



Learning Environment Survey (LENS) Spring 2025

LENS Full Individual Instructor Report, Spring 2025 for Global Macroeconomics (ECO 120-04) Spring 2025 (Saharnaz Babaei Balderlou)



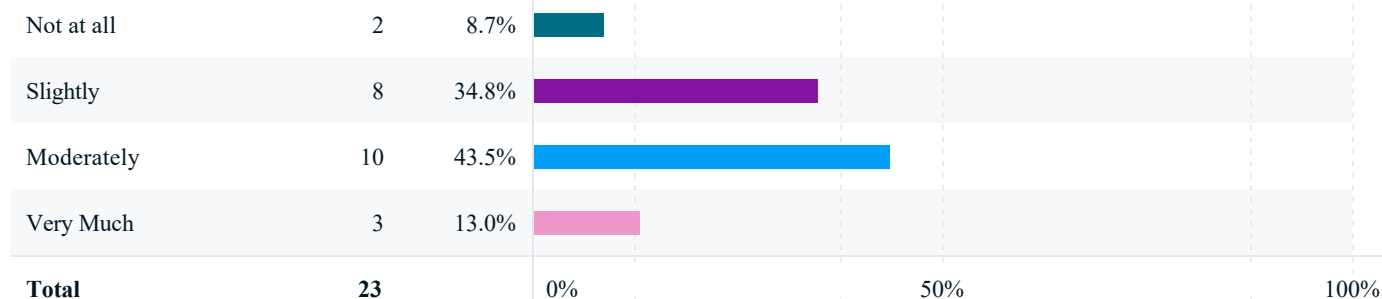
Created **Tuesday, May 27, 2025**



Courses Audience: 36
Responses Received: 23
Response Ratio: 63.9%

Motivation

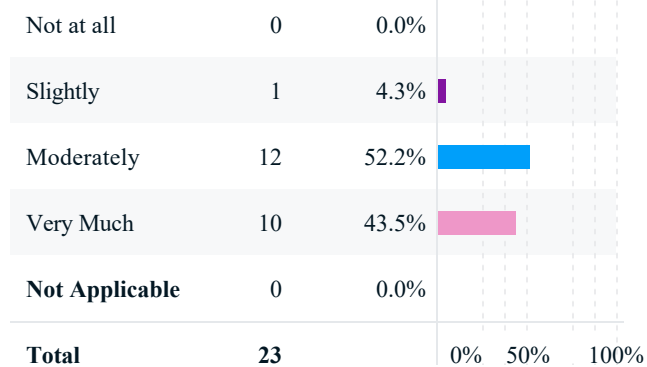
To what extent were you looking forward to learning about this subject?



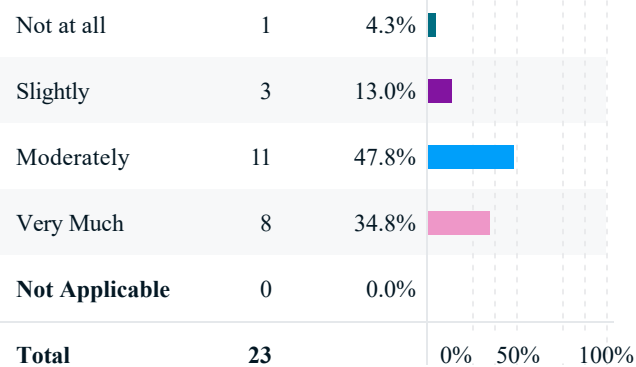
Instructional Activities

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

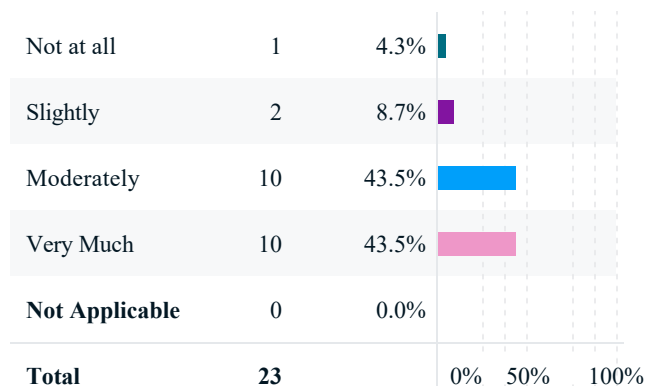
1. Lecture (live or recorded)



