

## YSS3255-INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (SEMINAR-STYLE COURSE CLASS)

2023/2024 Semester 2 | Stephen Monroe

### Teaching Score Analysis

#### Response Rate

Raters	Student
Responded	19
Invited	21
Response Ratio	90.48%

### Quantitative

#### Overall Mean Score

Competency	Course Score
Overall Mean - Courses	4.84
Overall - Teacher	4.88

#### Breakdown Mean Score for each statement (Courses)

	# Response	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable	Standard Deviation	Mean
The course was effectively organized.	19	0	0	0	4	15	0	0.42	4.79
The course clearly articulated objectives and expectations.	19	0	0	0	1	18	0	0.23	4.95
The course assignments helped me learn.	19	0	0	0	4	15	0	0.42	4.79

#### Breakdown Mean Score for each statement (Teachers)

	# Response	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable	Standard Deviation	Mean
The instructor helped me understand course materials and concepts.	19	0	1	0	0	18	0	0.69	4.84
The instructor encouraged student participation and/or engagement.	19	0	0	0	0	19	0	0.00	5.00
The instructor provided constructive feedback on my work.	19	0	0	0	0	19	0	0.00	5.00
The instructor was helpful outside of class.	19	1	0	0	2	16	0	0.95	4.68



## Course Comments

### What were the main concepts and skills you learned in this course?

Comments
The first half of the class was focused on understanding what development was before the second half of the class after recess week focused on developmental issues. I felt that I was exposed to the interconnected nature of development and the often contrasting approaches the individuals or groups adopt to solve the issue.
Different international development issue areas
I learned how to analyze different developmental issues of countries and how complex they can be.
I learned about the nuanced definition of development and how development is so multi-faceted and not just limited to growth in GDP.
I learned how to do a bunch of really helpful quantitative coding which I otherwise definitely would not have grasped.
Development factors
Quantitative measurement of development and linking that to a qualitatively-determined causal mechanism or story. I feel like I finally understood how the quantitative and qualitative side of studies are formed together, and I could actually write a GA research paper. Prof is generally excellent at teaching the skills behind good research. Kudos.
Made my regression skills better. Helped me understand concepts about International Development better for future development related study
Conceptualising development in different ways, quantitatively and qualitatively. Working together as a group and taking into account different working styles/personalities in numerous group activities/projects.
From the methods breaks, I learnt a lot of different methods that I can use in my papers (I actually learnt more and found the class a lot more useful than methods of social sciences!). Other than these skills, I learnt a lot about regression tables, and especially a lot about development, and diving into an area in which I have never thought would be so deep and insightful. There are so many concepts I learnt that it's impossible to list it down; but one of the most insightful ones was the Blattman reading on war and violence.
I learned methods to measure development and the different ways that development looks like depending on the context and time that we study. I learned to present more efficiently and to write more concisely.
As an anthropology major, I don't always have the opportunity to take a more rigorous and empirics-based approach to research. I really appreciated being able to do that in this class, as well as learn more about how to carry out quantitative research and gain confidence in doing it, which I think will serve me well for future projects. I also enjoyed engaging with a range of case studies from regions across the world.
This course was a great basic crash course on development as a whole. I learned about critical junctures, definitions of development, and case studies from developing countries. I appreciated the holistic view of multiple concepts such as gender, corruption, education, aid etc.
mostly quantitative stuff related to r. I used to be very scared of doing anything quantitative since I haven't done it since QR, but working on the class assignments and projects has helped me to gain confidence with quantitative analysis.
I feel I learned a fair amount of quantitative skills related to analysing academic papers in political science and global affairs. Also, the class discussions illuminated differing perspectives in development issues.
I developed strong theoretical understanding of problems of development and how to do research and ask questions about underdevelopment. I understood how to read a regression table, understand variables, and question hypotheses or find limitations of quantitative studies. I have a much stronger understanding of the kinds of problems of underdevelopment, factors that contribute to it, and ways to comprehend it.
Familiarising myself with quantitative analysis is definitely the biggest take-away I have from this course.
The dominant theories and discourses of development from institutional models to conceptions of development as freedom etc, its application to a variety of subfields such as foreign aid, healthcare, and corruption. Critical thinking on the successes and failures of these paradigms to these topics. Most importantly, the creation and evaluation of quantitative data relating to development
Different developmental challenges and questions; groupwork and collaboration.

**What helped you learn? Please provide examples such as reading materials, activities, assignments, and the instructor's distinctive teaching methods.**

