



Spring 2026 Course Evaluation Report for POLS 4100 01 Advanced Empirical Methods (Uras Demir)

Project Title: **LMU Course Evaluation**

Course Audience: **20**
Responses Received: **14**
Response Ratio: **70.0%**

Report Comments

Term: Spring 2026
Course Details: POLS 4100 01 Advanced Empirical Methods
Course Number: 72123
Instructor: Uras Demir

[Link to Report Terms & Definitions](#)

Creation Date: **Monday, May 18, 2026**

Major1	Count	Percentage
Political Science	10	71.4%
International Relations	2	14.3%
Sociology	1	7.1%
Economics	1	7.1%

Major2	Count	Percentage
Not Applicable	12	85.7%
Psychology	1	7.1%
Classics and Archaeology	1	7.1%

Major3	Count	Percentage
Not Applicable	14	100.0%

Class Year	Count	Percentage
Junior	6	42.9%
Senior	6	42.9%
Sophomore	2	14.3%

GPA Range	Count	Percentage
3.50 - 4.00	9	64.3%
3.00 - 3.49	5	35.7%

Your class attendance:

Your class attendance:	
Options	Count
Always	9
Almost Always	4
Usually	1
Occasionally	0
Rarely	0

Was this course in your major department?

Was this course in your major department?	
Options	Count
Yes	12
No	2

Was this course required by your major?

Was this course required by your major?	
Options	Count
Yes	3
No	11

Are you taking this course to fulfill Core requirements?

Are you taking this course to fulfill Core requirements?	
Options	Count
Yes	2
No	12

I had a strong interest in taking this course:

I had a strong interest in taking this course:	
Options	Count
Strongly Agree	11
Agree	3
Uncertain	0
Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0

Please **MARK** the response which **MOST ACCURATELY** reflects your opinion and include any comments or explanations to the following questions.

(Counts)

1. Learning outcomes for the course were clearly stated.		2. The learning outcomes were effectively addressed in the course.	
Options	Count	Options	Count
Strongly Agree	12	Strongly Agree	10
Agree	2	Agree	4
Uncertain	0	Uncertain	0
Disagree	0	Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0	Strongly Disagree	0
3. There were constructive interactions between the instructor and the students.		4. The instructor was accessible for discussions about the course.	
Options	Count	Options	Count
Strongly Agree	10	Strongly Agree	10
Agree	3	Agree	2
Uncertain	1	Uncertain	2
Disagree	0	Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0	Strongly Disagree	0
5. I received feedback that improved my learning in this course.		6. The course challenged me to do my best work.	
Options	Count	Options	Count
Strongly Agree	11	Strongly Agree	13
Agree	3	Agree	1
Uncertain	0	Uncertain	0
Disagree	0	Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0	Strongly Disagree	0
7. My experience in the course increased my interest in the subject matter.			
Options	Count		
Strongly Agree	11		
Agree	3		
Uncertain	0		
Disagree	0		
Strongly Disagree	0		

(Comments)

Learning outcomes for the course were clearly stated.
Comment
- Very well stated on the syllabus. And always reiterated it to us throughout lectures.
The learning outcomes were effectively addressed in the course.
Comment
- Not only that but professor Uras explained how it's relevant in a real world application
There were constructive interactions between the instructor and the students.
Comment
- Professor Uras was always available and consistent in helping us. He was very patient and genuinely cares about wanting us to succeed.
The instructor was accessible for discussions about the course.
Comment
- Clearly states office hours and responded quickly via email
- I tended to have great discussion in class with the professor but It was extremely difficult to reach him over email.
I received feedback that improved my learning in this course.
Comment
- Feedback was well structured and easy to understand
The course challenged me to do my best work.
Comment
- Professor Uras gave us lots of practice problems with different pathways and challenges to go about that expanded our coding skills
My experience in the course increased my interest in the subject matter.
Comment
- I left the class feeling wow this is really cool and this would highly elevate my research abilities

(Comparator Data)

Question	THIS SECTION			ALL COURSES FOR DEPARTMENT (PSIR)			ALL COURSES FOR COLLEGE (LA)		
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
Learning outcomes for the course were clearly stated.	4.86	0.36	5.00	4.67	0.61	5.00	4.56	0.72	5.00
The learning outcomes were effectively addressed in the course.	4.71	0.47	5.00	4.63	0.63	5.00	4.54	0.75	5.00
There were constructive interactions between the instructor and the students.	4.64	0.63	5.00	4.65	0.67	5.00	4.56	0.78	5.00
The instructor was accessible for discussions about the course.	4.57	0.76	5.00	4.71	0.58	5.00	4.61	0.70	5.00
I received feedback that improved my learning in this course.	4.79	0.43	5.00	4.57	0.77	5.00	4.41	0.92	5.00
The course challenged me to do my best work.	4.93	0.27	5.00	4.63	0.67	5.00	4.46	0.85	5.00
My experience in the course increased my interest in the subject matter.	4.79	0.43	5.00	4.55	0.83	5.00	4.34	1.02	5.00

How would you rate the overall effectiveness of the instruction in this course.