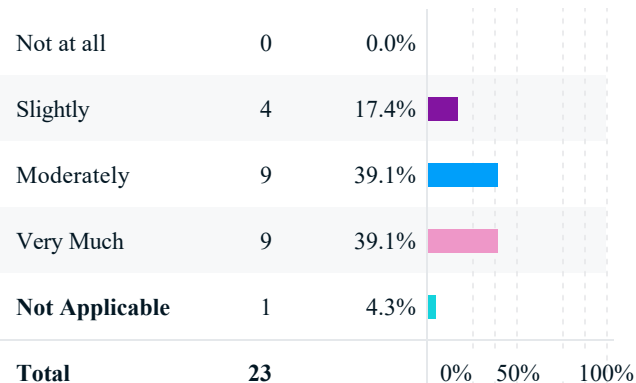
2. Discussion (live or online)



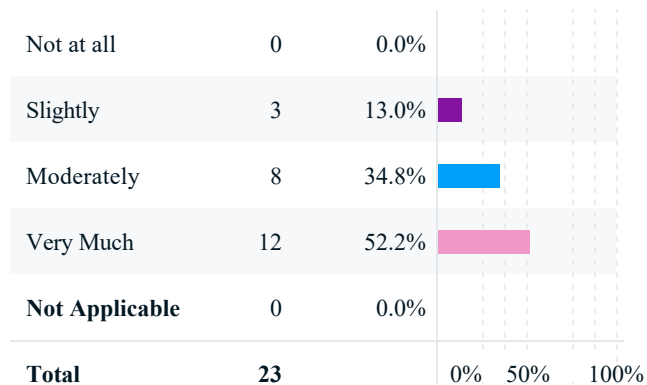
3. Guided activities (live virtual or in-person: such as solving problems, completing exercises, lab work, and/or other hands-on activities)



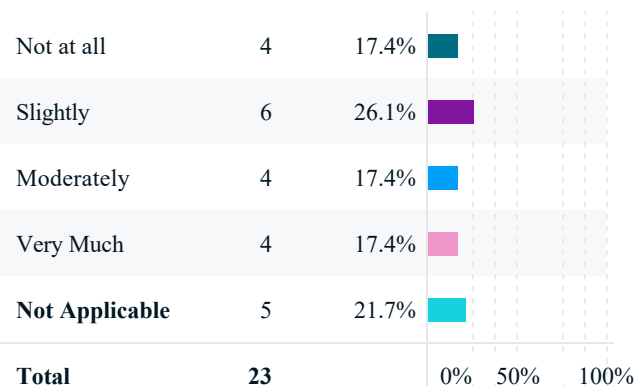
4. Independent homework activities (such as solving problems, completing exercises, lab work, or other hands-on activities)

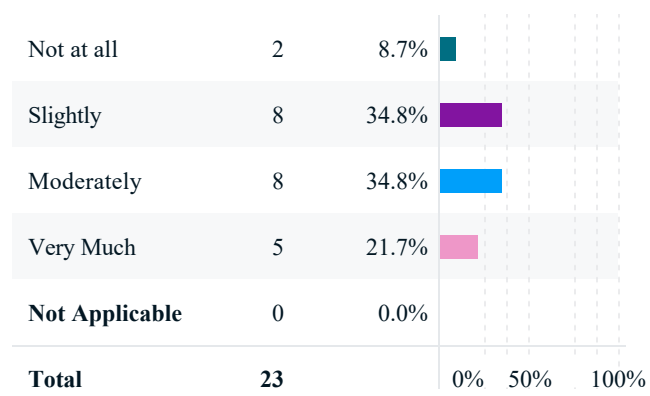


5. Major course projects (such as term papers, research projects, community engagement projects, etc.)



6. Assigned readings



7. Content videos (not lecture)

Student Learning Behaviors

Which of the following activities/strategies did you use to enhance your own learning in this course? (Select all that apply):

