UCLA | EIP

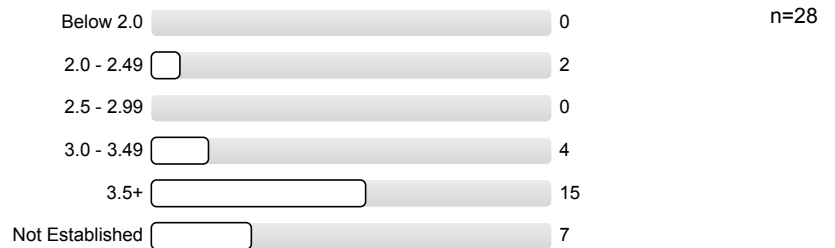# L. ZHANG
Evaluation of Instruction Program Report
211: ECON 103 LEC 1: INTRO-ECONOMETRICS
No. of responses = 28
Enrollment = 61
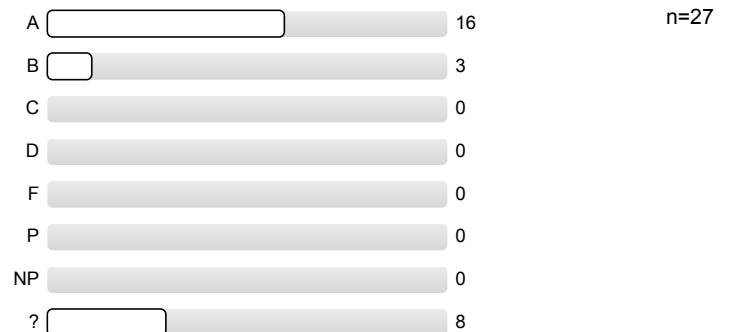Response Rate = 45.9%

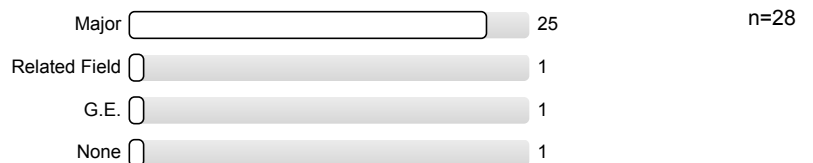## 1. Background Information:

1.1) Year in School:

n=26

Freshman	0
Sophomore	7
Junior	8
Senior	9
Graduate	0
Other	2

1.2) UCLA GPA:

n=28

Below 2.0	0
2.0 - 2.49	2
2.5 - 2.99	0
3.0 - 3.49	4
3.5+	15
Not Established	7

1.3) Expected Grade:

n=27

A	16
B	3
C	0
D	0
F	0
P	0
NP	0
?	8

1.4) What requirements does this course fulfill?

n=28

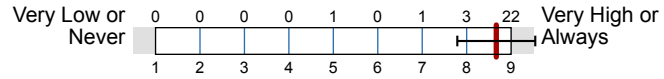|	
Major	25
Related Field	1
G.E.	1
None	1

2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1) Instructor Concern - The instructor was concerned about student learning.

Very Low or Never — Very High or Always

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	24
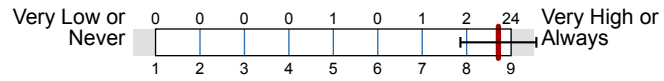
n=28
av.=8.71
md=9
dev.=0.85

2.2) Organization - Class presentations were well prepared and organized.

Very Low or Never — Very High or Always

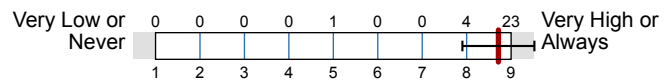|	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	22

n=27
av.=8.67
md=9
dev.=0.88

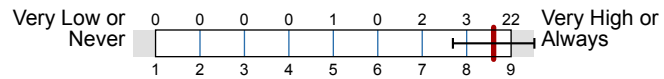**2.3) Interaction - Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.**

Very Low or Never — Very High or Always

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	24
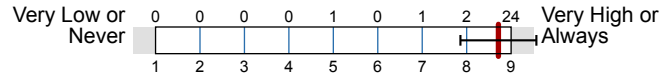
n=28
av.=8.71
md=9
dev.=0.85

2.4) Communication Skills - The instructor had good communication skills.

