

Report on the student evaluations

ECON4137 Applied Micro Econometrics, Spring 2025

Martin Eckhoff Andresen, May 14th, 2025

10 students responded to the course evaluation, which is around 33 percent of students registered in the course. Overall, the students are relatively happy with the course, with an average satisfaction of 4.2/5 and self-assessed learning outcomes rated at 4.3/5.

The lectures and the material are generally well liked and well rated, with positive comments on the quality of the lectures and the well the material is conveyed material. Some students remarked that there is too much material in the lectures.

The seminars are also well liked among those who go (average quality 4.33/5), but attendance in seminars is lower than in lectures. One reason some students report is that they see the seminars as less exam relevant. This is certainly a challenge for the course, which aims to teach students the practical skills they need to apply econometric methods as well as the theory behind them, while the former is fundamentally challenging to test at a 3-hour school exam. One possible solution to this could be to introduce a mandatory assignment that involves coding, which would incentivize the students to really learn how to code and apply their skills – but that incentive would be fully removed around halfway through the seminar when the mandatory assignment is due. Another alternative is to change the exam entirely to be a longer home exam where the students need to code and apply what they've learned.

Another reported reason for not attending seminars is that they are challenging, and learning output is limited unless one has had the time to work through all the exercises before the seminar. One practical solution to make this easier which has been partly implemented this year and which I will fully implement next year is a “codebook” with coding examples to use as inspiration for the exercises. Ideally, this could allow students to more quickly master the coding and move on to the interpretation of results. Without giving up the goal of making this course applied in the sense that students get to implement the estimators they learn, I find it hard to see how the overall difficulty of the seminar exercises can be reduced substantially.

Large effort has been put into making the seminar exercises more relevant the last few years. This includes making new exercises with examples and real papers that are closer to what a student might encounter in a journal or in an analysis they'd have to do for a future employer. Students seem to appreciate this, but there is probably still a few of the exercises that could be improved.

Course evaluation of ECON4137

Spring 2025

Department of Economics, University of Oslo

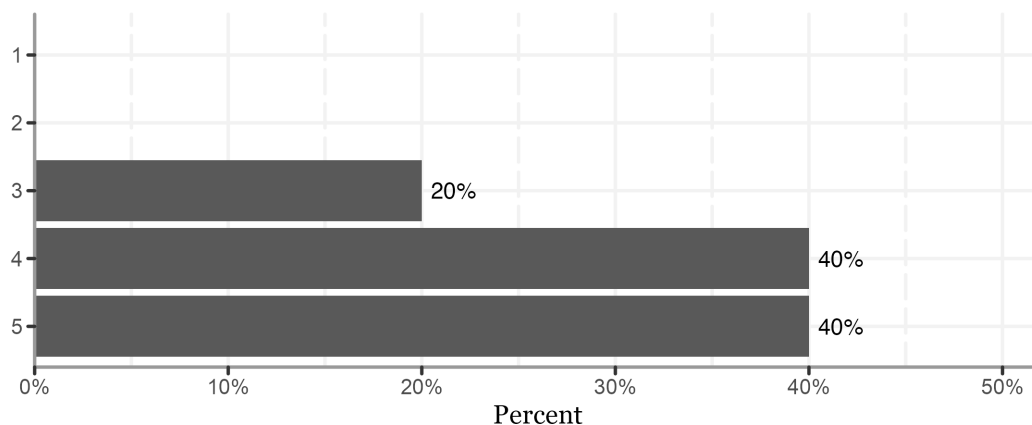
Invitations: 39 Respondents: 10 Response rate: 25.64 %

Overall evaluation of the course

All in all, I am satisfied with the course.

From do not agree (1) to fully agree (5)

