JHU - Krieger School of Arts & Sciences / Whiting School of Engineering
ASEN.2025.Spring Project 2
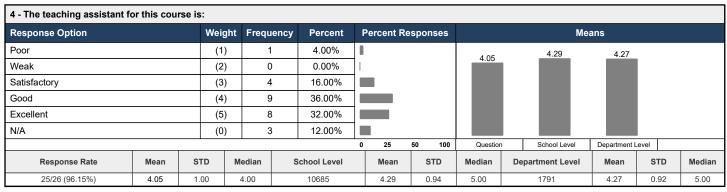
Course:	EN.553.633.01.SP25: Monte Carlo Methods
Instructor:	Apurva Nakade *
Response Rate:	25/26 (96.15 %)

1 - The overall quality of this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%
Weak	(2)	0	0.00%
Satisfactory	(3)	2	8.00%
Good	(4)	5	20.00%
Excellent	(5)	17	68.00%
N/A	(0)	1	4.00%

Means: Question 4.63, School Level 4.24, Department Level 4.14

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
25/26 (96.15%)	4.63	0.65	5.00	11051	4.24	0.92	4.00	1839	4.14	0.99	4.00

2 - The instructor's teaching effectiveness is:

Apurva Nakade

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%
Weak	(2)	1	4.00%
Satisfactory	(3)	2	8.00%
Good	(4)	6	24.00%
Excellent	(5)	15	60.00%
N/A	(0)	1	4.00%

Means: Question 4.46, School Level 4.31, Department Level 4.19

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
25/26 (96.15%)	4.46	0.83	5.00	11837	4.31	0.94	5.00	1828	4.19	1.05	5.00

3 - The intellectual challenge of this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%
Weak	(2)	1	4.00%
Satisfactory	(3)	3	12.00%
Good	(4)	9	36.00%
Excellent	(5)	11	44.00%
N/A	(0)	1	4.00%

Means: Question 4.25, School Level 4.30, Department Level 4.37

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
25/26 (96.15%)	4.25	0.85	4.00	10778	4.30	0.84	4.00	1808	4.37	0.80	5.00

4 - The teaching assistant for this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Poor	(1)	1	4.00%
Weak	(2)	0	0.00%
Satisfactory	(3)	4	16.00%
Good	(4)	9	36.00%
Excellent	(5)	8	32.00%
N/A	(0)	3	12.00%

Means: Question 4.05, School Level 4.29, Department Level 4.27

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
25/26 (96.15%)	4.05	1.00	4.00	10685	4.29	0.94	5.00	1791	4.27	0.92	5.00

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5 - Please enter the name of the TA you evaluated in question 4:

Response Rate	7/26 (26.92%)

• Jingyi Zhang

• not sure

• Qiuxin

• Qiuxin Gao

• Qiuxin Gao

• Jingyi Zhang / Qiuxin Gao

• Qiuxin Gao

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6 - Feedback on my work for this course is useful:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Disagree strongly	(1)	1	4.17%
Disagree somewhat	(2)	0	0.00%
Neither agree nor disagree	(3)	3	12.50%
Agree somewhat	(4)	10	41.67%
Agree strongly	(5)	9	37.50%
N/A	(0)	1	4.17%

Means: Question 4.13, School Level 4.14, Department Level 4.04

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
24/26 (92.31%)	4.13	0.97	4.00	10591	4.14	0.98	4.00	1764	4.04	0.96	4.00

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7 - Compared to other Hopkins courses at this level, the workload for this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Much lighter	(1)	0	0.00%
Somewhat lighter	(2)	4	16.67%
Typical	(3)	13	54.17%
Somewhat heavier	(4)	6	25.00%
Much heavier	(5)	0	0.00%
N/A	(0)	1	4.17%

Means: Question 3.09, School Level 3.36, Department Level 3.59

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
24/26 (92.31%)	3.09	0.67	3.00	10624	3.36	0.93	3.00	1780	3.59	0.91	3.00

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8 - What are the best aspects of this course?

Response Rate	10/26 (38.46%)

• no cumulative exams , posted notes on canvas

• Code implementation besides math

• all good.

• Have a good understanding of the relevant content

• I enjoyed getting to apply course concepts to coding homeworks. Great lectures by Prof. Nakade too!

• Very fun course to apply probabilistic techniques in practice

• Great overview of the field of Monte Carlo methods and many subtopics. The grading also seems fair. Everything is quite predictable with the weekly quizzes and homeworks. No midterms or finals is great.

• Fun topics, I liked that the course was centered more around learning rather than exams. I learnt a lot in a very unstressful environment.

• light workload but learning a lot. i like how we were able to explore such a wide variety of topics over the semester. was nice to get an introduction to everything instead of a deep dive into one subject

• I really liked how the course was structured: weekly quizzes, interactive Jupyter notebooks, and a variety of various topics. The instructor did a really great job designing the weekly homeworks and quizzes, and it was very enjoyable to do the final project. The pacing of the content was also very well done, I felt like even though the concepts were distinct there was an overall coherent progression.

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Response Rate: 25/26 (96.15 %)

9 - What are the worst aspects of this course?	
Response Rate	6/26 (23.08%)

• all good.

• I didn't enjoy the frequency of the quizzes, I think it would be more beneficial to have biweekly quizzes for the full 50 min, and spend non-quiz weeks to recap key lecture concepts or to help prepare for the quiz.

• Tough quizzes

• Would appreciate maybe two separate projects during the course. Sometimes I felt like the instructor was improvising the course.

• Sometimes the coding assignments got confusing, it could be nice to have more well-defined descriptions and instructions

• quizzes every week was a little difficult at times

10 - What would most improve this class?	
Response Rate	6/26 (23.08%)

• all good.

• Having better communication at the start of the semester about the difficulty level of the quizzes

• Honestly would love to go faster. I feel we spent too much time on the set up of MCMC that we didn't get too much applications.

• The TA section feedback on quizzes were not very helpful, improvement on that could be good

• maybe quiz every other week, and ta instruction/review session/demonstrations during the other weeks

• More real-world examples and demonstrations would be a good way to intuitively understand the various MC algorithms.

11 - What should prospective students know about this course before enrolling? (You may comment on any aspect of this course such as assumed background, readings, grading systems, and so on.)	
Response Rate	6/26 (23.08%)

• weekly quizzes

• all good.

• Professor is very good and the content is fairly easy to grasp after probability and statistics

• Pretty chill class!

• Coding background is important

• background in python is very helpful, cursory background in probability/statistics enough as well