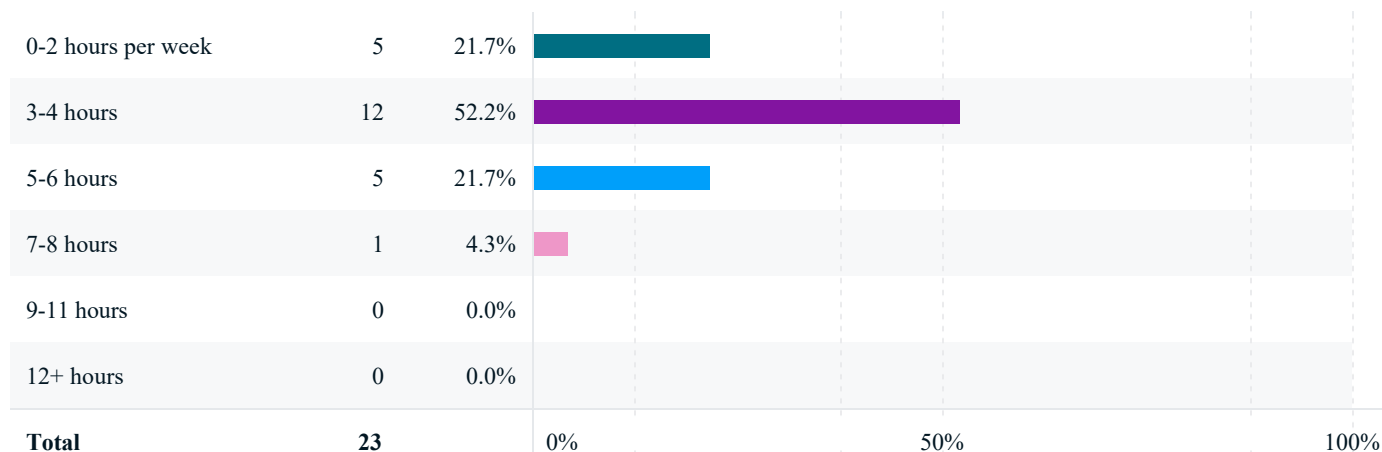


Describe what else you did (or could have done) to contribute to a positive learning experience in this course.

Comments
The lectures were often slow, and there was not a lot of time to work out problems with peers in class. I feel like we did not do any in-class work where we could have the professors input.
Studied more
I definitely could have spent some more time just studying my notes as a whole.
I could have been more attentive in class and more vocal in discussion.
Actively participated in collab discussions.
Studied more
I could have study better, such as practicing more problems that were given to us or using flashcards. I could have taken notes beforehand so that I could be more able to participate in class discussions or follow along with my professor during the class period.
Participate more in class

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.)



Workload Manageability

In my experience, the workload in this course was...

Easily manageable	12	52.2%	
Challenging, but manageable	11	47.8%	
Not manageable	0	0.0%	
Total	23		0% 50% 100%

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

Comments

There is weekly homework that we have to do, which is beneficial. There is not a lot of areas that we have homework outside of that.

I feel as tho when we have class canceled, the video lectures assigned should only be 55 minutes max, since that is the amount of time we would have spent working on it in class. It took a lot out of my day when I didn't think it was necessary. I also think the collab helped me a lot more during the first one and the last two collabs leave me very confused and non beneficial.

The coursework was difficult, but the professor made it manageable and provided adequate opportunities to boost grades.

It was only a few assignments a week, which compared to my other classes this semester was a relatively easy workload.

