



ECON 13310 1 - Introduction to Macroeconomic Analysis: A Data Driven Approach - Instructor(s) - Oscar Galvez-Soriano

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2025**

Number Enrolled: **51**

Number of Responses: **20**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

What are the most important things that you learned in this class? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comment
Various optimization models, PIH, business cycles, fiscal policy, monetary policy, and more
Macroeconomic policy and analysis
Malthusian Model, Solow Model, Consumption, Fiscal Policy, Monetary policy, Interest rate
How real events affect different markets
How to use different macro models to analyze the economy (Solow, Malthusian, Output models, etc.)
How to understand data.
Business cycle, Solow Model, Deaton's Paradox, Euler Equation, Forecasting
Different Macro models and using data to forecast and make future predictions about policy
mathus and solow model, steady state and golden rule, two period model of the economy, PIH, ricardian equivalence, phillips curve, okun's law, lucas critique, unemployment, business cycle
How to analyze, calculate, and depict economic trends.
Macroeconomics models
I learned neo-classical macroeconomic models, and also how to deal with the newest data in this class.

Describe how aspects of this class (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comment
Lectures were helpful to explain fundamental concepts and homework helped to reinforce these learnings.
Lectures are quite engaging. The p-sets were reasonable length and difficulty to get us ready for exams
Must go to lectures to succeed in this class. So much of the material on the exams/psets isn't on the slides
Lectures especially were very helpful
Lectures were everything – must show up, lecture slides lack lot of content that is covered
Lectures helped with learning while flash reports helped understand a real world perspective. Homeworks were useless
Lectures and office hours were super helpful
Lectures were great.
Lectures, psets, lecture slides, practice exams
The lectures were so good! Professor Soriano is amazing
lectures and the professor's office hours were the most helpful. His slides are fairly empty, so actually going to class is really important because he will expand on his slide points and also work out problems separately on the board (many of these problems are useful for psets)
Professor is lovely and great at explaining content and relating it to the real world.
The lectures teach me a lot of new knowledge on macroeconomic models, especially the neo-classical theory. The professor gives us clear examples and nice graphs to help us better understand them. The other most impressive part is the professor's office hours, which are really helpful.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This class challenged me intellectually.	4.39	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	38.89%	55.56%
I understood the purpose of this class and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.11	4.00	5.56%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	38.89%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.06	4.00	5.56%	5.56%	5.56%	44.44%	38.89%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.39	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	5.56%	27.78%	61.11%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.00	4.00	5.56%	5.56%	16.67%	27.78%	44.44%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.11	4.00	5.56%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	38.89%
I felt respected in this class.	4.44	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	61.11%
I felt comfortable expressing my ideas freely in this class.	4.33	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	61.11%
Overall, this was an excellent class.	4.17	4.00	5.56%	0.00%	11.11%	38.89%	44.44%

Additional comments about the class:

Comment
The exams were difficult, especially in terms of time constraints
Difficult. Third year biz-con. Professor is extremely awesome, extremely nice. Homeworks are graded very nicely. 75% grade is midterm and final, these are harder exams
Overall great class. If you need a requirement for BusEcon, do not hesitate to take this class.
Professor Galvez-Soriano is so nice and supportive, it makes the class more enjoyable
Professor was awesome and super nice.
Love the professor, he is really kind and super willing to meet outside of class. When I was sick, he did Zoom OH with me, which was appreciated. The class is hard tho and I scored poorly on the midterm and final haha so don't take it if you aren't either strong in data analysis or willing to take a hit to your GPA. Midterm average was 71% and final average was 78%.
Best class to choose for macro elective. Professor Soriano is extremely caring and wants everyone to succeed, would highly recommend taking this class

