Yale University

Online Course Evaluation

eval summary   view by respondent   view by question   instructor comments

EVALUATION SUMMARY

ENROLLED: **117**
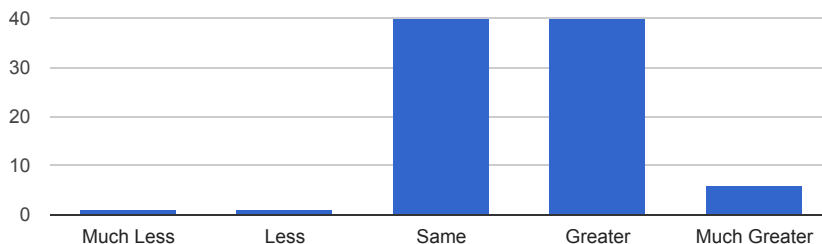
RESPONSES: **101**

DECLINED: **5**

NO RESPONSE: **11**

	Term	Course	Title	Enrolled
1	2015 - Fall	ECON 131 01	Econometrics & Data Analysis I	117

Graph view: Bars Vertical

Q:
Overall, how would you rate the workload of this course in comparison to other Yale courses you have taken? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed by Yale College students, faculty, and advisers to aid in course selection and evaluating teaching.)*

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Q:
What is your overall assessment of this course? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed by Yale College students, faculty, and advisers to aid in course selection and evaluating teaching.)*
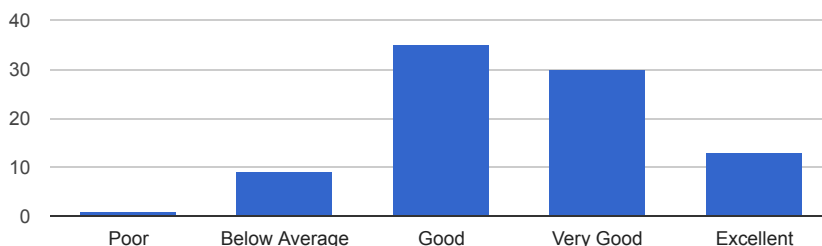
Instructor: Douglas McKee

Q:
Do you expect to use this class for credit toward your major, or toward a pre-professional program? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed by Yale College students, faculty, and advisers to aid in course selection and evaluating teaching.)*
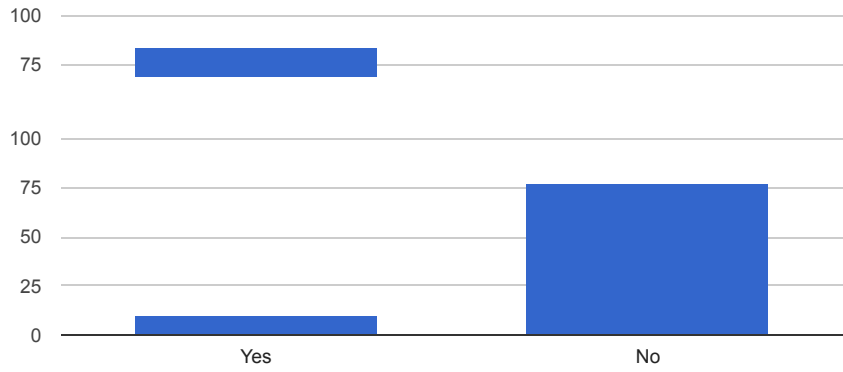
Instructor: Douglas McKee

Q:
Do you expect to use this class for credit toward the Yale College distributional requirements? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed only by your instructor(s) and your teaching assistant, and by administrators responsible for evaluating their teaching.)*

Instructor: Douglas McKee

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Online Course Evaluations

2015 - Fall

Chair
ECON 131 01
Econometrics & Data Analysis I

Q:

Looking back on **ECON 131 01**, what is your overall assessment of the course? What are its strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might it be improved? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed only by your instructor(s) and by administrators responsible for evaluating their teaching.)*

Responses:

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

 I didn't like the course. McKee was passionate, but by trying a lot of new things (group projects, clickers for attendance, etc.) he made the course annoying, and a lot more work than seemed necessary.

Declined to Answer

Difficult and comprehensive

 Lectures for this course could have been better structured. There was a heavy focus on practical applications but it would have been helpful to get an overview of the method, what it is used for, when you use it, and why you use it before jumping into examples. I lost the method in the application and didn't learn when you use each one. Additionally, the project is a great idea in theory but felt disjointed from the class and would have benefited from more guidance.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

 Practical introduction to econometrics; runs through AP Stat curriculum and teaches you about regression. Fairly dry, but Doug is a great instructor who cares a lot about his students. Lectures are recorded and attendance isn't required, and instructors are fairly responsive on Piazza. (And it's required for the Econ major, so if you're taking it you likely don't have a choice.)

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

It was fun and informative for a required course.

