

Course evaluation summary – Econ 272: Intermediate Econometrics III

This report summarizes student feedback from the Econ 272 in Spring 2023 and Spring 2024 course evaluations. Student feedback was collected through an anonymous online survey administered at the end of the semester. As a teaching assistant for the mandatory graduate first-year PhD sequence class, my responsibilities included holding 2 h of office hours, one 2 h section a week reviewing lecture material and practice problems, going to lectures, administration of exams, grading, managing the course Canvas page, and responding to student emails and assist with logistics.

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Spring 2024 Section Feedback

Course: Sp24-ECON-272-01: INTERMEDIATE ECONOMETRICS III
Instructor: Lea Bottmer *
Response Rate: 40/43 (93.02 %)

1 - In what way did you interact with this instructor most?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
In section meetings	(1)	32	80.00%	<div><div></div></div>	
In lab	(2)	0	0.00%		
During office hours	(3)	2	5.00%	<div><div></div></div>	
Via a class website	(4)	1	2.50%		
Email	(5)	3	7.50%	<div><div></div></div>	
In class	(6)	0	0.00%		
Other	(7)	2	5.00%	<div><div></div></div>	
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
40/43 (93.02%)					

2 - During the quarter, about how many hours on average per week did you interact with this instructor in section, class, lab, office hours, and other meetings?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
0	(0)	2	5.26%	<div><div></div></div>	
1	(1)	5	13.16%	<div><div></div></div>	
2	(2)	21	55.26%	<div><div></div></div>	
3	(3)	7	18.42%	<div><div></div></div>	
4	(4)	1	2.63%		
6	(6)	1	2.63%		
18	(18)	1	2.63%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate				Mean	STD
38/43 (88.37%)				2.53	2.78
				Median	
				2.00	

3 - How much did you learn from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
A great deal	(5)	29	72.50%	<div><div></div></div>	4.58
A lot	(4)	7	17.50%	<div><div></div></div>	
A moderate amount	(3)	3	7.50%	<div><div></div></div>	
A little	(2)	0	0.00%		
Nothing	(1)	1	2.50%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate				Mean	STD
40/43 (93.02%)				4.58	0.84
				Median	
				5.00	

4 - Overall, how effective was the instruction you received from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Extremely effective	(5)	30	75.00%	<div><div></div></div>	4.72
Very effective	(4)	9	22.50%	<div><div></div></div>	
Moderately effective	(3)	1	2.50%		
Slightly effective	(2)	0	0.00%		
Not effective at all	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate				Mean	STD
40/43 (93.02%)				4.72	0.51
				Median	
				5.00	

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5 - What skills or knowledge did you learn or improve from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Rate10/43 (23.26%)

- Her notes were great and clarified a lot of confusion from the lectures.
- Great TA
- Lea focused on the main points of each lecture, which was helpful
- econometrics
- I learned most of the material from Lea. She's a spectacular instructor who puts in tons of effort. My favorite TA of the year
- amazing
- I feel Lea contributed to improving my understanding of each lecture in the course.
- Lea was a fantastic resource who helped me survive and learn from this class!
- Lea really helped me understand the methods of causal inference more thoroughly. She's excellent at breaking down complicated concepts effortlessly and clearly.
- Lea essentially taught a side course that effectively translated the content covered in class into a single coherent set of notes that were super informative and helpful.

6 - What aspects of this instructor's teaching were most helpful to you?

