Instructor: **Amato, Christopher**

Subject: **CS**

Catalog & Section: **5100 01**

Course ID: **11209**

Objectives:

Enrollment: **59**

Responses Incl Declines: **14**

Declines: **0**

Instructor Related Questions: Christopher Amato (19 comments)

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

1   professor is great to learn search algorithms and certain Reinforcement Learning techniques. You may grit your teeth at times but the job does get accomplished.

2   Professor Amato is very knowledgeable and the material is fascinating.

3   The course would be interesting if the professor explained concepts rather than showing slides of UC Berkley. The course is not at the Grad level since the course work has been taken from UC Berkley undergrad he provided the same to us.

4   Material and in class teaching session.

5   NA

6   That you will build everything from scratch and will learn so much, though it is steep learning you will get their eventually.

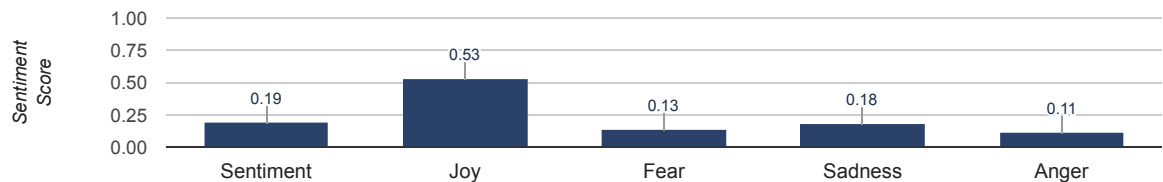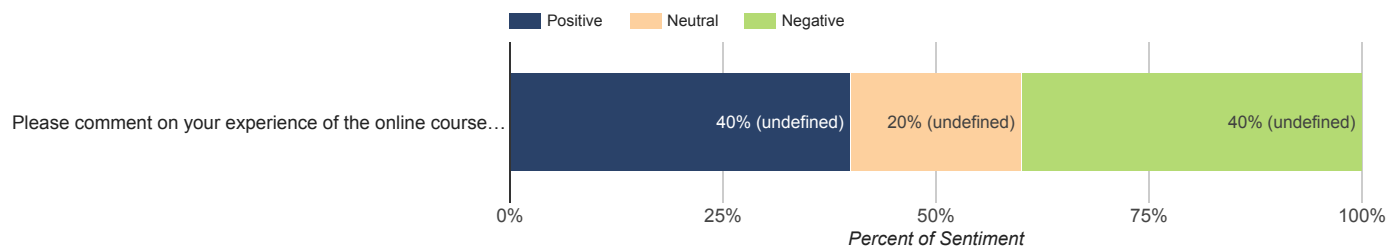### Q: What could the instructor do to make this course better?

1   Provide better instructions for content beyond search and Markov Chains. Examples in class sometime became confusing because of the convoluted examples used. Homework's were extremely inconsistent. Often times context of problems were confusing where the professor admit that the context is confusing. There were many instances where the question was wrong or misleading as well. Grading also became an issue where often times TA's were proven to be incorrect. I often wonder whether the TAs graded correctly because some of the questions the TAs or professor refuse to give the solution and I question how grading was performed. Overall, I just got tired of bad homework problems, bad TA gradings, trying to understand confusing material that he teaches but is completely clear from a previous professor I have taken at NEU. I have had many excellent professors at NEU who taught better and this professor failed to deliver.

2   Professor Amato's lectures are dry, and seem to be built around a level of student interaction that he doesn't get. Homework often felt like it was coming out late, or based on material we hadn't gotten to yet. The pace of the class felt very confused.

3   TAs did not seem knowledgable in subject
more OH times with professor that worked better in the weekly schedule i.e., not the day PS were due
more examples in class
have PS ready earlier

4   The professor should explain the concepts and at least implement the algorithms in the class instead of assuming that students will understand everything just from PPT.

5   The cs188 assignments, both problem sets and programming assignments need to be replaced. The slides as well.

6   Instructor could grade performance more fairly and provide homework solution so students do not repeat same mistakes in exam.

7   Adding more basic concepts in regard to machine learning and explaining concepts clearly.

8   Get more TAs since there are only 4 TAs and they don't respond on Piazza as well as don't know the concepts when visiting office hours. Could provide solutions of the problem sets.

9   Exams are very tough, even to answer some of them need a deep understanding of the concepts. Though it is named as a fundamental, the toughness increases very steeply. Besides these, it's very difficult to complete the course without the help from the online resources.

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

1   Professor has great enthusiasm and tempo in right areas, but loses individuals with unconventional methods of teaching that could be more simple with better hands-on examples. Accept better TA's who can grade and is more available. Provide better homework questions that is vetted by yourself for understanding. Narrow the scope for midterms by providing a past mock exam that students can study. Narrowing topics on over 10 lectures for midterm 2 was a nightmare especially when scope can be within class lectures, homeworks, programming assignments, and etc... Give the midterm a test trial for time before handing to students. Several students I've talked to didn't even finish the exam or rushed answers (there were several areas that calculations took time to calculate). Provide a guideline for research projects where you give an example of what formal is within different scopes beside search.

2   The Programming assignments are taken from UC Berkley and the evaluation is too bad for the assignment. Adding new assignments would be better and problem sets are also from UC Berkley there's nothing new the professor is adding to the course.

3   Exam material and time distance between 2 exams.

4   A lot of improvement in helping students comprehend the content in the better way providing different perspectives to students.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (5 comments)

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

Please comment on your experience of the online course…

40% (undefined)	20% (undefined)	40% (undefined)

Legend: Positive / Neutral / Negative

Percent of Sentiment

Sentiment	Joy	Fear	Sadness	Anger
0.19	0.53	0.13	0.18	0.11

Sentiment Score

1   online stuff was half-baked. Wished things were a bit more organized and uploaded more promptly especially mock exams to help study for midterms. ★★☆☆☆

2   Class recording are of no use as most of video will be blocked by the professor. ★★☆☆☆

3   Class was in person. ★★★☆☆

4   Great course! ★★★★★

5   Course environment is good. ★★★★★

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (8 comments)

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

1   take a different course.

2   I would've liked to have come into the class with deeper knowledge of probability and linear algebra.

3   find more example questions and do them

4   Practice more problem to helped with exam.

5   Start working on assignments earlier.

6   Worked on coding skills

7   To be prepared with the content before taking this course.

8   Regardless of the lecture, I would have learned everything from the textbook. Though the lectures are pretty informative, but end of the day you cannot answer the exam's with either of them.