Teaching Statement

Yiyao Luo

Throughout graduate school, I have gained teaching experience in econometrics and quantitative methods both as an instructor and as a teaching assistant. I am dedicated to fostering students' interests in econometrics and guiding them actively to engage with the materials. To accomplish this goal, it is imperative to show how the econometric topics are related to or serve the topics in other fields. I always start class with appealing questions in real-world cases to motivate students to anticipate the quantitative answers to those questions. My second goal is to help students understand the fundamentals and apply the analytical tools to real cases rigorously. Typically, econometric topics involve mathematics and statistics extensively. Instead of asking them to memorize the math, I emphasize the meaning and interpretation of the formulas under an economic context. Then a series of examples follow as chances where students try applying the tools and interpret the result in varied contexts. Besides equipping them with quantitative methods for their diverse academic and professional target, I aim to assist students in thinking, dissecting, and summarizing. To that end, I collaborate with students in recapping the previous topics and help them build up a roadmap as an instruction to solve potential questions.

In regards to undergraduate econometrics, I have been an instructor as well as a teaching assistant for "Introduction to Statistics and Econometrics." As an instructor of record, I intended to be available and approachable to students, so I held flexible office hours and arranged the transition of materials smoothly to break down the challenging ones. To guide students to apply the econometric and statistical tools in real-world applications, I supplemented the assignments with empirical practices based on software R.

In terms of assisting in graduate courses, I have also had experience in delivering recitations for a two-semester sequence, "Econometrics" and "Quantitative Methods." The latter is designed to prepare first-year Ph.D. students for essential mathematics knowledge. When the topics are convoluted, I elaborate on them with supplementary materials and explain the approach in layers.

Overall, I feel confident in my ability to contribute to your department's merits in teaching and supervising students. Also, I look forward to teaching and working with students on research.