Declined to Answer

Best of the required econ classes. First applied econ course, which was refreshing.

Declined to Answer

I think that this course is very well taught and doesn't have a lot it needs to improve on. It provides ample assistance to students, aside from the resources such as posted class lectures and slides. It is material, especially that of the second half of the course, that can be very complicated, but the professor does an excellent job at breaking it down for students to understand. One of the best, most organized and structured lectures I've taken at Yale thus far.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

I was frustrated with some parts of the class leading up to the midterm because the psets were very difficult, but I wound up loving this class. Doug is awesome, helpful, and his excitement about the material made me very excited about it. I noticed though that the psets before the midterm, while being difficult, made me feel better about the material leading up to the midterm because I felt like I had worked very hard to get it but now had a better understanding. The second half of the class seems to lose some rigor and may expect a bit less of us but also doesn't work us as hard so I didn't feel as comfortable with this material.

Declined to Answer

The first half of the semester moved slowly than the second half. Attendance for lecture was very low, but I found it worth attending.

Declined to Answer

I thought the workload was heavy, with the quizzes and the problem sets and the project. I thought the course was well taught but it could have been more focused on problem'solving and clear methods of interpretation.

Would not have taken if it was not a requirement. First half of the course is definitely a lot easier if you have a Stats background, so get some exposure before starting the class. The course could have been better if the lectures weren't all so long for each day. It is a lot of material to absorb and would be better if it was broken down more in smaller portions. The psets for the latter half of the course were not representative of the exam at all and that was really discouraging. It would be helpful if there were more practice exams so study from and the psets were less about Stata and more actual hand problems like the exam. Also I think it would be a lot more helpful to reinforce concepts if there were 2 midterms and 1 final along with the group project. That would be better for grade distribution and help students see where they are at with the material.

This class was tough. It was stressful. I felt a lot of the time that I was sort of drowning and there was no way to really get out of it. Yet I knew too that what I was learning was real and important and useful and actually sometimes even fun. And I also knew that the professor (though he may seriously overestimate our abilities, competence, and understanding at times), is very much one who cares about teaching. I was one of the many "video watchers" for most of this semester, watching the recorded lecture online rather than attending class. I did not really do this by choice, but rather by necessity. I did not feel that it was possible to keep up. Any student who needs to take notes to comprehend (most of us?) will be hard pressed to absorb the material in lecture because it is simply flashed by too quickly. Yes, it may only take us 20 seconds to read what is on the slide, but it takes longer to write any of it down, and much longer for us to fully understand it once we do. I felt, sadly, that the fact that the slides were posted and the lecture was recorded was used as an excuse for going through things too quickly. I would have loved to be a regular attender. But the pace was too much for me to survive in real time.

Very well taught with great technology integration. Recorded lectures helped with conflicts and with review.

A tough class, definitely helpful if you have taken another Stats course, AP Stat was enough for me. Professor McKee is a phenomenal instructor, probably the best Economics professor I have had so far at Yale. If you have to take this class for the Econ major, I would recommend waiting until the semester that Professor McKee is teaching.

Econometrics was a tough class, but I learned quite a bit. Professor McKee is very committed to making sure that his class is an effective learning environment, and I enjoyed his teaching style. Lectures were pretty fasted paced, so it was hard to follow them throughout the class period. Thankfully they were recorded and posted online, which allowed us to pause the video and take notes. The problem sets were difficult and time consuming, but they really helped us to learn the material. The group project was the smoothest group project that I've ever had at Yale. My group was full of hard workers, and we consistently met for an hour almost every week from the very beginning for about an hour each some (sometimes a little more/less depending on how soon the next portion of the project was due). Our hard work paid off, though, because we scored very well (Thanks, Michael). There are few cons to this course other than the fact that it is difficult and time consuming. Doug is a great professor, and Michael Puempel was a great TA. I can't say I enjoyed the class, but it definitely helped me to boost my quantitive skills and added a few tools to my toolbox.

Declined to Answer

This was such a great class! In our very first lecture, Professor McKee told us he wished econometrics were a class every college student would take, because it really gives you a toolset that applies so well to daily life. That's definitely been true. Everything we've learned, from probability to stats to multiple regression, directly tackles real-world questions that our intuitions often get wrong. I'd never taken a stats class or anything similar before this one, so I was amazed at most of the things we learned, and I really loved all the hands-on applications.

Declined to Answer

This course is quite demanding, requires quizes, mid&final exams, problem sets, team projects, etc. However, this is why this course really improves your abilities in Econometrics.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Great course with a lot of real-world problems and data.

