



Learning Environment Survey (LENS) Fall 2024

LENS Full Individual Instructor Report for Global Macroeconomics (ECO 120-08) Fall 2024 (Saharnaz Babaei Balderlou)

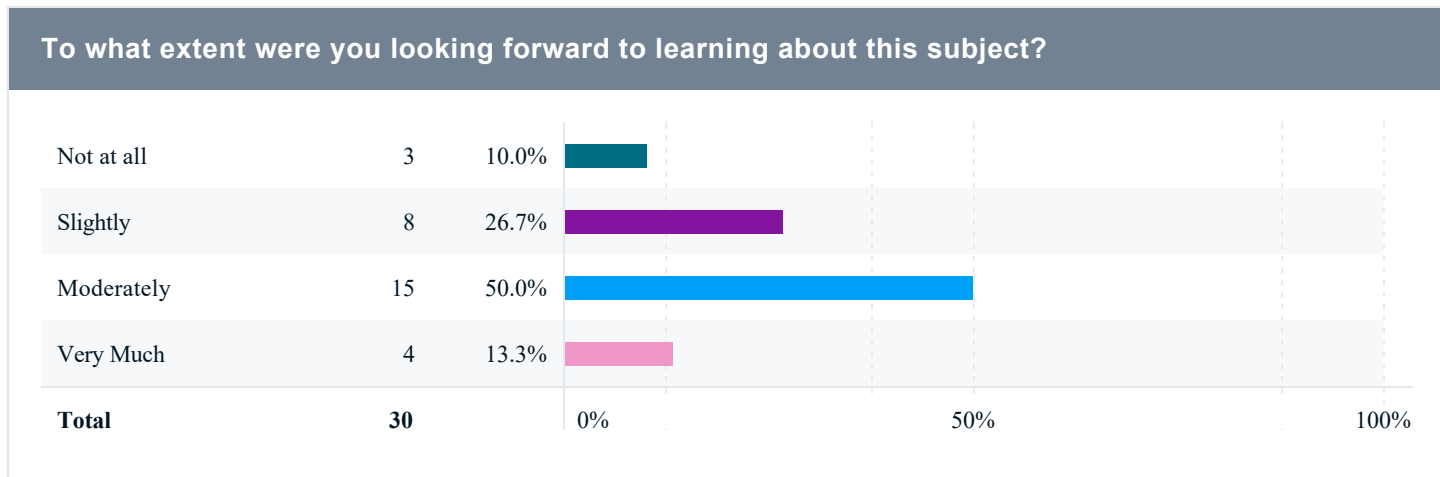


Created Thursday, January 2, 2025



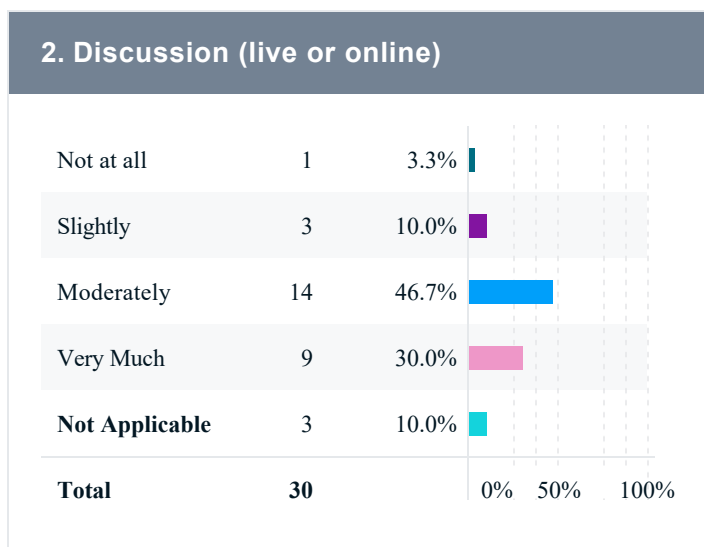
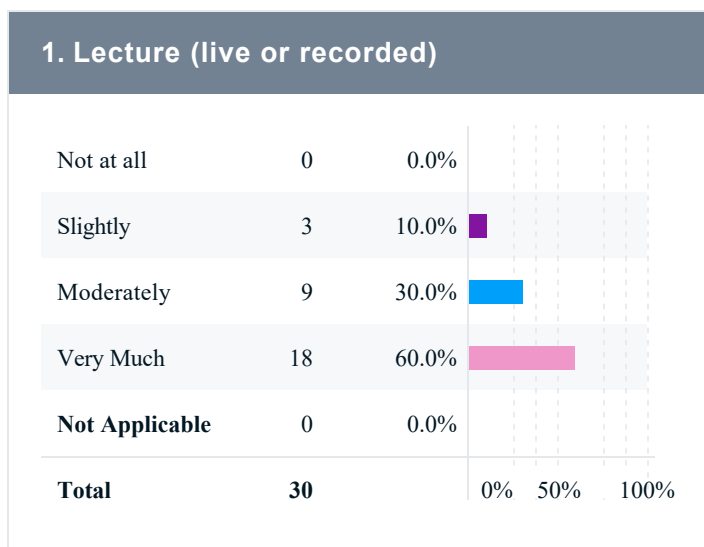
Courses Audience: 34
Responses Received: 30
Response Ratio: 88.2%

