

Machine Learning (Spring 2023)

Instructor: **Ahmad, Uzair**
Subject: **CS**
Catalog & Section: **6140 04**
Course ID: **38927**
Objectives:

Enrollment: **36**
Responses Incl Declines: **25**
Declines: **1**

Instructor Related Questions: Uzair Ahmad (18 comments)

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

- 1 Uzair is always available to help students and willing to accommodate those of us who are struggling.
- 2 -
- 3 Professor Uzair offered weekly lecture meeting plus office hour.
- 4 Uzair was very engaging and clearly wanted us all to learn. He was available engaging and attentive at office hours. The mathematical rigor of the course leaves me feeling very prepared for future courses and/or co-ops.

The assignments were all extremely useful. To code machine learning algorithms from scratch, or to have to work with mathematical proofs forces you to learn in-depth what an algorithm is actually doing.
- 5 He is clearly passionate and keeps up to date with the subject of the course. I appreciated that the professor often talked about the history being made around us in this field and was good about bringing practical applications to the foreground.
- 6 flexible time for class

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

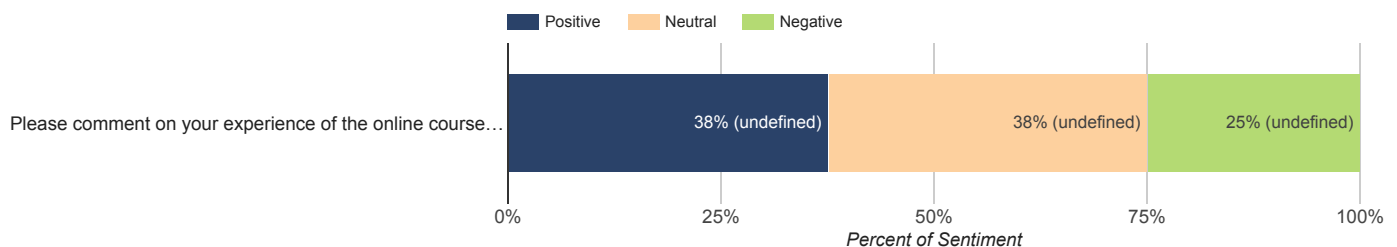
- 1 More clear deadlines and solidifying expectations ahead of time. Less of a dependence on the textbooks, which are dense and difficult to read. More ML coding examples to reinforce topics discussed in class.
- 2 Respond to students questions, give context, have the due dates be correct
- 3 Please try to make announcement regarding the submission of assignment and project clearer and state the requirement clearly.
- 4 Probably a little more prepare and make the class more engaging. I attend a session but I was really dried
- 5 In contrast to the assignments that I mentioned in the previous box, the online quizzes are completely disconnected from the content in the modules, and often have downright incorrect answers. After quizzes were over, I would search the videos and all of the module notes for information and there were many questions whose answers were nowhere to be found in the related module (or any previous module). In addition, on more than one occasion the answer key was drastically wrong. Uzair was very receptive to feedback, but the entire 'quiz' part of this course seems to need an overhaul. I suspect it's simply a case of the quizzes not being updated in a while, and that the course material has shifted somewhat from what it used to be.
- 6 Consider how to make assignment descriptions more clear if possible.
- 7 have more instruction on the quizzes and assignments
- 8 I think this course's subjects are a little too much, some part is hard for me without basic.

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

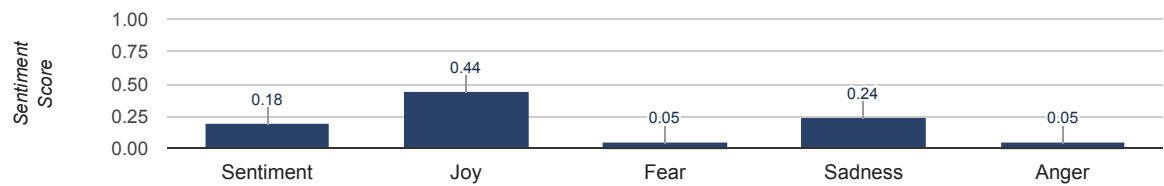
- 1 It would be useful to dedicate some class time to going over homework assignments, the final project, and the final exam.
- 2 Just answer questions that the students have. Moreso about due dates, materials on quiz, etc. We were told to reach out to the professor on Teams as he does not reply to email (which is also concerning), however he still did not even respond to all questions on teams. very frustrating
- 3 To improve, I think he could be more prepare for the course. The syllabus and assignment should be more concise. Most of the time the assignments are not clear so I have to ask the TA for clarification. TA sometimes also do not know because he/she said he/she's not the one design this assignment...
- 4 I saw no weaknesses in this area, the Professor would make a point each class to include as many people in the conversation as possible.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (8 comments)

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



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- 1 Although Uzair was usually available to answer questions about expectations, many of the deadlines and rubrics were outdated, incorrect, or missing important information. Some of the in-person lectures did not get recorded as well. This made it difficult to plan ahead of time. ★★☆☆☆
- 2 -★★★☆☆
- 3 good★★★★★
- 4 The class is not really great. We did not dive in depth into the materials. I feel like I learn something but how in depth I understand that, I'd say no. ★☆☆☆☆
- 5 Professor was very helpful.★★★★★
- 6 sometimes the resources are too discrete and students may miss important information like some due on Piazza. ★★☆☆☆
- 7 The professor was fantastic in synchronous lessons and office hours. However, there was zero way of communicating with fellow classmates. Not even a Teams group for finding groupmates for the final project. ★★☆☆☆
- 8 It could be me but I found it difficult to be confident that I knew exactly what I needed to be done and when. Other than that I had a wonderful experience!★★★★★

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (4 comments)

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

- 1 I could have started my assignments earlier and made better use of office hours.
- 2 -
- 3 I usually have a hard time sticking to a schedule that I make and this was no exception. I could have been better about sticking to my schedules I made for myself.
- 4 TA can have more feedback on the assignment