

Student: Gwen Rino

PASS

Github
Report
Presentation

https://github.com/gwenrino/Springboard_Data_Science_Intro/tree/master/Capstone/Final%20Report
https://github.com/gwenrino/Springboard_Data_Science_Intro/blob/master/Capstone/Final%20Presentation

Criteria

Below Expectations Meets Expectations

Exceeds Expectations

Note: Think of 'Exceeds Expectations as getting an A+ in a test

Problem Significance

Is this work likely to be useful and/or have impact?
Did the student do a good job justifying the significance of this project to their client, real or imaginary?

Gwen has done exceptionally well in picking up a dataset and a project that can have a significant impact in the field of "learning analytics". Education is one field which hasn't seen too much of traction as far as analytics is concerned. But the ideas put forth in this project are definitely beneficial to the learning and development industry.

Technical Quality

Did the student do a good job with data acquisition, wrangling and cleaning?

The dataset was taken from UCI. While the data was mostly clean, it is the approach to re-engineering the outcome variable that is most interesting.

Does the technical approach make sense?
Are the proposed algorithms or applications clever and interesting?

Rather than predicting the final score, Gwen has tried predicting the intermediate scores and that too as a categorical variable. The reason for doing this was to identify students which need extra attention as soon as possible, which I think is a great approach to problem solving.

How's the code?

Gwen's code is clear, well-structured, and well-documented. Good use of comments as well.

Storytelling

Did the student create both a report and a slide deck?
Does the report clearly motivate the problem, demonstrate the technical approach and summarize the recommendations clearly? Is it told in a clear, logical flow?

Both report and slide deck are available on Gwen's github repository.

Does the slide deck clearly motivate the problem, describe the solution and present the results in a compelling, logical way, as they'd be presented to the client?

A very compelling report indeed! Her recommendations include a new set of attributes which she feels will be very useful for predicting the final grades of a student rather than the ones that have been used in the original dataset.

Is it clear how the client will use the work i.e. what will they do or decide differently based on the outcome?

A well prepared deck which achieves its purpose of telling the story about predicting final student grades in a very compelling manner

The work done by Gwen is very useful for educational institutes and organizations concerned with learning and development.

Deliverables

Did the student turn in all the intermediate materials (proposal, milestone reports) and act on feedback from the mentor in a timely manner?

Not only was she super receptive to feedback, but was also very inquisitive about implementation of machine learning algorithms in R. During the course of the project, I made various suggestions to her and she included all of them in her final submission. Really well done.

Did the student turn in all the final material as expected (code on github, report, slide deck)?

On time everytime!

Completion Criterion

The student has completed if none of the above criteria are 'Below Expectations' i.e. all aspects of the project meet or exceed expectations. If not, the student must revise the project according to mentor feedback and resubmit.