Declined to Answer

Econ 131 is an excellent course that covers very important materials. I love how it was centered on application and how we worked with real data. However, I felt like the second half of the course covered too much information with little depth that would have ensured everyone really understood the concepts. This could be improved with many many more practice problems and less labs in section. In light of this, having video lectures were a blessing. If I had been sick and missed a lecture, it would have been very difficult to understand the material without the videos. Also, having the final group project due during reading week when all I really wanted to do was actually study was a bit annoying, but on the other hand, reading week was probably the best time when all of my group could meet up and spend a decent amount of time working on the project.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

It would have been great to have been provided a formula sheet that contains every formula we might need throughout the course. It would be monumentally helpful to have used this sheet throughout the year to better understand when and why we use certain formulas. It would also be great if practice problems in class were more consistent (perhaps 2 every lecture) and were directly relevant to test questions (and therefore not too easy or too hard). You were a great teacher, but a lot of the class was disorganized, as certain problem sets had questions that weren't directly addressed in lecture.

Boring subject material

Declined to Answer

I think Doug is a really passionate teacher who WANTS to help his students in any way possible. I was grateful for all the resources he provided, but I just felt lost at so many points in the course. Unfortunately, the lecture format isn't very cohesive and sometimes, it felt like I had to stop and try to piece together how everything was connected (which took a lot of time/was quite frustrating). I think the material in this course is incredibly relevant and I'm so glad to have been exposed to topics that spanned probability and regression theory. AT the same time, I felt that the stata component wasn't taught well enough, there were few opportunities to really practice what we were learning, and not enough time to review/synthesize concepts.

I really enjoyed this course. I came in without any formal statistics background and I found it easy to understand the material throughout the semester. The biggest flaw for the course is that it felt like the second half of the course was less structured and organized compared to the first. It felt a lot more rushed and things could have been explained better and more clearly.

While ECON 131 was an enjoyable econometrics class, the teaching strategy was not always effective. The biggest issue was that Professor Mckee would often spend very little time on large, important concepts and then spend much more time on smaller details. That said, he is a very engaging lecturer. The tests and problem sets are fair, although the final for my class (Fall 2015) was very hard.

Declined to Answer

Overall, I enjoyed this class. I sometimes found lectures to be confusing and problem sets to be more difficult than expected. The online quizzes helped me to stay on top of the materials throughout the term, but I wish there had been some sort of an alert or reminder system. Many students, myself included, often forgot to do this online quiz because it was due on a day we do not have a lecture.

This course is necessary for any Econ major and the material is not particularly interesting. Only take it if you need it for your major.

The video recording system is really helpful if you are motivated to keep up with the material, but I could see it being problematic for students who procrastinate and get behind. The resources for the this course were really nice and were always made available to us very promptly. The class used technology really effectively. Overall, the logistics of this course were the best I have seen for a Yale course and should act as a model for all other Yale courses.

Overall, I think this is a good course. My general frustration centers on the fact that the teaching in lecture is to a significantly lower level than that expected in PSETs and exams. I think the lectures should be to a more rigorous standard if that is what is expected in exams.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Difficult and challenging

Econ 131 was a very interesting course, and taught very well.

Declined to Answer

I like the integration of research project into the learning process, but the research seems to be separate from other parts of the learning experience. I would suggest talking more about the research in lecture or section so we are on the same page of it. Also, I see the instructor's willingness to hear from the students and have lunch with us, but I still feel only those who are very devoted would reach out to him.

It's very messy, with weekly quiz, group project, psets, mid term and final. It could have been more organized.

Good, and perhaps more importantly, useful course, especially for economics majors or anyone interested in data analysis. First half of the course covers basic statistical tests (z, t, chi-squared), while second half focuses on designing regression analyses. Both were fairly easy for me, though this may have to do with the fact that I've taken a couple basic stats classes before. Still, most that have any background in statistics, even if its just AP stat will probably find class fairly easy (the first half is basically a review of AP stat.) A lot of people seemed very ill-prepared for the final, but this is probably because lecture attendance was extremely low - Prof McKee uploads all lectures online, so many people never go to class and plan on watching the lectures later. The problem is, its very easy to procrastinate catching up on lectures, so many people, myself included, ended up learning (or not learning) the entire second half of the course during reading week. Probably best to not do that, as I know a lot of people struggled with a very straightforward final

Declined to Answer

The course was a wonderful introduction to econometrics for me. I had not taken any statistics before and found myself lucky to have taken ECON 131 because it provides all the resources beginners need to begin econometric analysis. The recorded lectures, slides posted online, and the lab section were great aids. The material covered was just enough to challenge me but also concise enough to engage in applied learning projects during lab. The lab section was an essential part of the course giving real world application the material. It was clear that the professor put a lot of thought in making this course relevant to students. The empirical analysis project was also an important part of the course, but it was unclear at times what was expected of us. By providing sample empirical analyses, this could be made clearer. Also I felt that the midterm was too long and that given the time constraint, it was not an adequate measure of my abilities.

Declined to Answer

Good class, would be much better as a seminar.

This course really did a great job of showing the empirical evidence behind economic theory and was a fascinating look into statistical modeling, probability, and statistical inference. This course is so important for being able to read and understand any type of empirical study and provides the framework for students to conduct these types of studies themselves.