Motivation

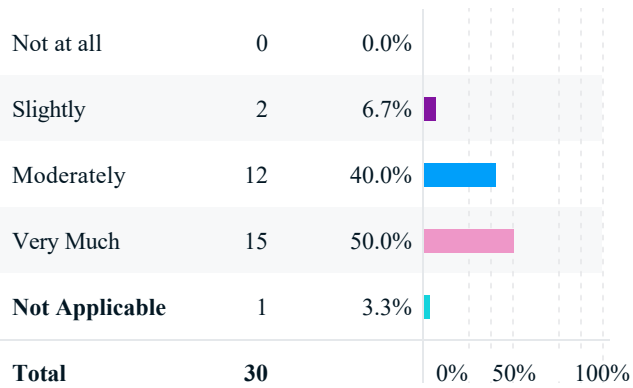


Instructional Activities

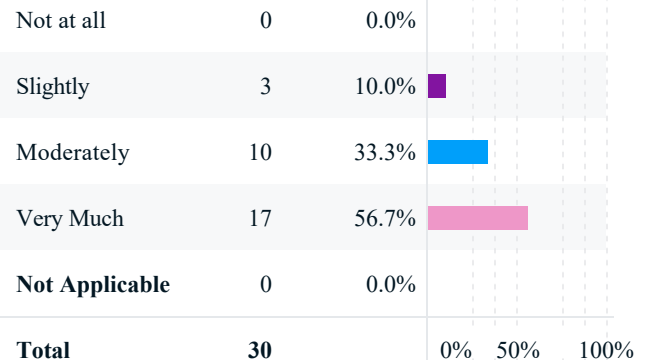
To what extent did the following course components contribute positively to your learning?



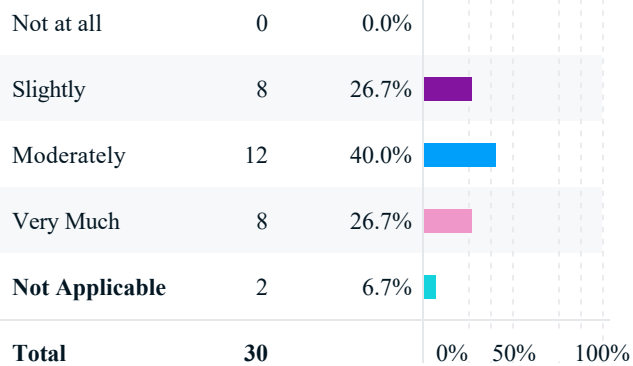
3. Guided activities (live virtual or in-person: such as solving problems, completing exercises, lab work, and/or other hands-on activities)