Fair amount of coursework for an introductory class

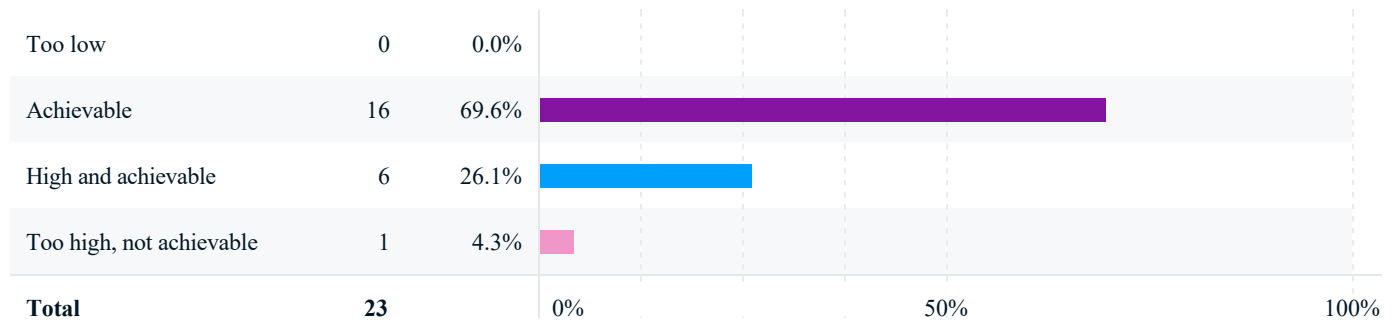
We did not receive that many homework assignments, but when we did, we had plenty of time to complete it before the due date.

Projects that were also given out were provided with plenty of time to complete it in a good manner.

I like that the homework was based on completion, and we could take it multiple times.

Expectations

I felt that the expectations for my performance in this course were:



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

Comments

The Professor cared how we did and made sure that we were following along. Her expectations are a little high of the students when we are learning new material. She often gets mad when the class is not answering questions and threatens to cold-call on students in a big lecture. That is something that I was not a fan of at all.

I feel that I set high expectations for myself and I was able to achieve those

I was hoping for a little bit of a higher grade but I should be able to pass in the long run.

Fair amount of coursework and relevant for an introductory class

It felt like every student was supposed to understand absolutely everything about this class, and when you did not perfectly understand something, the professor would only give compliments to the better students in front of the whole class. Our professor would also tell the class that they were disappointed in our performances or that we make them angry. It felt like we were supposed to be perfect, but explanations were never given so if a student was behind, they remained behind on their own terms.

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	30.4%	<div><div></div></div>
Almost always on clearly communicated objectives	16	69.6%	<div><div></div></div>
I'm not sure	0	0.0%	
Total	23		0% 50% 100%

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

Comments

She makes sure the class is understanding by making us complete surveys. I like these surveys and think they are a good addition to the course that I don't often see in others.

Just one question on the last exam was different from what we had on the slides versus something you said and you wanted us to base it off of the thing you said even tho the slides said something very different, opposite.

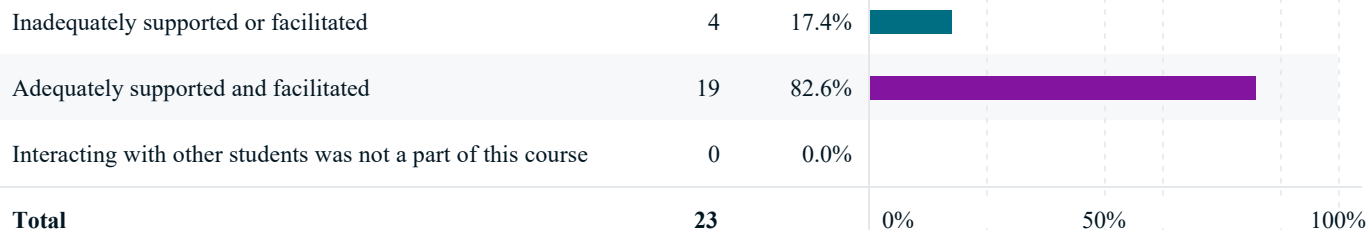
The certain objectives were stated for each section before beginning it and were always closely related throughout.

When you answered questions in class there were certain ways that she wanted you to word it. She was very polite about it and would accept your answer and then explain what she'll accept on the test.

Participation is really helpful and explaining it well in front of everyone gives a clear understanding

Peer Interactions

In my experience, learning together with other students in this course (through discussions, activities, and/or projects) was...



