclusive in section. He did a great job of explaining difficult concepts. He also never discouraged anyone that answered a question incorrectly, which made participation much more comfortable. I really enjoyed having him as a TA, and I learned a lot from him over the course of the semester.”
- “Give Juan an award. That man has really put in effort to create an engaging discussion section. He is exceptional at what he does and knows pretty much about every single political event in the world. He should really TA a higher-level course.”
- “Very knowledgeable and good at getting students to elaborate on their thoughts without seeming harsh or unwelcoming. I really like Juan’s ability to engage people within discussion and his clarification of concepts that were hard to grasp.”
- “Juan is a really humble character. He understands this course well and when is there for any question a student may have. Juan likes to answer any questions in a very understanding term so they student can understand the subject. If Juan needs a nice haircut for 10 dollars, tell him to hit me up, I know a person.”

PS270: Understanding Political Numbers (Quantitative Methodology)

Semesters offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2021 (UW–Madison)

- “Juan was extremely helpful and patient. He answered all of my questions about problem sets and other coding matters and helped me to succeed in this course.”
- “Juan was willing to listen to all questions and concerns and attempted to provide answers to all.”
- “Juan is very knowledgeable and nice. He made this semester better for me.”
- “Juan was always very open to helping out and answering questions and wanted to make sure everybody understood the material.”
- “Juan has been very accessible both offline and online (through email). He is very honest (e.g. explaining why he was late to respond to emails) and is very knowledgeable about the course material. He also delivers information in a straightforward way, which is easier to understand. He is also very understanding.”