Course evaluation summary – Econ 271: Intermediate Econometrics II
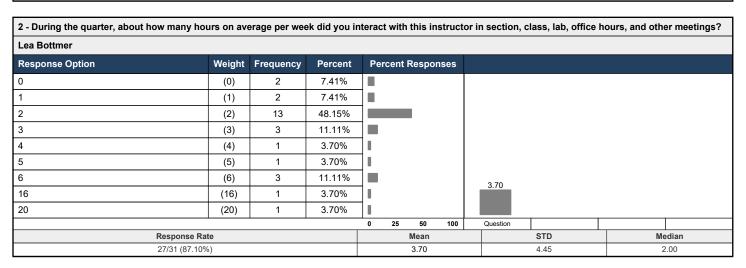
This report summarizes student feedback from the Econ 271 in Winter 2025 course evaluations. Student feedback was collected through an anonymous online survey administered at the end of the semester. As a teaching assistant for the mandatory graduate first-year PhD sequence class, my responsibilities included holding 2 h of office hours, one 2 h section a week reviewing lecture material and practice problems, going to lectures, administration of exams, grading, managing the course Canvas page, and responding to student emails and assist with logistics.

Stanford University
Winter 2025 Section Feedback

Course:	W25-ECON-271-01: INTERMEDIATE ECONOMETRICS II
Instructor:	Lea Bottmer *
Response Rate:	29/31 (93.55 %)

1 - In what way did you interact with this instructor most?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
In section meetings	(1)	22	81.48%		
In lab	(2)	0	0.00%		
During office hours	(3)	3	11.11%		
Via a class website	(4)	1	3.70%		
Email	(5)	0	0.00%		
In class	(6)	1	3.70%		
Other	(7)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate
27/31 (87.10%)

2 - During the quarter, about how many hours on average per week did you interact with this instructor in section, class, lab, office hours, and other meetings?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses
0	(0)	2	7.41%	
1	(1)	2	7.41%	
2	(2)	13	48.15%	
3	(3)	3	11.11%	
4	(4)	1	3.70%	
5	(5)	1	3.70%	
6	(6)	3	11.11%	
16	(16)	1	3.70%	
20	(20)	1	3.70%	

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
27/31 (87.10%)	3.70	4.45	2.00

3 - How much did you learn from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
A great deal	(5)	25	92.59%		4.93
A lot	(4)	2	7.41%		
A moderate amount	(3)	0	0.00%		
A little	(2)	0	0.00%		
Nothing	(1)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
27/31 (87.10%)	4.93	0.27	5.00

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4 - Overall, how effective was the instruction you received from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Extremely effective	(5)	26	96.30%		4.96
Very effective	(4)	1	3.70%		
Moderately effective	(3)	0	0.00%		
Slightly effective	(2)	0	0.00%		
Not effective at all	(1)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median
27/31 (87.10%)	4.96	0.19	5.00

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5 - What skills or knowledge did you learn or improve from this instructor?

Lea Bottmer

Response Rate	11/31 (35.48%)

• Lea's sections were incredibly helpful for understanding the course material. Her notes were especially clear, and the sessions maintained a great balance between concept review and problem-solving. One of the best-structured sections I've attended.

• Sorry that I did not go to any sections.

• Lea's section notes were excellent.

• She did a great job re-explaining the concepts from lecture and giving practice questions

• Problem solving

• Problem solving, breaking down the broader content into manageable chunks

• Lea is *excellent*. She takes exceptionally clarifying notes and is deeply invested in student understanding. Her sections are planned very carefully and combine 1) doing work on one's own with 2) a review of lectures. It is clear that Lea enjoys her teaching, despite this class being SO hard to teach. Hats off. I learned time series from Lea, not Luigi.

• The sections were extremely helpful to understand and solidify knowledge on the course's material. Lea was amazing in reviewing the content and organizing it in a coherent way to get a global view of the course.

• I learned how to apply theory in problem settings and strategies for solving problems.

• I learned so much from Lea - her sections and notes helped me understand the asymptotic characteristics of OLS, the implementation and interpretation of fixed effects estimators, the motivation for and use of GMM and efficient GMM, and the time series topics ranging from AR/MA/ARMA processes to the Kalman filter and Metropolis-Hastings algorithm.

• I learned an immense amount about how to apply the materials we learned in class, as well as got help building intuition for the results we found.

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6 - What aspects of this instructor's teaching were most helpful to you?

Lea Bottmer	
Response Rate	22/31 (70.97%)

• Aspect 1: Extremely detailed notes with super helpful reviews Aspect 2: Very good review style in session Aspect 3: Generally super nice and creates a welcoming environment.

• Lea's clear and well-organized notes made complex concepts easier to understand. Her sections struck a great balance between reviewing key ideas and applying them through exercises, reinforcing learning effectively. The structured approach and clarity in explanations made her sessions particularly valuable.