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

Comments

We only did one group assignment, which I was okay with. I would have liked to have more opportunities to work in class with other peers to understand the material.

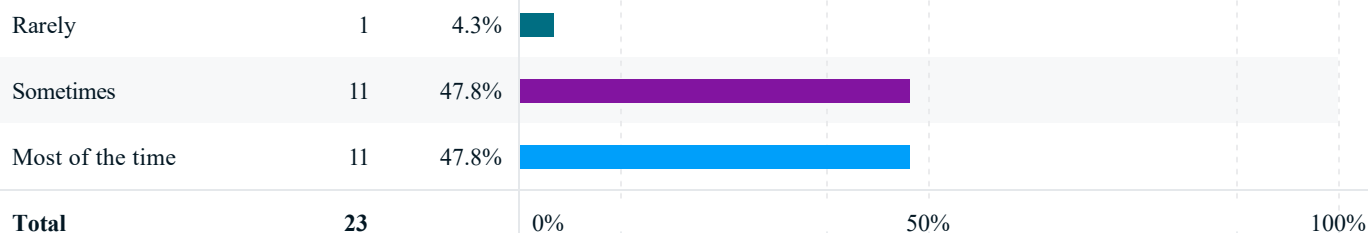
We dont talk to others around us, and the one time we did was during the first collab and that helped me a ton but that was the only peer interaction I had

It was encouraged, but our professor never made sure that connection or communication was occurring. I was luckily in a good group that made sure this was happening.

Group projects and discussion were necessary and needed to actively participate

Belonging

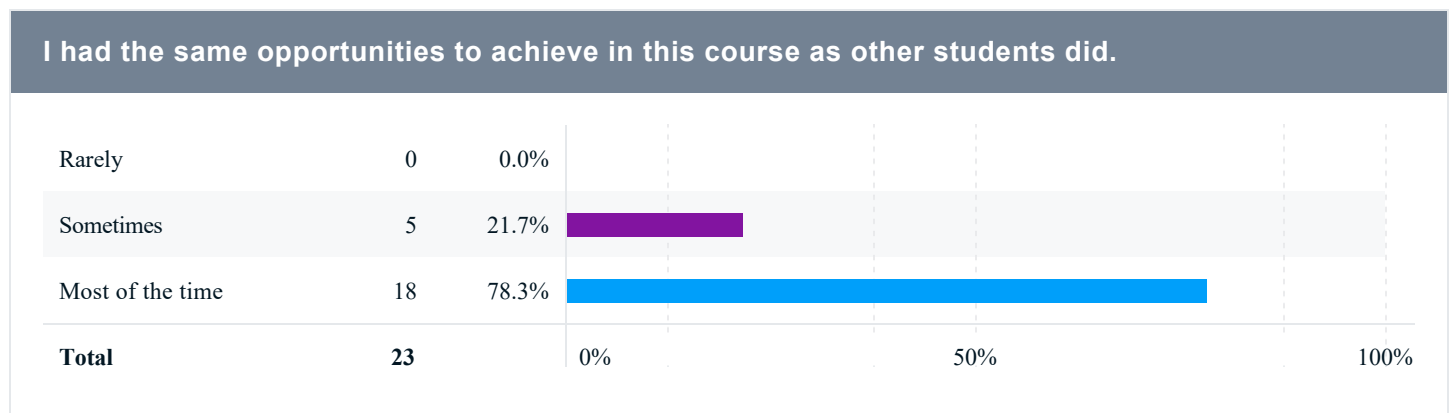
I felt comfortable contributing to class discussions and/or activities.



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

Comments
It's a big lecture and a lot of the material is very complex. I often felt it was better to listen and take notes.
I always felt comfortable and it helped that we had rewards for that too
It's awkward when nobody talks during class. I felt like I knew answers to questions, but didn't feel confident answering because everyone else seemed unsure.
It was usually quiet and our professor would not help the situation. She would remain quiet with us, not restate the question if we happened to miss it, and did not rephrase the question if it was confusing. The professor would also say things such as, "should I just pick someone", "I can wait all day", "my other classes participate", "you guys make me so angry". It was very uncomfortable to be sitting in that room.
I don't like to speak in front of people, but extra credit opportunities made it easier.

