UWE

Learning Environment Survey (LENS) Spring 2025

LENS Full Individual Instructor Report, Spring 2025 for Global Macroeconomics (ECO 120-02) Spring 2025 (Saharnaz Babaei Balderlou)
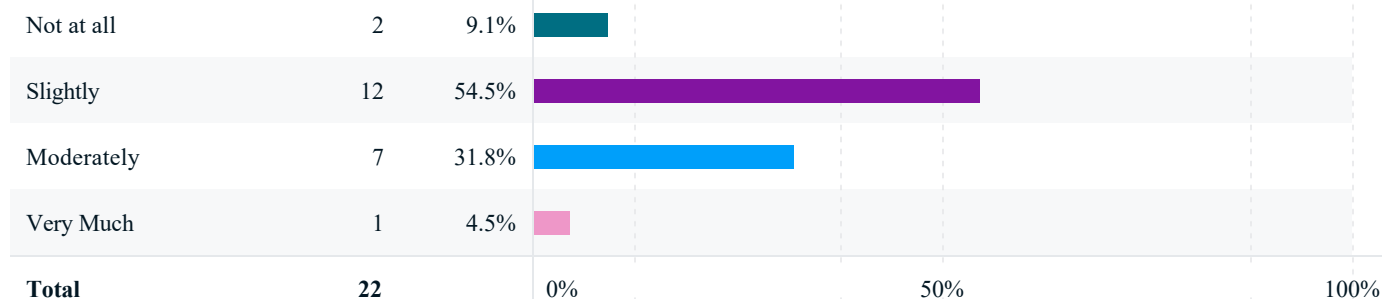
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Created **Tuesday, May 27, 2025**

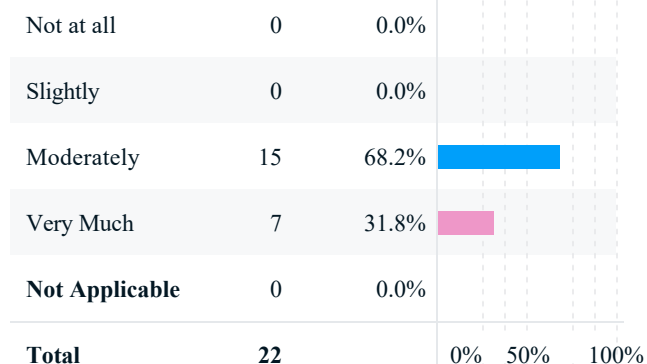**Courses Audience:** 35
Responses Received: 22
Response Ratio: **62.9%**

Motivation

To what extent were you looking forward to learning about this subject?

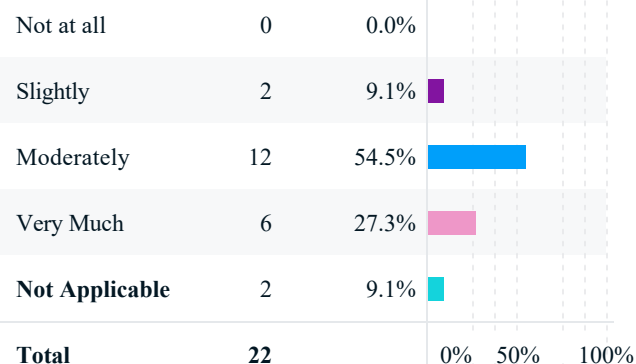|		
Not at all	2	9.1%
Slightly	12	54.5%
Moderately	7	31.8%
Very Much	1	4.5%
Total	**22**	

Instructional Activities

To what extent did the following course components contribute positively to your learning?

