

eValue Report - Fall 2017

College of Arts and Sciences

Course: ECON 4970-002

Section Title: Economics of Education

Instructor: Tyler Ransom

Total Enrollment: 33

Course Level: Upper 3000 - 4000

Section Size: Medium 26-59

Question	Level	Mean Response	Median Response	Standard Deviation	ZScore	Responses	Percent #1	Percent #2	Percent #3	Percent #4	Percent #5	Dept Rank	College Rank
1. Extent to which the instructor contributed to your learning	INDIVIDUAL	4.37500	5	0.71094		24	0.00	0.00	12.50	37.50	50.00	89.47	69.71
	DEPARTMENT	4.15457	4	0.90257		317	0.63	4.42	17.03	34.70	43.22		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.13079	4	0.90706	0.27	4,060	1.16	3.67	17.49	36.31	41.38		
	COLLEGE	3.90375	4	1.00650	0.47	37,809	2.47	5.90	23.43	35.21	33.00		
2. Ability of the instructor to respond to a wide range of questions about the material in this course	INDIVIDUAL	4.25000	5	0.89685		24	0.00	4.17	16.67	29.17	50.00	47.37	32.37
	DEPARTMENT	4.35962	5	0.85500		317	0.32	3.47	12.62	27.13	56.47		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.41908	5	0.87888	-0.19	4,047	1.06	3.11	10.72	23.05	62.05		
	COLLEGE	4.15287	5	1.05163	0.09	37,757	2.64	5.86	15.40	25.77	50.33		
3. Instructor's promptness in returning exams and assignments so they could be useful for learning	INDIVIDUAL	4.54167	5	0.65801		24	0.00	0.00	8.33	29.17	62.50	78.95	78.84
	DEPARTMENT	4.27129	5	0.96566		317	1.26	4.42	15.77	23.03	55.52		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.12441	4	1.05307	0.40	4,051	2.47	5.97	17.26	25.25	49.05		
	COLLEGE	3.95652	4	1.14454	0.51	37,715	4.07	7.88	19.71	25.01	43.33		
4. Instructor's ability to encourage critical and independent thinking	INDIVIDUAL	4.52174	5	0.79026		23	0.00	4.35	4.35	26.09	65.22	89.47	72.61
	DEPARTMENT	4.18095	4	0.96546		315	1.59	5.08	14.29	31.75	47.30		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.23609	5	0.96496	0.30	4,045	1.66	4.13	15.20	26.97	52.04		
	COLLEGE	3.99321	4	1.07986	0.49	37,686	2.97	6.85	20.28	27.70	42.21		
5. Instructor's ability to stimulate continuing interest in the subject matter	INDIVIDUAL	4.04167	4	1.19707		24	8.33	4.17	4.17	41.67	41.67	57.90	41.08
	DEPARTMENT	4.06940	4	1.08860		317	3.47	6.62	15.14	29.02	45.74		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.12831	5	1.07443	-0.08	4,045	2.82	6.35	16.14	24.55	50.14		
	COLLEGE	3.84626	4	1.20248	0.16	37,654	5.58	9.02	20.63	24.74	40.03		