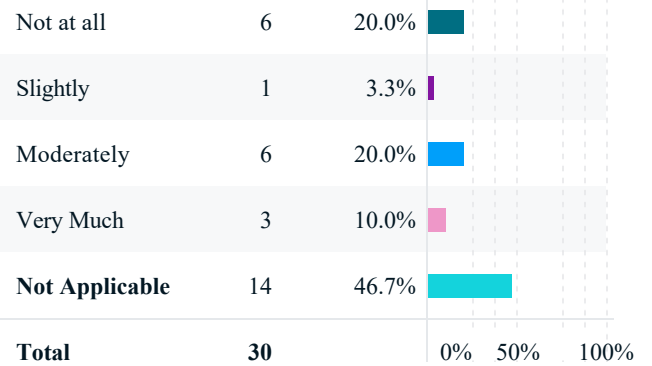
4. Independent homework activities (such as solving problems, completing exercises, lab work, or other hands-on activities)



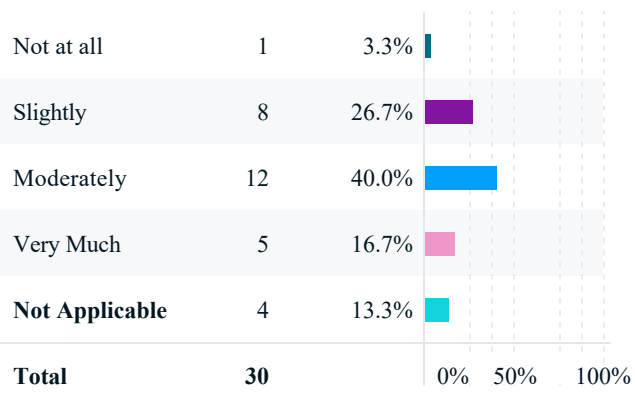
5. Major course projects (such as term papers, research projects, community engagement projects, etc.)



6. Assigned readings



7. Content videos (not lecture)



Student Learning Behaviors

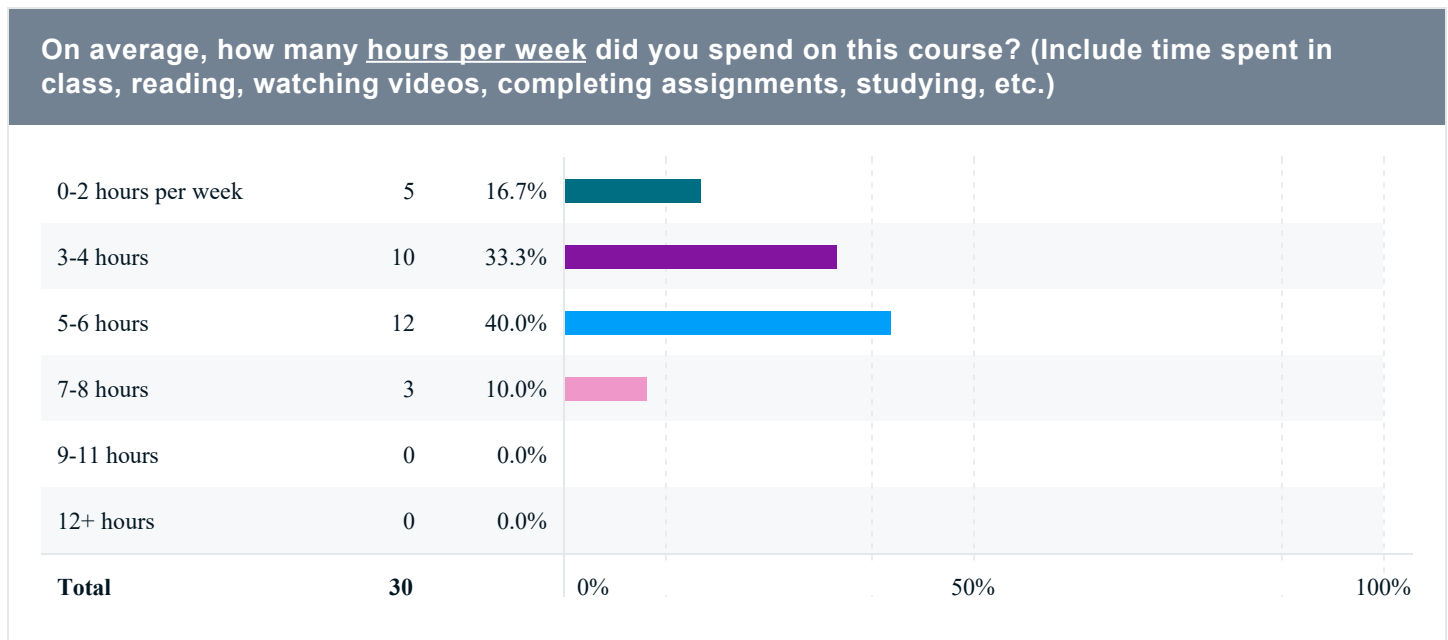
Which of the following activities/strategies did you use to enhance your own learning in this course? (Select all that apply):