Lea Bottmer

Response Rate20/43 (46.51%)

- Clear, detailed section notes
- She's very clear with her explanations
- Lea provided great examples to work through in class. Giving us time to work with our peers was also helpful. Giving hints on the Pssets was also helpful. It allowed us to have a starting point and made the Pssets more manageable.
- Section notes were detailed and very helpful! Meshed well with lecture content, while providing useful context and additional detail.
- Extremely dedicated TA Very good section notes and practise problems (solutions were provided which is great to work by yourself on the material afterwards) Ability to point out the key topics in a given week
- the lecture notes she prepared were very good
- Lea's notes and discussion sections were essential to understanding the material in the course.
- amazing instructor
- 1. Lea is great at digging in with any questions that might help students. She often put in work to follow up on any questions I had. 2. Lea's sections were very organised, well presented, and were a significant contribution to the quality of the course. She should be proud of her efforts because I know the rest of the class is. 3. Lea's availability to help out with last minute questions and queries was much appreciated.
- she provided great notes. her sections were really effective.
- Format of lessons.
- The section notes are incredibly helpful and clear! I am sure they will be helpful in the future as well. I appreciated a lot the effort Lea made in providing clear and in-depth summaries of what was covered in class; focusing especially on those bits that we did not have much time to cover in class
- Her notes on the material are very detailed and clear. This was super helpful. You can also tell she really cares about the student wellbeing and learning.
- - Super organized! - Best section notes I've ever seen. Must have taken a long time to make those, but wow, it paid off. - Translated what was going on in class into beginner-friendly language and brought clarity to multiple pset questions that needed it.
- Aspect 1: Lea's section notes, which are outstanding and better than any textbook! Aspect 2: Her organization and structure of the sections, with review followed by practice questions. Aspect 3: Her dedication to helping students understand the material, which really goes above and beyond. For example, she will often follow up on students' questions more thoroughly with updated notes or by email.
- Amazing section notes; dedicated to helping us learn
- Lea is organized and helpful in office hours and section, and her section notes are incredible repositories of knowledge. She is a phenomenal TA.
- Her teaching and section notes are SO clear. I have never had metrics concepts broken down and explained so clearly before. Thank you, I learned so much!
- Absolutely amazing section notes
- amazing course notes. so clear!! could really be a textbook

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7 - How can this instructor's teaching be improved?

Lea Bottmer

Response Rate7/43 (16.28%)

- Questions that I couldn't answer myself were often questions that the TA couldn't answer either - I do not put the blame on her (cause she was putting a lot of effort in preparing the content) but see my comment on the material of the class which is weirdly at times extremely simple and extremely (too) hard
- the tone of her voice is very flat and sometimes her section gets boring
- amazing insructor
- Her efforts already exceed expectations.
- - I don't know whose control this is under, but I recall the time/place for section being set last-minute at the start of the quarter, which made it hard to plan around. - Occasionally could have come a bit better prepared for office hours -- minor comment though, as she was able to remind herself of the pset context quickly.
- I can't think of anything!
- Nothing.






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Spring 2023 Section Feedback

Course: Sp23-ECON-272-01: INTERMEDIATE ECONOMETRICS III
Instructor: Lea Bottmer *
Response Rate: 40/50 (80.00 %)





1 - In what way did you interact with this instructor most?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
In section meetings	(1)	21	56.76%		
In lab	(2)	0	0.00%		
During office hours	(3)	3	8.11%		
Via a class website	(4)	2	5.41%		
Email	(5)	7	18.92%		
In class	(6)	3	8.11%		
Other	(7)	1	2.70%		
				0 25 50 100	
Response Rate					
37/50 (74.00%)					





2 - During the quarter, about how many hours on average per week did you interact with this instructor in section, class, lab, office hours, and other meetings?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
0	(0)	3	9.38%		
1	(1)	8	25.00%		
2	(2)	11	34.38%		
3	(3)	5	15.63%		
4	(4)	1	3.13%		
5	(5)	1	3.13%		
10	(10)	1	3.13%		
18	(18)	1	3.13%		
41	(41)	1	3.13%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate					
32/50 (64.00%)					
Mean					
3.84					
STD					
7.56					
Median					
2.00					

3 - How much did you learn from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
A great deal	(5)	21	60.00%		4.43 
A lot	(4)	9	25.71%		
A moderate amount	(3)	4	11.43%		
A little	(2)	1	2.86%		
Nothing	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate					
35/50 (70.00%)					
Mean					
4.43					
STD					
0.81					
Median					
5.00					







