

MSc GRADUATE STAFF-STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

For the Graduate Staff-Student Liaison Committee Meeting to be held on
Friday 1st of November 2024

A G E N D A

- 1. Introductions, led by the Chair of SSLC members and staff present**
- 2. Minutes of previous meeting, matters arising.**
- 3. Resources (Library/IT)**

Information Overloading

Many international students never had access to learning technologies such as Moodle and Tabula prior to coming here, hence they do not know where to find important materials (such as Lecture Capture, Problem sets and their solutions, Information about Monitoring Points etc). The current MSc Handbook is too detailed. Also, some student are feeling overloading because of overwhelming pages when find some information such as library and printing.

• What we can do:

1)For the upcoming terms:

Request the professors to spare a couple of minutes at the start of term to tell the class where to find the necessary attachments (like lecture capture, office hour).

2)Draft a simplified handbook:

SSLC members have already gathered important links, compiled them in a handy file, and shared it on both the WhatsApp and the WeChat groups.

- 4. Skills Development and Careers**
- 5. Assessment and Feedback**
- 6. Teaching and Learning**

Immediate and Urgent Needs

1)Micro B (EC9D31):

Several students have expressed concerns that the sessions lack sufficient examples and detailed explanations, as the lectures mainly consist of reading from the slides. This has made it challenging to fully grasp the material. Moreover, class engagement seems to be at an all time low since doubt clearing sessions and class interactions have repeatedly been discouraged by the professor. The students are particularly upset and are lacking motivation, which has resulted in the feeling of deep anxiety among all the Micro B students. Additionally, there have been instances where the classroom lighting was not turned on, which has impacted the overall learning environment and efficiency.

2)Micro A (EC901):

We would like to offer some suggestions to enhance the learning experience of Micro A. The students feel that a significant amount of time is spent on Vevox questions during

the lectures. While we really appreciate the engagement it gives us, we feel it may be more effective if some of these problems were shared with us beforehand, so we could reflect on them before class. This would allow more lecture time to focus on more complex material. Additionally, we would greatly benefit from more detailed explanations during class, beyond what's presented on the slides. The lectures are difficult to follow and would benefit from more examples/mathematical walk through. Lastly, if possible, receiving the asynchronous lectures at least a week in advance would help us come to class better prepared.

3) Econometrics A Class 4 (Room R1.03) :

The chairs and desks are arranged in a way that do not allow the students to see the whiteboard at all. The use of projectors will benefit the students.

4) Methods & Analysis in Behavioral Science (PS923)

The lectures provide limited guidance for solving the weekly problem sets, causing students to spend most of their time on homework and leaving insufficient time to study for other modules.

5) Econometrics A (EC902)

Although we really appreciate the lecturer arrangement of Prof. Bagues, since there are many international students, it's difficult for them to follow the lecture because his speaking is sometimes fast. We would appreciate if he can speak a little bit slowly, so that everyone can keep pace with the material. Additionally, students would like the calculation processes in the examples to be presented in more detail.

Suggestions and Feedback (not urgent)

1) Time between two classes:

Since some classes or lectures are right after one another, many students do not have enough time to reach the next class on time because of delays in finishing the previous class. This particularly becomes problematic in the seminars where attendance is marked. Hence, it will be of help if the tutors excuse the students for a reasonable delay of up to 5 minutes, and start the class 5 minutes later. Also, if the lecturers and tutors end the lectures and seminars 5 minutes earlier, it will allow the students to get to the next class on time.

2) MSc Behavioural Science (Overall course feedback)

Students appreciate and enjoy the multidisciplinary set up of the course, but feel that the Economics and Science track are siloed from the start (have entirely different induction schedules etc). Students would prefer more overlap of introductory activities to get to know their peers.

There have been several science track students that expressed that they wished to take Econometrics — and vice versa there are certain psych electives offered that are only available to science track students that Econ track students want to take.

3) Both B are theoretical oriented and they have lots of stuff to do with maths. Meanwhile, There are hundreds of proof during the class. But for seminars, we are facing much more

realistic questions. Approximately, half realistic questions and half theoretical questions in Micro while all theoretical in Macro.

Appreciation for specific lecturers and tutors

- 1) Minh Tung Le receives praise for his clear, energetic teaching in problem sets, effectively connecting theory to application and enhancing understanding.
- 2) Macro A, B and Econometric A, B are all highly praised among MSc students.
- 3) Professor Shantanu Chadha's approach during seminars is very helpful. His sessions provide the necessary support and create a more comfortable pace for revisiting and solidifying complex concepts, helping students to bridge the gap from lectures.

7. Student Engagement and Support

Coverage of SSLC

Currently, we have managed to involve most MSc students. We have established our SSLC Whatsapp Group and Wechat Group for Chinese student, where important information have been shared, such as the timing of exams and approach to specific materials. Additionally, SSLC members have tried to have informal chats with our fellow students, and share our own experiences so that the students warm up to us and willingly share their problems with us. Informal settings, such as the bus, before the start of classes, via personal chats, or while walking together, are preferred. In this way, we can understand their real needs.

8. Dissertation

9. Equality, Diversity, and Inclusivity

10. Any other business