

Seminar Assessment Report

Title: Statistics 3

Professor(s): Prof. Jesus BUEREN & Prof. Russell COOPER

Teaching Assistant(s): Thomas Walsh

Year: 2019 - 2020 **Term:** BLOCK 3 **Department:** ECO

Participants: 23 **Forms returned:** 23 **Return:** 100.00%

	Answers	%
Q1. In overall terms I am satisfied with the professor?		
5 - Very much	1	4.35%
4 - Considerably	9	39.13%
3 - Average	10	43.48%
2 - Not Very much	2	8.70%
1 - Not at all	1	4.35%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

Q2. The professor was well organised and well prepared?		
5 - Very much	1	4.35%
4 - Considerably	10	43.48%
3 - Average	10	43.48%
2 - Not Very much	1	4.35%
1 - Not at all	1	4.35%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

Q3. The professor was clear in his/her presentations and explanations?		
5 - Very much	1	4.35%
4 - Considerably	8	34.78%
3 - Average	9	39.13%
2 - Not Very much	4	17.39%
1 - Not at all	1	4.35%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

Q16. Practical classes have been very useful for the learning and understanding of the subject?

5 - Very much	3	13.04%
4 - Considerably	13	56.52%
3 - Average	5	21.74%
2 - Not Very much	1	4.35%
1 - Not at all	1	4.35%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

Q17. If this course was co-taught, Do you agree that co-teaching improved the course?

5 - Very much	4	17.39%
4 - Considerably	3	13.04%
3 - Average	3	13.04%
2 - Not Very much	7	30.43%
1 - Not at all	5	21.74%
NA / No Answer	1	4.35%

Q18. Please provide your open comments and feedback in relation to individual professor co-teaching the course.

Response 1: Really liked Jesus' part of the course, it was well explained and the problem sets were very useful in helping to understand the material. In Cooper's part the focus seemed to be on macro rather than the methodologies and the assignments were a huge leap from what was covered in lectures.

Response 2: Professor Bueren was very well organized and prepared: we were going step by step, and I think this is the most appropriate way to study these topics. Professor Cooper provided many insights, but in my opinion, this part was somewhat unbalanced. For example, in problem sets, we spent quite a lot of time on "basic" SMM for RBC. Instead, we could do "full" SMM including optimal weighting matrix estimation and hypothesis testing for some simple linear regression case and then proceed to RBC.

Response 3: Cooper: I was satisfied with the teaching style, but at times the course developed into a Macroeconomics rather than an Econometrics lecture. The recorded lectures were much appreciated.

Jesus: Jesus taught with a lot of enthusiasm, but was sometimes too focused on the technical details instead of providing intuition on the material. It would have been good to start each chapter with a general introduction and some explanations of the general concepts and their use-cases instead of jumping straight into derivations. While I generally appreciate lectures which are not based on slides, it might have been preferable to perhaps not entirely rely on the blackboard and use slides as a supplementary tool.

Response 4: Jesus: - The content was well explained and structured. - Some more intuition and context in the latter topics would have been appreciated, I really liked the insights given in the first topics of the course. - I really liked the lectures on the whiteboard rather than using slides. However, the silences generated by doing some of the derivations made it easy to lose focus. I don't really know what to suggest to avoid them. - Super good attitude towards questions, really encouraging and validating. He was really committed to giving a good answer, reaching back if necessary. Cooper: - He is a really good lecturer: provides lots of insights and presents the topics with clarity. - Problem sets were quite lengthy and demanding, which makes sense given the importance they have in the final grade. For that same reason, I would have liked to have them corrected before the exam, since a lot of my understanding in preparation for the exam I took from what I had learnt from doing the problems sets.

42. Did the T.A. explain harder/trickier parts of the problem set well?

5 - Very much	8	34.78%
4 - Considerably	9	39.13%
3 - Average	4	17.39%
2 - Not Very much	2	8.70%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

43. Did the T.A. respond to the problems and difficulties raised by the class?

5 - Very much	12	52.17%
4 - Considerably	7	30.43%
3 - Average	4	17.39%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

44. Did you feel that the T.A. sessions were more useful than simply reading written solutions?

5 - Very much	10	43.48%
4 - Considerably	7	30.43%
3 - Average	3	13.04%
2 - Not Very much	2	8.70%
1 - Not at all	1	4.35%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

45. Did you feel that the T.A. understood the material sufficiently better than the students?

5 - Very much	13	56.52%
4 - Considerably	7	30.43%
3 - Average	1	4.35%
2 - Not Very much	2	8.70%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

46. T.A. Sessions additional comments:

Response 1: TA sessions were great and Thomas was very helpful outside of the sessions also. However, it would have been good to have some kind of a session for the last problem set as I think it was by far the most difficult.

Response 2: Please note that the evaluation is based on just very few classes due to the exceptional circumstances. However, in the few classes we had, Thomas was very helpful and also approachable outside class.

Response 3: Thomas did an excellent job in answering all our questions when solving the problem sets (and they were lots). His responses were really helpful to understand the mechanics of what we were asked in the problem sets. He was also available any time we needed.

