

CAPEs, Life Advice, and A5

Learning goals:

- Fill out CAPE for 108
- Hear Sam's life advice
- Work on A5 and final projects

COGS 108 Fall 2019

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Discussion 10!

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OH: Wed 10-11a in SSRB 100

Why do CAPEs matter?

- I read **every single response** to my CAPEs.
 - Your responses help me improve my teaching!
- **My department** uses CAPEs to judge my teaching.
- My dream is to have a career in teaching!
 - CAPEs help me get recognized.

What should you put in a CAPE?

- Please be honest!
- Write **traits** or **examples** of things I did.
 - “Extremely enthusiastic, clear explanations, and quite compassionate.”
 - “Use more visualizations instead of plain text to explain new concepts.”
- Or just write something funny.
 - “Sam is literally my savior”
 - “cute tbh”

Please fill out CAPE!

<https://cape.ucsd.edu/students/>

Sam's Advice

On Grades

- Be wary of the default thinking: “grades matter the most”.
- Undergrad is one of the least busy times of your life.
 - Corollary: you might never feel like your life is together.
- Both industry and academic are most interested in what is unique about you. Getting good grades isn't unique.
- Therefore: trade grades to find out what is exciting to you.
 - Sam traded grades in order to teach more.
- E.g. join research lab, get involved with teaching, super-excel in one class, do an independent project, start a company, etc.

On Emotions

- Emotions can be troublesome but they are often smoke to a fire.
 - I've watched many friends work really hard and then crash and burn.
 - I've crashed and burned from ignoring my emotions.
- Examining yourself early is usually better than examining yourself later.
- But it's not true that you can always trust what you feel.
 - You will want an external guide.

Thank you for a great quarter!

A5 tips

- 1a: Change column names by assigning to `df.columns`
- 1c: Use `pd.Series.apply()`.
- 1d: Write one (long) line that looks like
`vectorizer = CountVectorizer(...)`
- 1f: Convert a Series to array by using `pd.Series.to_array` or `.values`
- 1g: Both `num_training` and `num_testing` should just be integers.
- 1h: Writing `MR_X[:1000]` takes the first 1000 rows of `MR_X`.
- 1i: You need to return `clf` at the end of the function.