

Brown University
Summer 2021 Course Feedback



Course: Summer2021MPA2455/2460: MPA2455/2460 Summer21 Economics for Public Policy-S02
Instructor: John Friedman
TA: Ilise Hamilton, Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia *, Darius Diamond, Michael Bonitati, Emma Caviness, Yinyuo Huang, Fiona Kastel, Olivia Whalen
Response Rate: 83/104 (79.81 %)

Question		5	4	3	2	1	0	B1	B2	B3	Mean	Std	Median
My teaching assistant (Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia): was consistently prepared.	n	38	9	1	0	0	0	4.52	4.51	4.48	4.77	0.47	5.00
	%	79.17%	18.75%	2.08%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%						
My teaching assistant (Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia): effectively engaged students (e.g. encouraged student participation; was responsive to questions; offered opportunities for discussion in pairs or small groups).	n	39	8	1	0	0	0	4.45	4.40	4.49	4.79	0.46	5.00
	%	81.25%	16.67%	2.08%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%						
My teaching assistant (Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia): was responsive to students (e.g. was available during office hours; was responsive to questions; was responsive to requests to meet).	n	38	10	0	0	0	0	4.52	4.52	4.50	4.79	0.41	5.00
	%	79.17%	20.83%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%						
My teaching assistant (Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia): made content clear and understandable.	n	35	13	0	0	0	0	4.45	4.44	4.44	4.73	0.45	5.00
	%	72.92%	27.08%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%						
My teaching assistant (Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia): provided clear feedback on assignments that improved my learning.	n	33	12	2	0	0	0	4.43	4.35	4.37	4.66	0.56	5.00
	%	70.21%	25.53%	4.26%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%						
My teaching assistant (Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia): Overall, I rate this teaching assistant as effective.	n	36	12	0	0	0	0	4.47	4.44	4.44	4.75	0.44	5.00
	%	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%						

Scale: 5 = Strongly Agree , 4 = Agree , 3 = Neutral , 2 = Disagree , 1 = Strongly Disagree , 0 = N/A
 B1 = Brown University, B2 = Division, B3 = Department

What has been particularly effective about Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia's approach to teaching in this course?

- Well-prepared
- His approachability
- Effective in teaching content.
- his persistence to make sure everyone was keeping up with the course
- lecture
- -
- He has a knack for simply explaining concepts.
- Awesome review sessions!
- Really relaxed and always willing to go over questions! Explains things well.
- He's nice, welcoming, and great at simplifying complex concepts. He's also funny and has great hair.
- Joao was awesome! Always willing to go the extra mile to make sure I understood stuff
- Very responsive and his review sessions are really helpful
- He explains things well and slower in his review sessions so that everyone can understand
- Joao is awesome. He really breaks down the challenging content to make it understandable. It's also really validating to have a TA who is willing to express how difficult the content is at times.
- His review sessions were a huge part of why I did so well in semester one. He knows how to explain things simply and is unbelievably patient.
- Joao made his review sessions very clear and understandable. His review sessions really helped me to understand the material more in depth. Also, he was extremely helpful and patient with questions always.
- Joao is fantastic in ever way
- Joao was willing to dedicate time to any topics students wanted
- He was absolutely the best of them all.
- He was honestly such an amazing and integral part of this course. He really helped reinforce our learning by hosting weekly review sessions and going out of his way to spend even more time preparing us for exams and what not. One of the best TAs I've had at Brown.
- Like the way he provided alternative explanations of the material
- He was patient.

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What specific advice would you have for Joao Marcos Bastos Vilar Garcia about changes that would enhance your learning?

- good
- To have more office hours if possible.
- He should make sure to move along the material and not focus on 1 or 2 peoples questions. Also ensuring that slides have correct information!
- don't answer every single students questions during review sessions; ask them to come back during OH's
- n/a
- -
- NIL
- Joao is excellent!
- More in-person opportunities, if possible. Writing on the slides doesn't work that well
- He's very good at math. As a result, he does that math pretty quickly and in his head sometimes. It can be hard to follow.
- N/A he was great!
- While Joao is very helpful and fosters a supportive environment, I think he answers too many very basic questions in his review sessions. There were a few students who would ask a lot of basic questions on early class material that Joao would have to rush through the later material. I believe these students should have gone to office hours to help their understanding on these early/basic topics, especially since I believe that the review sessions were created so that the majority of the class would benefit, not just the few.
- I do not have any further advice.
- Allowing for more specific assignment feedback would have been preferred.
- Not much, honestly
- During review sessions, limit questions if the same people are constantly interjecting. Not doing so causes us to have to speed through some of the more difficult concepts
- No specific advice to give.