I would recommend this class to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	16.67%	83.33%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comment
Lectures were useful to solidify concepts. He doesn't post handwritten notes afterwards so coming to class is critical.
We are always encouraged to ask questions, which is the most helpful part. Some of the derivations can be tough, but having a more interactive lecture is nice
Oscar is my favorite professor at UChicago. He is such a great lecturer, and he really cares that we learn. He is so available outside of class, and he genuinely wants his students to succeed. Don't be scared by low midterm/final exam scores—he curves generously at the end of the quarter. His lectures are very engaging, and he explains concepts more clearly than any other professor I've had at UChicago. His ability to reach students by breaking down complex macro topics is extraordinary. I would take every Econ course with him if I could.
Lectures and excitement
Lectures
The lectures were great
Lectures
Was amazing at giving lectures and always came in with a positive attitude and a smile...went a long way and made me feel comfortable with tough concepts.
Office hours and lectures.
His ability to break down complex topics and explain them very intuitively was really helpful. He also has a great sense of humor and is very personable!
he was very willing to explain concepts and go over questions outside of class. It's also clear that the professor is very passionate and knowledgeable about the material.
Clear examples
Professor Galvez Soriano exudes such enthusiasm about the course content that it is infectious. He genuinely wants to help you succeed and learn. He thinks highly of his student's abilities but also meets them at their level. His energy makes him one of the favourite profs I've had at this school.
The professor uses a lot of graphs and real-world examples to help us understand the theory. Also, he writes notes and shows the calculations step by step. These are really helpful.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comment
The exam format was just way too tight. We had such little time to complete hefty questions and I feel it wasn't an accurate reflection of our learning (especially since exams are such a big part of the grade).
Add more p-sets out for the material in the second half of the course
Easier midterm, average was sub-50 and hardly anyone finished
lecture slides difficult to go back & understand when studying for exams because some material intentionally not included to encourage students to come to lecture
Make the homeworks more relevant to exams
Nothing he was great.
The final had several questions on topics that were not covered much at all during lectures, so making the final closer to what we learnt in class time would be appreciated.
Nothing, he's an amazing professor
he gives extra credit for in-class participation and, as someone who personally had a hard time grasping the material (especially during the beginning), I wish he took into account participation outside of class (like office hours for example) because there were many times I was just too confused to answer his in-class questions
Add more to the slides sometimes, it can be hard to keep up with what you're saying and details for notes
Nothing. It is already good enough.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the class clearly.	4.50	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	5.56%	16.67%	72.22%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.50	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	27.78%	66.67%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.56	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	72.22%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.39	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	11.11%	16.67%	66.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.61	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	77.78%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the class content.	4.39	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	11.11%	16.67%	66.67%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.65	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	77.78%	5.56%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.50	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	27.78%	66.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.61	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	77.78%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.44	5.00	5.56%	0.00%	5.56%	22.22%	66.67%	0.00%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comment
Javier Gutierrez
Javier
Javier was a great TA and helped teach regressions and modeling in his TA session, as well as helped put together additional study materials for us.
Javier was super nice and tried very hard.
Javier Gutierrez
Dicussions were helpful for exam preparation and he went out of his way to offer extra help, really great TA!
Javier Gutierrez. Javier seems like a nice guy and he makes himself available, but I don't think he was a good TA. His explanations were confusing, and I felt like the discussion sessions were a waste of time.
Javier Gutierrez. The TA holds discussion sessions outside regular lecture classes. He teaches us hou to create graphs and answers our questions regarding the mock tests. There's nothing he can do to improve; it's already good enough.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	3.80	4.50	9.09%	9.09%	18.18%	9.09%	45.45%	9.09%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.10	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	27.27%	0.00%	54.55%	9.09%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.00	5.00	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	10.00%	50.00%	10.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	5.00	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	10.00%	50.00%	10.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.00	5.00	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	10.00%	50.00%	10.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.33	5.00	10.00%	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	70.00%	10.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.50	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	50.00%	0.00%

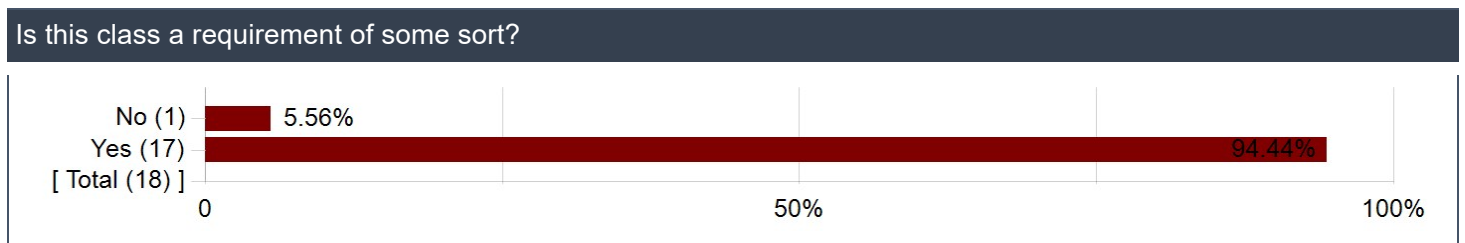
How much did the following elements of the class contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