(Counts)

How would you rate the overall effectiveness of the instruction in this course.	
Options	Count
Very Good	11
Good	3
Fair	0
Poor	0
Very Poor	0

(Comments)

Comment
[No Response]

(Comparator Data)

Question	THIS SECTION			ALL COURSES FOR DEPARTMENT (PSIR)			ALL COURSES FOR COLLEGE (LA)		
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
How would you rate the overall effectiveness of the instruction in this course.	4.79	0.43	5.00	4.60	0.74	5.00	4.51	0.83	5.00

What did you find to be most beneficial about the course?

Comments
I felt that the professor did a very good job of ensuring that everyone stayed on track with the material, especially as it became increasingly difficult. The professor was also always very kind and accessible when anyone needed help. He made the classes interesting and engaging, and I also felt that the amount of homework was very reasonable and manageable.
The instructions were clear, the learning outcomes were properly stated, each lecture felt engaging despite the dense and complex content, and Professor Uras really made an active effort to reach out to our class and help us as much as he could.
The practice exams were extremely helpful as a cumulative review.
The extra practice problems and lucid explanations of complex statistical approaches
The video tutorials were extremely helpful because I was able to go at my own pace! I also really enjoyed the homework and practice exams because they prepared me well for the real exam/research project.
The coding exercises in-class. I liked that we went step through step and organized our notes in ways that are easy to understand.
I appreciated that the instructor listened to the feedback of students and was willing to accommodate by slowing things down if necessary and adjusting the syllabus/ course schedule accordingly.
Professor Demir, was the most invaluable resource of this course. His instruction was comprehensive, he strived to encourage engagement and participation during in class sessions, he was always available for questions and/or outside help, and he provided plenty of notes, sample codes, and other resources that prepared me well for all homework assignments, projects, and tests.
The homeworks
The skills and thoroughness of in class bootcamps and lectures was great, and the oppourtunity to get continious feedback
All of the lectures were fantastic! I really appreciated how we went through the coding, and I felt like the way things were described helped me grasp it even if I did not get the content immediately. Now, I feel like I have a very solid foundation in R.
The topics are very relevant and help do the basic codes we need for an advanced class. The class is a tutorial-like live coding situation which is nice.
I found the tutorials and additional practice really beneficial.

What would have made this course more effective for you?

Comments
I did not find anything about this class ineffective.
The class was overall fantastic, and I am really happy I was able to take this course with Professor Uras.
A more organized approach to daily lectures.
Sometimes I wished we would end class a little early rather than rushing last minute through a new concept
I would say consider using a rubric for the research project to make the guidelines more specific. I would also require individual meetings with students to talk about data/expectations for the research project. (However, I do understand that students should take their own initiative when they need help/are struggling)
Maybe more presentations. I really enjoyed them and I think we could've practiced them more throughout the semester to get more comfortable talking about the terminology and whatnot.
If there were more opportunities for group work and collaboration rather than strictly lecture-based classes.
I felt we spent too much time in this course on review, though I fear this is not the fault of professor Demir, but rather came from a class unprepared for a course of this level of rigor. Despite there being a course prerequisite to this (the merits of which I cannot speak to as I was granted a prerequisite override do to my economics background) my peers reported very different prior experiences based on the instructor of their prerequisite course. Professor Demir had to cover a lot of foundational content in order to ensure that the entire class was on equal footing. This reduced the amount of new content that we could cover, and meant that we spent a lot more time reviewing said new content. As such the pacing felt a little too slow, at least for me. This led me to feel, at times, withdrawn as I was admittedly too eager to move on to the next subject. However, I feel my complaint may be unique as my classmates regularly asked for additional review, which professor Demir dutifully provided.
I think we needed more feedback throughout the course to see where we were lacking. I was not able to understand where I was lacking in the class because we didn't receive feedback on our code.
A little more guidance on the final research project would have been nice.
Have the homework given on time, lessen the content and focus more on the important concepts than repetitive questions on the same topic. Shorter problem sets and tests. It takes too long to finish the tests sometimes and many of the students did not have the same intro empirical professor before this class, so the learning speed is very different for everyone
Started a bit earlier with the programming section, rather than sped a few weeks with theory. As I feel we needed more time to go through all the concepts. It didn't help that there was a week which was taken from class work due to testing prospective faculty. Which could have been for class time.

College Specific Items

On average, outside of class, how many hours do you spend per week working on assignments for this class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework, and other academic activities)?

On average, outside of class, how many hours do you spend per week working on assignments for this class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework, and other academic activities)?		
Options	Score	Count
0-2 hours	1	1
3-5 hours	4	7
6-8 hours	7	5
9-11 hours	8	1
12+ hours	12	0

On average, outside of class, how many hours do you spend per week working on assignments for this class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework, and other academic activities)?

Question	THIS SECTION	ALL COURSES FOR DEPARTMENT (PSIR)	ALL COURSES FOR COLLEGE (LA)
	Mean	Mean	Mean
On average, outside of class, how many hours do you spend per week working on assignments for this class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework, and other academic activities)?	5.14	4.82	4.32