Opportunities

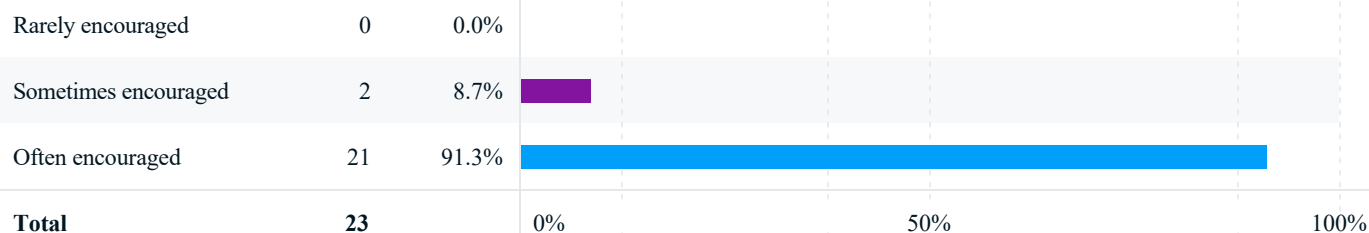


Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

Comments
There is no favoritism or unfair treatment from this professor.
It is up to the student how much they want to contribute which will ultimately benefit them in the long run
Certain extra credit was given during class, but you had to be called on to receive it. So if you were not the first student to be called on, you were not able to receive those extra points. There were not as many questions as there were students so some were not able to be called on.
You could get more extra credit work with more participation or excelling above other students

Support

In my experience, asking questions related to the course was...



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

Comments

There were often questions encouraged, but again, when students didn't fully understand the material, she would get mad. That is the only complaint I really have.

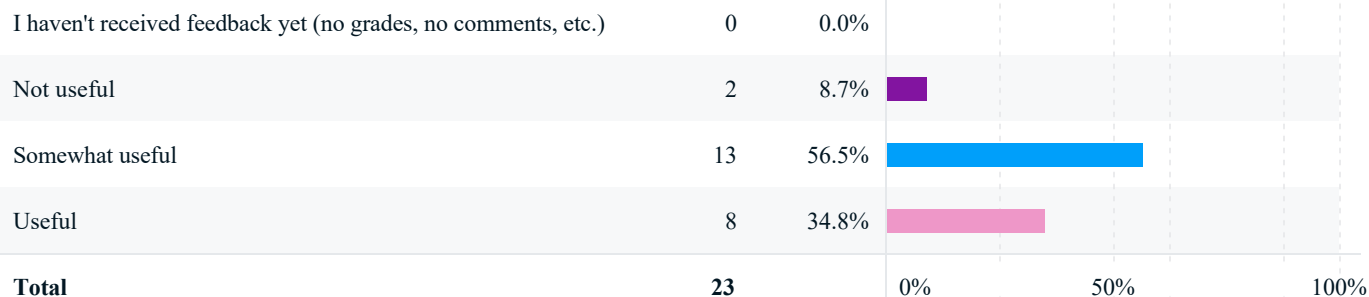
She was very open to any questions about the topics and willing to explain the topics in greater details.

Our professor would always ask us if we had any questions, usually during slide presentations, at the beginning of class, and at the end of class.

Highly encouraged

Feedback

In your experience how would you describe the usefulness of the feedback you received in this course?



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

Comments

I don't feel like I ever received individual feedback on work I submitted. Then again, there was not much material that she could provide feedback on for us.

I only received grades, no comments about the grades I was receiving so nothing about that was helpful moving forward.

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

I felt we went very very very fast through all the slides in class and it was pretty stressful trying to take notes and intake everything that was being said too so it almost felt unfair when we were tested on some of the content verbally said in class, especially when you attend every class and still feel this way.

She really made a comfortable class that made me want to come to class and ask questions.

I really liked this course and thought it was easier to understand than microeconomics. I will be taking Eco 230 with you!