What did you learn and enjoy about this course? What do you wish had been different or would have liked to see more of? What changes/improvements would you suggest? How did your knowledge of data science change from the beginning of the course?

I was a little skeptical about joining the college at first for masters as it has been almost 11 years since I have opened a college textbook before joining this course. I decided to join Bellevue University in late 2018 and started reaching out to University about the Data Science major details. But I had to postpone it for a year as we were expecting our daughter in late 2019. Finally, after the baby was born, in 2020, I registered for 2 courses. It was very challenging initially as I had to manage time between two courses and office work. I work as an IT Analyst in a Long-term Care Insurance Company. I took a day off from work on Thursdays for the first 3 weeks to make sure that I submit initial assignments on time. But once I figured out which schedule works well for me; it became easy to follow the routine every week.

Before joining the course, I used to think that the companies/individuals are misusing technologies to spread false information, fake news and that there is no way to retract it. But through this course I understood that companies are putting a lot of emphasis on the ethics and that there a lot of models to identify and flag these. I sincerely hope that the companies will identify ways to protect privacy of the individuals as well. This course has helped me to understand how the data science has been helping the world in making the informed decisions by using the data available at their fingertips. I enjoyed that fact that this course is completely online and because of this pandemic, I was working from home as well and it saved me some commute time to both college and office. I thoroughly enjoyed reading the book **Everybody lies** which helped in breaking many misconceptions. But reading the book “**Data Science for Business**” was a little challenging for me at times as it was a bit technical and having sessions or even prerecorded ones with summary of the chapters would have helped. Nevertheless, I was able to search important topics online to understand better. Also, I enjoyed the way how we were engaged almost everyday of the course, be it reading, writing, responding, or finishing assignments. Our Professor has done a wonderful job in providing encouraging and constructive feedback which we can use to correct past mistakes and perform better.

I personally felt that the classroom environment was missing as we have been using only forums most of the time and may be, we should have used slack more often for communication which may have resulted in engagement among the students. Also, I was unable to read some articles that are part of the readings as they need subscription. Instead, it should have let us use our college ID for logging in and reading them.

Finally, this course has helped me in understanding Data Science better and it introduced me to new concepts and helped me to break misconceptions. Now, I can engage in discussions related to Data Science confidently. It made me look forward for the next courses in our Data Science Major.