Declined to Answer

Wonderfully taught course although the material is boring.

Declined to Answer

Good class, major requirement

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

A great introduction to Econometrics. The class is well structured and helps us develop a series of useful skills including Stata. The workload is heavy though- with weekly quizzes, long p-sets and an empirical project. I also think the idea of a group project did not work very well, as not all members were equally committed, and a few groups had to change mid-semester due to drop outs. Either individual projects or accounting for these implementation challenges in future classes would be helpful.

Declined to Answer
___

Declined to Answer
___

 I actually think its a pretty strong class. I'm not an Economics major, but I learned a ton that's applicable to understanding the world around me. Much, much better than stats if you're looking for a QR. BUT THE GROUP PROJECT IS SO STUPID I HATED IT AND PEER ASSESSMENT MAKES NO SENSE
___

 The course was a good intro survey
___

Declined to Answer
___

 ECON 131 was a challenging and interesting course. One strength is its ability to make students feel more comfortable conversing in the language of economics research. Another strength is Professor McKee, who did a lot to help his students and get to know them. One weakness is that it seemed like the course often moved too fast and could have gone into more detail or done more examples. A possibility for improving the course would be to make it known that much of the material will be review for students who have taken AP Statistics, and other students may find this difficult.
___

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Interesting class which I enjoyed. Professor McKee is relatable and keeps that class both fun and informative.

I really enjoyed Econometrics. Professor McKee did a great job of making the class interesting, accessible, and applicable. Definitely one of the best classes I've taken at Yale.

Declined to Answer

Great class, very interesting topic and fun problems. Problem orientated learning is the best way to learn, and McKee is a friendly and dedicated professor.

The class was really well taught but more preparations could be given for midterms.

Declined to Answer

This course is a god introduction to statistics and regression. Some things that worked great: Canvas, Piazza, work with stata in section. Some things that could have been improved: the group project, the textbook, the second half of the semester psets (could have been harder and more relevant). The group project in particular was a total disaster. The questions selected were not great, working with others is a drag, particularly when you can really only have one person work on stata at once, and just the whole thing is a mess.

This course got better and better as the term went on and I thoroughly enjoyed it at the end! I am however frustrated when considering how much effort my group and I personally put into the group project when so many groups just got 100% anyway because the TA was marking so leniently.

Some lectures went too slow while others went too quickly perhaps spend less time on each example problem (especially if most people don't know what to do with it) but do a wider range of problems instead. Also maybe STAT10x should be a prerequisite for this class then we can do actual econometrics instead of leaving it all for the second half of the course.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Awesome course

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Pretty hard, classes are recorded but this is a trap for lazy people, go to class. It is actually pretty interesting, but I wouldn't recommend it to anyone outside the Econ degree.

I think the content of this course is very interesting, and I can see how it is very important in many careers. It is very powerful material, and Professor McKee genuinely cares about students understanding the topics. I think the course would benefit from eliminating the Stata portion of curriculum because at times it seemed like the Stata portion of the course could stand alone as its own class. It is important to be exposed to Stata, but I think this course would be served just as well if the students only and to interpret Stata results and not actually use the program.

Declined to Answer

Online Course Evaluations

2015 - Fall

Chair
ECON 131 01
Econometrics & Data Analysis I

Q:

Please evaluate **each instructor** of **ECON 131 01** . What are the instructor's strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might his or her teaching be improved? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed only by your instructor(s) and by administrators responsible for evaluating their teaching.)*

Responses:

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

 McKee was very passionate and clearly enjoyed teaching. Very nice as well, though he should be more careful with his math.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

He has a ton of enthusiasm and a unique style of teaching. Class is relatively interactive and his lectures are engaging at times. However, the material on the exams are not described well

Instructor: Douglas McKee

He is very enthusiastic about the course and material which made lecture enjoyable. My only request would be for lectures to include full overviews of methods before moving into examples so we have a framework within which we can understand the application.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Cares a lot about his students! Makes himself available and is a good teacher -- maintains an appropriate pace and explains things well.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

One of the best professors I've had at Yale (definitely the best Econ professor).

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Doug was funny and really smart. It was easy to know what was expected of up. Some of the material went by pretty fast.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Best Econ teacher I've had. Loved the recorded lectures.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is a fantastic lecturer. It truly deserves commendation that he can make what can be such a dry and heavy topic and into an applicable and interesting class. He incorporates the right amount of humor into the class and his style of explaining the theory first in simpler terms and then applying it to some real world example is great..

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Douglas McKee is an awesome guy and a great instructor. He loves teaching, and his enthusiasm makes the somewhat difficult parts of the class much more bearable.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

McKee is great. The class is rough, but he does the best possible job.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Doug is amazing!!! I loved that he so frequently used studies about health and education as I'm interested in that stuff already. He helped keep me excited about material that I thought I wouldn't enjoy. Really can't imagine a better professor for this class!!!

