



# Teaching Assistant Report for GOVT E-1035 Money, Markets, and Morals (25941) Jordan Kokot

Project Title: **Harvard Extension School Course Evaluations Spring 2021**

Instructors Audience: **127**  
Responses Received: **63**  
Response Ratio: **50%**

---

## Report Comments

### *Information about this report:*

- Questions on the report are not necessarily in the order asked in the questionnaire.

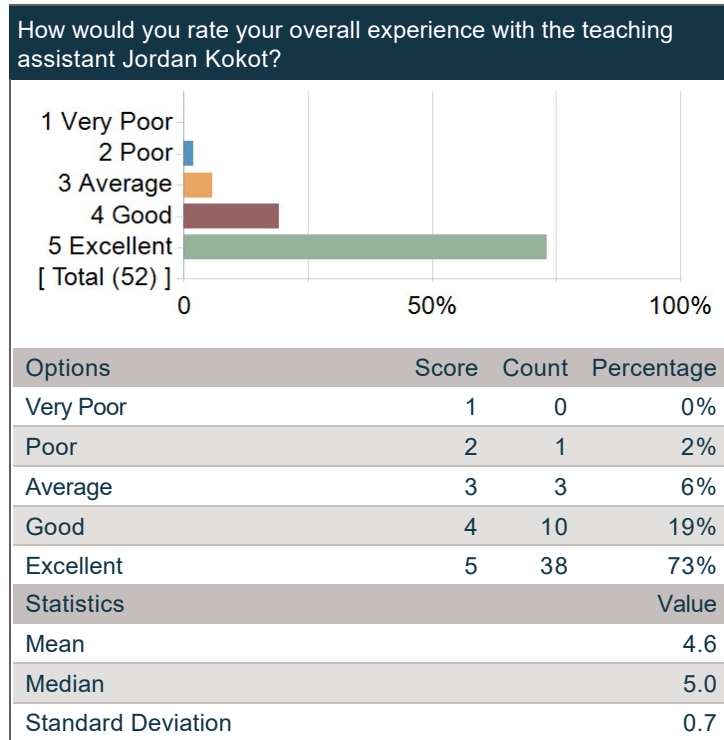
Questions on this report can be addressed to  
Mark Lax  
Director, Academic Administration  
(617) 998-8491  
[evals@extension.harvard.edu](mailto:evals@extension.harvard.edu)

---

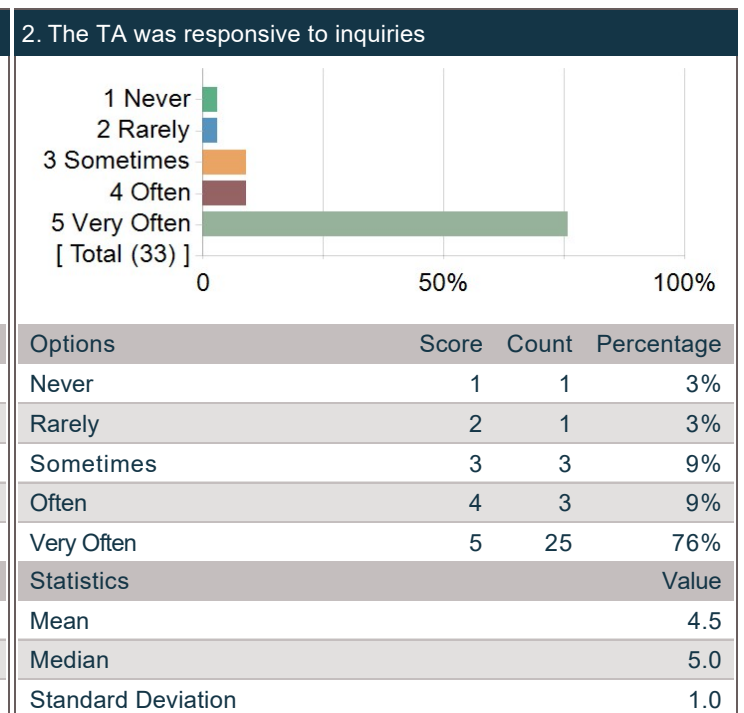
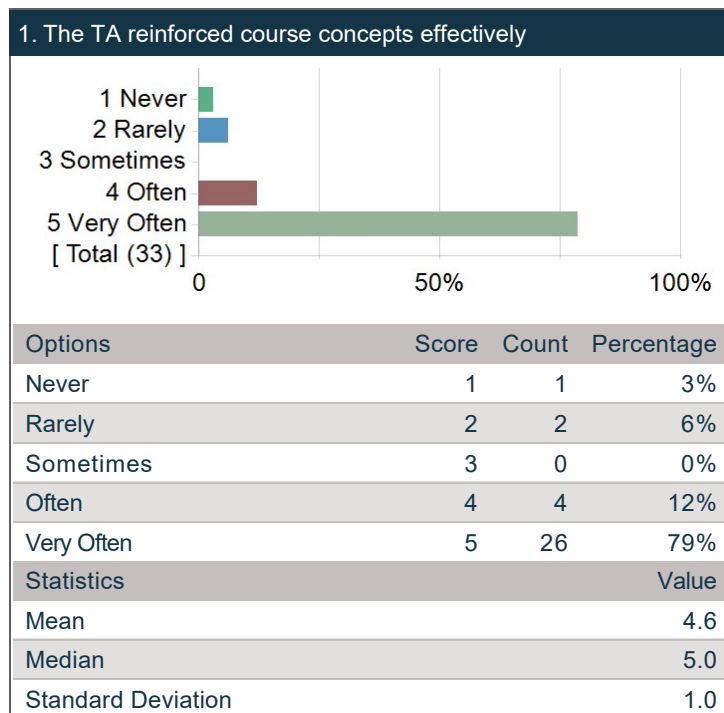
Creation Date: **Wednesday, May 26, 2021**