6. Overall instructor's teaching effectiveness was	INDIVIDUAL	4.29167	5	0.80645		24	0.00	0.00	20.83	29.17	50.00	78.95	55.60
	DEPARTMENT	4.13924	4	0.99821		316	1.27	6.65	16.14	28.80	47.15		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.16831	5	1.03114	0.12	4,052	2.42	5.65	14.68	27.17	50.07		
	COLLEGE	3.91793	4	1.16581	0.32	37,698	4.72	8.30	19.19	26.05	41.74		
7. Instructor's management of the course was	INDIVIDUAL	4.33333	5	1.09014		24	4.17	4.17	8.33	20.83	62.50	78.95	56.02
	DEPARTMENT	4.21136	5	0.94942		317	1.58	2.84	18.61	26.81	50.16		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.19867	5	1.01937	0.13	4,047	2.32	4.99	15.07	25.72	51.89		
	COLLEGE	3.99400	4	1.11704	0.30	37,659	3.67	7.16	19.18	26.07	43.92		
8. Amount you learned in this class	INDIVIDUAL	4.20833	4	0.77903		24	0.00	0.00	20.83	37.50	41.67	73.68	64.56
	DEPARTMENT	4.06309	4	0.88721		317	0.95	3.47	20.19	39.12	36.28		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.03387	4	0.89696	0.19	4,015	1.10	3.54	21.39	38.83	35.14		
	COLLEGE	3.79663	4	0.98530	0.42	34,351	2.33	6.53	27.24	36.97	26.93		
9. Workload of this course compared to others a similar level	INDIVIDUAL	3.25000	3	0.84699		24	0.00	12.50	62.50	12.50	12.50	63.16	39.24
	DEPARTMENT	3.36909	3	0.92746		317	1.89	10.09	52.68	19.87	15.46		
	SIMILAR_COL	3.39183	3	0.85200	-0.17	4,017	0.95	7.24	57.78	19.74	14.29		
	COLLEGE	3.42616	3	0.85129	-0.21	34,391	1.16	6.45	55.09	23.22	14.08		
10. Quality of readings and/or assigned course materials	INDIVIDUAL	3.69565	4	1.10514		23	4.35	13.04	13.04	47.83	21.74	36.84	30.38
	DEPARTMENT	3.84762	4	0.99790		315	1.90	6.67	26.98	33.65	30.79		
	SIMILAR_COL	3.89506	4	1.00371	-0.20	4,012	1.92	6.56	24.98	33.20	33.35		
	COLLEGE	3.62944	4	1.05080	0.06	34,337	3.08	10.17	31.61	31.00	24.14		
11. Overall, this course was	INDIVIDUAL	4.33333	5	0.86811		24	0.00	4.17	12.50	29.17	54.17	84.21	64.56
	DEPARTMENT	4.11709	4	0.97699		316	0.95	6.33	17.72	30.06	44.94		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.10319	4	1.02101	0.23	4,012	2.07	5.81	17.65	28.69	45.79		
	COLLEGE	3.82583	4	1.12450	0.45	34,352	4.14	8.56	22.92	29.33	35.05		
12. This course was graded fairly	INDIVIDUAL	4.75000	5	0.60792		24	0.00	0.00	8.33	8.33	83.33	57.90	56.96
	DEPARTMENT	4.69206	5	0.59491		315	0.00	0.95	4.13	19.68	75.24		
	SIMILAR_COL	4.64829	5	0.68344	0.15	4,009	0.52	1.40	4.61	19.66	73.81		
	COLLEGE	4.52800	5	0.77999	0.28	34,337	0.75	2.26	6.68	24.07	66.25		