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

I think he did a great job with the course. A few times I think he might have tried a bit too hard to

make the course fun with in class activities, but I did enjoy lecture.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is a great professor however the examples we did in class were nowhere near the difficulty of the psets or the exams and that was really unhelpful in terms of learning the material and managing expectations of what the tests would require us to know. That was the most frustrating part about this class.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is a talented, dedicated, and caring teacher - something that can be rare in large lecture classes such as these. He is pretty much a genius at crafting a class that is multifaceted and engaging, and it is not hard to tell that he actually wants to interact with us and make the class as good as it can be. I applaud him immensely for that. The only thing is, I feel that he does not quite see the extent to which many of us struggle in this class. I wish I could have gone to lecture and gotten to know him better instead of being stuck watching the videos most of the time.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee was very involved with the details of the class. He was obviously looking out for our best interests and worked to improve the course as the semester progressed, which I really appreciated.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Favorite economics professor at Yale so far. When you have to take this class, I definitely

recommend waiting to take it with Professor McKee.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Great professor who explains things in a clear and understandable way - see answer to question 1 for more details.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Doug is such an amazing professor! He made econometrics come to life for us. Very few students came to class in person, because every lecture can also be found online, so those of us who did come to class ended up getting to know him really well. He really makes an effort to connect with each of his students individually, both by hosting weekly lunches with students and by being very responsive to student feedback.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Loved the way he engaged the class and explained concepts

Instructor: Douglas McKee

He really takes care his students, and is always trying to the best way to teach. I feel like he not only helps students to learn a lot but also improves himself as an educator every single day. I appreciate his passion in teaching, and I really learned a lot!

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

 Great professor; although the lectures could be more engaging, the applied material more than makes up for it.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Doug does a pretty good job at teaching this course and the tests are pretty fair.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

 Professor McKee is an excellent professor who really cares about his students and actively experiments in different methods of teaching.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Fantastic teacher.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Makes possibly on of the most boring classes at Yale somewhat interesting.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Doug definitely means well, but I don't think he has quite mastered how to lecture cohesively. He offered a lot of resources, and I really appreciated the lectures being recorded, but when it came time to take exams, I felt like we hadn't had enough of a chance to review material with the instructors (given that TA sections were STATA labs and not recap sessions). Overall though, he definitely cares about his students, though I hope he incorporates some of the feedback this year to make lectures more understandable.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

McKee was an excellent instructor for ECON131. He was always very helpful and had a good idea

for how the class should be run and structured.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor Mckee is an engaging lecturer but sometimes does not dedicate enough time to explain core concepts, and instead will simply put a slide up and then move on. Therefore, for many students it was necessary to go to office hours or teach themselves the material from the book. However, Professor Mckee is very open to give extra help and is general very friendly. In fact, he would have lunch with students every Wednesday before class.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee showed interest to get to know each and every student. The real life examples he used to explain a concept were very interesting; however, I wish these examples were simpler for the purpose of teaching. Sometimes I'd get caught up in trying to understand the example that I'd miss the point on how to apply the concept to this example.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

McKee was one of the best professors that could have taught this course. His lecture slides were very detailed and he covered material pretty clearly.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

It was very apparent that McKee cared very much about our learning and tried his best to make our experience as optimal as possible. This is rare to see and all other professors should approach teaching with the same attitude.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

McKee is a phenomenal professor - he is engaged and very passionate about teaching and his

students.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Doug McKee was absolutely an amazing professor. He was passionate about the material, which made it very interesting to learn, than it otherwise would have been. He was patient with the class, and was really an amazing person to learn from. Thank you for a great semester!

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Prof. McKee tries to integrate new methods into his teaching, but they might not work as he expected. The lectures are a bit slow, and the slides don't offer all necessary information. I would suggest making the answers and points clearer on the slides, so we don't have to constantly go back to the recorded lectures to check. Also, with the aid of the recorded lecture, the lecture itself seems less efficient, and that might account for the low attendance rate. Also, the section is not well utilized, the attendance rate is low and the idea of solving lab questions in groups does not work.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

One of the best econ professors I've had. I think for a lot of people, especially those that aren't very into quantitative stuff, the material itself will be inevitably boring, but McKee brings it to life better than anyone else could.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Doug is an exemplary lecturer and an uncompromising educator. His use of technology, recorded lectures, and retakeable weekly quizzes show that he really does want his students to succeed. He should be a model to follow for all economics lecturers. Doug also makes himself very available to students. He was the first economics lecturer I had ever felt comfortable enough talking face to face with. His weekly student lunches were great.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Good guy, clearly really cares and is very open to feedback

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Great guy! He has a lot of potential as a teacher. Would definitely recommend in a seminar format. As lecturer it was sometimes hard to follow him and his notes weren't always clear.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is the best econ teacher I've had in my time at Yale. He explains things clearly, concisely, and even makes class entertaining. He is very understanding and fair and provides his students with all the tools they need to succeed. He really cares about his students and about how he teaches which is refreshing and made this class a pleasure to take.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Amazing instructor