• I loved the section notes, SO helpful! She did a great job giving examples and showing us how to apply the concepts.

• See above.

• Very dedicated! Took amazing notes! Emphasized good practic questions. 100/10 perfect TA

• Very good person!!! Extremely helpful section notes!

• Lea explains the material with such depth and accessibility – she was so incredibly helpful and one of my favorite parts of this class. On top of being incredibly smart and hard-working, Lea also is a very kind person, and she made the course content so much more understandable. She put so much work into writing up incredible section notes and holding office hours, and her effort really helped me work through this class.

• Examples in class that we got to work on in groups Lea's notes that she writes on the board always "connect" ideas together in a way that I always seemed to miss in lecture

• The sections were well-structured, had clear learning goals and effectively conveyed difficult material in a way that made it seem very doable. Discussing the small questions in the beginning of class was really helpful, and the small exercise. Also the section notes were very extensive and very good.

• 1. Lea was super thorough. When she didn't have the immediate answer to our questions she would consistently reach out by email or in the following section with a solid answer. It was very appreciated. 2. The sections were divided in lectures' reviews and then doing practice problems together. This was super helpful and allowed us to connect the material with the kind of questions we would get on the exam. 3. Lea prepared very detailed section notes with super helpful information and always provided typed solutions to the practice problems we did in section.

• Lea's section notes were phenomenal. They were extensive, super detailed, clear, and engaging. I don't know how she had time to write them up each week, but they got me through the course. Lea was very approachable and obviously has a very strong background in the subject.

• The section notes were very useful, especially for Jann's part (his slides are a bit hard to consult). Lea is extremely nice and goes beyond to address questions and in general help out students.

• She makes very useful notes for section that we can also as supplementary material for the class. Her section is very well structured and she always provides the big picture that we should be aware of as well as the key aspects that we should always bear in mind.

• Extremely well written section notes. The notes and practice problems were my primary way to review material and practice for exams and it would have been very difficult to do so without her notes. I also appreciated the organization of the course and the inclusion of doing practice problems as part of section.

• Lea put together incredible; ~20 page lecture notes for each week of lectures, which made the high-level lecture content more approachable to students. She did this every week, and that must have been a hefty amount of work: I've never had a TA create lecture notes that ornate.

• Notes packet ahead of section, weekly summary of topics in section, review of relevant practice problems

• The way Lea structured her sections was very helpful, as by switching back and forth between content review and practice problems, I was able to effectively determine gaps in my understanding of the material and quickly correct them. Also, Lea's notes were amazing (and arguably more effective as a study tool than the lecture notes)! Lastly, her sections were the most beneficial of all the sections I had this quarter, largely due to the level of passion Lea clearly has for teaching and the subject matter. Even though they were held on a Friday afternoon, I always looked forward to attending each week!

• Lea was an incredible TA! Every section was carefully planned to help package the course material into a manageable and coherent framework, and her explanations helped clarify even the most difficult aspects of the material. She exhibited a clear mastery of the concepts and fielded questions with ease. She engaged the class by providing discussion questions and practice problems to further our understanding and helped walk through examples to demonstrate the techniques and solution methods that were most important. Beyond this, she wrote out thorough explanations of the lecture material that she posted as section notes, which must have taken a huge amount of time but were very helpful as a reference in learning the material. She will clearly make an incredible professor, and her effort and aptitude deserve to be acknowledged with a teaching award.

• Lea's humor and kindness were some of the most helpful aspects of her teaching. She made section fun and even though it was Friday afternoon, we always had tons of energy. She constantly pushed us to work together and explain our confusion if and when we got things wrong. Through building a supportive environment she helped us all understand the material more.

• 1. compact summaries of lectures were very helpful 2. doing practice problems in section 3. section notes were the best

• The most amazing section notes. Great explanation of concepts and problem-solving approaches both for problem sets and for economic applications.

• She was patient, deitail oriented and clear

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7 - How can this instructor's teaching be improved?
Lea Bottmer

Response Rate	13/31 (41.94%)

- I can't think of any improvements. Lea's teaching was clear, well-structured, and highly effective.

- The only thing I would change is the room, it was absolutely miserable to be in there on a friday afternoon, especially when your brain is already fried.

- NA

- literally nothing she is perfect

- One of the best instructors I've had!

- n/a!

- I cannot think of any way to make these sections better :)

- N/A — Lea was great!

- I personally think that a little less emphasis can be put on reviewing material and more emphasis put on going through practice problems or examples.

- would be good to go over the steps of each practice problem more in detail, but overall still extremely helpful. Thank you Lea!

- N/A

- I think spending more time in section on problems would be useful, but I understand the time constraint is very binding.

- It's perfect