Instructor: **Platt, Robert**

Subject: **CS**

Catalog & Section: **5180 01**

Course ID: **14652**

Objectives:

Enrollment: **47**

Responses Incl Declines: **24**

Declines: **1**

Instructor Related Questions: Robert Platt (21 comments)

Q: What were the strengths of this course and/or this instructor?

1	Very grounded approach for such a theoretical subject
2	Friendly Obviously enjoys the subject of RL Accommodating to students needs
3	I think this class had some really interesting course material. Additionally, I liked the assignments for the most part. They helped me learn the most. The instructor was fine. I think he was most engaging when writing on the whiteboard.
4	The professor conveyed information very well. It is an extremely dense course but he managed to convey all the main concepts well.
5	The professor really knows his stuff and carefully prepares for lectures because he will bring hand-writing notes so that he can derive some details that are not mentioned in the textbook. As long as you pay attention to following him, you will get a very comprehensive yet deep understanding of RL.
6	Assignments
7	The book was very useful. The assignments seemed to help reinforce topics.

Q: What could the instructor do to make this course better?
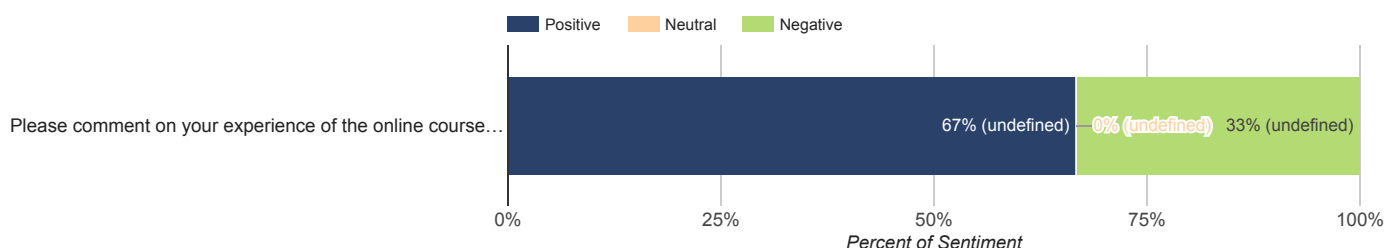
1	A bit more proof / motivation via probability and linear algebra would be nice
2	Understand/make it seem like you've looked through the slides ahead of time. Sometimes it feels like we're both seeing the slides for the same time, and that is an awkward feeling.
3	I feel like the lectures could have been a bit more engaging. The instructor just spoke off slides for the most part. I think more explanations and notes on the whiteboard would be useful.
4	Assignments were incredibly long. I would typically spend 20-40 hours a week on assignments alone for just this class. Perhaps make assignments due biweekly and slightly reduce their lengths.
5	Lesser assignments, more time for Projects, More basics, Code examples in class
6	The last courses are in a bit hurry in order to finish on time. But some of them really contain some important parts for further RL learnings. Honestly, it is hard to manage so much stuff in one term.
7	Deal with a little more maths in the course.
8	The instructor could have been better at pacing. We really went through a lot more detail on the easier topics and barely had time to talk about the more complex topics at the end which was disappointing.

Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.
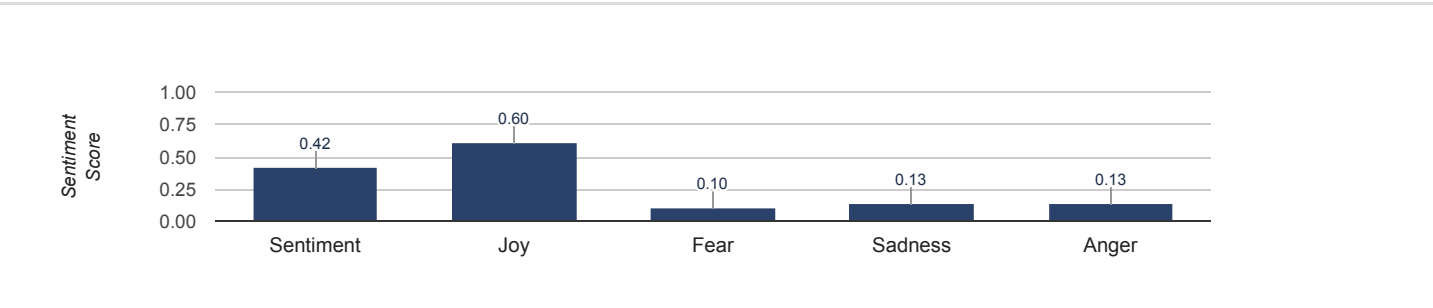
1	Huh?
2	Edit slide decks to reflect what you want to teach, not just what you've received from the previous instructor
3	Professor explained material well. Assignments were very practical and complemented the theoretical lecture material.
4	Good communication, clear ideas and notes
5	Really recommend this course. But you have to prepare to spend about 10 per week on it.
6	The professor did a good job facilitating inclusive learning by making sure he answered questions.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (6 comments)

Q: Please comment on your experience of the online course environment in the open-ended text box.

Legend: Positive, Neutral, Negative

Please comment on your experience of the online course… — 67% (undefined), 0% (undefined), 33% (undefined)

Percent of Sentiment

Q: Please comment on your experience of the online course environment in the open-ended text box.

1	Piazza is great ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
2	Lecture notes were frequently not updated in time for class ★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
3	This was a primarily in-person course. Some students needed online accommodations, so the professor tried his best. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
4	I mainly attend in-person classes. Professor Platt opens zoom in every class and checks if the sharing and voice are right. Also, online TA office hours are really helpful. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
5	It was good. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
6	It was disorganized. It was nice to have piazza to discuss homework with classmates. ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (11 comments)

Q: What I could have done to make this course better for myself.

1	Plan the term project better
2	Pay better attention in class Ask more questions
3	I think starting the assignments earlier would have really helped. The late day policy is nice, but sometimes I would need to start early even if I could take two late days.
4	Maybe talk to the TAs and professor more often when I got stuck. I spent too much time on the assignments.
5	Develop more technical skills
6	Should make full use of TA OH because TAs are willing to answer all kinds of questions with full patience.
7	study prior to class
8	Take the final project more seriously.
9	study on my own
10	If i had more interaction with classmates or TA or professor I might have understood topics faster.
11	Studied more and asked more questions