

Title: **SIPA Spring 2014 Course Evaluation**

Dates: **04/29/2014 - 05/14/2014**

Course: **PUAFU6180_001_2014_1 / HUMAN ECOLOGY & SUST
DEV**

Responses: **41/50 - 82.00%**

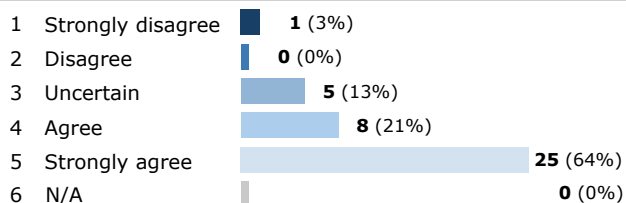
Instructors: **Jeffrey D. Sachs**

Number of Participants: **50**

Enrollment of All Students: **50**

TA Graph Report for: **Anthony L D'Agostino**

1 The Teaching Assistants (TAs) contributed significantly to this course **N=39**



Median **5** Interpolated Median **4.72** Mean **4.44** Std Dev **0.91**

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TA Comments Report for: **Anthony L D'Agostino**

Q1 Please provide brief, specific and constructive comments on the TA's performance (if applicable)

- He was the only one who was trying to help us learn something.
- The TA is a very informative, engaging, responsive and articulate lecturer. He makes himself accessible and explains concepts clearly in recitations.
- Anthony is an amazing teacher. Thank you!
- The TAs did their best with a bad situation and, it seems, without much if any guidance from the professor.

Anthony either has teaching experience or is just a natural. He gave thoughtful responses and encouraged discussion in his recitations. He went through the recitation slides clearly and methodically and answered students' questions with straightforward explanations. Without question, he was the more reliable and preferred resource between the two TAs.

He was a fair grader and in my opinion the mid-term exam did a really good job of responding to the range of abilities in the class and covering the materials addressed in the recitations. I thought that the grade I received (nothing spectacular but also not the absolute worst) pretty fairly reflected my performance on the exam.

The homework assignments were excessive in the amount of time they took and, in the end, for expediency's sake, most of the hwk groups just ended up splitting up the work according to individuals' pre-existing abilities/knowledge.

If anything, the TAs learned by having their feet to the fire and with a good model of what NOT to do if they're ever the lecturer for a master's level course.

- Anthony was great in taking time to get to know students and breaking down material when complex and confusing.
- Anthony was great! The TAs basically designed this course based off the syllabus. He was really knowledgeable and patient with questions a lot of the complaining. He made the material easy to understand.
- I believe that Anthony should be teaching the class. He is a great teacher, and he has been very helpful and responsive to suggestions and critics
- Of the two he was the more helpful, but I was unhappy with the performance of the team as a whole.
- Anthony was always super organized and well-prepared for recitations and office hours. He presented the material clearly, listened to student concerns, and did his best to address them fairly.

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TA Comments Report for: **Anthony L D'Agostino**

- Anthony went above and beyond, clear he cared a great deal about the course and put in a huge amount of work.
- Excellent teacher skills. Would have been useful if he had been the TA leader so that there wouldn't have been so much confusion with regards to EVERYTHING. On time grader. All of the recitations concepts that I learned, I learned them from him.
- Anthony was a terrific TA. He was always very attentive, supportive and made himself available to provide extra assistance during his office hours and over email. I greatly appreciated his support and how attentive he was to our class' needs.
- Anthony was truly a great TA. He is an incredibly smart, skilled teacher and was able to convey the course material to us in a very clear and understandable manner. He was also very responsive to student feedback and did his best to make the course as organized as was possible. Very professional.
- Anthony genuinely gave a solid effort to instruct the students on the material and make it understandable. His recitations were well prepared for, he gave timely and constructive feedback on the assignments, and was very helpful to students at office hours.
- He did not understand our backgrounds and I don't think that TAs who are PhDs with no practical experience should be teaching development practitioners.
- Very helpful. I'd only go to Anthony with questions because Xiaojie was not helpful.
- My sense it Anthony kept this course from falling apart.
Above all, he is very professional in responding to student questions and complaints. He provided clarity on what was expected of us. He was quick to provide feedback and respond to emails. And finally, he is an excellent lecturer & very knowledgeable academic and practitioner. Thank you for your hard work and support!
- Anthony has good pedagogical skills
- This was 2 classes in one. The quality and the way the TA's educate were very poor they have a lot of trouble trying to explain economic models to people with low economic and quantitative skills. Most of the recitations did not cover all of what they wanted to teach us, and even if they did not cover the entire topics of the recitations they still include those topics in the problem set. Very theoretical non practical recitations. The organization was very poor by the TAs which made the class impossible to understand.
- Anthony was a fantastic TA and really put a lot of effort in helping us understand. Thank you very much Anthony!
- Anthony was great. Really straight forward and open to answering questions and improving the course

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TA Comments Report for: **Anthony L D'Agostino**

- Thanks for your patience. We all were stucked in a difficult class situation. You are fantastic at teaching!
 - He did what he could in all this mess.
 - Anthony did his best given both capacity and organizational constraints. His facilitating abilities are some of the best I've seen at SIPA, including TAs and Professors.
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