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

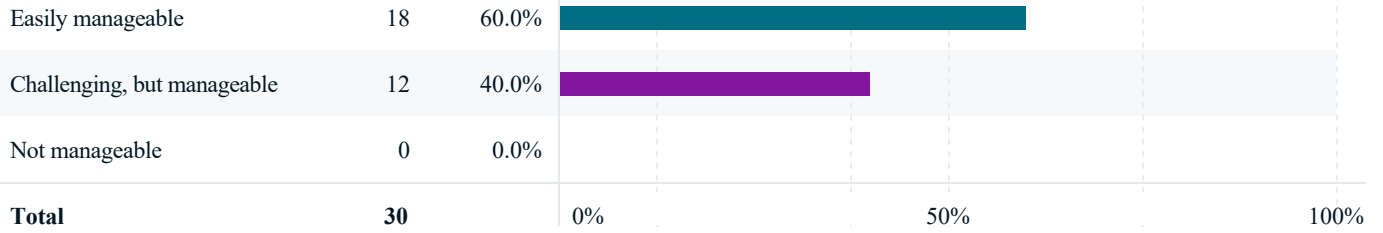
Comments
I could have been better at participating in discussions but I had little understanding of what was being talked about during most of the class.
I took notes every class and tried my best to focus on what was being taught. Economics is a very hard concept for me to wrap my head around unfortunately. I utilized all homework assignments and practices quizzes that were given before exams.
i could have talked more
I could have studied more for the test
Participated more and studied more throughout the course
Got together with classmates in the library and tried to talk through concepts that we were not confident in.
It also helped me to look over the homework problems and learn from my mistakes.
I re-wrote all of my notes so that they were more organized and easier to study off of.
study more
Being attentive and active during lecture.
I could have contacted my professor for more personal help.
talked more in class

