

RICHARD T. THAKOR
Teaching Ratings and Evaluation Comments

MBA/MFin Courses

15.466 Functional and Strategic Finance

Spring 2015

Overall teaching rating: **7.0 / 7.0**

Teaching Assistant for: Robert C. Merton

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement):

- Created the best notes I've received at Sloan Clearly answered all questions Quick to respond to emails Best TA I've ever had
- Richard thank you so much! I learnt a lot from your recitations and notes!
- Richard is an excellent TA. The recitations were extremely clear and helpful, providing a good complement to the course. His way of teaching during these recitations was very pedagogic and limpid. The notes and slides he provided were always well prepared and again very helpful. He also did an excellent job at keeping us aware of the content of the classes, the things to prepare etc. We were always updated on time and with the right info. Finally, Richard was really committed to his TA's job, being always available to answer questions with precision and clarity.
- One of the most dedicated TAs we had in the program!
- Very good patient teaching style.
- The TA is very responsible and the recitation notes are very useful.
- Best TA ever! His great patience, attention to details, clear and up-to-the-point answers to all my questions are unparalleled. Thank you, Richard, for helping me figuring out arrow prices, compensation structures, accounting treatment towards derivatives and my many more questions. You possess the talent and art of explaining complex concepts in very simple and easy to understanding ways. Clarifying my doubts with you is such an enjoyable experience! Thanks!
- Excellent TA. very dedicated and well prepared. He always puts an extra effort to improve his duty as TA, always available to question and posses a great knowledge.

- Richard, you are the BEST TA I have ever had. Your notes and recitations are seriously exceptional. We were so lucky to have you for this class. If you become a professor, your classes will be maxed out without a doubt. You are amazing!
- Very accesible, great understanding of the subject and quite available to discuss topics of interest.

15.466 Functional and Strategic Finance

Spring 2014

Overall teaching rating: **6.8 / 7.0**

Teaching Assistant for: Robert C. Merton

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement):

- Richard is one of the best TA I have ever seen. He is very good at teaching and explain the concept in details.
- Recitations were extremely helpful in providing the quantitive background to concepts taught in class. Helped me to intuitively understand the theory behind each quantitative problem. Richard's detailed notes were very helpful in grasping the fundamentals behind concepts taught in class.
- The most excellent TA I've ever met.
- Excellent!
- Recitation notes were really helpful.
- Great TA, always concerned with helping people learn
- Richard is a great TA, he gave us great feedback on our problems sets with explanations of what was wrong and why it was wrong - not just saying +/- . He did a huge amount of work with putting up notes and slides, definitely one of the best TA's I've had at Sloan.

15.434 Advanced Corporate Finance

Fall 2013

Overall teaching rating: **6.0 / 7.0**

Teaching Assistant for: Nittai Bergman

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement):

- He's a great TA!

- Very helpful and assisting
- Best TA I had during my time at MIT. Explains things in details, understands quickly the students concern and communicate the answers well. Also, makes great study guides!

15.466 Functional and Strategic Finance

Spring 2013

Overall rating: **6.7 / 7.0**

Teaching Assistant for: Robert C. Merton

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement):

- excellent TA. Without him, I would have a really hard time to finish this class. Great resources to supplement concepts presented in class.
- He is just perfect. Honestly, everything I've learnt was because his efforts and dedication. I took the chance to take all office hours and make sure that I understand thoroughly. I want to particularly congratulate Prof. Merton and Richard.
- I like Richard because he is calm, precise, and answer my email questions promptly. For me, he is the best TA at MIT, and will be one of the best faculties because of his capability to listen and support us to learn.
- Richard is truly an excellent TA. He is always ready to spend extra minutes after class to speak with you about issues you may have experienced in class. His recitations are also always well prepared, and the class discussion is quite enticing, to say the least. Thanks Richard!
- I enjoy coming to the recitation. I can see Richard would be an excellent teacher.

15.434 Advanced Corporate Finance

Fall 2012

Teaching Assistant for: R. David McLean

No evaluation provided for this course for teaching assistants.

Executive (EMBA/Sloan Fellows) Courses

15.414 Financial Management

Summer 2014

Overall rating: **6.5 / 7.0**

Teaching Assistant for: Deborah Lucas

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement):

- Nothing short of GREAT. Very brilliant, clear and easy-to-understand lecture, and really helped fellows learn. All of us love him with a big-thankyou.
- He is a responsible person, and greatly helped not only me but also a lot of students keep up with the course. Without his support, I would not have been able to pass the final examination.
- Great future ahead of Richard
- Excellent TA... Definitely seasoned in teaching the subject. My only feedback is to try and get through the entire recitation material. We never seem to get through all the examples. However, this is a minor point, and perhaps otherwise prefer if he doesn't speed it up.
- Excellent TA! I couldn't have asked for anyone better!
- Very clear and confident.
- Richard is a very knowledgeable professional. He is very firm and poised and always willing to help.
- Outstanding TA.
- Richard engaged with students during and after recitations, kept a good flow in recitation sessions and provided excellent notes.
- Extremely good teacher. Will make an excellent professor. Highly recommend.
- Very patient and kind Took extra time and tried to accommodate everyone. Was always willing to help. I learnt more about the subject from Richard's recitations and office times. He always tried to explain as simple and as easy as possible Innovative and encouraging and very motivating TA Knows how to make the subject interesting
- Concentrated awesomeness! Richard was able to distill exactly what was important, while providing just enough context to make it interesting. I liked how he touched on his own areas of interest - which I think is key for any instructor. His pacing was pretty good considering

the volume of recitation material he compiled. Richard will make a most excellent professor, and certainly is MIT faculty caliber.