## Teaching Assistant Questions

How would you rate your overall experience with the teaching assistant Jordan Kokot?



What was your experience with the following aspects of Jordan Kokot's instruction? (For those that do not apply, please select "No Basis for Judgment.")



## Comments about the Teaching Assistant

What did the teaching assistant do that was most helpful for your learning?

Comments
Jordan Kokot was excellent as Prof. Sandel's T.A./T.F. He made himself available to answer questions, was accommodating, masterfully lead group discussions, and was genuinely interested in having well–rounded debates on all manner of issues. More importantly, he just cared, which was critical to my success.
Jordan was great and answered my questions whenever I had any. He communicated well and led the class well the day Sergio was absent.
I will say here that for vital deadlines to be shared via email from TA who wasn't guiding my section, and nowhere else, is something that should never happen.
The information that the request to submit the essay by May 1st was nowhere in the syllabus , nor anywhere in the assignment itself.
The only place I saw it was well after the fact, once the exam was made available. I reached out to another classmate about it, and she said it had been in an email from Jordan. I was going to attend the writing workshop and he wasn't the leader of my section, so I wrongly didn't read his emails. But it also wasn't established that he would be the only source communicating crucial deadlines to us. It all felt sloppy and like pretty everything to do with this course was an after thought to all of the teaching staff.
Jordan is so knowledgeable and has a way of explaining things concisely and effectively
Help me unpack some of our readings.
I had Jordan as my TA for the whole semester, and he was brilliant! Jordan was always accessible for any questions. He also organized class discussions well and gave everyone a chance to participate.
n/a
When it comes to morals and ethics, it's always scary to enter into a space not knowing whether or not it will be intellectually and psychologically safe. Jordan fostered an environment where all felt heard and able to contribute.
he cared
I only had one section with him but he was excellent
n/a
Jordan was excellent, always made himself available, very helpful, answered questions, clear instructions, kind and wise, it was great to have him as a TA.
Jordan brought up a point or two that was helpful.
Jordan knows the material intimately and was very encouraging to students.
Extremely insightful, led class discussions very efficiently.
Great at communicating class expectations
Jordan came to each class clearly excited and prepared to engage students, provoke new ideas, and fluidly challenge students to more deeply explore the arguments they were supporting. By demonstrating a clear commitment for the students to maintain a positive and lucrative discussion in class Jordan promotes an environment that not only invites discourse but helps to foster its growth in the classroom. His teaching style and manner is something to be applauded!
helpful grading notes
The writing workshop was very helpful
Need no basis for judgement for the above question.
Provide feedback and give seminar on writing for ethics
This was the second course I had taken with sections led by Jordan, and it was a pleasure. Jordan is masterful at preparing and executing thoughtful and intriguing discussions that further not only discussions of course topics but connection between classmates. Jordan adeptly rose to the challenge of mediating speaking time and fostering discussion between all 25 students. Jordan made himself amply available, staying after class to provide extra discussion and thoughtful insights regarding the coursework and concepts covered. When unable to conduct a section meeting due to unexpected personal commitments, Jordan offered multiple different options to allow students to receive instruction and have their needs met, even going so far as to offer one–on–one meetings with each student to review course topics if necessary. Though the lectures in this class were undeniably intellectually rich and well–made, it was Jordan's continued excellence that made this class well worth taking.
Jordan led great discussions. The discussion atmosphere was effective but also non intimidating. Jordan did a great job of making sure everyone's comments were welcome and heard. He also did a good job explaining any questions and concepts.
N/A
Outstanding expertise on writing techniques. I learned valuable information during Joran's breakout writing session.
n/a (He was not my section teacher.)
N/A