eEvaluate Report - Fall 2017

College of Arts and Sciences

Course: ECON 4970-002

Section Title: Economics of Education

Instructor: Tyler Ransom

Total Enrollment: 33

Course Level: Upper 3000 - 4000

Section Size: Medium 26-59

Question

1. What were the strong points of the course?
2. What were the weak points of the course?
3. What should the instructor do to improve their teaching?
4. What is your overall opinion of this course?

Comment

1. Dr. Ransom is very interested in the topic and it shows. It makes attending lectures stimulating and worthwhile.
2. Things out of the professor's control, such as how the classroom was arranged and the level of distraction by other students.
3. Nothing
4. I should've attended class more to receive the full benefits of Dr. Ransom's instruction. He is one of those professors who you'd want to attend every class they instruct simply because they love the job they do.

1. The lectures and discussions during class were always intriguing and engaging.
2. The textbook was extremely difficult to use on my device as the book was far too expensive to buy a hard copy.
- 3.

4. This was a very engaging and informative course that added to my understanding of economics about education.

1. Dr. Ransom's teaching style is unique, he consistently asks the class for input before extrapolating upon the topic. I find it engaging, friendly, and effective.
2. n.a.

The pillar in the middle of the room was really annoying but is in no way Dr. Ransom's fault.

3. N.A.
4. It was great, one of the most useful and challenging econ courses I've taken.

1. The strong point of this course would have to be that professor Ransom was extremely engaged with the material and students throughout the semester.
2. The only weak point of this course I thought was the length of the exams, however this was adjusted after the first midterm.
3. I don't think there is much to improve in this course, especially since it was the first semester professor Ransom taught it at OU.
4. Overall, I thought that the course was great and provided great insight and knowledge to the world of education and economics.

1. -His knowledge over the specific subject
-The level at which his research knowledge contributed to the class
2. -Problem Sets should be due later in the week but very beneficial
- 3.
4. Very knowledgeable professor despite age. Also, his age really helped me personally feel like he was more approachable. Great course!

1. The problem sets were a great weekly learning tool
2. A PDF of the textbook would be nice
3. Listen to podcast episodes in class
4. I really enjoyed this course

1. The way the class was taught and the material.
2. poor management of the course, test setup was poor and didn't clearly communicate with students.
3. Work on student teacher communication and emphasize syllabus better.
4. I liked the way it was taught in every day class but need to work on test setup and set clear rules.

eValuate Report - Fall 2017

1. The in class discussions

2. The paper assignments

3. Allow the class to see notes

4. Thought it was a pretty good course all around! He did a very good job considering we were his first class

1. The professor is very knowledgeable and accomidating. He is also willing to listen to his students and take their needs into consideration.

2. I would prefer to have the notes in a power point form so they are more easy to comprehend. Other than that I do not have any complaints.

3. Include his notes in power point format.

4. I really enjoyed the course and would highly recommend it

1. I enjoyed his enthusiasm in the course, and his ability to make the material easier to understand.

2. I would have liked the chance to really know what he wanted on the exams, as some questions seemed subjective.

3. More class time for the exam review/ knowing what he wants on the exam.

4. Great course. This professor really knows his stuff!

1. The problems sets were very good to have

2. not being able to have a study guide for the exams or not know exactly what you want to see in our answers

3. I would have enjoyed having quizzes to take some of the load off of the problem sets and exams. that might have helped in understanding and preparing for the exams.

4. For this being the first course here I enjoyed it

1. In class discussion

2. N/A

3. more group work

4. I greatly enjoyed this course and having Dr. Ransom as a professor. He did a great job of keeping the whole class attentive and intrigued even when covering some very dense material. I would highly recommend this class to a friend.

1. Specific strong points of the course include the frequent problem sets, and class discussion.

2. Specific weak points of the course included the large focus on statistics in the first half of the class. I felt as if the topic of the economics of education wasn't introduced until the later half.

3. The instructor could try to introduce a guest lecture, or more group projects, and a paper.

4. My overall opinion of the course is favorable, I would recommend students take the class, although I believe since it is such a new class it should just be tweaked a little.

1. Engaging lectures, and he calls on everyone in class so you have to participate.

2. Not really any weak points

3. Maybe spend some more time going over problem sets

4. Very high opinion

1. The structure, diversity of readings/materials, format of class

2. Spent too much time walking through introductory statistics/econometrics/linear regression. In a 4000 level course, students MUST be able to do this already, or learn it on their own. First month of class was wasted because many students were unprepared (and frankly stupid).

3. Accelerate the pace of regression/experimental design, get into the meat of policy and implications sooner and with more depth. More in-class discussions rather than lectures.

4. Very good class. The material was excellent and well structured, and Dr. Ransom is a good teacher for being so young and having so little exp + exp^2. Overall though, the class was a little boring and I was never very excited to go to it. This was partially because, other than a handful of students, the large majority of the class (or at least those who regularly spoke) were very stupid. My degree is devalued by the fact that they are going to pass this class, which is irritating. There were no peer effects.

1. Useful summary of the basic theory and important research. Dr Ransom is very engaging, required helpful homework, and structured the course well

2. The first half of the semester involved a lot of review for students that had taken econometrics already

3. Maybe change the prerequisite courses, change rooms, and learn not to squat to write on the bottom of the whiteboard

4. Excellent overview

1. Dr. Ransom was a good professor. He really tried to have a connection with his students, cared about them individually, and tried to make the class relevant and interesting. I like how he brought statistics relevant to OU and other local universities since this was, after all, a class on the economics of education. I also really appreciate how he asked for feedback half way through the course and used that feedback to make the course better. He was very knowledgeable on the subject and could always answer questions.