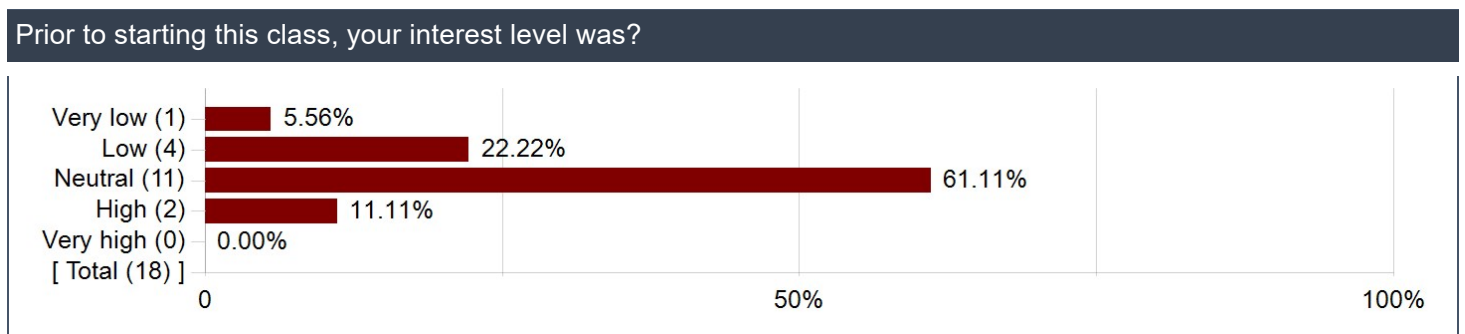
Other class elements not mentioned above:

Comment
Discussion session

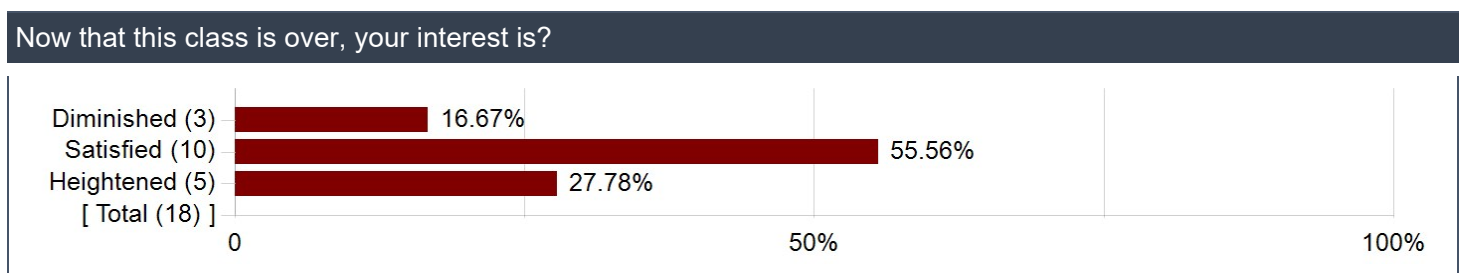
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



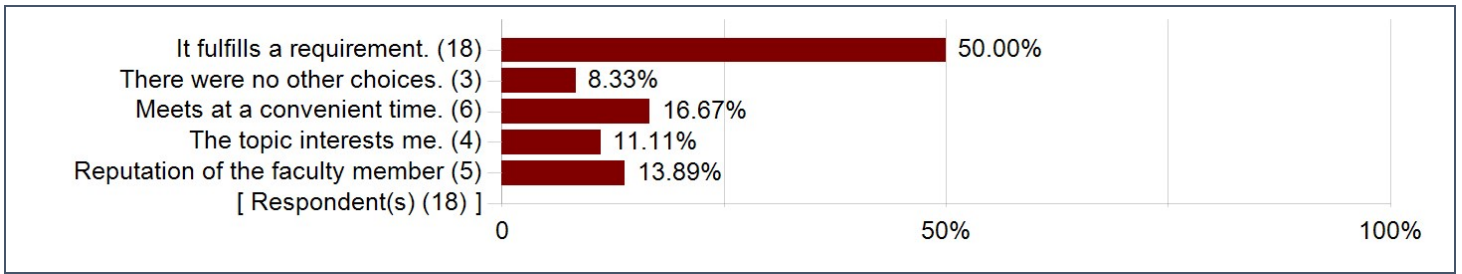
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?