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

He was better on video honestly

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

 A wonderful professor who genuinely cares for his students. I loved the case studies he brought to class to make an otherwise dry and theoretical subject interesting.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Excellent instructor; highly dedicated to teaching

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee was a good instructor and an engaging lecturer. I appreciated his commitment to the class and his help on the discussion boards.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee was great! Some of his strengths were that he knew the material well and that he did a great job of explaining it. He also always found interesting examples to bring in. Another of his strengths was that he really tried to get to know the students, offering weekly office hours and lunches. Finally, he tries to accommodate many learning styles, even providing video lectures online for students who wanted to watch the lectures again. One way to improve his teaching might be to integrate more examples into lecture, which could help slow the pace a bit and prepare students for exams and problem sets.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is a really great guy. He clearly puts a lot of thought and effort into the class, so I was much more forgiving of some of aspects I was not a huge fan of, such as the group project and the fact that section was not used for review. Also to note, I'm not quite sure why but both the midterm and final were both MUCH harder than previous years. It really threw me off when I was taking them. However, I appreciated the general transparency of the class and enjoyed it a lot! Professor McKee is a great lecturer and made me excited about the material!!

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee was an exceptional teacher. He did a great job making the class interesting and low pressure. I really appreciated that most lectures were in the context of a real example.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Great guy. Star professor. He really cares about his students and how much they learn, and is interested in experimental teaching. His teaching style is geared towards results--he wants his students to learn econometrics and statistics, and will use unconventional methods to do so. Again, great guy. Terrific teacher.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Great teacher wonderful person amd great help to students.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Fantastic teacher, easily one of the best Ive had at yale. shows a personal interest in the wellbeing of every student and is actively engaged in the class (through piazza, office hours, lunches, etc). If only every teacher in the econ dept. could be like that!

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKeee is a fantastic professor that you can see really cares about teaching. He was very helpful always to students and put in a lot of effort. He was also quite entertaining in class!

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Very fun and engaging

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Instructor: Douglas McKee

 Prof McKee rocks!!!

Instructor: Douglas McKee

 Pretty engaging and kept this material as interesting as it could possibly be. Spoke slowly in real life and so video could be sped up to double speed and he sounded a little faster than a normal person.

Instructor: Douglas McKee

Professor McKee is awesome. He is one of the most passionate professors I have had at Yale, and he is extremely knowledgeable of the course material. He takes countless measures to make sure the course is tailored to what the students want and need. I wish all of my professors were as student-oriented as Professor McKee is.

Instructor: Douglas McKee
Declined to Answer

Online Course Evaluations

2015 - Fall

Chair
ECON 131 01
Econometrics & Data Analysis I

Q:

How would you summarize **ECON 131 01** for a fellow student? Would you recommend **ECON 131 01** to another student? Why or why not? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed by Yale College students, faculty, and advisers to aid in course selection and evaluating teaching.)*

Responses:

Declined to Answer

If you're considering it, you probably need it anyway. It's a fine class.

Declined to Answer

Hard but necessary

A valuable introduction to statistics and regression analysis with applications focused on economic and social science. It was interesting and valuable for me despite my lack of a background in economics. It is challenging but very worthwhile.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Practical introduction to econometrics; runs through AP Stat curriculum and teaches you about regression. Fairly dry, but Doug is a great instructor who cares a lot about his students. Lectures are recorded and attendance isn't required, and instructors are fairly responsive on Piazza. (And it's required for the Econ major, so if you're taking it you likely don't have a choice.)

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

If you like stats, this is a fun class. Obviously it's a requirement for ECON as well.

Declined to Answer

 Applied economics. Very useful in understanding the role of economists and economic research. A lot of work, felt like I was taking 2 classes during some periods of the course.

Declined to Answer

 While Professor McKee is an excellent lecturer and professor, I would recommend some sort of basic statistics background before taking the class. It is especially helpful when you get into the harder stuff in the second half of the class to have some basic understanding of linear regression and statistics.

 A required course for the Econ major; not as painful as they say it is. McKee is also a really cool guy and teaches pretty well. It's not that hard to do well in the class as long as you keep up with the work.

The problem sets aren't too long and the quizzes can be taken twice. The exams are pretty hard, but they can be considered "fair." Also, lecture attendance isn't necessary. The group project is a major pain, though.

Declined to Answer

TAKE THIS WITH DOUG! I loved it with him. I hear bad things about other professors. He records all his lectures which helps if you have trouble staying focused in class. I appreciated being able to watch the lectures on my own time and make sure I understood everything before moving on. He's also super nice and accessible, also the TFs for this class were great this semester.