1. Lecture (live or recorded)

Not at all	0	0.0%
Slightly	0	0.0%
Moderately	15	68.2%
Very Much	7	31.8%
Not Applicable	0	0.0%
Total	**22**	

2. Discussion (live or online)

Not at all	0	0.0%
Slightly	2	9.1%
Moderately	12	54.5%
Very Much	6	27.3%
Not Applicable	2	9.1%
Total	**22**	

3. Guided activities (live virtual or in-person: such as solving problems, completing exercises, lab work, and/or other hands-on activities)

Not at all	0	0.0%	
Slightly	1	4.5%	
Moderately	7	31.8%	
Very Much	12	54.5%	
Not Applicable	2	9.1%	
Total	**22**		0% 50% 100%

4. Independent homework activities (such as solving problems, completing exercises, lab work, or other hands-on activities)
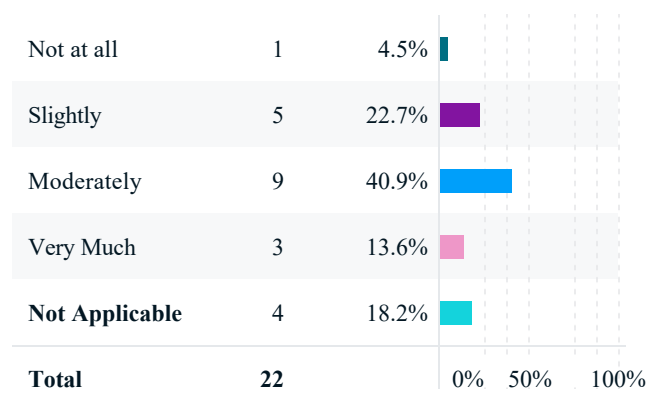
Not at all	0	0.0%	
Slightly	4	18.2%	
Moderately	9	40.9%	
Very Much	9	40.9%	
Not Applicable	0	0.0%	
Total	**22**		0% 50% 100%

5. Major course projects (such as term papers, research projects, community engagement projects, etc.)

Not at all	0	0.0%	
Slightly	1	4.5%	
Moderately	10	45.5%	
Very Much	10	45.5%	
Not Applicable	1	4.5%	
Total	**22**		0% 50% 100%

6. Assigned readings

Not at all	2	9.1%	
Slightly	4	18.2%	
Moderately	7	31.8%	
Very Much	2	9.1%	
Not Applicable	7	31.8%	
Total	**22**		0% 50% 100%

7. Content videos (not lecture)

Not at all	1	4.5%	
Slightly	5	22.7%	
Moderately	9	40.9%	
Very Much	3	13.6%	
Not Applicable	4	18.2%	
Total	**22**		0% 50% 100%