Very Low or Never — Very High or Always

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	23

n=28
av.=8.71
md=9
dev.=0.81

2.5) Value - You have learned something you consider valuable.

Very Low or Never — Very High or Always

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	22

n=28
av.=8.61
md=9
dev.=0.92

2.6) Overall - Your overall rating of the instructor.

Very Low or Never — Very High or Always

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	25
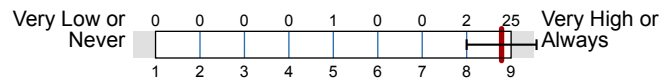
n=28
av.=8.79
md=9
dev.=0.79

2.7) Overall - Your overall rating of the course.

Very Low or Never — Very High or Always

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	21
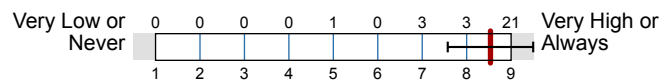
n=28
av.=8.54
md=9
dev.=0.96

3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

3.1) Subject interest before course

Low — High

	1	2	3
	6	13	9
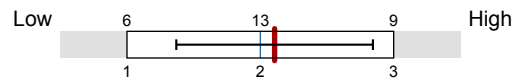
n=28
av.=2.11
md=2
dev.=0.74

3.2) Subject interest after course

Low — High

	1	2	3
	1	8	19
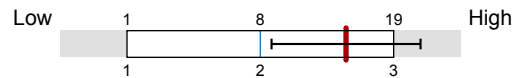
n=28
av.=2.64
md=3
dev.=0.56

3.3) Mastery of course material

Low — High

	1	2	3
	0	9	19
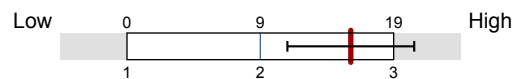
n=28
av.=2.68
md=3
dev.=0.48

3.4) **Difficulty (relative to other courses)**

Low — | 2 | 20 | 6 | — High

1 — 2 — 3

n=28
av.=2.14
md=2
dev.=0.52

3.5) **Workload/pace was**

Too Slow — | 0 | 27 | 1 | — Too Much

1 — 2 — 3

n=28
av.=2.04
md=2
dev.=0.19

3.6) **Texts, required readings**

Poor — | 1 | 8 | 13 | — Excellent

1 — 2 — 3

n=22
av.=2.55
md=3
dev.=0.6
ab.=6

3.7) **Homework assignments**

Poor — | 0 | 9 | 19 | — Excellent

1 — 2 — 3

n=28
av.=2.68
md=3
dev.=0.48

3.8) **Graded materials, examinations**

Poor — | 0 | 9 | 19 | — Excellent

1 — 2 — 3

n=28
av.=2.68
md=3
dev.=0.48

3.9) **Lecture presentations**

Poor — | 0 | 7 | 21 | — Excellent

1 — 2 — 3

n=28
av.=2.75
md=3
dev.=0.44

3.10) **Class discussions**

Poor — | 1 | 10 | 13 | — Excellent

1 — 2 — 3

n=24
av.=2.5
md=3
dev.=0.59
ab.=4

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4. Comments:

4.1) Please identify what you perceive to be the real strengths and weaknesses of this instructor and course.

■ Each lecture was very clear and the accompanying notes the professor provided were very helpful for review. The course contained very difficult material but everything was presented clearly and the professor was very responsive to questions. The only weakness: sometimes the lectures, especially in the beginning of the course, could move a little too quickly and I could misunderstand an important topic that was then repeated often but non re-explained.