Response 4: We missed some TA sessions because the TA was sick, and since the university was closed we could not recover those sessions. The PS were graded without a lot of feedback, and the PS on the last part were never graded/ given back + no TA class was held for them. The material in these PS was tough and it would have been very useful to have feedback and a discussion on top of the sketch of the written solutions.

Response 5: We didn't have a lot of TA classes only 2 and one was held by the professor.

Response 6: I really liked Thomas and I commend him for the effort he put into the class, but it was clear that he was struggling himself solving the PS and then also to explain the difficult concepts and ideas of the class clearly. Unfortunately, we received feedback for our PS only very late, or, for the second part of the class, not at all, so when solving the second and third PS we were mostly guessing whether we understood a concept correctly. This meant that I understood and corrected a pile of problems and mistakes I made in the beginning of the class only very late during the course, leading to much frustration and wasted time.

Response 7: The T.A was really helpful and always show available, even under the extraordinary circumstances due to the Corona crisis.

47. On average, how many hours per week did you spend on this course?

0 hours	0	0.00%
1 - 3 hours	0	0.00%
4 - 7 hours	2	8.70%
8 - 10 hours	5	21.74%
11 hours +	14	60.87%
NA / No Answer	2	8.70%

48. What percentage was this of the total average time you spent on courses per week?

Between 0% and 20%	3	13.04%
Between 20% and 40%	7	30.43%
Between 40% and 60%	6	26.09%
Between 60% and 80%	4	17.39%
Between 80% and 100%	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	3	13.04%

Seminar Assessment Report

Title: Dynamic Factor Demand

Professor(s): Prof. Russell COOPER,

Teaching Assistant(s): Thomas Walsh

Year:	2019	Term:	BLOCK 1	Department:	ECO
Participants:	10	Forms returned:	10	Return:	100.00%

	Answers	%
Q1. In overall terms I am satisfied with the professor?		
5 - Very much	9	90.00%
4 - Considerably	1	10.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%
Q2. The professor was well organised and well prepared?		
5 - Very much	7	70.00%
4 - Considerably	3	30.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%
Q3. The professor was clear in his/her presentations and explanations?		
5 - Very much	8	80.00%
4 - Considerably	2	20.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	0	0.00%

Q17. If this course was co-taught, Do you agree that co-teaching improved the course?

5 - Very much	1	10.00%
4 - Considerably	0	0.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	1	10.00%
NA / No Answer	8	80.00%

Q18. Please provide your open comments and feedback in relation to individual professor co-teaching the course.

Q19. Do you think the teaching assistant (Doctoral Researcher or Post-Doctoral Fellow) was well organised and prepared?

5 - Very much	6	60.00%
4 - Considerably	3	30.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	1	10.00%

Q20. Do you think the teaching assistant (Doctoral Researcher or Post-Doctoral Fellow) was available and approachable outside seminar hours?

5 - Very much	9	90.00%
4 - Considerably	0	0.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	1	10.00%

Q21. In your opinion, what topics were omitted that should have been included?

Q22. What topics should have been reduced/omitted?

Q23. What topics covered in the course/seminar did you find particularly valuable?

41. Was there sufficient time to discuss the problem set in the T.A class?

5 - Very much	1	10.00%
4 - Considerably	3	30.00%
3 - Average	1	10.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	1	10.00%
NA / No Answer	4	40.00%

42. Did the T.A. explain harder/trickier parts of the problem set well?

5 - Very much	2	20.00%
4 - Considerably	2	20.00%
3 - Average	1	10.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	1	10.00%
NA / No Answer	4	40.00%

43. Did the T.A. respond to the problems and difficulties raised by the class?

5 - Very much	3	30.00%
4 - Considerably	1	10.00%
3 - Average	1	10.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	5	50.00%

44. Did you feel that the T.A. sessions were more useful than simply reading written solutions?

5 - Very much	2	20.00%
4 - Considerably	2	20.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	6	60.00%

45. Did you feel that the T.A. understood the material sufficiently better than the students?

5 - Very much	3	30.00%
4 - Considerably	2	20.00%
3 - Average	0	0.00%
2 - Not Very much	0	0.00%
1 - Not at all	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	5	50.00%

46. T.A. Sessions additional comments:

47. On average, how many hours per week did you spend on this course?

0 hours	0	0.00%
1 - 3 hours	0	0.00%
4 - 7 hours	2	20.00%
8 - 10 hours	4	40.00%
11 hours +	3	30.00%
NA / No Answer	1	10.00%

48. What percentage was this of the total average time you spent on courses per week?

Between 0% and 20%	0	0.00%
Between 20% and 40%	1	10.00%
Between 40% and 60%	2	20.00%
Between 60% and 80%	4	40.00%
Between 80% and 100%	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	3	30.00%

49. What percentage of this time spent on this course was spent on problem sets?

Between 0% and 20%	0	0.00%
Between 20% and 40%	1	10.00%
Between 40% and 60%	4	40.00%
Between 60% and 80%	1	10.00%
Between 80% and 100%	1	10.00%
NA / No Answer	3	30.00%

50. What percentage of the time spent on this course was spent on general background studying and reading?

Between 0% and 20%	1	10.00%
Between 20% and 40%	3	30.00%
Between 40% and 60%	2	20.00%
Between 60% and 80%	0	0.00%
Between 80% and 100%	0	0.00%
NA / No Answer	4	40.00%