Graduate Course Evaluation for Julian McAuley
Rady School of Management

MGTA 495 - Special Topics
Section ID 958204
Section Number B00
Fall 2018

Number of Evaluations Submitted: 35
Number of Students Enrolled: 47

1. The course goals and objectives were clearly specified at the outset of this course.

22 (62.9%): Strongly Agree
12 (34.3%): Agree
1 (2.9%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

2. The Instructor’s methods were appropriate for the course material.

20 (57.1%): Strongly Agree
13 (37.1%): Agree
2 (5.7%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

3. This course met its goals and objectives.

22 (62.9%): Strongly Agree
11 (31.4%): Agree
1 (2.9%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
1 (2.9%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable
4. Performance standards (i.e., grading criteria, grading system) were clear, and the Instructor provided appropriate feedback on my performance.

21 (60.0%): Strongly Agree
10 (28.6%): Agree
3 (8.6%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
1 (2.9%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

5. I know significantly more about this subject than before I took this course.

24 (68.6%): Strongly Agree
10 (28.6%): Agree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
1 (2.9%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

6. What is your overall rating of this course?

22 (62.9%): Excellent
11 (31.4%): Above Average
1 (2.9%): Average
1 (2.9%): Below Average
0 (0.0%): Poor

7. I would recommend this course overall.

20 (57.1%): Strongly Agree
14 (40.0%): Agree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
1 (2.9%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree

8. The Instructor displayed sufficient knowledge of the subject matter.

23 (65.7%): Strongly Agree
12 (34.3%): Agree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable
9. The Instructor was open to student questions (during or outside of class) and was available for help outside of class.

21 (60.0%): Strongly Agree
12 (34.3%): Agree
1 (2.9%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
1 (2.9%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

10. What is your overall rating of the Instructor?

19 (55.9%): Excellent
12 (35.3%): Above Average
3 (8.8%): Average
0 (0.0%): Below Average
0 (0.0%): Poor
1: [No Response]

11. I would recommend this instructor overall.

19 (54.3%): Strongly Agree
14 (40.0%): Agree
2 (5.7%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree

12. What aspects of this course contributed most to your learning?

• Because it's a CSE course, so we are really pushed to learn a lot.

• Enjoyed the presentation style of the class - was very appropriate especially for the podcast style of the class. Professor was also very responsive and very clear.

• He is humorous and makes machine learning easier to understand.

• I have learned some machine learning techniques which are very useful.

• The assignments and homework

• The lectures were designed in a manner that encouraged students to understand the algorithms and the techniques well.

• Theoretical and Practical Applications of Machine Learning

• Understanding the concept and application about recommender systems.
13. What aspects of this course, if any, detracted from your learning?

- Basic machine learning theory and Python.
- I felt that there was a major gap between what was taught in class as compared to what was expected out of the assignments. The class taught us how to do something, but I think there was a lack of guidance with respect to what resources we can use to improve the models that we are building.
- Maybe too difficult for ba student
- The Assignment 2, was Vague. Learning could be much more if it was more theoretical Like Mid semester. Kaggle competition was too competitive and over a long period of time, many students resorted to sharing codes, both on Github and offline. This should be controlled and avoided as much as possible. It only makes the hardworking students life tougher.
- The distribution of the course material may be rearranged in next quarter. We spend much time on basic material while the advanced models were only slightly covered like a Ted talk.
- Too much coding.

14. What made this course intellectually stimulating?

- All and everything
- Applying algorithms to application.
- Fundamental knowledge of machine learning and constructing practical models and systems
- Learning to code when you don't have coding background before.
- The competition in Kaggle. We tried our best to get a good MSE with any solutions we can think of.
- The content of the course was very interesting.
- The Mid Semester Exam, However it was relatively easier compared to Previous years. The standards should be Higher YoY, for the learning to improve.

15. Do you have any other comments to add to your evaluation?

*Please keep your comments constructive and professional, abiding by the Principles of Community*

- have a good run pen
- I'm not sure if I would recommend Business Analytics students to take this class. It has a very steep learning curve, and it is easy to be discouraged.
- The course is excellent and if it can cover more machine learning methods like random forest, it would be more attractive to me.
- The Professor is the Best, He should teach more courses. This is simply the best course i took so far.
Please note that any responses or comments submitted by evaluators do not necessarily reflect the opinions of instructors, Rady School of Management, Academic Affairs, or UC San Diego. Responses and comments are made available without auditing or editing, and they may not be modified or deleted, to ensure that each evaluator has an opportunity to express his or her opinion.