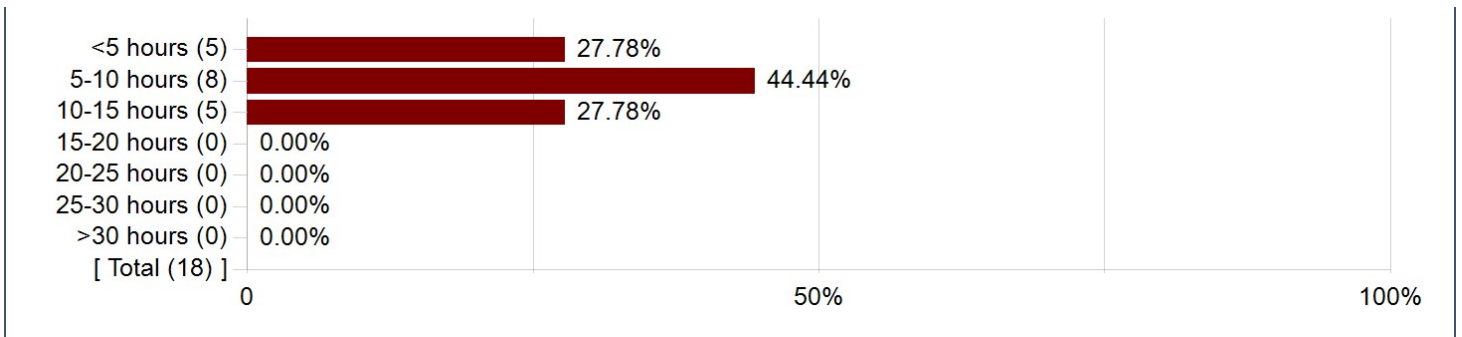


Why did you choose to take this class? (Select all that apply)



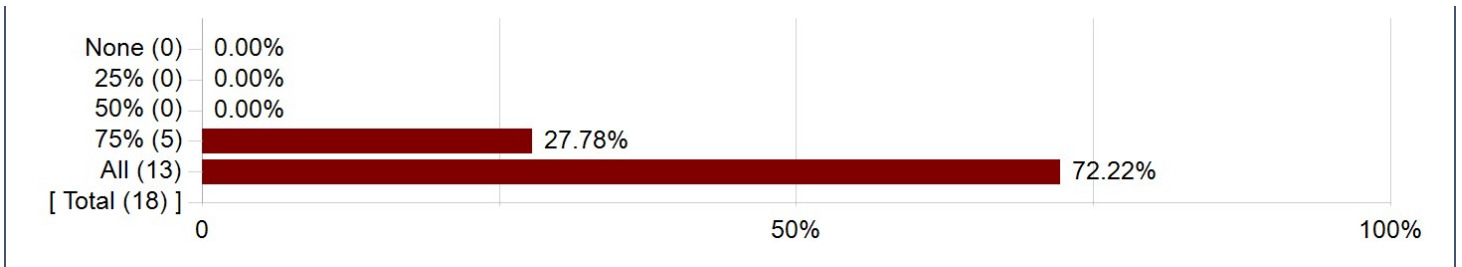
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this class?

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this class?



What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the class relative to your background and experience.

Comment
Fairly difficult. Having penalization structure and little time made the exams especially hard
Somewhat difficult, but rewarding
SUPER HARD, but I also really dislike macro
This class is very difficult.
Difficult course from a third-year bizcon. Took this as macro methods. Exams are going to be your entire grade. Midterm was difficult, but was curved. Generally, curve is very nice
Not too difficult. Very similar to principles of macro
If you go to office hours and ask questions, the material is very consumable, although there is a good amount of memorization required
Good macromethod to take.
I found this class really difficult. I am not strong in math or data analysis, I took this class because it was a requirement. Pretty sure I will get a B- or a C+. Don't take this class if you're not strong in data analysis.
Moderately difficult. The exams can be a bit challenging but overall the class is very doable
as a biz econ and llo major, I honestly struggled to grasp the content, especially in the first half of the course. The midterm median score was in the 60s, and I barely scored above the median. The second half felt less confusing (maybe the content was just finally setting in for me haha), and I ended scoring above the upper quartile for the final. There are practice quizzes that are helpful. The psets took me a really long time, though, and I spent a lot of time studying for the exams. In terms of whether I recommend taking this course, I think it is a potential consideration for the macro requirement for the econ major because I do think I learned a lot, but it was difficult. The professor is super nice and knowledgeable, and genuinely takes the time to work through problems and is very transparent about how to prepare for the exams.
The course has a medium level of difficulty. The tests are not easy.