

TEACHING STATEMENT AND EVALUATIONS

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY MONICA MOSES, PH.D. CANDIDATE

ECONOMICS

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Over my five years as a doctoral student, West Virginia University has offered me a unique assistantship opportunity where I have had the chance to teach various classes from intermediate macroeconomics to graduate micro theory for over four years now. At a large, top tier research university like West Virginia, many of our classes are largely lecture based with one hundred students plus. Since the beginning of COVID, many of our courses have had to convert to online and asynchronous. Teaching has largely been a learning experience over the years; much of which I have had to respond in a dynamic nature. Coming from a smaller division three, liberal arts college, my classes and learning experiences there were incredibly different than that of an undergraduate student at West Virginia University. I wanted to find a way to incorporate that critical student-teacher interaction and feedback I saw in my small undergraduate courses, which I believe was one critical key to effective learning, into a large or online classroom. Connecting with my students, making them feel respected, encouraged, heard and supported in the classroom has been my biggest strategy in teaching effectiveness. I offer not only time before and after class time, but multiple office hours where students are free to come to me with just about anything they could need help and/or resources with. I find that giving students the benefit of the doubt, giving them a hand if they are struggling, reaching out when assignments go missing a few too many times in a row really can mean more to them than we think.

Tables 1–4 summarize my official TA evaluations; full evaluations available upon request.

TABLE 1: Teaching Experience with Full Instruction Responsibility

ECON	Level	Description	Semester
ECON465	BA	Health Economics	Upcoming spring '22
Math Camp	PhD	Math Econ Bootcamp for incoming PhD students	Summer '20, '21, '22
ECON200	BA	Survey of Economics	Fall '21, Fall '22
ECON201	BA	Principles of Microeconomics (Honors)	Spring '22
ECON302	BA	Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory	Fall '20

TABLE 2: Teaching Experience with Co-Instruction Responsibility

ECON	Level	Description	Semester
ECON593	MA/PHD	Education and Labor	Summer '21
ECON201	BA	Introductory Econometrics	Spring '21
ECON701	MA/PHD	Adv. Principles of Microeconomic Theory	Fall '19
ECON202	BA	Macroeconomic Principles	Spring '19
ECON225	BA	Business Statistics	Fall '18

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TABLE 3: Summary of evaluations from students.

Class Type	Course	Quality		Teaching	
		Semester/Year	Avg. (out of 5)	<i>n</i>	Avg. (out of 5)
Asynchronous	302-Adv. Macro Theory	Fall '20	3.93	23	3.913
Asynchronous	200-Survey of Econ	Fall '21	4.13	27	4.48
In-Person Lecture	201-Micro Theory	Spring '22	4.51	15	4.613
Asynchronous	200-Survey of Econ	Fall '22	<i>Evaluations not yet tabulated</i>		

<sup>a</sup> Quality: an average of evaluation questions asking about quality of overall course: relatedness, usefulness, learning measures

<sup>b</sup> Teaching Effectiveness: created from an average of the following evaluation questions:

<sup>1</sup> Q.1: Teacher fostered a positive learning environment    <sup>2</sup> Q.2: Teacher was well organized    <sup>3</sup> Q.3: Teacher provided helpful feedback

TABLE 4: Sample comments from evaluations

Commenter	Comment
STUDENT (ECON200)	Professor Moses was the best asset this course had. She is a great professor who truly cares for her students and wants them to succeed. She was readily available to discuss course material or any other issues.
STUDENT (ECON 201)	Our professor is particularly upbeat and cheerful. She seems filled with enthusiasm, and that makes a world of difference in the uptake of students. By simply maintaining a bright and cheery demeanor, it makes participation in the class much more enjoyable, and in my experience, promotes the uptake of information.
STUDENT (ECON 302)	Professor Moses kept in constant contact and was very awesome as an online instructor. The research and discussion boards were great.
STUDENT (ECON 701)	Empathy. Monica was very down to earth about the material, especially given that she was in the class just about a year ago. When some concepts were inherently more difficult than others, she did a great job to reassure all students about any materials
STUDENT from (ECON 701)	I love her passion and teaching methods.