Student Learning Behaviors

Which of the following activities/strategies did you use to enhance your own learning in this course? (Select all that apply):
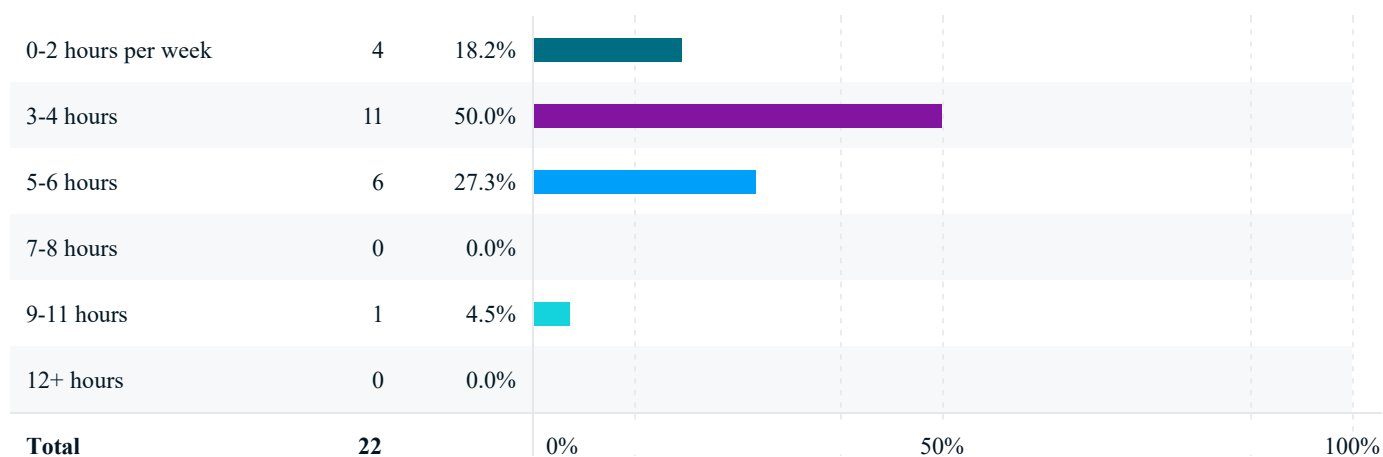
Activity/Strategy	Count	Percent
Read most or all assigned content	13	59.1%
Actively read assigned content (e.g., paused, reflected, predicted, summarized, tested y…	9	40.9%
Took your own notes from the book or other course materials	18	81.8%
Studied with a partner	11	50.0%
Practiced explaining course content to someone else	10	45.5%
Made/used flashcards (paper or electronic)	3	13.6%
Watched most or all course videos	12	54.5%
Contacted the instructor via email to ask questions	2	9.1%
Talked to the instructor during office hours or a meeting	1	4.5%
Reviewed learning objectives	16	72.7%
Practiced answering study guide questions	17	77.3%
Completed instructor- or textbook-provided practice quizzes	11	50.0%
Quizzed yourself (i.e., created your own quiz questions)	8	36.4%
Came up with your own personal examples of course concepts	6	27.3%
Practiced summarizing major ideas and concepts in your own words	10	45.5%
Actively participated in class discussions	4	18.2%
Respondent(s)	**22**	

Describe what else you did (or could have done) to contribute to a positive learning experience in this course.

Comments
I liked how we got to participate in class.
Attended all classes and participated in all of the course work throughout the semester.
Went to class more especially since it was a morning class and can be hard to wake up on a Monday morning
I could have studied more for this course I think
I actively engaged in this class by attending office hours, asking questions, and preparing well for exams.
I could have asked for more examples or asked macro buddy to make me more.
i could have talked and participated more in class
I took detailed notes during class time and whenever there was an online lecture.

Time on Task

On average, how many hours per week did you spend on this course? (Include time spent in class, reading, watching videos, completing assignments, studying, etc.)		
0-2 hours per week	4	18.2%
3-4 hours	11	50.0%
5-6 hours	6	27.3%
7-8 hours	0	0.0%
9-11 hours	1	4.5%
12+ hours	0	0.0%
Total	**22**	

Workload Manageability

In my experience, the workload in this course was...			
Easily manageable	11	50.0%	
Challenging, but manageable	11	50.0%	
Not manageable	0	0.0%	
Total	**22**		
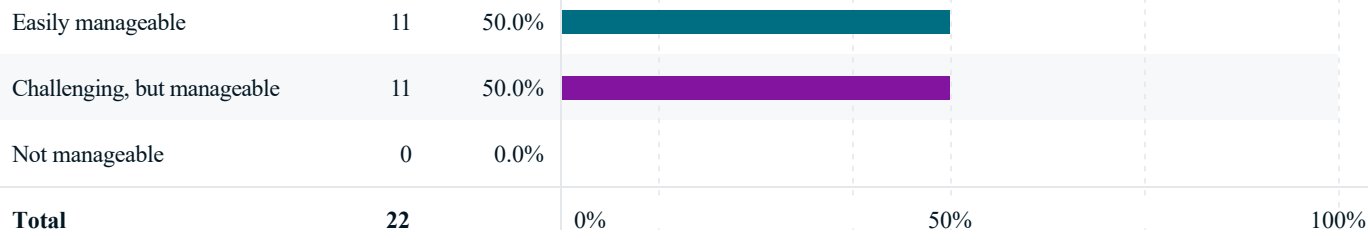
Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