Time on Task



Workload Manageability

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

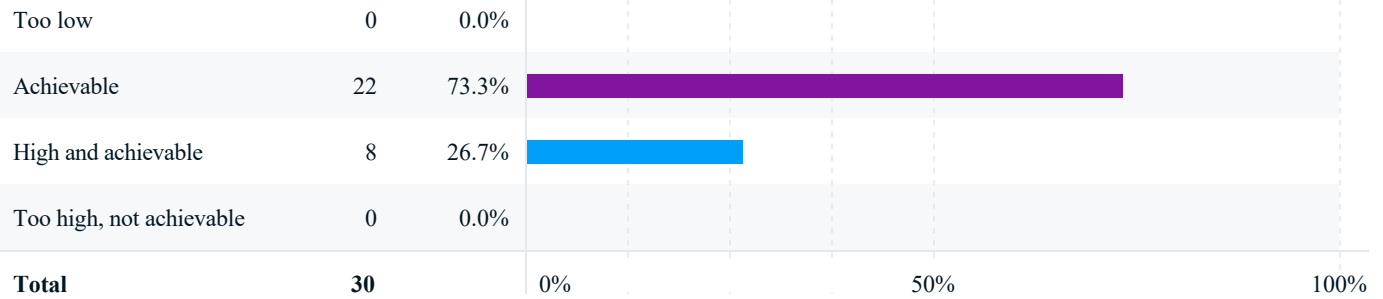


Explain your answer to the above question. If possible, please include specific examples.

Comments
We were given at least a week to complete homework and given exam review material at least a week ahead of time so you could decide when to do the workload.
There wasn't much work to do outside of class besides studying for exams which took me some time since I was relearning everything outside of class.
I think the workload itself was manageable, however, the material was very challenging. Some may not have felt this way, but for me personally it would take me a very long time to understand a concept.
the homework was very hard
There was a lot of notes to take during class but usually one one or two homework assignments a week
Many days to complete homework
Some of the material I just didn't understand so I would have to learn it first on my own and then try to do the homework which took some time.
The workload was just the right amount, but it took a while to understand the concepts, so homework sometimes took longer.
The homework was long (20–30 questions) but we only had 12 of them.
We had around 1 homework assignment a week and it was on canvas.
It was the perfect amount of work. Not to little, but just enough to keep me remembering all material.
Homework assignments helped with learning but did not consume a great amount of time.
I sometimes struggled with the material, especially on homework but it was not impossible. There were many resources I did not utilize but could have.
if you do the homework and you sit down and really try and understand it the class is very easy

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

There were many ways for us to succeed in the class and many opportunities for extra credit.

I think the expectations of this course were fairly decent. I would say she wanted you to know a lot in a short amount of time, which I understand and is not her fault, however I couldn't grasp the topics fast enough to comprehend what was going on before we moved on to the next thing.

the homework was very hard and the tests

I didnt think that I would do amazing in the class but I did not think that I would do bad either

As long as you show up, take notes, and pay attention it shouldn't be hard at all to pass the class.

I think that the test weren't horrible, but some of the concepts could have been explained way better before the test. Some of the time I didn't understand what was going to be on the test.

The course moved quickly, and the content was tough to understand but there were a lot of opportunities for extra credit that really helped boost my grade up. The teacher wanted everyone to succeed.

all of the expectations were included in the syllabus and easily understandable

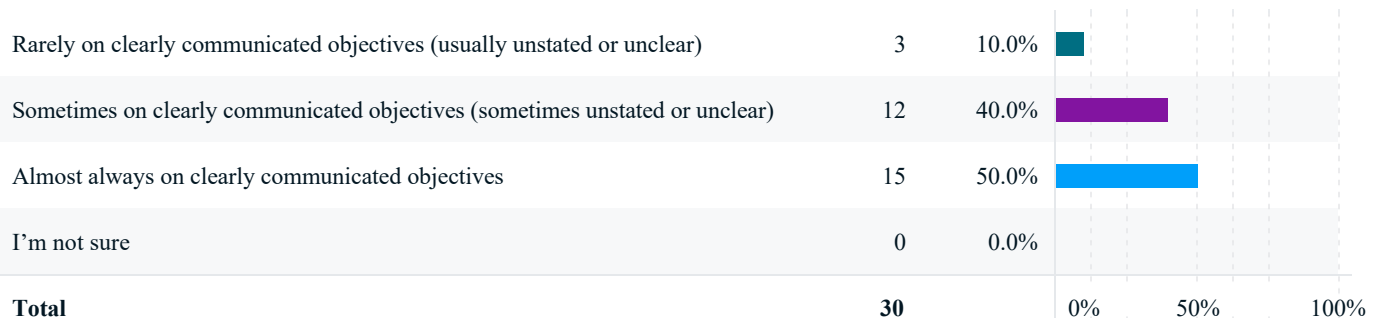
I have a good grade, so i believe i did well.

