Instructor: Ahmad, Uzair Subject: CS Catalog & Section: 6140 01 Course ID: 51358 Objectives: Enrollment: **31**

Responses Incl Declines: 27

Declines: 0

Instructor Related Questions: Uzair Ahmad (28 comments)

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

- 1 Very knowledgeable
- 2 It was well structured
- 3 Professor Ahmad was very flexible and accommodating
- 4 Course was well organized.
- 5 Lot of research experience
- 6 The homework was ok. I was able to apply some of the concepts that I learn.
- 7 Good assignments and good topics. Instructor is very intelligent and answers questions well
- 8 The professor demonstrated strong enthusiasm for machine learning and was happy to answer any questions in class sessions or through office hours.
- 9 The instructor was able to make the online course engaging. This created an environment where I was able to learn well and excited for class. The assignments were interesting and applicable to the course material
- 10 Professor was lenient with the deadlines and this helped me greatly as many used to clash with my work commitments

Q: What could the instructor do to make this course better?

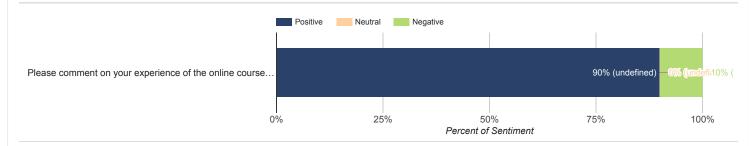
- Assignments couldve been a bit more clear with how its worded, what we are supposed to do and what should the final outcome look like
- 2 Maybe add more details to assigments/projects
- 3 Perhaps speak with more pace
- 4 ifeel like there's a pretty severe degradation of assignment quality past assignment 2. assignment 2 was insanely detailed and rigorous, and assignments 3 and 4 in comparison were just like, whatever.
- 5 Balance the Gradebook better. Assignment were 40% of the grade, one assignment was 62.5% of all the points in the assignment category.
- 6 Test more on reading
- The course time could have been longer, which could have been used to explain more details on the background information and how to apply it to math. Much of the math involved showing the slide and explaining it in a few sentences, and I couldn't understand any of it. The syllabus can be organized better, some homework were assign to due before the concept was taught, and some homework didn't have clear due date. The communication was very last minute sometimes.
- 8 Better slides/material would be nice. Some of the math was hard to understand purely from the slides, so outside review felt necessary
- 9 Assignments were very disorganized with crucial information often not being released until the day before a 3 week assignment or the week before the course project was due. A couple of times, new requirements were even added with very little notice. The assignment descriptions themselves were often vague and unclear. Additionally, we were constantly examined on topics that were never even mentioned in class or through any provided reading material, both on assignments, weekly quizzes, the midterm, and presumably on the final as well. While it was possible to study materials independently for assignments or reach out to the professor or teaching assistants for additional help, this obviously wasn't possible for exams. This made the exams very frustrating and I feel we were not fairly evaluated on the topics learned in the class. I think it would be very beneficial for future iterations of this course if assignment materials were better written and organized, with sufficient information given at the outset, and if quizzes and exams covered material that was reasonably covered in class or through provided reading materials.
- 10 I think it would be interesting if the instructor were to share about what his expectations were for the future regarding the subject matter.
- 11 Just not have code walks as it becomes quite difficult to get a suitable time slot with the Task

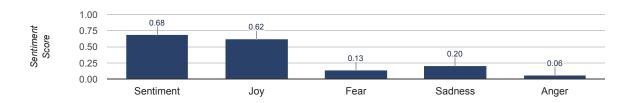
Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.

- 1 Not much, he was pretty great
- 2 n/a
- 3 N/A
- 4 Go into more depth on each concept covered, with applications
- 5 I was very disappointed in this class. I understand that this is online class but I am disappointed that I'm paying thousands of dollars for low quality class. I chose this class because I thought if I wanted to learn it well, I couldn't do it myself with all the concepts and math. I needed a class and support from the class so that I could learn it well. I ended up learning everything online from another school's open course materials and without those resources, I would've failed the course. I guess from this class I learned that I can actually learn ML by myself.
- 6 Instructor did very well. I think it was a well structured course.
- 7 Professor taught the subject in detail but I believe the course would do much more if it was more industry use case centered rather than just the technicalities of ML.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (10 comments)

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





- 1 Great teacher. He definitely knows his stuff ★★★★
- 2 It was fun. ★★★★
- 3 To many platforms. This course could easily be run through just canvas. It didn't need Teams and Piazza as well. ★ ★ ★ ☆
- 4 It was a good revision on the fundamentals ★★★★
- 5 The instructor is super nice, caring for the students, and knowledgeable about the course material. $\star\star\star\star\star\star$
- 6 The class time was very short, and the pace was very slow. Some concepts were not explained during the class time. At the same time, I found that I often get lost in class due to a lack of clarity in walking through concepts. ★ ★ ★ ☆
- 7 Good class overall. Tests were a little hard, but assignments were good \star \star \star \star
- 8 It was sufficient with what I expect in an online course. \star \star \star \star
- 9 Intense for someone without prior knowledge on ML, but very useful in learning concepts. \star \star \star \star
- 10 It was helpful as I was able to balance it with my ongoing coop. ★★★★

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (9 comments)

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

- 1 The some of the topics were new to me so i should've put more effort into self-studying
- 2 Actively participate in lecture by asking questions
- 3 N/A
- 4 Include more detailed materials, and aid for understanding it
- 5 Maybe form a small study group in the early of the semester. feel a bit of isolated with totally online course.
- 6 This class seems like it was designed for students with background knowledge. I had to spend a LOT of time catching up outside of class. I ended up using videos from other schools to self-learn for the rest of the class because those videos explain the concepts a lot better.
- $7 \quad \text{The only thing I felt I lacked was my math background, so I probably would've brushed up on my linear algebra, statistics, and calculus.}$
- 8 Nothing
- 9 Probably attended the classes more