

Online Course Evaluation Summary

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EVALUATION SUMMARY
VIEW BY RESPONDENT
VIEW BY QUESTION

Overview of Evaluations for Douglas McKee

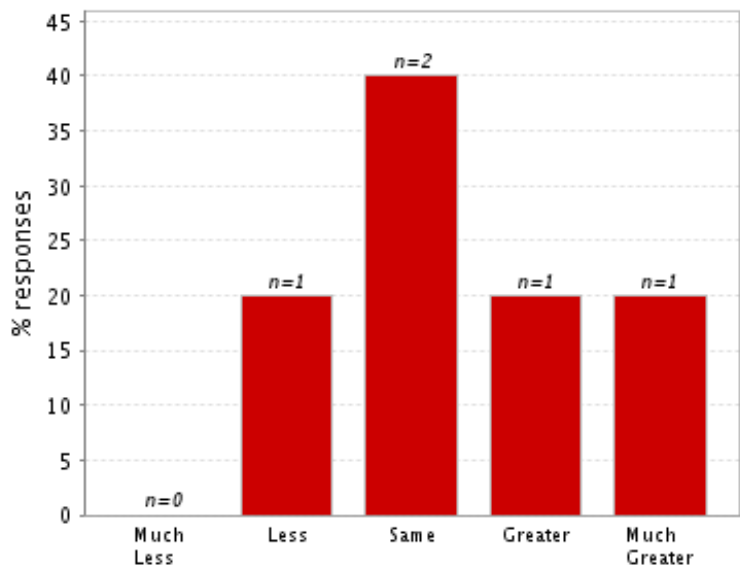
ECON S131E 1

Summer 2013:

30215 ECON S131E 1 Econometrics and Data Analysis

Total number of students:	9
Evaluations completed:	5 56%
Number of declines	2 22%
Number of non-respondents:	2 22%

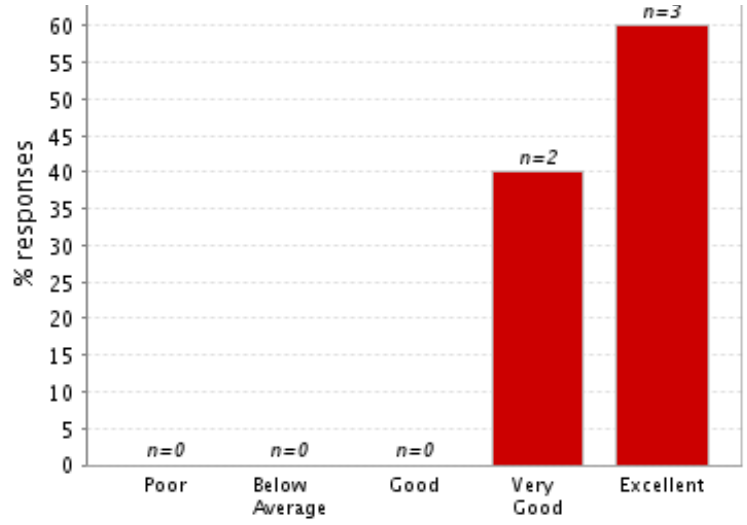
Overall, how would you rate the workload of this course in comparison to other Yale courses you have taken?



What is your overall assessment of this course?

65

THIS COURSE:



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View By Question - Douglas McKee

Summer 2013:

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Question 1

Looking back on Economics S131E 1, what is your overall assessment of the course? What are its strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might it be improved?

Response 1

Fantastic class, be warned: very short.

Response 2

It was very well done. The course site was good, the lectures were great, and the live sessions were helpful.

Response 3

Strengths:1. after class office hours - getting that much attention was invaluable.2. Being able to watch the lectures online beforehand was very useful, and allowed me to backtrack if I missed something. And how this left more time for actual discussion.3. Prof. McKee's terrific patience and openness.4. The final project was very interesting, and exercised the many concepts that we learned.5. I liked the quiz that Prof. McKee gave along with the lectures. This is a far better accompaniment than the reading, which I felt was only halfway useful.6. Interesting real life examplesWeaknesses:1. Could use better preparation for midterm and final exams. Some of the questions in those exams drew on concepts that we learned, but others seemed to come a little more out of left field, or were hardly touched upon in the in-class time. For example, I found that there was a lot of disconnect between the questions about R2 in the last problem in the final, and the fact that we barely went over the R2 calculation (we certainly didn't break it down). Actually, it seemed like a lot of our class time in the second half was used working in stata but that the exam did not really reflect this.Also, in general, this class is chock full of all sorts of interesting concepts, it seems like a shame that a small exam only narrowly reflects a small part of this. I would have preferred two projects and one exam, rather than 2 exams and one project.2. Notational issues -- I think this really needed to be clarified throughout the course, for example there was a huge difference between capital Z and little z, but this isn't explicitly noted. Sometimes in his explanation Prof. McKee didn't even opt to use variable notation, which was sometimes good and sometimes confusing. Perhaps this could have used more standardization.3. The class time sometimes felt wasted in group activities. I would have preferred to just do problems on my own (before class) and then

