Reflection

This was a rather overwhelming semester. I selected the class as it is one of the required classes to take for Learning Analysis. Before taking this course, I didn’t know anything about the Python language, other than knowing it is popular. I had some language experience with SQL and R. I took one class in R practice in a Business Analysis course and became more confident about coding as I did rather well in that R class. I was not good at coding before. When I took this course, I hoped to increase my knowledge in Python and expected to do well or at least ok in the course. Then my goal kind of shifted as it becomes more challenging, and I was just hoping to pass the course with a decent understanding of all the content. And I kind of regrated taking four courses for the first semester and probably should’ve sticked to three courses to adjust to this new environment.

I think working in group and working individually makes a big difference. And I do regret didn’t look for a group to work those projects with from the start. As I look back, the R class that I did rather well involve me working in a group. And by the end of this semester, I got to work with Siyu’s group (very appreciate that they allowed me to join as it was rather late) and got some help. And I think working with at least two people or more works better, as people would hold each other more accountable. I also reached out to Mina and Mark individually for different project. But after one meeting or two, it kind of became individual project as we all have different schedule and have very different progress on the project itself. Starting up with a group and stick with it became very beneficial for asking for help and learning from one another, aside from the easier workload. Ironically, I feel that it is the biggest take away I get from this course.

But aside from that, it was very interesting to learn about the Python language and its practice in EDM. I feel I became better at running the code and solving its issue as they appear randomly, which was rather challenging for me before. I still have some trouble interpreting some clustering results and practicing some codes. But it was a good intro class that helped me to get a decent understanding about all the logistic regressions and clustering tools and Python’s basic practices in EDM. The most challenging part may be about understanding and running the codes themselves and interpreting the results. For our aca project that involves selecting the variables ourselves to analyze and make decision, it was also rather challenging in reading about all the variables and figure out the most relevant variables by our own definition. But overall, it was a rather difficult but fun experience. By fun I mean it does feel satisfying after completing those projects and figuring out our previous problems. And I very appreciate that professor you had been very generous towards our problems and provide helps and reminders during the progress.