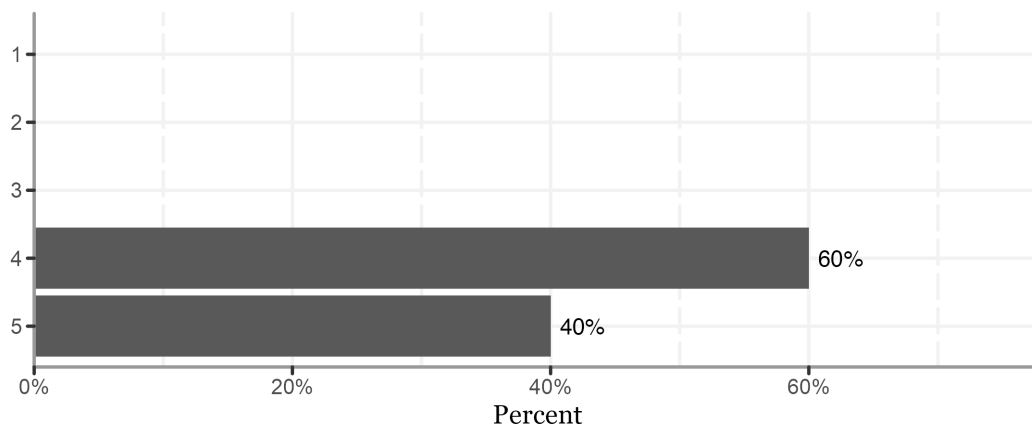
Responses: 10



I find the course to be interesting.

From do not agree (1) to fully agree (5)

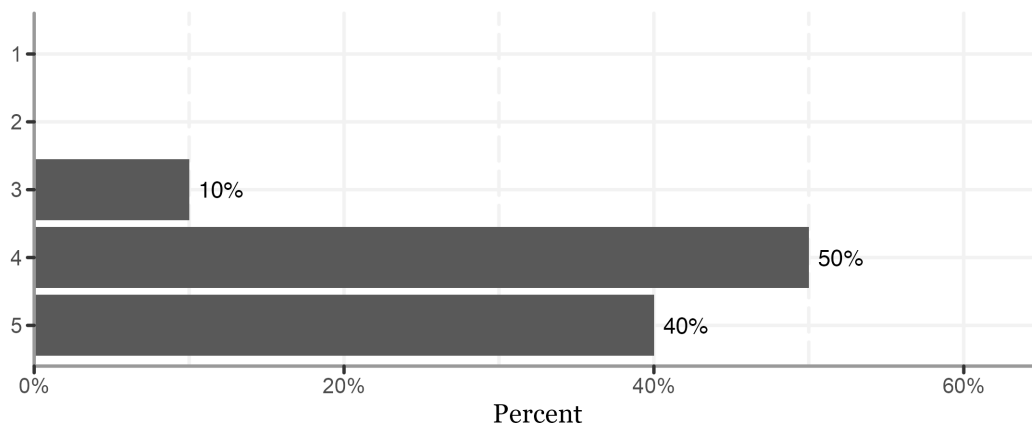
Responses: 10



How difficult / demanding do you find the course to be?

From very easy (1) to adequate (3) to very hard (5)

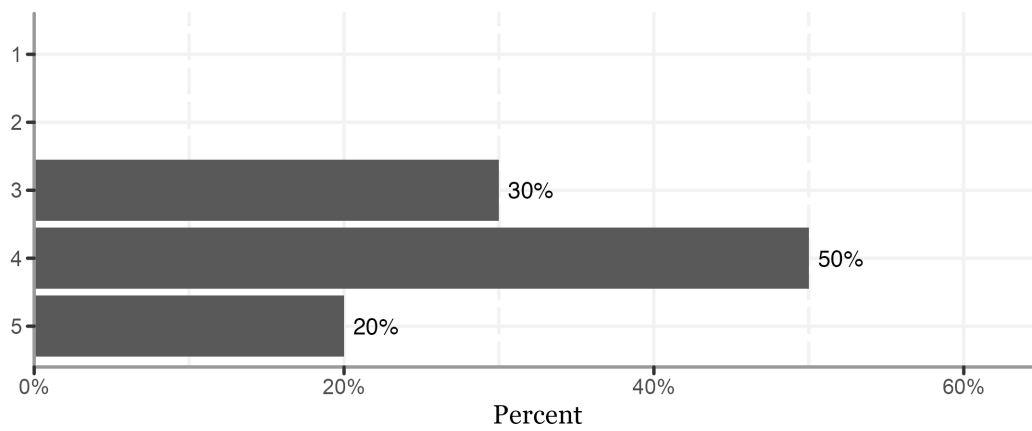
Responses: 10



How is the workload on this course?