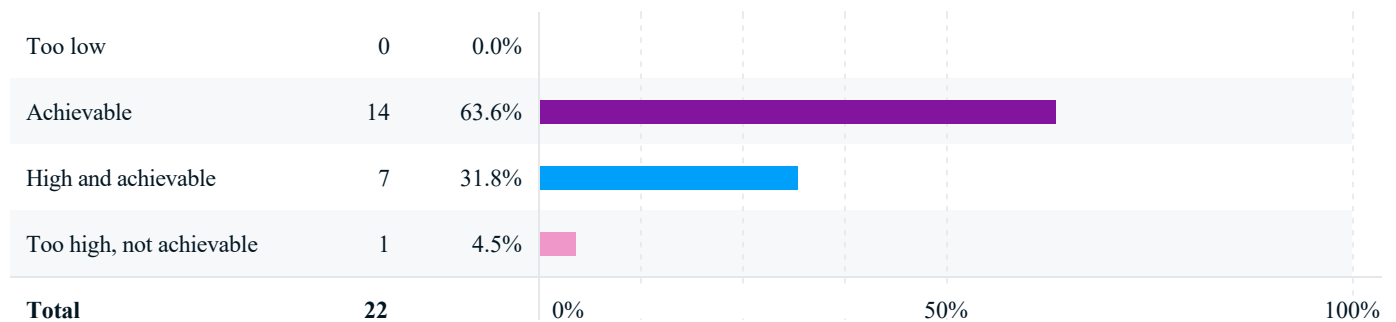| Comments |
|---|
| Some content was confusing, but it was doable. |
| the home work was long and lots of questions |
| It was a challenging course but the teacher does well to guide the students and projects were manageable as long as effort is put in |
| Many of the collabs done in class really pushed me to use my critical thinking skills are we challenging but with if we were able to use AI to assist us it was manageable. |
| She give you atleast week to get all of the homework done which is very easy and manageable |
| There were a lot of assignments that helped me learn the information better and if I ever got stuck on them the resources in canvas were almost always able to help me figure it out. |
| I thought that most weeks, the class material and homework were manageable. However, there would often be some weeks were the course content was a bit overwhelming and extensive. Usually, the Collab projects would be a very time–consuming event that would be overly challenging. Some of the more larger–scale extra credit opportunities were also very difficult and took a lot of time to finish. |
| There were not many assignments that were hard or time consuming. The most involved were the collab assignments, but between discussions with the classmates in the first one and Macro Buddy on the next two, nothing was too much work. |
| The homework is online and assigned well before its due date. This allows me, and presumably other students, to work through it thoroughly. |

Expectations

I felt that the expectations for my performance in this course were:		
Too low	0	0.0%
Achievable	14	63.6%
High and achievable	7	31.8%
Too high, not achievable	1	4.5%
Total	**22**	

Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

Comments
I felt like passing is achievalbe
I also took this class in highschool so I knew somewhat of the material
I like high expectations
I was shooting for an A as I would for any class. I was doing good and then I did not do well on the second exam and it dropped me down to a BC. I know I can still get an A if I study for exam 3 and the final so I can still achieve my goal.
We would have high expectations to show up to class, participate, and complete work with efficiency. Most of the projects and work would be achievable, but sometimes they can be immeasurable, and unattainable.
The exams, particularly exam 2, differ from the study guide. I was overly confident that the exam was going to look like the study guide, and I paid the price for it.

Course Alignment

In my experience, I felt I was being evaluated...			
Rarely on clearly communicated objectives (usually unstated or unclear)	0	0.0%	
Sometimes on clearly communicated objectives (sometimes unstated or unclear)	7	31.8%	
Almost always on clearly communicated objectives	14	63.6%	
I'm not sure	1	4.5%	
Total	**22**		

Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

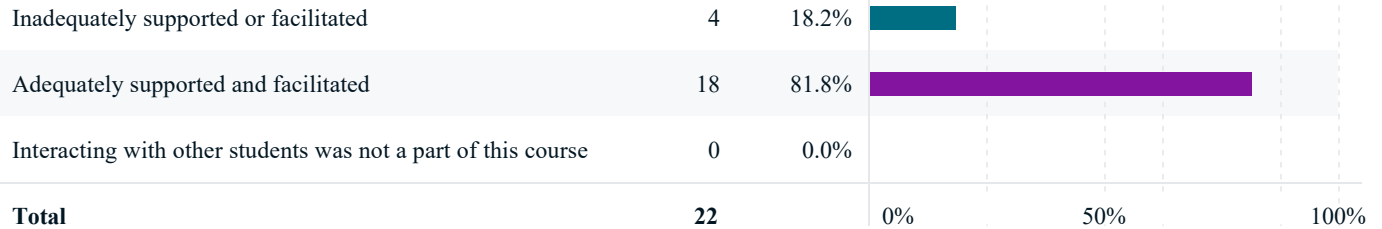| Comments |
|---|
| I thought the questions on the exams could have had multiple answers and I didn't feel prepared from the stuff we were learning in class. |
| Know the key concepts |
| I didn't know much at all about economics before taking this class but every new topic I felt like I was able to pick up on it quick with the explanations and examples in lecture. |
| Most evaluations were very well communicated, and there was a mutual understanding of what goals we were expected to achieve. |
| Very clearly emphasized the important topics that we need to know. |
| During lectures, we go over the very basics of a concept. Then, when it comes to homework and exams, we are expected to understand the concept on a far deeper level than we were lectured on |

Peer Interactions

In my experience, learning together with other students in this course (through discussions, activities, and/or projects) was...		
Inadequately supported or facilitated	4	18.2%
Adequately supported and facilitated	18	81.8%
Interacting with other students was not a part of this course	0	0.0%
Total	**22**	

Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

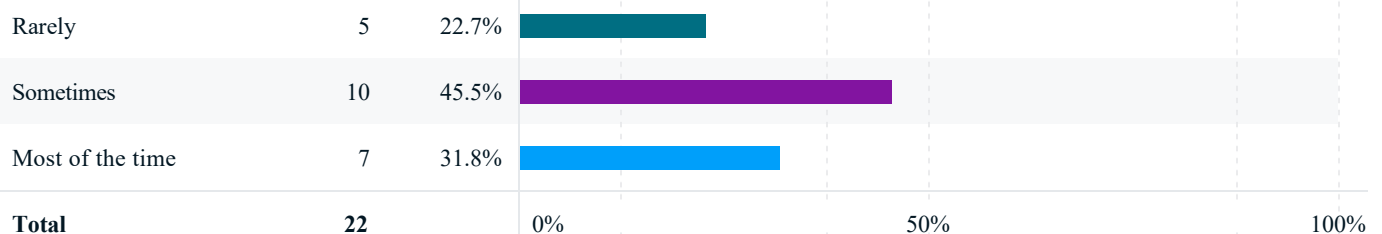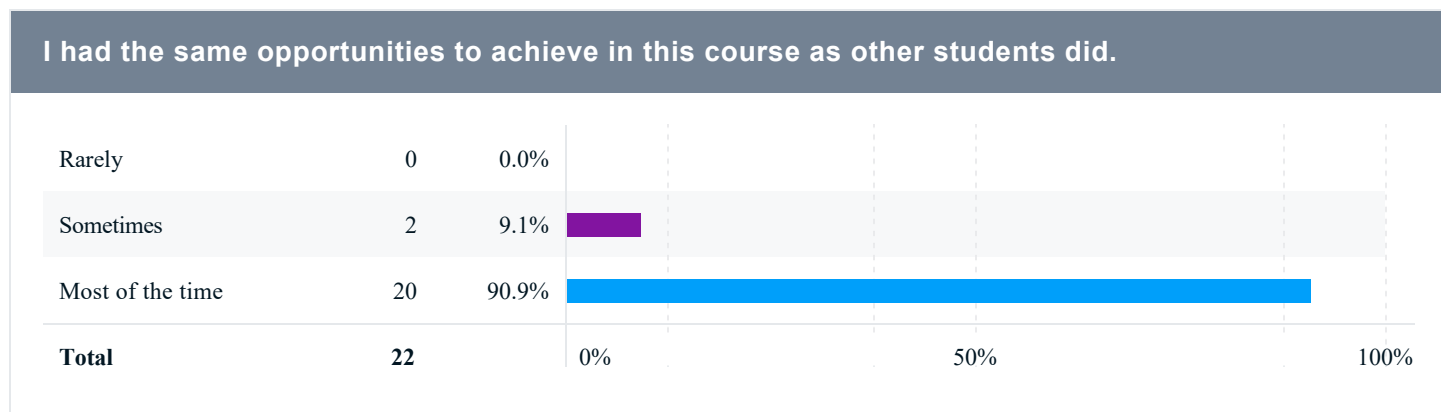| Comments |
|---|
| Somewhat helpful we interacted with each other during discussions and collabs in group projects |
| I liked the collabs and I think they helped me out a lot to learn the material but I preferred them when we worked as a group because I felt like it helped me learn it better. |
| We only had one project that we did in groups, but otherwise, the latter two collabs were done on our own. I think group collaboration on bigger projects is often very helpful. |
| During the first collab before exam 1, it seemed pointless to work as a group if only ONE person per group was expected to answer a question on the board. If the person knew what they were doing, then the rest of their group sat on the benches and did practically nothing. |

