

DAVID M. K. KNAPP

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS ~ PH. D. CANDIDATE

TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS

Teaching Record

- Instructor, Introductory Macroeconomics (undergraduate), 2012,
Department of Economics and Management, Albion College (3 classes, 1 semester)
- Head Graduate Student Instructor, Introductory Microeconomics (undergraduate), 2010-11,
Department of Economics, University of Michigan (3 classes, 3 semesters)
- Graduate Student Instructor, Economics I (graduate), 2009
Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health, University of Michigan (3 classes, 1 semester)
- Graduate Student Instructor, Intermediate Microeconomics (undergraduate), 2009-11
Department of Economics, University of Michigan (8 classes, 4 semesters)
- Graduate Student Instructor, Introductory Microeconomics (undergraduate), 2008,
Department of Economics, University of Michigan (4 classes, 2 semesters)

Teaching Evaluations

While at the University of Michigan, I taught primarily as a graduate student instructor, meaning that I conducted my own class for between 1 and 4 hours per week in addition to a faculty member teaching the general lecture. Each semester, the University of Michigan solicits feedback from students regarding their opinion on a range of topics related to their course. Each student ranks their opinion between 1 (strongly disagree) and 5 (strongly agree). The table below demonstrates the unweighted and weighted average of the response to “*The instructor was an excellent teacher*”, and includes the university median and 75th percentile.¹ It excludes teaching in Winter semester 2008 and at Albion College, as I do not have those evaluation reports. In all courses, I fall between the university median and 75th percentile.

The complete questionnaires (with 30 questions linked to student comments), a complete summary of student responses (good and bad) and a summary of scores by class are available on my website: daveknapp.info.

Table 1: Teaching Evaluations at University of Michigan

	Own Unweighted	Own Weighted	University Median	University 75%
Overall	4.73	4.70	4.55	4.82
Introductory Microeconomics	4.63	4.64	4.51	4.80
Intermediate Microeconomics	4.77	4.76	4.62	4.85
Microeconomics for Public Health Masters Students	4.78	4.71	4.50	4.80

¹Weighting is done by the number of responses.

Students are also encouraged to provide feedback. Select student comments include:

- “Dave had a tremendous understanding of the material and was able to articulate his knowledge in a way that was incredibly helpful. Additionally, he went beyond his required responsibilities and was available for questions via any form of communication, never have I witnessed that from a GSI. Finally, Dave challenged students explore many different variations of the problems to ensure that students could think outside the box for the course.” (Spring 2011)
- “Great teacher and can talk on a personal level with students. Wish he taught my other classes. Really easy and open to talk to.” (Fall 2010)
- “You explain things clearly and patiently. It’s evident you put an enormous amount of time into helping us succeed. Thanks for your efforts.” (Fall 2009)
- “The discussion was incredibly helpful in learning and understanding the material taught in the course. Dave was an absolutely fantastic GSI who did an incredible job explaining both mathematical and intuitive concepts. Although I did not have a particularly strong background in math (especially calculus), I was amazed at how easily I was still able to following Dave’s clear explanations. Not only was my experience with the instruction during class extremely positive, but office hours were equally as helpful.” (Spring 2009)