wasted in group activities. I would have preferred to just do problems on my own (before class) and then discuss them in class. I feel this wasted a lot of time, especially since the chatrooms' connections were not as high-quality, people work on the problems at different paces, some of us had stata and some not, etc. I think this also reduced the amount of time that I felt we were actually "learning" in class. Other Recommendations: 1. To circulate student questions amongst everyone in a list, with responses (ie, if I send in a question, and Bob sends in a question, perhaps before class the Prof. or TA sends out a whole summary of all the questions and responses). Sometimes there were some questions that I didn't even think to ask, but which I learned a lot from when Prof. McKee answered them in class! 2. More problems and problem sets. I wouldn't increase the number of problem sets to be turned in for credit, but it would be great to get more practice in general with problem set solutions, I learned best this way.

Response 4

Econ S131 was a fantastic course. It was great to be able to watch the video lectures at your leisure and rewind them if you didn't understand a concept. However, I thought the pace of the course was too fast for an online course and I didn't think I absorbed the material like I would have in a regular course.

Response 5

a very good course, although it felt like it ended too soon. If the course length stays the same moving through the earlier content faster would give more time on the more interesting parts of the course later on.

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View By Question - Douglas McKee

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Question 2

Please evaluate each instructor of Economics S131E 1. What are the instructor's strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might his/her teaching be improved?

Response 1

Douglas McKee

Fantastic teacher.

Response 2

Douglas McKee

Prof. McKee was very engaging and answered all of our questions thoroughly. He was a great professor.

Response 3

Douglas McKee

Professor McKee seems to really take his students' feedback seriously, which is a very positive thing, because many instructors do not do this! Also, I recognize that this is just a very challenging course to teach, in general. It draws on so many different disciplines and lines of thinking. So I don't think the class could have been taught much better. Really, the class seems to suffer from its own short length, as well as the lack of the statistics prerequisite. Strengths: 1. Being so generous with office hours, being very open by email with responding to our questions 2. In general, has a very clear grasp of the material and can share that grasp with us through his explanations 3. Very thorough lecture slides with examples 4. Creative questions that got us thinking in real terms Weaknesses: 1. I get the sense that Prof. McKee's way of thinking is more mathematical and notational, which is perfectly understandable (and germane to the discipline, I'm sure!) but it meant that I had to clarify a lot of concepts with him verbally because they were not described in words in the lecture, or in the lecture slides (or given a sort of half-way explanation in class as to what exactly this or that variable meant). I also draw on the reading to make up for this, so maybe that's what the reading is for? It was

mean). I also drew on the reading to make up for this, so maybe that's what the reading is for. It was confusing to be told the various equations (for example the z ones) across different lectures, because in one case for example we would use standard deviation and in another we'd use standard error. In one we would look at populations, in another we would look at samples. If somewhat-similar equations were taught in the same class, and then it was explicitly explained why we slightly tweaked the equations that way, it would reduce a lot of confusion, I think.

Response 4

Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is hands down the best professor I've ever had at Yale! Is he tenured... because he should be. He is so generous with his time and always answers questions promptly. He always makes sure that students understand the material and always offers creative answers to questions. He also does a great job at showing how the concepts we learned could be applied in the real world. You can tell that he genuinely enjoys teaching.

Response 5

Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is an excellent teacher. He is very good at helping students understand the material.



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How would you summarize Economics S131E 1 for a fellow student? Would you recommend Economics S131E 1 to another student? Why or why not?

Response 1

Absolutely, take it with McKee if you can.

Response 2

Yes, I would recommend it. The course was put together really well and Prof. McKee was fantastic. I learned a lot as well, and it wasn't too difficult.

Response 3

I would highly recommend this course whether in online or in-person form. It is useful for anyone who wants to understand how statistics are applied to real life problems, and is applicable to all sorts of disciplines in the social sciences, not just statistics/economics. Professor McKee is incredibly open and willing to help you learn the material, and you will definitely learn concepts here that change how you view the rest of the world, how you view data, conclusions drawn from it, etc. It is probably best preceded by a basic statistics course.

Response 4

If you actually want to learn statistics and Stata then this class is for you! Professor McKee is the best professor and you will learn so much from him.

Response 5

Economics S131E was a fantastic class, not all that difficult but it was interesting and Professor McKee is very good at teaching this course in a way that is easy to understand.



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