

Columbia University: Arts & Sciences
A&S Fall 2018 Standard Evaluation

Course: ECONGU4370_001_2018_3-POLITICALECONOMY: ECONGU4370_001_2018_3 - POLITICAL ECONOMY
Instructor: Alessandra Casella
TA: Solomon Gofere,Dario Alberto Romero Fonseca *
Response Rate: 30/49 (61.22 %)

1 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of Dario Alberto Romero Fonseca (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader) as an instructor, and how might Dario Alberto Romero Fonseca's teaching be improved?

Response Rate 14/49 (28.57%)

- Grades quickly and responds quickly to students.
- Dario is always available to answer the students' questions and takes the time to explain which is very helpful.
- He was helpful in review sessions and trying to prepare us for exams, also he responded most times to Piazza and email questions.
- Very confusing instructor. Every interaction I had with him left me more confused. He often had to speak with Solomon to clarify things.
- Dario is brilliant and understands the material of this class very well but lacks the interpersonal skills required to be an effective TA. He was often condescending and unapproachable in section and office hours, which could feel very discouraging especially in such a difficult course. He also was a tough grader on problem sets, which was fine, but did not always make the basis on which he was taking off points entirely clear.
- Very good
- dario is awesome and very helpful when you go to him
- Good recitations and Dario is really helped me when I had trouble with problem sets. Very good TA.
- Although Dario is very responsive and tries to help as much as possible, his messages sometimes lack clarity.
- I literally went to his office hours to ask if we could walk through a problem in a more simple version with hard numbers, and he looked at me and pointed to the board saying the variables were numbers. His inability to teach and help those who were doing their best to be good diligent students in a challenging class is honestly absurd. Clearly he understands economics and has great intuition for it, but it is an absolute shame that he is unwilling or unable to share his knowledge with those just trying to establish an understanding for a clearly complex topic. A question should never be treated as stupid and I am extremely disillusioned with the teaching at Columbia and my education after taking a class like this.
- The TA's were not very good.
- Strengths: Very nice; very willing to help Weakness: Not great at explaining stuff
- This class was so hard I frequently went to both recitations and Darios more frequently clarified concepts and showed me how to most efficiently solve problems.
- He was nice.

2 - What is your overall assessment of the effectiveness of Dario Alberto Romero Fonseca?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Excellent	(5)	1	5.88%		<p>3.24</p>	Question	
Very Good	(4)	8	47.06%				
Good	(3)	3	17.65%				
Fair	(2)	4	23.53%				
Poor	(1)	1	5.88%				
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median	
17/49 (34.69%)				3.24	1.09	4.00	