Individual Peer Evaluation Form

Your name: Xin Tang

Write the name of your classmate you are preparing this review for in the designated column. Using a scale of 1-4 (1=strongly disagree; 2=disagree; 3=agree; 4=strongly agree) answer each question. If you aren't able to answer the question based on what is posted in the discussion board, reach out to your classmate for more information via the discussion board. Total the numbers in each column. **Make sure to answer the questions on the 2nd page.**

Evaluation Criteria	Peer Name: Krista-fer Knuckey
Has plan in place to complete course project.	4
Has found datasets/data sources to support project idea.	4
Has solidified project idea.	4
Has identified resources for project.	4
Topic is related to data science and demonstrates topics learned to date through program.	4
Risks and potential issues have been identified.	3
TOTALS	23

Feedback on Individual's project topic:

1. How clear is the classmate's project topic? What questions does their topic make you consider?

Overall, Krista's project topic is very clear. She wish to assess an existing loan dataset from openintro.org to assess the risk of default to lower financial losses. She clearly laid out her interest and goal. She also has a good assessment of the data set she is planning to use to ensure the success of the model building.

2. What risks or issues should your classmate consider while working on their project?

I am a beginner in the data science field, and I am totally away from the finance field. Besides, you are an experienced player at your field. So, I would only be able to provide some of assessment from my own mistakes.

- Be mindful of the year when data was collected. Finance fields, like income, tax, debt level are changing every year. So, information from years too far apart may not consistently tell the same story.
- Since there are 55 variables and over 10K responses, some advanced data models may take much computer power to run, so be mindful on parameter tuning. I ever try to build a model which takes 3 days to execute in my aged laptop and I must terminate it and adjust the parameters.
- Looks like you are confident on the model selection, and I trust you are an experienced finance analyst. To me, I know little about different models, so I always try to select one or two models to try and compare.
- I really like your comment on evaluating the risk beyond the mathematics model. The weights of different factors are not the same. Whatever outcome must be evaluated by financial experts to ensure it matches the real-life situation.

3. Additional suggestions/comments that might be beneficial to your peer?

It would be interesting to see which factor is the most important or influential one impacting financial risk. I would think this could be something to include in the model. Also, there are many variables in the dataset, I would suggest doing some dimension reduction or feature selection to make model more effective. Third, I would like to suggest checking the risk of imbalanced data, since default rate could be very low in the dataset.

Adapted from a peer evaluation form developed at Johns Hopkins University (October, 2006)