Always wanted the best and provided extra credit often.

I did not expect to full grasp everything but enough to understand the bigger picture.

Course Alignment

In my experience, I felt I was being evaluated...



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

Comments

The objectives were always at the beginning of the slide show presentations of notes.

She always had her objectives clearly communicated to us and provided us with exactly what we needed to know for every assignment and exam.

she did a good job

I sometimes just did not understand the content

There was only three test, but to be honest I think that was a good amount. There were a few group projects here and there, but I wouldn't add or remove anything.

It was overcomplicated a lot of times.

I don't know when I was being evaluated other than taking tests.

Most of what she wanted us to learn was what she went over in class.

Nothing out of the blue

The materials and activities were usually very clear. Sometimes I was confused by the wording of questions.

Peer Interactions

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

Inadequately supported or facilitated	7	23.3%	
Adequately supported and facilitated	23	76.7%	
Interacting with other students was not a part of this course	0	0.0%	
Total	30		0% 50% 100%

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

Comments

Group work was not a big factor in this class, proven by the fact that semester is almost over I can't remember the name of a single classmate of mine off the top of my head.

We had group work that included discussions between students.

There weren't many opportunities to work with students besides the few extra credit group work activities and the final group work activity for exam 3. I think the majority of people are confused so I'm not sure this fully helped, but maybe to an extent.

we didn't learn together much

There were not very many times that we did this but it was helpful when we did

We had several group projects which involved working with fellow peers.

I still don't know a single peers name in my class and I think that is enough said.

Although there wasn't a lot of discussions or activities the work we did together was supported and encouraged.

we had group work to work on, but it was outside of class and during class, we never interacted with our peers so it was really hard to know who was in your group. I wish we had more opportunities to get to know the people that were in the class.

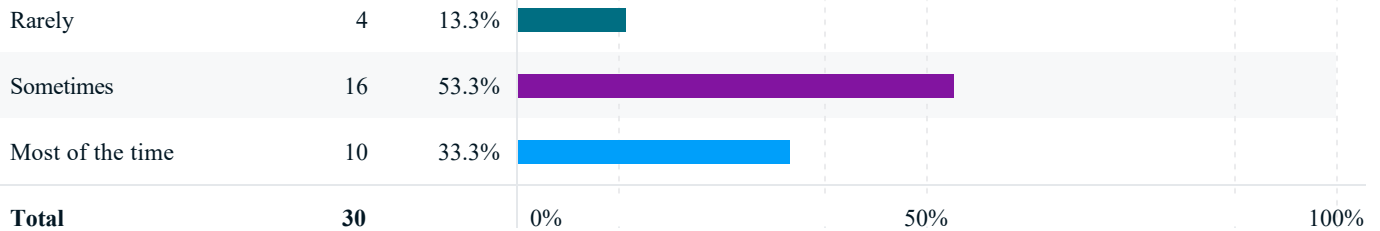
We had group projects, but not always everyone showed up to help/

Group work was optional for the most part but always helped.

Any group activities I have participated in were easy to participate in.

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

Sometimes when you would answer a question incorrectly, the professor didn't know how to let you down easily if that makes sense.

It's not that she made me feel like I couldn't contribute, it was the fact that I never had any idea of what was going on, so I didn't even know where to begin to answer questions.

it was a very quiet environment

everyone was very nice

I didn't contribute to class as much as I would've liked.

Everyone didn't contribute, it just felt unnatural. I can't explain why, but sometimes I knew the answer, but the class environment wasn't right.

At times I felt the professor was judgmental and would laugh at students, but she was also willing to help students sort out the right answers.