Declined to Answer

The course was not as difficult as I was anticipating. I did not like the group project and I wish he would remove it as a course requirement. I also did not find section to be that helpful.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Would not recommend it unless they start being more helpful in teaching how to solve problems.

This course is a lot. It is a lot of material. It is a lot of assignments. It is a lot of stuff really really fast and not nearly enough time to process it or become competent. ESPECIALLY if you have never taken stats before. But, it is also mostly worthwhile and I really learned a lot that I am excited to continue using. So it's kind of a "lose" on short-term sanity and grades at the same time as being a "win" on long-term growth and understanding. If you are an Econ major you have to take this, so be warned that the material is rough. But since you have to take it, make sure to take it with McKee. He cares a lot about you as students, about the material itself, and about being a good teacher, which I think is one of the best part about this class.

Declined to Answer

A tough class, definitely helpful if you have taken another Stats course, AP Stat was enough for me. Professor McKee is a phenomenal instructor, probably the best Economics professor I have had so far at Yale. If you have to take this class for the Econ major, I would recommend waiting until the semester that Professor McKee is teaching.

Econometrics was a tough class, but I learned quite a bit. Professor McKee is very committed to making sure that his class is an effective learning environment, and I enjoyed his teaching style. Lectures were pretty fasted paced, so it was hard to follow them throughout the class period. Thankfully they were recorded and posted online, which allowed us to pause the video and take notes. The problem sets were difficult and time consuming, but they really helped us to learn the material. The group project was the smoothest group project that I've ever had at Yale. My group was full of hard workers, and we consistently met for an hour almost every week from the very beginning for about an hour each some (sometimes a little more/less depending on how soon the next portion of the project was due). Our hard work paid off, though, because we scored very well (Thanks, Michael). There are few cons to this course other than the fact that it is difficult and time consuming. Doug is a

great professor, and Michael Puempel was a great TA. I can't say I enjoyed the class, but it definitely helped me to boost my quantitive skills and added a few tools to my toolbox.

Declined to Answer

Fantastic class. Econometrics gives you a great toolset for analyzing real-world problems; it's one of those classes that every student should take, just to learn how to think about life. Doug is a great professor, and makes an effort to connect with all of his students and really respond to feedback. All of the lectures are posted online, so a lot of students choose not to go to class, but just be careful not to fall behind on lectures whether you go in person or watch online, because your test performances will really depend on having learned the material. If you've already taken a stats class before, you've probably seen a lot of the material in the first half of the semester already, but the second half of the semester covers multiple regression, which is new to most students in this class. Finally, be warned that a large part of your grade will depend on a group research project, which can be either really rewarding or really stressful, depending on the group of people you're working with and how well you budget your time.

Declined to Answer

You will get all the possible tools for learning Econometrics. Since the course provides a lot of real world examples, you will not only get academic knowledge but also practice with a real dataset. You also practice what you learned through a team project, so that the learnings you get out of this course are highly likely to stay for a long time.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

 I would recommend 131 simply because the material itself and learning STATA are extremely important, especially if you will work with data at any point in the future. The concepts we covered were interesting and I love how they was centered on real world data and applications. The first half was basically AP Stat, but I felt like the second half of the course covered too much information too quickly. This could be improved with many many more practice problems and less labs in section. In light of this, having video lectures were a blessing. If I had been sick and missed a lecture, it would have been very difficult to understand the material without the videos. This class sounds like a lot of work - one pset every 2 weeks, weekly quizzes, midterm, video lectures(if you don't go to class), group project, and final, but it's really not that bad if you keep up with the video lectures throughout the semester(which can be difficult). Prof McKee really cares about teaching and really responsive on Piazza, and you come away with a bettering understanding of the uses for statistics. I also really recommend working with other people in the class!

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

If you can get through the first half, the second half of the course will be fine. It doesn't get harder than intermediate microeconomics, but can have its own challenges. The midterm will likely be harder than the final, so make sure you understand the first half very well, there won't be much opportunity to distinguish yourself apart from the midterm and the final.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Yes if needed for the major/ other requirements. I'm not an econ major, but I'm glad this class exposed me to so many relevant components of data analysis.

ECON131 is a very interesting course and I would recommend taking it if you have any interest in economics and related fields. Obviously it's a requirement for the economics major, but it is still a very useful course to have a grasp of the material in.

ECON 131 is an introductory econometrics course. The first half covers material one could learn in any into statistics course or AP stat in high school, while the second half covers regression models and applications unique to economics. The lecture style is engaging and very interactive, with the professor asking students to solve problems in groups in nearly every lecture. There is also a group project that, for many students, was a very positive experience and reinforced the material. I would recommend this class to students that want an introduction to statistics, but with the warning that you will have to do extra work outside of lecture to understand all of the material.

Declined to Answer

Yes.

Take it if you need to for major requirements. Otherwise, I wouldn't suggest taking it.

A pretty decent course overall. With McKee, you will definitely learn basic econometrics and have a pretty good experience doing so.