Belonging

I felt comfortable contributing to class discussions and/or activities.		
Rarely	5	22.7%
Sometimes	10	45.5%
Most of the time	7	31.8%
Total	**22**	

Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

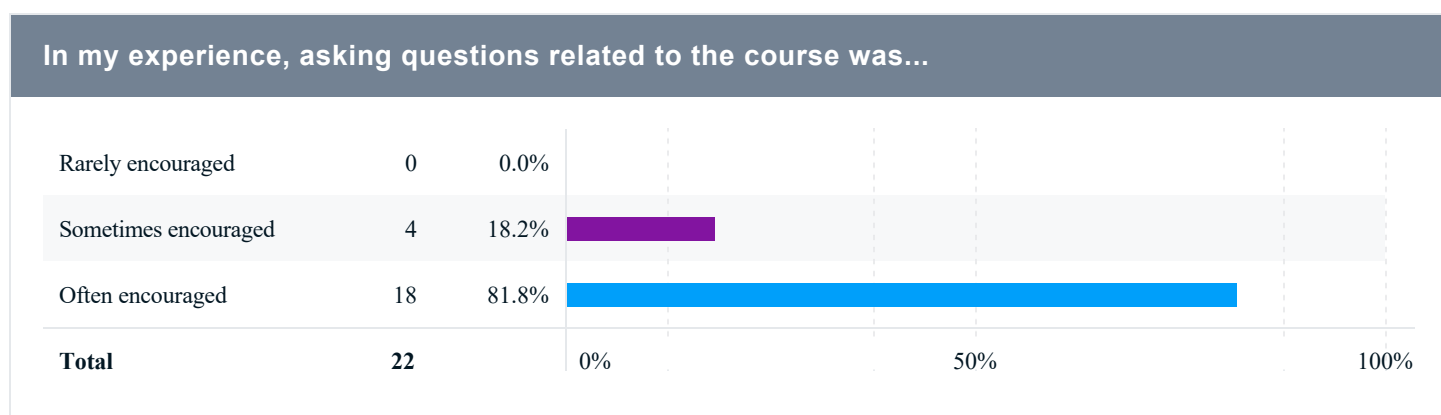| Comments |
|---|
| I didnt understand a lot of the time which made me not feel confident in class discussion |
| Good environment |
| I contributed by participating in class especially during start or semester |
| I felt comfortable was just shy |
| I am normally a quiet person, so I don't tend to say much anyways but when I did, I was comfortable doing it and got adequate help. |
| Most classes there would only be one or two people to contribute to the class. Someone (a fellow student) would often intrude on others' speaking or correct their thinking. This made me nervous to contribute to in in–class discussion for fear of being mistaken. |
| Class discussions were my favorite part of the class. |
| It was a good class environment, and I felt very comfortable contributing, especially since she was very understanding when we got an answer wrong. |