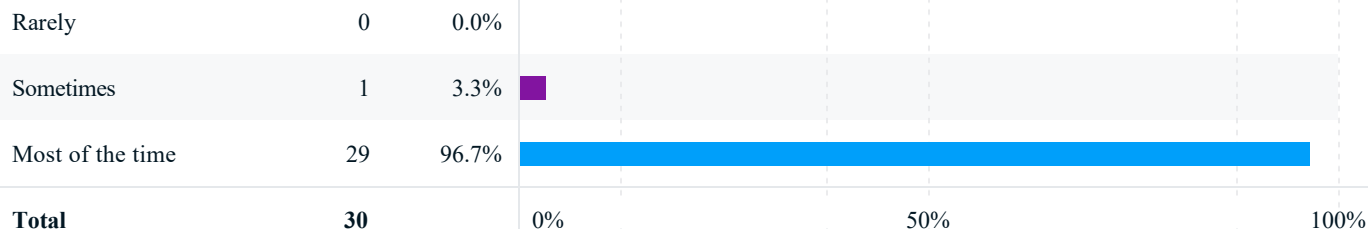
I don't really know anyone in the class because there is no in-class group activities so I don't feel comfortable participating when I don't know my peers.

Did not feel nervous.

I was often afraid of getting something wrong which prevented me from participating more.

Opportunities

I had the same opportunities to achieve in this course as other students did.



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

Comments

I would say all opportunities were fair.

everyone had same opportunities

everyone was treated fairly

Everyone was given the same assignment's and everyone had the same shot at extra credit, it just depended on how much you wanted it.

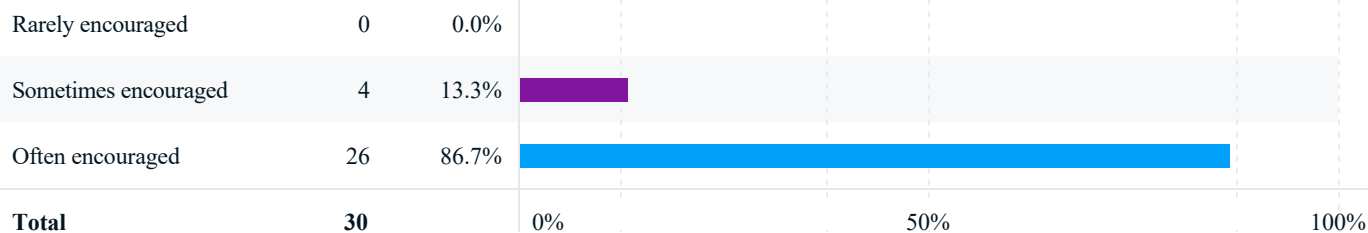
we all had the same opportunities to do extra credit.

Everyone was treated the same.

Everyone was offered the same opportunities.