■ Good instructor very helpful, notes are good and prepares us well for exams

■ He really took his time to make you understood the material, would always pause for questions, and gave us a break in the middle of our 2 hour lectures to ask questions. Best of all he made sure that if you did understand the material, did the hw, and did the practice exam there would be no surprises on the exams.
Professor Zhang made me feel confident not only in my ability to excel in the course but also my ability to excel, with the learned skills, outside of it.
Easily my favorite Econ professor thus far.

■ His note style is sometimes unclear. I believe he could improve by organizing his presentation a little more. Other than that, he was great.

■ Honestly, the best professor I've had my entire time at UCLA - his lectures were clear, concise, and

helpful. You can tell he really cares about his students. He was understanding that this is summer and we also have other things going on in our lives, so he didn't pack on too much homework, and the exams were reasonable. I felt well prepared for them with the practice exams. Also, he used a site called Piazza to answer our questions which was very helpful. Would 100% recommend this professor for any of my friends.

- I thought Lucas was a great instructor. He was very clear during lectures and explained concepts very nicely and concisely. While we did cover a lot of material pretty quickly due to the short duration of the session, the class was never overwhelming and was well-paced. The homework assignments were also well-designed and helped me apply and cement my understanding of the material. Although I would have liked the class to have focused on certain interesting yet more challenging topics, I think Lucas did a great job in covering a wide amount of interesting and relevant material.

- Lucas is a fantastic instructor! Ideas presented in class are clear and well-prepared, homework assignments were useful and exams were fair. Piazza is an excellent way of communicating with the students and Lucas always responds in a timely manner to clear up any confusion. Having typed up notes as well as written notes were really good as students got to prep before the lecture and follow along. Similarly, the "all codes" file was really useful since it served as a guide to the coding assignments. I have no other suggestion except to keep it up!

- Lucas is one of the best Econ instructors I've ever had. He explains things thoroughly, but only goes as in depth as is needed without getting too convoluted and confusing. You can tell he is very invested in student learning, and answers questions concisely and without any air of "why aren't you still getting this" that I've had from most of my Econ professors before. I've never felt more comfortable to ask for help in an Econ class than in this one, and it is probably why I am doing the best I have in an Econ class all year.

- Lucas is one of the best lecturers I've had! He goes at a pace that is easy to follow along and is very clear in his explanations. The homework assignments are very insightful and helped me a lot with going back and understanding important concepts. I thought that the exams were fair and test my understanding of the course material well. I would definitely take another course with him.

- Nothing really.

- Professor Zhang is very concerned about all of his students. He offers many sources for help and extra practice. He is great with communication answering every question on the discussion forum in a timely manner and always being prompt with his responses to my emails. On top of all of this, he is a very fair grader and great instructor as he always when in depth during the lectures and moved at a pace that was easy to follow.

- Professor Zhang was an excellent econometrics teacher. I enrolled/unenrolled in this course 3 times before completing it this summer (after massive confusion within the first 2 weeks of the course) but Professor Zhang made everything so clear from the very beginning. I felt very challenged but was never completely overwhelmed // discouraged from learning the material. I would consider this rather dry material (personally) but he did a great job in keeping it somewhat interesting.

- Professor Zhang's lectures were extremely detailed and easy to understand. He clarified any questions we had during lectures, and we could also ask her help through Piazza, and he replied very quickly to those. Professor made the class very interesting, which made lectures go by really fast. Overall, I enjoyed taking this class with Professor Zhang and I hope to take another class with him in the future.

- Really great professor! After taking statistics I was not looking forward to taking econometrics, but this professor is wonderful. He made everything easy to understand and clear. Classes were interesting and the professor did his best to connect the material to real life. He was always available for help and interested in helping us learn.

- The course material is really easy and interesting. Professor Zhang organizes and delivers his lectures very well. His notes are easy to follow. Also, he replies to Piazza fast, so students can always have their questions answered very soon. Professor Zhang allows two time slots for all the exams, which makes it

convenient for international students like me.