- His recitations were very simple but very easy to understand. His answers to the questions were always clear, and his materials were quite helpful.
- Amazing TA, best in summer semester. His very clear and concise explanation helped us a lot. Even complicated questions he managed quite well and explained within the levels most fellows can understand.
- A great teacher. Brought simplicity and clarity.
- He is very professional and helpful in all areas / questions. I definitely recommend him for finance TA again.
- Very clear in explanations and very good at handling the class and questions.
- Richard is an accomplished TA. His teaching's style demonstrates a lot of expertise and maturity. He has been a great asset to the class. He should be commended for his hardworking and availability.
- Richard is an excellent TA. Explains things in a very clear manner and is always very helpful.
- Richard was awesome, will make a great professor soon. Best Of Luck! Just be Yourself you are doing great !
- Very good TA...
- Very impressed with Richard with his ability to explain complex material in simple terms. Also his patience and respect he shows the class. Many times he would extend his time to help the cohorts for exams. The best TA experience!!!
- He was good at seeing each student. It was helpful.
- Richard understands the information and is able to help students not only get through the problem sets and prepare for exams, but also helps us reduce this to practice. Richard will make an excellent professor of this topic.
- will make a great prof one day
- Richard Thakor is probably one of the kindest, most knowledgeable and most talented people I met in the summer program. He knows how to explain topics and answer questions. He answered every single question I had via email and always followed up to see if I understood later. His recitation notes were excellent and his explanations were incredible. I hope this guy

becomes an MIT or Harvard Professor. He's a gem and was a tremendous asset to the summer program. He is by far the best teaching assistant I encountered all summer.

- amazing. give him the best TA award again. please. now.

15.414 Financial Management

Summer 2013

Overall rating: **6.9 / 7.0**

Teaching Assistant for: Dirk Jenter

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement):

- Patient and confident.
- His recitation was each time well prepared and has helped me a lot on revisiting the issues that were covered in the lecture. Thank you so much for your support
- Richard! You have been the best TA for the Summer term of SF program!
- Richard is super prepared and very professional. More a lecturer than a TA. I'm sure he has lots of industry experience, and may want to slip a bit of this into his teaching just to make the subject matter more "real" - especially in a Sloan Fellows class. Otherwise excellent.
- Richard is a very good and patient TA !! Excellent.
- Best TA we have ever seen. He will be an excellent teacher.
- From my experience in Sloan, I can say that Richard is the best TA I have ever had. Not only he dominates this realm of expertise, but also, he is a Kind and noble teacher. He is simply an incredible TA and should be a role model for other TA. I am sure that he will become a great profesor.
- Best TA till so far!
- Richard has been the most competent TA among all the classes during the summer period. he has a very good pace, and the recitation really balances out the heavy (and good) class.
- My only comment is for long-term teaching: Spice it up a bit. A little livelier tempo of voice.. some jokes. Otherwise you were a terrific TA and your recitations were excellent.
- Not only were we lucky to have Prof Jenter, we were fortunate to have Richard as our TA. His recitation notes were nothing short of phenomenal and helpful in learning the material. Because this class covered so much material, I would have been a bit lost without Richard's recitation.

- Richard is able to distill Dirk's key points succinctly and presents them in a straightforward manner for clarity. He is calm and measured in answering questions and handles the recitations extremely well. He is an excellent teacher. One of the best TAs that I have encountered at Sloan.
- Richard is an excellent TA.
- Excelente TA, so far the best TA during the summer. His recitations were extremely profesional, his knowledge is strong and his teaching performance was excelent.
- He would be an excellent profesor in the short term. Thanks
- Richard is one of a kind, not only extremely smart and skillful about finance but also with an amazing method of teaching. He has a great disposition all the time, always able to teach an explain about any task and always worried about each one of us. I hope Mit realize the great teacher assistance Richard is,
- The best TA I have ever had.
- Exellent TA. He should be a professor.
- Richard was an excellent complement to Dirk. He was crisp in his explanations and clearly was a master of the topic. I believe he will make an excellent professor.
- Thank you for great lecture.
- I did not attend even ONE of the recitation. However, the recitation notes was of very high quality, very clear explanation of concepts etc and it was extremely useful as pre-final exam review material.
- wow! you teach as good as some of the professors. v clear and concise.
- Thanks for all of your dedication and great work!
- He is a great TA, very professional, excelent. With Dirk, they are an awesome team.
- Definitely going to be one of the good future professors in finance
- Richard was comprehensively prepared for each session. He exhibited patience in his instruction, confidence in the content and a capacity to support the lectures with all necessary details in order to undertake the quantitative aspects of this course. Very approachable and responsive--it was like have a second professor more than a TA. Extemely talented and valuable.

- His texts in every class greatly help us understand it.
- Richard is very helpful and explains concepts very nicely.
- Best TA ever
- The best TA so far. Richard could teach this class.
- Very well prepared and presented

15.S06 Topics in Corporate Finance

January 2013 (mini-course)

Teaching Assistant for: Nittai Bergman

No evaluation provided for this course for teaching assistants.

15.414 Financial Management

Summer 2012

Teaching Assistant for: Kathryn Kaminski

No separate evaluation provided for this course for teaching assistants.

15.414 Financial Management

Summer 2011

Teaching Assistant for: Andrew W. Lo and Kathryn Kaminski

No separate evaluation provided for this course for teaching assistants.

Other Courses

15.301 Managerial Psychology

Fall 2013

Overall rating: **6.1 / 7.0**

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement):

No comments provided.

Finance Made Difficult

Summer 2012 (mini-course)

Teaching Assistant for: John Cox, Leonid Kogan, Andrew W. Lo, Stewart Myers,
Robert C. Merton, and Antoinette Schoar

No evaluation provided for this course for teaching assistants.