From very easy (1) to adequate (3) to very hard (5)

Responses: 10

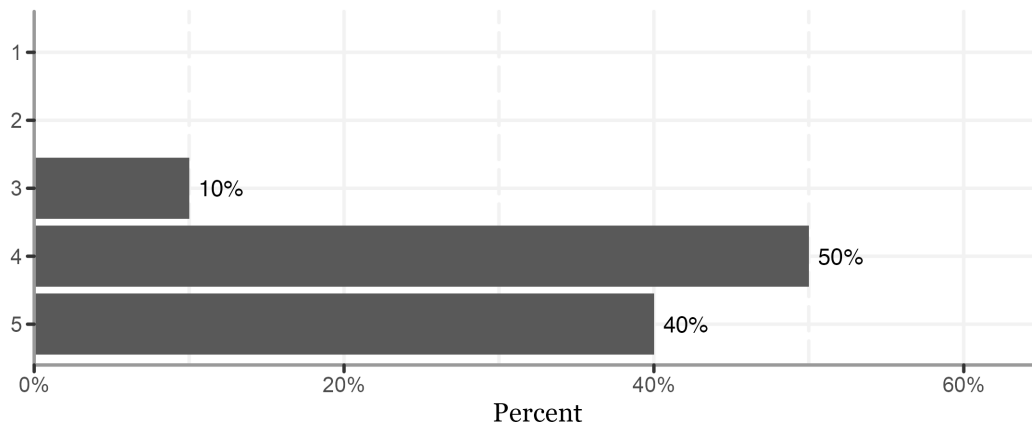


Teaching

How was your learning outcome?

From very poor (1) to very good (5)

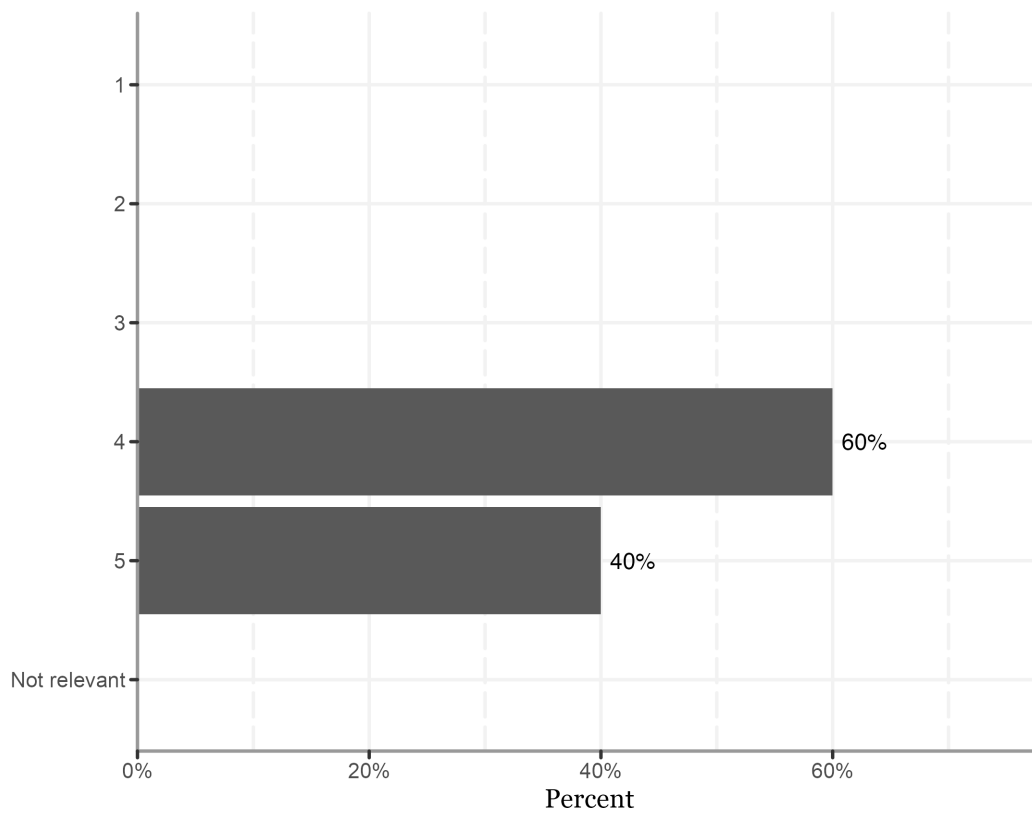
Responses: 10



What do you think about the quality of the lectures?

From very bad (1) to very good (5)

Responses: 10



What do you think about the lecturer's ability to convey the material?

From very bad (1) to very good (5)

Responses: 10