Opportunities

I had the same opportunities to achieve in this course as other students did.		
Rarely	0	0.0%
Sometimes	2	9.1%
Most of the time	20	90.9%
Total	**22**	

Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

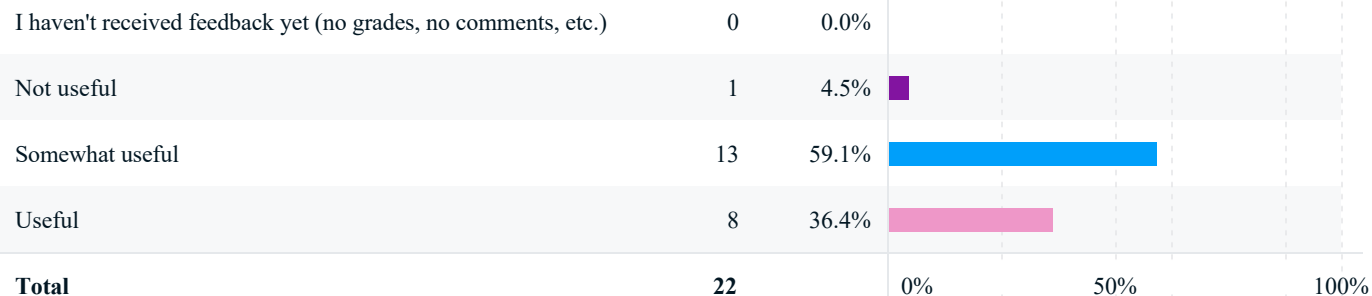| Comments |
|---|
| she gave us multiple ways to earn extra credit |
| Everyone gets the same oppurtunity to do well |
| She didn't play favorites |
| Fair opportunities for extra credit and assignments were always provided. |

Support

In my experience, asking questions related to the course was...		
Rarely encouraged	0	0.0%
Sometimes encouraged	4	18.2%
Often encouraged	18	81.8%
Total	**22**	

Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

Comments
She does well explaining the content and when asked a question she explain it to us clearly
Many people asked questions throughout the course and they always got good, in depth responses that were helpful. It was also encouraged a lot to ask if we were ever unsure.
She always encouraged students to ask questions or attend office hours if needed.
After discussing something new, she would ask the class questions.

Feedback

In your experience how would you describe the usefulness of the feedback you received in this course?		
I haven't received feedback yet (no grades, no comments, etc.)	0	0.0%
Not useful	1	4.5%
Somewhat useful	13	59.1%
Useful	8	36.4%
Total	**22**	

Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

Comments
Some feedback was given and was useful
It is good to know the basics of how the economics in the world work but it does not relate to my major much at all so I personally won't need it as much.
The teacher always provided very valuable feedback and suggestions on how to improve our work.

Open Response

If you have any additional comments you would like to make about the learning environment in this course, please do so here and be specific. Please focus your comments on the learning environment and content of the course (i.e., assignments and materials) and not unrelated matters (such as the instructor's appearance).

Comments
You a good teacher I just struggled with this course and sometimes the slides went too fast.
You are an amazing professor and I think this class was very successful for a lot of us.
I liked all of the review for the exams and it was very helpful to have all of those resources to study.
The creation of the AI tool was very helpful in understanding content, but I do wish there were more group collaboration and the collabs weren't so extensive. The teacher did a great job teaching students and providing valuable feedback and opportunities.
Sometimes the questions on homework/exams were convoluted and could've been made slightly more concise in the wording. All in all, it was an interesting class and I enjoyed in class collaboration/discussion.