Comments
I loved how prof would divide the admittedly large class up for discussions and debate. I also appreciated how prof took feedback midway through the course on his own accord. Prof had a structured way of approaching each class by ensuring that a variety of topics were covered from methods to case studies and presentations.
Lectures were helpful
The class activities and conversations helped me learn.
I like how Prof sends out the slides before class.
I think the methods sessions were really helpful.
Do reading
Prof Monroe's methods breaks were extremely instructive and helpful.
Gave a lot of exercises and deadlines throughout the sem that made it impossible to lose focus and constantly helped with remembering what happened in the previous week
Slides from the instructor were very structured and organised, which helped compartmentalize learning effectively. The instructor is also very helpful during office hours and is always willing to help.
The presentations is a key factor that helped me learn. By focusing more on extensions and limitations, it forced me to critically think about the piece, and I really appreciate the push towards critical thinking. The various class activities were also really helpful and enjoyable to partake in, helping me link the various concepts to real-worldness.
The activities that helped me learn best were the student presentations because it allowed me to delve deeper into a specific case study and to understand the nuances better, as well as to hear from my classmates and learn from their presentations too. The class town-hall was also extremely insightful.
In-class activities such as with R that forced me to learn new skills that I would otherwise feel daunted by, and an environment where everyone was encouraged to speak. Also appreciated Prof keeping a check on making sure no one was texting/browsing other websites whilst in class, as it kept me accountable. Prof is very deliberate in his teaching, coming to class every seminar with an established set of aims/outcomes, which made me want to put in more effort and utilise each minute of class to the fullest.
I learned best when we were given real-life case studies to analyze in groups. I appreciated the activities where we had to take on the perspectives of different stakeholders and assess issues from that lens. I also liked it when Prof showed us videos in class. As a visual learner, this helped me stay engaged and helped me absorb the content better.
i liked the mini activities during class, like the town hall or group discussions. i feel like i engage so much more with the readings during the activities than a traditional lecture
I feel like the Methods Break part of the class was really helpful. The Professor was clearly very prepared for each lesson and the presentations he gave were clear. However, the course readings were not easily accessible, which is not a problem I had with any of my other courses. The assignments were often interesting and certainly engaged me into deeper thinking, although I feel the presentations were way too hard.
The class activities were diverse, including discussions, questions, debates, videos, analysis, coding, and townhall simulations. These activities were very active and thought-stimulating. Our activities were also based on real-life readings, materials, and policies, and the professor always asked critical and evaluative questions. We also had many opportunities to present on our answers in groups, which helped me organize my thoughts and better present under time and human resource constraints.
Prof Monroe's slides were always clear and effective. I appreciated that they were shared the night before because it enabled me to guide my headspace toward what would be discussed in class. There were always group activities and discussions sprinkled into the lecture, which allowed me to synthesize what I was learning from my readings and also gave a change of pace. Prof Monroe also mandated at least one session of office hours, which showed that he valued 1-on-1 student-focused learning. I think this was conducive to my learning.
robust In-class discussions, group activities where we have to apply concepts to case studies, and class assignments where we have to evaluate/ run data analysis. I think the class is well structured as i mentioned we started with theories and then we went into specific cases, additionally, there is a wide variety of texts from academic to generally accessible books. Well structured, great content, good dynamics, helpful professor
Reading materials were broad and diverse, touching on a variety of developmental challenges with a multidisciplinary angle

**Please elaborate on your previous responses or address other issues such as class dynamics or atmosphere.**

Comments
Hi Prof if you see this then you probably know who I am but I felt that the R skills that were taught simply covered those in QR / Methods in the social sciences. There should be a deeper emphasis on R skills and perhaps making nice balance tables
Learning curve for quantitative aspect of country group report was steep, for conceptual and coding dimensions; felt unprepared and reliant on people in group who understood quantitative
I think the class environment was very welcoming as everyone was encouraged to participate without judgement.
Class dynamics is great!
The class dynamic was really lively. I enjoyed it very much
Its more interesting if we dedicate some weeks learning about development cases as a whole rather than by topic For example, how rwanda rebuilds itself after genocide. Then talk about various factors like gender, health, corruption in rwanda. This way, we can see the application more concretely
NA
Class dynamic was active and participatory. Prof was insightful and helped harness our skills rigourously
The instructor is able to create an easygoing atmosphere in class which allows students to freely express their opinions without fear. The instructor also encourages active participation from the entire class without exerting too much pressure on students.
I really liked the class dynamics; the myriad of class activities and group work that we undertake allowed me to get to know my peers a lot better, and I honestly really enjoyed this class.
The class dynamics were great! I learned a lot from my peers and most of this was due to Prof Monroes encouragement for class participation and meaningful engagement.
N/A
I greatly appreciated Prof Monroe's encouraging attitude and happy demeanor. He never made me feel like my answers were dumb and encouraged participation from everyone in the class, not just certain voices. I also liked how he would mix us up in class to avoid sticking with the same small groups when engaging in discussions. I learned more in this class because of Prof's positive attitude.
I really enjoy his pedagogy. i'm quite quiet in class and it takes a while for me to work up the courage to speak. i like that he doesn't try to fill in the silence, but gives time for people like me to work up the courage to speak up. he also knows who speaks up more, so when multiple hands are raised he chooses the students who haven't spoke as much.
I enjoyed the fact that the professor tried to engage the class in discussions, but sometimes I did feel like the Professor was annoyed or disappointed when I spoke up. Otherwise, I liked the small group discussions.
The class discussions were always very active and participation-heavy. The professor always did his best to make sure everyone got a chance to express their opinions and diversify the questions asked.
The class atmosphere always felt very safe. I felt encouraged to speak up and affirmed when I did. I also appreciated that Prof Monroe was able to navigate class dynamics to ensure there were not overly dominating voices in the discussion and we could hear from everyone in the class. About the broader atmosphere, it was positively quick-paced. I always felt engaged and there wasn't a lull in my attention.
Professor Monroe creates an extremely encouraging and safe atmosphere, he is extremely helpful and gives great comments. Great class in general
Class is very proactive and responsive but this sometimes discourages me from speaking. Feels like we have to compete to speak at times. But otherwise class is engaging

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**Custom Course Comments (if any)**