Comments
Engaged and patient.
Comments on moral dilemmas were very helpful.
I did not interact with this teaching assistant, as I was not in his section.
Directed and guided discussions.
NA
Jordan only lead one of our sections, but I appreciated the relaxed atmosphere he created in taking the lead.
Nothing
Jordan led the discussion group I was in. I appreciated how he presented questions and made sure to give everyone a chance to participate. Some students didn't frequently volunteer to share, so when they did, he always made sure to call on them to give them a chance to speak.

**What might the teaching assistant have done differently to help you learn more?**

Comments
Nothing comes to mind. Jordan truly was excellent.
Nothing.
Nothing
More sections.
n/a
Nothing, Jordan was amazing and by far my favorite teaching assistant at Harvard Extension School thus far.
NA
N/A
Cover the course material we're expected to know on quizzes. Instead of asking us our opinions on theories or situations we could have used more insight to the schools of thought we were being asked to learn.
–
Jordan's responses to the moral dilemmas were consistently unhelpful and discouraging. He was consistently negative (anyone can do that), even contradicting his own advice from one moral dilemma to moral dilemma to insure sufficient negative fodder. The prompts were so simple for the dilemmas, but you would have had to be better than a mind reader to guess what would get some more good comments than negative from him in your limited 200 words. I wrote Jordan after his disheartening response to my third moral dilemma and asked him to contact me to help me get on "the page he wanted" with the dilemmas, but he never responded.
All sections seemed to be led effectively, but there were some substantial differences to how sections were led depending on the TA. For the final oral exam, it was not clear who would be the facilitator (felt a little caught off-guard to have a TA I had not had any interaction with all semester). The rubric for written work was phenomenal and detailed; recommend adding a grading rubric for the oral exam to help students better prepare and frame their arguments. Feedback on the oral exam (whether on the spot verbally or posted on Canvas) would be greatly appreciated so students can learn and grow.
N/A
Nothing, could have benefitted from attending a class
I believe that Jordan should petition for the length of class meeting times to be extended from 60 mins to 90. I believe he would agree that our sections would have greatly benefited from this additional time.
None
Give the seminar on writing at the beginning of the semester instead of the end...it was very helpful
N/A
I think a few minutes at the beginning of each discussion section as a mini-lecture could have been helpful, particularly for weeks when we covered the new philosophical content.
N/A
N/A
n/a (He was not my section teacher.)
N/A
Keep the discussion aligned (time-wise) with the syllabus.
I did not interact with this teaching assistant, as I was not in his section.
More time in online discussions as it didn't feel there was enough time to cover complex ideas and learn from other students. But what we did was effective and informative.
NA
Didn't have enough interactions to make a judgement.
Nothing
I think Jordan did a great job of leading the discussion group. The only thing that I think could have helped more (other than having more time) would be to send out some potential questions in advance to consider, but maybe the point was to be able to think in the moment.