Support

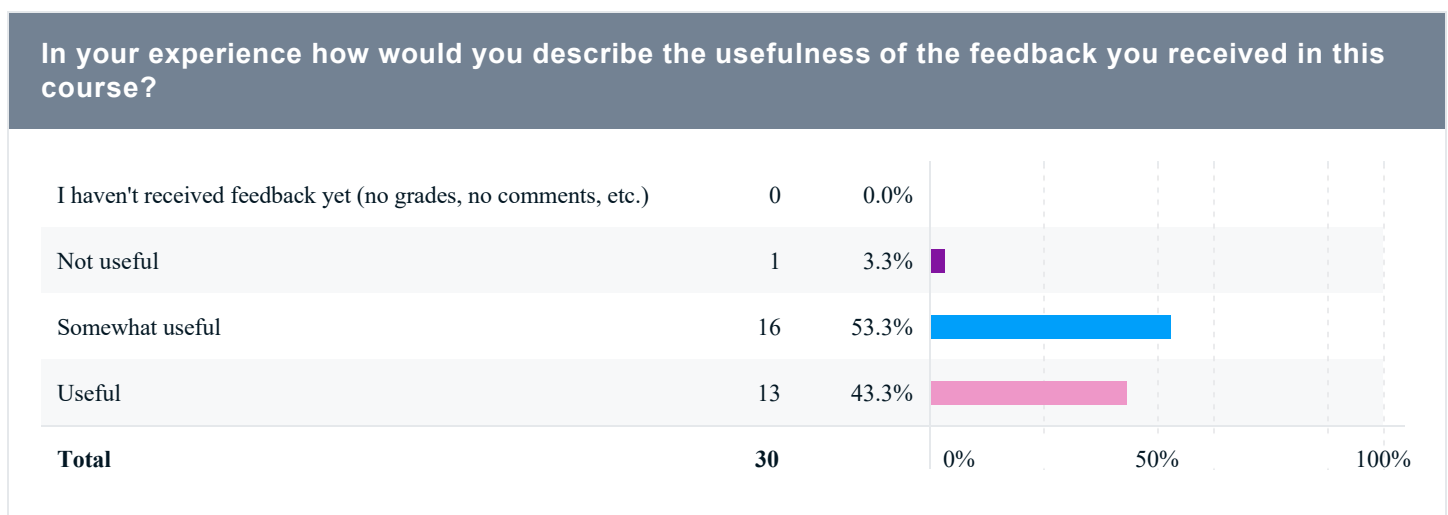
In my experience, asking questions related to the course was...



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

Comments
The professor was very inviting and would ask if there were any questions before moving on and encouraged office hours. I found office hours very helpful too because she answered any question you had and was very knowledgeable.
Always was asking if anyone had questions on the topic before moving on to something new.
She has always told us to reach out to her in person, office hours, or over email if we have any questions or need clarifying on anything.
she always wanted to know if we had questions
Ms. B would always try to further our understanding by asking us questions to get us involved.
She wanted people to ask questions all the time. She would invite kids to office hours and at the beginning of each class she asked if we had any questions, but no ever asked questions.
We had time to ask questions or go into office hours
Always asked for questions
I think it is often encouraged but when you are wrong the professor tends to a be bit mean. I do not think she realizes it but the tone she responds back with can make you discouraged to answer again.

Feedback



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

Comments
I haven't received any comments on online work and exams I would just get things crossed off. I would have liked to have a little bit more specific feedback so I could go back and try to understand what I did wrong and fix it for the future. However, she did go over some of the questions in class after exams that people were confused on so that helped a little.
i didn't receive much feedback
I only got feedback on a few assignment, but the ones that I did get feedback on I learned from.
I didn't receive any comments on how to improve but I'm sure I could have asked the professor privately.
I get my grades back, and there is an answer key posted for homework which is feedback
Self-explanatory

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 wish that the homework assignments and test were out of more points. It felt like there weren't many points given in this class so doing bad on one thing would heavily effect my grade.
I know it was her first semester teaching her, and for that I think she did really well. Overall, I just think economics is such a hard concept that my brain will never understand and I'm not sure anyone can do anything to help that.
the homework was hard and so were the tests and the class got very repetitive
For it being her first year, I think she did the best job she could. The class was very tough on her, they definitely didn't help her out. She tried her hardest to get people to participate but no one would. I understand that sometimes her accent can be a little hard to understand but it wouldn't lead to anyone getting a worse grade. I would suggest taking her class to another student.
The class was very lecture heavy so in order to keep students' attention I recommend showing more videos, doing activities that incorporate real world situations, and including ways we can use this knowledge in our day to day lives.
I wish that during lectures, you spoke more slowly and went through the slides slower because I feel like everything got very confusing because I did not have time to comprehend everything you were saying.
I thought the extra credit was very beneficial and useful because it was challenging but overall helped my understanding greatly. A lot of people did not enjoy this class because it was lecture heavy, but I feel like that is how most gen ed and college classes are, so I enjoyed it a lot. The professor tried to add more fun assignments to not make this class so lecture heavy but I think it just resulted in more people piggy backing off of others work.
n/a