Evidence of Teaching Effectiveness

This document summarizes student evaluations of my performance as a teaching assistant. During my graduate career, I have served as a teaching assistant both in the Department of Economics and in the Department of Public Policy. The questions included in the student evaluations differ between those two departments, aside from one: “Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.” I report my average score for that question for each of the courses for which I was a teaching assistant. Below, I provide a sampling of student feedback from the course evaluations. Below, I report selected student comments from my evaluations.

My complete teaching evaluations can be downloaded from my personal website, at the following URL: [http://people.virginia.edu/~spl2eq/teaching.html](http://people.virginia.edu/~spl2eq/teaching.html).

**Question Text:** “Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Average for My Sections</th>
<th>Peer Average</th>
<th>Peer Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
<td>ECON 2010 Principles of Microeconomics</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>All Intro Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2011</td>
<td>ECON 2020 Principles of Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>All Intro Economics</td>
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<td>Fall 2011</td>
<td>PPOL 7160 Research Methods and Data Analysis II</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>4.08</td>
<td>All Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2012</td>
<td>PPOL 7160 Research Methods and Data Analysis II</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>3.91</td>
<td>All Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2012</td>
<td>PPOL 7160 Research Methods and Data Analysis II</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>All Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2014</td>
<td>ECON 4310 Economics of the Public Sector</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>All Economics Electives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
<td>ECON 3010 Intermediate Microeconomics</td>
<td>4.31</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>All Economics Electives</td>
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</table>

*Note: Peer groups include all lecture and discussion sections within the specified category, and are not restricted to courses or sections with graduate instructors.*
Selected Student Comments from Course Evaluations (copied verbatim)

**Econ 3010: Intermediate Microeconomics (Spring 2015)**
Scott is literally one of the absolute best TA’s that I’ve ever had. Despite being a Seahawks fan, he was always nice, approachable, willing to answer questions, and actually made an effort with us. He explained the problems really clearly, and even when I didn't understand the entire problem set, I didn't really stress out about it because I knew Scott would go over it and then I would understand everything.

Scott was very helpful in making the theoretical aspects of lecture applicable to the homework and test questions.

Very approachable. A very solid TA.

Scott explained the material very clearly in discussion. His sections were crucial for clearing up difficult/confusing material

Scott is a very good TA and grades very fairly.

Scott Laughery was a very good TA. He was great at explaining the problem sets and was very approachable. He also took the time to go through all of our problem sets and mark individual notes-- one of the better TAs I've had so far at UVa

Scott is an excellent TA. He does a very good job of explaining the material and making himself available.

Scott was very helpful. He answered questions in class and in his office hours. He did a great job as a TA in an inherently difficult class.

Scotts the man

Scott was great, no complaints

Scott Laughery was a great discussion leader. He was very nice and approachable and did a good job covering all the problem sets and answering everyone's questions.

Discussion sections were very helpful and I found Scott to be a very efficient and understanding TA.

SCOTTS AWESOME

**Econ 4310: Economics of the Public Sector (Fall 2014)**
Scott is a great TA. I would recommend him to anyone. He is very knowledgeable and approachable.

Effective TA at reinforcing concepts

He was a great guy and I liked his style!

Scott Laughery is a great TA and explained the material very well. He knew what areas we had trouble with and explained them.
PPOL 7610: Research Methods and Data Analysis II (Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012)
Wish we had him last year as our TA. Very knowledgeable when it comes to STATA.

Scott was an excellent TA. He has a profound understanding of the content presented in this course and was always able to offer clarification.

Scott was really helpful and available! Thanks!

Scott was an INCREDIBLY helpful, available and thoughtful TA.

Scott has been easily the best Batten TA. He was well qualified, very knowledgeable, and fun! He was easily able to help us understand the material covered in class better. Thanks, Scott! Rehire him!

Scott was a GREAT TA. He was very hardworking and always came prepared to class. He was good at using STATA, and anything he couldn't figure out he came prepared next class with the answer. He should definitely TA this class again if he's available.

Econ 2020: Principles of Macroeconomics (Spring 2011)
Overall great

Good

Scott Laughery, my TA, made us listen to NPR for one of the homeworks and synthesize the material, which is great for our comprehension of real events and how economics applies to them.

Mr. Laughery is a good lecturer

Scott did a very good job as TA and was very helpful

Scott was a good TA

Econ 2010: Principles of Microeconomics (Fall 2010)
I'm glad I had discussion with Scott Laughery

great job for his first time. He was very accomadating

Scott was very approachable and willing to help especially during office hours. I was never afraid that he would think my questions were stupid either. I enjoyed having him as a TA because he was also a genuinely friendly person.