- The course was very well structured and easy to follow. The homework was perfect for a good review of the course.

- The lectures are organized very well. What the teacher give us are very clear and easy to understand. The practice exam, homework and coding part are very helpful. While using multiple choice as the exams may be little easy for some students. I think it's a good thing for getting high grades. But I think it's better if some challenge questions can be given as bonus.

- The materials are well prepared. The presentations are well organized.

- The professor did an excellent job in teaching the class econometrics despite learning online. He was very understanding of the circumstances.

- Very caring.

- Zhang was excellent. Exceeded expectations along with the course. Exceeded expectations. It was a joy. The homework assignments were extremely helpful in cementing the materials. I was thoroughly challenged and leaned a great deal. Kudos to UCLA and the instructor.

4.2) What topic(s) did you find most interesting and/or useful? What topic(s) did you find least interesting and/or useful? Why?

- Causality is probably the easiest one to point out but honestly, he would always go into details on how everything was derived even if the derivation wasn't going to be part of the testable material which was very helpful in understanding the material.

- Coming in from a math 170E/S background rather than Econ 41, I thought that there was a LOT of review of probability and stats and even basic regression. I'm not sure how much is covered in Econ 41, but the course started off a little slower because of all the review for me.

- Explains the mechanics behind given intuition of past Econ classes

- I find the topics of Omitted Variable Bias very interesting and useful because it helps put into perspective the many variables that may or may not be relevant in a model.

- I found everything to be interesting, but I was particularly interested in the coding part of the course because it taught me how to interpret the tables and how I can apply to problems.

- I get a very clear view of linear regression and testing hypotheses. I can image these models must be pretty useful when I do research on economics. A lot of thanks to the professor and his TA.

- I loved the discussion on causality coming from a physics background.

- I really appreciated the introduction to Python seeing as I have past experience with R.

- Learning multiple regression and how to interpret summary statistics was very helpful.

- Learning the basics of python is super useful and interesting.

- Multiple Regression

- Multiple regression seems the most interesting but it would be nice to know more details about the derivation i.e involving linear algebra.

- The topic that I found most interesting is OVB. I learn that I also need to consider this concept in the real world when looking at a model.

- This was my first time coding for economics, so it was interesting to try it out!

- joint hypothesis testing, White's test, python training, how to thoroughly analysis the regression printouts, what the p-value is (this was a game changer). Variable transformations.

- I found the last lecture on causality and methods to establish causality to be the most interesting. I wish that more time could have been spent or allotted towards covering this topic.

Profile

2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1) Instructor Concern - The instructor was concerned about student learning.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=28	av.=8.71
2.2) Organization - Class presentations were well prepared and organized.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=27	av.=8.67
2.3) Interaction - Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=28	av.=8.71
2.4) Communication Skills - The instructor had good communication skills.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=28	av.=8.71
2.5) Value - You have learned something you consider valuable.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=28	av.=8.61
2.6) Overall - Your overall rating of the instructor.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=28	av.=8.79
2.7) Overall - Your overall rating of the course.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=28	av.=8.54

3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

3.1) Subject interest before course	Low — High	n=28	av.=2.11
3.2) Subject interest after course	Low — High	n=28	av.=2.64
3.3) Mastery of course material	Low — High	n=28	av.=2.68
3.4) Difficulty (relative to other courses)	Low — High	n=28	av.=2.14
3.5) Workload/pace was	Too Slow — Too Much	n=28	av.=2.04
3.6) Texts, required readings	Poor — Excellent	n=22	av.=2.55
3.7) Homework assignments	Poor — Excellent	n=28	av.=2.68
3.8) Graded materials, examinations	Poor — Excellent	n=28	av.=2.68
3.9) Lecture presentations	Poor — Excellent	n=28	av.=2.75
3.10) Class discussions	Poor — Excellent	n=24	av.=2.50