

COLUMBIA INSTRUCTOR RATINGS

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MOTIVATION

- GOAL: Provide students with convenient way to compare professors using data from Columbia Underground Listing of Professor Ability (CULPA)
- RottenTomatoes-style ratings: Reviews are classified as either positive or not positive based on general sentiment
- Aggregate scores constructed based on weighted average of sentiment scores
- Easy to compare between professors and departments with consistent metric without reading all the reviews

SECONDARY FEATURES

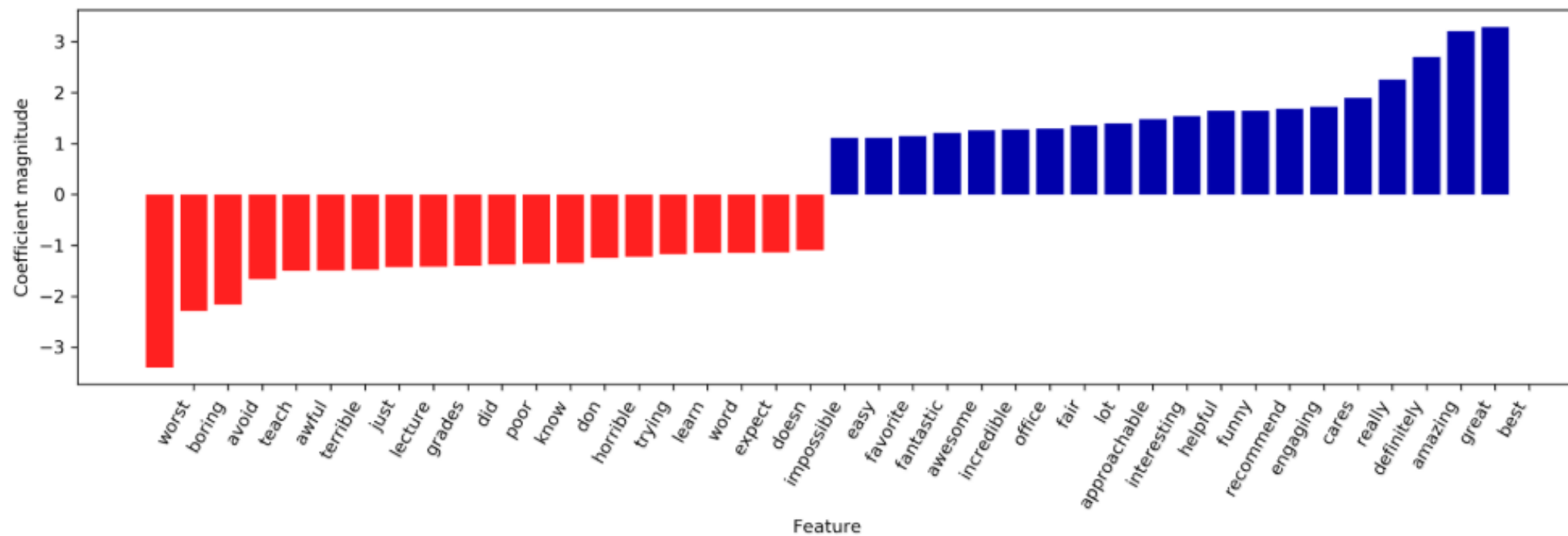
- Summarization
 - Using implementation of TextRank algorithm in gensim package
 - Shortens each review to 10 words or fewer based
- Recommendation Engine (Abandoned)
 - Uses doc2vec features from text reviews to create average vector for each professor
 - Created prof-prof matrix to find professors with most cosine similarity
 - Returns useless results; abandoned

MODEL

- Logistic regression with tf-idf
- Tf-idf weighting is a popular weighting scheme which reduces weights that appear frequently throughout the document corpus.

$$w_{i,j} = tf_{i,j} \times \log \left(\frac{N}{df_i} \right)$$

tf_{ij} = number of occurrences of i in j
 df_i = number of documents containing i
 N = total number of documents



1

Leftist leanings pretty apparent. Nevertheless, a good teacher, pretty lenient in allowing the class to not read, one of the easier sections of CC.

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He mumbles, draws unintelligible diagrams with no pertinence to the subject matter, and is plain old mean. He believes that his opinion reigns supreme, and leaves no room for opposing reasons. He also, will degrade and belittle you in class and has been known to laugh at your ideas or just you and your clothing preference. He has had tenure for so long that he could care less about the student. Also, please avoid his History of Spain class. He displays the same inappropriate attitudes and disfunctions.

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As a China scholar, Nathan doesn't know much more about the books than you do. For historical background he may ask some of the smarter looking and sounding students in class for their 'expert' opinions. Doesn't add much to the books, but doesn't destroy the course either.

1

Acquired by Columbia for research, not teaching. Very nice guy, but not a good math teacher unless you are extremely self-motivated and willing to do the learning outside of class. ✖

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He was HORRIBLE! He didn't order a book before the class began. We finally got a book a few weeks into the class, but it was unintelligible. The professor didn't teach in the order of the book, didn't use the same terminology as the book, and didn't even give us page numbers in the book for reference. There were no assigned readings. That would be ok, except that the lectures were equally useless. We spent the class watching the professor prove theorems, even though the homework never involved giving proofs. The lectures bore almost no relation to the homework. Many students realized that, so by midway through the course literally half the students regularly skipped class. We had a discussion section, but the TA often didn't know how to do the problems, and he had a thick accent. The professor showed very little care for the class. He handed back the midterms without even looking at the TA's grades or even the distribution of grades. (He said so himself!) The clincher is... we only got through half the material we were supposed to cover. The professor's reaction? "Well, that's ok, your next math teacher can catch you up" Outrageous! Prof. Hamilton left for a semester to teach at UC-San Diego. But he plans to return to Columbia. Mr. Hamilton, don't come back!

