



UNSW Course Outline

MATH3856 Introduction to Data and Machine Learning - 2023

Course Code : MATH3856
Year : 2023
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington

General Course Information

Course Code : MATH3856
Year : 2023
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Mathematics & Statistics
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

A wide range of statistical methods and computational tools have been developed in the past

few decades to gather information from data. This undergraduate course covers the key techniques in data mining and machine learning with theoretical background and applications, delivered through a series of lectures and tutorials. The topics include methods such as linear and logistic regression, neural networks, Bayesian neural networks, clustering and dimensionality reduction, ensemble learning, and an introduction to deep learning. Emerging machine learning tools and libraries are used to illustrate the methods in programming environments that include Python and R.

Course Aims

This undergraduate course is expected to give students an understanding of the fundamentals of machine learning and the basics of data mining, which is essential for anyone contemplating a career as a professional statistician or data analyst in industries reliant upon such expertise. The student should develop a working knowledge of the statistical and theoretical underpinnings of the topics covered. Given this fundamental statistical understanding of these methodologies, this will allow the student to utilise these techniques with confidence on real-world data sets and scenarios. As such the student is expected to develop an applied working knowledge of the methodologies covered, largely through practical applications. In addition, students will undertake additional reading of a collection of associated research papers on each topic, to further add context to the methodologies presented during the course. This will enhance the student's ability to utilise these techniques to solve real-world problems. It is stressed that this course is aimed at fundamental statistical properties of these methods, it is not a course on the application of computer software.

Relationship to Other Courses

MATH5836 covers about 67 - 70 percent of the topics covered by "COMP9417 Machine Learning" and 30 - 35 percent of topics in "COMP9414 Artificial Intelligence" offered by the UNSW School of Computer Science and Engineering. MATH5836 requires intermediate to advanced Python/R programming skills and introductory statistics and linear algebra.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CL01 : Identify the fundamentals of machine learning and data mining through model development.
CL02 : Select appropriate statistical and machine learning approaches to analyse data.
CL03 : Demonstrate an applied working knowledge of the methodologies covered with practical assignments.
CL04 : Develop models for solving data mining problems that include clustering, regression, and classification.
CL05 : Build machine learning models using real-world data sets and use evaluation metrics to compare their performance.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Identify the fundamentals of machine learning and data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Quiz

mining through model development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model building and evaluation • Final exam
CLO2 : Select appropriate statistical and machine learning approaches to analyse data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model building and evaluation • Final exam
CLO3 : Demonstrate an applied working knowledge of the methodologies covered with practical assignments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machine Learning Project • Model building and evaluation • Final exam
CLO4 : Develop models for solving data mining problems that include clustering, regression, and classification.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machine Learning Project • Final exam
CLO5 : Build machine learning models using real-world data sets and use evaluation metrics to compare their performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machine Learning Project • Final exam

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Blackboard Collaborate | EdStem

Learning and Teaching in this course

TBA

Additional Course Information

TBA

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Quiz Assessment FormatIndividual	5%	Due DateWeek 3
Machine Learning Project Assessment FormatGroup	25%	Due DateWeek 10
Model building and evaluation Assessment FormatIndividual	15%	Due DateWeek 5

Final exam Assessment FormatIndividual	55%	Due DateExam Period
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Assessment Details

Quiz

Assessment Overview

You will engage in an online open book quiz covering the first three weeks of the course content. This is a 30 minute online quiz that is held before the end of Week 3.

Feedback is provided within 2 weeks of completing the task.

Machine Learning Project

Assessment Overview

In this project, you will work in a small group to apply machine learning methods in real-world applications. It will provide the opportunity to learn about the model evaluation and reporting of results. It will also enhance skills in technical report writing that incorporates literature review with a comprehensive presentation of results. The task involves the submission of code and a technical report which is at least a thousand words long and includes at least 10 references. The report also includes the results from experiments presented as Tables and Figures that are discussed in detail. The report is accompanied by code and data that are submitted online. This will be due end of week 10.

Feedback is provided two weeks after submission.

Model building and evaluation

Assessment Overview

The assignment provides an opportunity for you to apply existing machine learning-based model code on benchmark datasets and provides an opportunity to learn about the model evaluation and reporting of results. This is due by the end of week 5.

Feedback is available within 2 weeks of submission.

Final exam

Assessment Overview

The final exam is designed to test your learning and problem-solving skills on all topics delivered across the term. The exam is 2 hours in duration and consists of MCQ, short answer responses, and practical, i.e coding and problem solving components. The details will be confirmed during the course. The examination will occur during the official university examination period. Feedback is available through inquiry with the course convenor. Hurdle requirement: must achieve 50% to receive a passing grade in the course.

General Assessment Information

Assessment 1: Quiz (5 %). You will engage in an online open-book quiz covering the first three

weeks of the course content. This is a 30-minute online quiz that is held before the end of Week 3.

Assesment 2: Model building and evaluation (15 %). The assignment provides an opportunity for you to apply existing machine learning-based model code on benchmark datasets and provides an opportunity to learn about the model evaluation and reporting of results. This is due by the end of week 5.

Assesment 3: Project (25%). In this project, you will work in a small group to apply machine learning methods in real-world applications. It will provide the opportunity to learn about the model evaluation and reporting of results. It will also enhance skills in technical report writing that incorporate a literature review with a comprehensive presentation of results. The task involves the submission of code and a technical report which is at least a thousand words long and includes at least 10 references. The report also includes the results from experiments presented as Tables and Figures that are discussed in detail. The report is accompanied by code and data that are submitted online. This will be due end of week 10.

Assesment 4: Final Exam (55%). The final exam is designed to test your learning and problem-solving skills on all topics delivered across the term. The exam consists of MCQ, short answer responses, and practical, i.e. – coding and problem-solving components. The details will be confirmed during the course. The examination will occur during the official university examination period.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

At least 50 % in the final exam.

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Hands-On Machine Learning with Scikit-Learn Keras and Tensor Flow

Print:

<https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9781098125974>

<https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9781138492530>

Digital:

<https://unswbookshop.vitalsource.com/products/-v9781098122461>

<https://unswbookshop.vitalsource.com/products/-v9781000731071>

Recommended Resources

TBA

Additional Costs

NA

Course Evaluation and Development

TBA

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Rohitash Chandra	rohitash.chandra@unsw.edu.au	Anita B Lawrence Centre (H13)	+61413071839	TBA	Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism. Further information about referencing styles can be located at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage. At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work. Further information about academic integrity, plagiarism and the use of AI in assessments can be located at:

- The [Current Students site](#),
- The [ELISE training site](#), and
- The [Use of AI for assessments](#) site.

The Student Conduct and Integrity Unit provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Penalty for Late Submissions

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Any variations to the above will be explicitly stated in the Course Outline for a given course or assessment task.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Special Consideration

If circumstances prevent you from attending/completing an assessment task, you must officially apply for special consideration, usually within 3 days of the sitting date/due date. You can apply by logging onto myUNSW and following the link in the My Student Profile Tab. Medical documentation or other documentation explaining your absence must be submitted with your application. Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address to be advised of the official outcome and any actions that need to be taken from there. For more information about special consideration, please visit: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination

or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- [The Current Students Gateway](#)
- [Student Support](#)
- [Academic Skills and Support](#)
- [Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety](#)
- [Equitable Learning Services](#)
- [UNSW IT Service Centre](#)
- Science EDI Student [Initiatives](#), [Offerings](#) and [Guidelines](#)