Take this course if needed for the econ major. But if you are interested in really learning statistics, then you should look at other courses. This course is very much a brief overview and students may be better served by taking a course that goes more in depth over more semesters.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Econ 131 was a lot more interesting than I imagined, but still it was a very hard class. I would not recommend taking this unless you have to, or unless you're really interested in a higher level of probability and statistics.

Declined to Answer

Take it if you are an Econ major, or you want to learn more about stat (regression). I had some knowledge of stat before, so the first half of the lecture was not very new to me. Basically I learnt some fundamental principles about regression, and usage of Stata. There is a plethora of quizzes, some PSets, exams and a research project. If you are willing to learn, workload is manageable, and you can reach out to the Prof, he would be willing to help.

I would not recommend it unless you are an Econ major.

Good, and perhaps more importantly, useful course, especially for economics majors or anyone interested in data analysis. First half of the course covers basic statistical tests (z, t, chi-squared), while second half focuses on designing regression analyses. Both were fairly easy for me, though this may have to do with the fact that I've taken a couple basic stats classes before. Still, most that have any background in statistics, even if its just AP stat will probably find class fairly easy (the first half is basically a review of AP stat.)

Declined to Answer

I did not have any prior stats experience. This course, though a little fast at first, is your best shot at a smooth learning curve. Doug is the best econ lecturer I have had. He really wants his students to succeed. I highly recommend taking this course with him.

Declined to Answer

You learn a lot if you put the effort in. Would recommend over just plain stats if you want to learn more application.

Econ 131 Is a must take class for anyone who wants to be able to understand empirical experiments and the results they produce. I would definitely recommend this class to anyone who is interested even slightly in statistics. If you put in the time, you will gain so much from this class.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Standard statistics and a lot of probability and then regression

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Take this class over Econ 135 unless you're an Econ-Math major. The instructor is great, and the class focuses a lot more on applications of concepts in Stata and through real life research papers, rather than abstract matrix theory that you are unlikely to ever use in your life.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Okay

Declined to Answer

ECON 131 began with probability and statistics, and moved on to regression after the midterm. ECON 131 is an interesting and challenging course, and I would recommend it for students who want to become versed in the methods currently used in economics research. I would caution students that many who take the class have already taken AP Statistics, and the first half of the class is review for them and moves very fast for others. It might be a good idea to take a stats course first. I would recommend taking the course with Professor McKee!

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Do the work and get to know the professor. It is an interesting class if you embrace it!

I really enjoyed Econometrics. Professor McKee is awesome, and I found the material to be highly applicable and useful. I strongly recommend this class!

Declined to Answer

I would take it even if I wasn't an econ major. The class will teacher you how to analyze statistics in a meaningful way and can teach you how to read econometrics papers. Really useful and fun. It turns out many things you might think are intuitive are not true: it's like a class of freakonomics.

Great class to help you think of stats.

Declined to Answer

An awesome class. Doug Mckee is a fantastic teacher. The class itself teaches you statistics and regression, which gives a good foundation for econometrics.

 This course is great and gets better once the actual data analysis starts! The problem sets are not too tough and the tests are well thought out to be challenging but not downright disappointing. The group project worked out quite well in my case although I felt I put in more effort than was required and the TA marked very leniently! It's really cool that in section you learn Stata that is not formally taught in class so I really suggest attending. The TA's were also extremely helpful!

 Only take it if you have to I guess. Doug goes really quickly and covers quite a lot of material, so if you don't have some prior knowledge of statistics it can be hard to keep up. STAT10x and GLBL121 cover most (but not all) of the same things and are better-taught so that might be a better option. Doug is cool and really helpful and tries to incorporate all sorts of pedagogy into his classes, but his lecturing is rather disorganized. Also he posts lecture videos online so eventually most people don't bother showing up. Workload is meh problem sets are long and tedious and they only grade one problem on each, and a group project that honestly was a total pain. However overall you learn a fair bit from the class, and you pick up lots of STATA as well, which is useful.

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

 Challenging but rewarding

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Declined to Answer

Take it because you have to for econ. If you have any background in stats you'll probably be pretty bored for the first half of the course. If you're not an econ major and just looking for a data analysis class, take stat 230 instead.

Bi-weekly p-sets (often including labs from section, so go to section!), one midterm and a final. Great class and very informative, however, easy to fall behind given the luxury of the online lectures. My advice, either watch the lectures the day of or go to class, don't let yourself fall behind because the material gets more interesting throughout and the final will be tough if you don't keep up with the work.

Take it if you are an econ major, but I would not recommend otherwise.

An awesome class that will teach you extremely valuable concepts that are applicable in numerous professional fields. I would definitely recommend going to every lecture and using the online lectures

as supplementary resources rather than only watching the online lectures. Professor McKee is the best part of this class, so make sure you get as much face time with him as possible.

Declined to Answer