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Response Rate: 40/50 (80.00 %)

4 - Overall, how effective was the instruction you received from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Extremely effective	(5)	21	60.00%		 4.43
Very effective	(4)	9	25.71%		
Moderately effective	(3)	4	11.43%		
Slightly effective	(2)	1	2.86%		
Not effective at all	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate				Mean	STD
35/50 (70.00%)				4.43	0.81
					Median
					5.00

5 - What skills or knowledge did you learn or improve from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Rate	8/50 (16%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thinking about different methods more rigorously I truly solidified my understanding of the past week's topics while in Lea's section. In particular, my entire understanding of synthetic control methods comes from Lea's lectures and section on these topics. I couldn't attend to sections because I had other class at the same time I learned a lot about synthetic control methods I would say. Her research was very interesting and she is very knowledgeable in this area. causal inference Practical examples of econometric methods Lea is the MVP of this class--even after attending all the lectures, I never really felt like I'd solidified the material until after we'd reviewed it with Lea in section. Similarly, her emphasis on problems from previous years' finals helped make me feel very prepared for the final exam in a way the problem sets were not really designed to. Lea gave clear explanations of the intuitions behind causal inference methods 	

6 - What aspects of this instructor's teaching were most helpful to you?

Lea Bottmer

Response Rate	12/50 (24%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspect 1: Being detailed and concise, Aspect 2: Intuitive explanations, Aspect 3: Always thoroughly prepared and obviously very competent 1. Lea's ability to simplify complex topics and provide examples to help us better understand the material. 2. Lea's dedication to teaching and learning. On more than one occasion, I asked Lea a question in section which was more in depth than the material we were covering. So, she promised to get back to me with an answer via email. And each time, she sent me the most thoroughly researched and thoughtful answers to my questions (complete with pictures when appropriate). From my own experience, this level of dedication to the learning and education of others is unparalleled. 3. Lea's thoughtfulness and care with respect to our mental and physical well-being allowed me to thrive in this course, with the understanding that someone always had my back and was looking out for my best interests, not just in the classroom or on an academic level, but on a human level as well. This directly impacted my ability to learn and enjoy learning, which is a First Order concern of any class. I couldn't attend to sections because I had other class at the same time She was very approachable, very kind, and very patient when helping students. I think that she frequently would stop and ask for questions was very helpful. She was also very prepared and very open to suggestions. Lea is super helpful in office hours wrt problem set questions, the section notes are great (this is super valuable because the lecture notes can be confusing sometimes) and we went through a lot of practice problems/old exam questions during section (especially compared to other classes), atmosphere in section and OH is very good, and she even brought sweets for the last section which was very nice. Lea is the best TA I could ever ask for. Her sections went above and beyond and she is just generally a very friendly, helpful, and competent instructor. She was always super prepared with section notes and she put a lot of emphasis on inclusion and collaboration in sections. She was also great about managing and organizing the course and promptly replying to emails. She clearly cared a lot about students having a good experience and learning econometrics for the purposes of research. Lea is clearly knowledgeable on the section matter and is able to communicate it in an effective and engaging manner during section meetings. great organization; notes were more helpful than slides :) thank you Lea! Well-planned sections, detailed section notes, very on top of course communications The section notes were the most helpful learning material in the course! I thought the emphasis on practice problems and student engagement worked very well and was not something I've seen many other econ TAs do. I appreciated that she stuck with it even when the students were not necessarily cooperative! Lea's section notes were super useful for this course extremely well-written notes that present the material more accessibly than lectures (which, although great, are delivered at a level more targeted for an academic peer than a first-year who hasn't seen much econometrics before) 	

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7 - How can this instructor's teaching be improved?

Lea Bottmer

Response Rate	5/50 (10%)
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- Not at all. Would have wished her to be my Prof/TA throughout all my studies
- I couldn't attend to sections because I had other class at the same time
- I think she should have more confidence in her ability.
- n/a
- No complaints at all!