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Couldn't understand a word this man said/wrote in class. Is it an "x", a "n", an "i", a "t", or an "f"? Does it matter?

RATINGS AND RANKINGS

Overall Leaderboard

Professor	CULPA	Nugget	Score	Reviews
Rojas, Christian	Silver	100	21	
De Silva, Daniela	Silver	100	20	
Johnson, Eleanor	Gold	100	17	
Fowles, Severin	Silver	99	23	
Popkin, Cathy	Silver	98	17	
Workman, Nancy	Silver	96	26	
Pagano, John	Silver	96	23	
Milnor, Kristina	Silver	95	19	
Smyslova, Alla	Silver	94	19	
Rosen, Margo	Silver	94	16	
Phillips, Justin	Silver	94	21	
Lurie, David	Silver	94	17	
Vogt, Katja	Silver	93	35	
McDermott, Rachel	Silver	93	35	
Negron-Muntaner, Frances	Gold	93	16	
Crane, Susan		93	16	
Vandenburg, Margaret	Silver	92	51	
Harrison, Sharon	Silver	92	27	
Archer, Gail	Silver	91	21	
El-Ghobashy, Mona	Silver	91	15	

Department Leaderboard

Department

Computer Science ▼

Search

Professor	CULPA	Nugget	Score	Reviews
Malkin, Tal	Silver	93	11	
Mauel, Michael	Silver	92	9	
Nayar, Shree	Silver	91	11	
Servedio, Rocco	Gold	89	12	
Papageorgiou, Anargyros	Gold	88	12	
Yannakakis, Mihalis		88	13	
Blaer, Paul	Silver	85	30	
Cannon, Adam	Silver	80	65	
Edwards, Stephen	Silver	79	15	
Grinspun, Eitan	Silver	71	10	

RECOMMENDATION ENGINE

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similar_profs('Blaer, Paul', 10)
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```
['Cannon, Adam',  
 'Vovsha, Ilia',  
 'Gallagher, Patrick',  
 'Neath, Ronald ',  
 'Lewis, Yitzhak',  
 'Chen, Xi',  
 'Ortoleva, Pietro',  
 'Woodbury, Michael',  
 'Sala-i-Martin, Xavier',  
 'Diogo, LuÃ\xads']
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```
similar_profs('Hsu, Daniel', 10)
```

```
['Cunningham, John',  
 'Chen, Xi',  
 'Yannakakis, Mihalis',  
 'Gallagher, Patrick',  
 'Zeitlin, Anton',  
 'Blaer, Paul',  
 'Zhang, Xiangwen',  
 'di Cerbo, Gabriele',  
 'Friedman, Robert',  
 'Barraquand, Guillaume']
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SUMMARIZATION

Professor Elmes, Susan currently has a score of 50.57

Department
Economics

Course

Intermediate Microeconomics
Principles of Economics
Introduction to Microeconomics
Intermediate Macroeconomics
Intermediate Microeconomics
Advanced Microeconomics

Aggregate score

Reviews:

Date	Summary	Agree	Disagree	Funny	Details
5/19/15	She welcomes questions in class and usually answers them with patience.	10	0	0	Details
7/19/14		6	33	10	Details
5/21/14	However, you don't learn that much that is new per se, it's mostly the same material as intermediate micro, just with a completely different methodology (much like advanced metrics).	9	0	0	Details
5/17/14	Your class notes will be the only things you need for the homeworks and exams.	8	0	0	Details
1/22/14	However they were great preparation for her exams, which are EXACTLY like the problem sets.	6	4	0	Details
12/27/13		6	1	0	Details

I have just finished Professor Elmes' micro this semester, and thought I might add sth new to the existing comments.

To sum it up, this class is a great class with much hard work. So if you are only interested but not passionate about economics, I would recommend you to take micro from another professor. That being said, Professor Elmes is definitely the best choice for a intended econ major. She is a well-prepared and clear lecturer. She usually recommends us to read the textbook before coming to lectures, but after she explained them the concepts become much more easier to digest. She uses colored graphs, extensively explained formulas, and occasional handouts to help you understand the material in a crystal clear fashion. If you take notes systematically they will be enough for your preparation for the exams (though not for all the homework problems).

Professor Elmes is also very approachable. She welcomes questions in class and usually answers them with patience. There are one time or two she answered a question with haste, but that was because we were running out of time and the question was indeed somewhat stupid (she just mentioned the same concept 20 minutes ago). She takes questions in office hours as well and often strikes an interesting conversation with you.

The workload for this class is very big. Doing the problem sets themselves usually takes about 4-5 hours per week, but you also need to spend about 3 hours to discuss them with your study buddies. The midterm and the final are both very similar to the problem sets. So if you do all the problems carefully and review them before exams you should do pretty well. Good luck!