2. One of the weak points of the course was the textbook. It was not available in print so I got it online and the format was terrible. Even if the formatting had been fine, it still wouldn't have been a good textbook. I would definitely suggest choosing a new one next semester.

I also did not like the first 1/3 of the course that focused on statistics. Statistics was a prerequisite of the course so therefore it was a drawn out, boring review that had nothing to do with the actual economics of education. If it is very important for the rest of the course that the students know statistics (which it didn't seem to be), make econometrics a prerequisite and don't waste the class time.

3. I feel like Dr. Ransom did a great job of eliciting and responding to constructive criticism throughout the semester. My only suggestion is not related to Dr. Ransom specifically, but rather attendance policies in general. Attendance/participation grades should not be a part of the college curriculum. I am a busy person and this class was my "easy" class this semester. If I can still get an A on the exams and assignments without attending class, I should not be penalized for prioritizing my more difficult classes. The physics department uses two grading schemes: one with the attendance grade and one that removes the attendance grade and simply weights the exams more heavily. This way students that do attend class regularly are still rewarded for their effort but those who can do well without attending are not penalized. It's something to consider.

4. This was the first semester that the course had ever been taught, so I expected there to be a few rough patches, which there were. Dr. Ransom has the potential to be a great professor and I have no doubt in his ability to continue to improve the course.

eEvaluate Report - Fall 2017

1. Professor Ransom encouraged class participation and made sure that everybody had a chance to talk. Most of the times this led to insightful discussions and debates about a variety of topics related to the class. The class was organized and it was easy to follow what material we are covering and what we are expected to learn.

2. The class placed more importance on student participation. Sometimes, it felt that the discussions did not follow a natural discussion pathway but it made students feel forced to participate even though they did not know how to contribute to the discussion. It would be better to have more contrast of opinions in the class, and not let a particular group of students dominate the discussion. At times this made intimidating to participate (not everybody is a National Merit student and/or in the Honors Program).

3. Better techniques and/or skills on how to lead a discussion-based class.

4. Excellent course. I did learn a lot and I wish this class was offered before; we covered useful research methods and explored different academic papers which was something I didn't have the opportunity to do before.

1. Professor Ransom is an excellent teacher and really helps his students understand the subjects at hand.

2. The room has a pillar in the middle that makes it hard to see the material on the white board.

3. Overall the teacher did very well at going over the material.

4. Great job!

1. I enjoyed discussions. Students would raise their hands to ask questions and other students would make remarks about what was said, fostering lively and friendly discussion and debate.

2. Lectures seemed to repeat readings. I would've enjoyed more discussions over the material. I believe the course was listed as a seminar, not a lecture, when I enrolled. I would've liked more discussions and less lectures.

3. Familiarize with subject matter pertaining to elementary level policy/economics

4. I enjoyed the course. I learned about education more and was able to APPLY what I've learned in previous economics courses to this class.

eValuate Report - Fall 2017

Response Key

1. Extent to which the instructor contributed to your learning	1 = Far Below Average, 2 = Below Average, 3 = Average, 4 = Above Average, 5 = Far Above Average
2. Ability of the instructor to respond to a wide range of questions about the material in this course	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
3. Instructor's promptness in returning exams and assignments so they could be useful for learning	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
4. Instructor's ability to encourage critical and independent thinking	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
5. Instructor's ability to stimulate continuing interest in the subject matter	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
6. Overall instructor's teaching effectiveness was	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
7. Instructor's management of the course was	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
8. Amount you learned in this class	1 = Far Below Average, 2 = Below Average, 3 = Average, 4 = Above Average, 5 = Far Above Average
9. Workload of this course compared to others a similar level	1 = Far Below Average, 2 = Below Average, 3 = Average, 4 = Above Average, 5 = Far Above Average
10. Quality of readings and/or assigned course materials	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
11. Overall, this course was	1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent
12. This course was graded fairly	1 = Never, 2 = Seldom, 3 = Occasionally, 4 = Usually, 5 = Always