

Course Evaluation System at UNL

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Question Period: '06-'07: Fall Semester

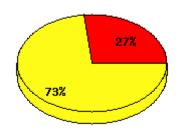
Department: Computer Science and Engineering (CSCE)

Professor: Stephen Scott

Class: CSCE 478 071 Intro Machine Lrng CSCE478 Sec 001 Fall 2006 Section 001

Response Statistics

Total Surveys: 15
Evaluated Surveys: 11



Completed Surveys

VH Graph Uncompleted Surveys

[1] My year in college is:

Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Graduate Student
0	0	2	2	7

[2] My overall grade point average is:

4.0 to 3.5	3.5 to 3.0	3.0 to 2.5	2.5 to 2.0	Below 2.0
7	4	0	0	0

[3] I am enrolled for the following number of credit hours this semester:

More than 18 hours	15 to 17 hours	12 to 14 hours	9 to 11 hours	Less then 9 hours
2	1	1	5	2

[4] I currently work the following number of hours per week at a job:

More than 40 hours	30 to 40 hours	20 to 30 hours	10 to 20 hours	Less than 10 hours
0	3	3	2	3

[5] This course is my major field of study:

Yes	No
10	1

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[6] I see myself as a motivated	Strongly Disagree (1.00)	Disagree (2.00)	Indifferent (3.00)	Agree (4.00)	Strongly Agree (5.00)	N/A	Average	Mode	Standard Deviation
student in this course.	0	1	0	5	5	0	4.27	5.00	0.90
[7] I was academically prepared to take this course.	0	0	0	8	3	0	4.27	4.00	0.47
[8] I was challenged to think in this course.	0	0	1	3	7	0	4.55	5.00	0.69
[9] My course grade will be a fair representation of my learning.	0	1	1	6	2	1	3.90	4.00	0.88
[10] I treated the instructor fairly and respectfully.	0	1	0	4	6	0	4.36	5.00	0.92
	4.28	4.00	0.79						

	Strongly Disagree (1.00)	Disagree (2.00)	Indifferent (3.00)	Agree (4.00)	Strongly Agree (5.00)	N/A	Average	Mode	Standard Deviation
[11] Before taking this course, my interest in this subject was very high.	0	0	0	6	5	0	4.45	4.00	0.52
[12] I understand the objectives of this course.	0	0	0	7	4	0	4.36	4.00	0.50
[13] The organization of the course topics is reasonable and logical.	0	1	0	4	6	0	4.36	5.00	0.92
[14] The pace at which course topics are covered is reasonable.	0	1	1	6	3	0	4.00	4.00	0.89
[15] This course helped me improve my rational thinking, problem-solving and decision-making ability.	0	1	1	3	6	0	4.27	5.00	1.01
[16] After taking this course, my interest in this subject is very high.	1	1	0	4	5	0	4.00	5.00	1.34
				Ques	tion Se	t Stats	4.24	4.00	0.90

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	Strongly Disagree (1.00)	Disagree (2.00)	Indifferent (3.00)	Agree (4.00)	Strongly Agree (5.00)	N/A	Average	Моде	Standard Deviation
[17] The textbook, workbook, and/or lesson notes help me understand course material.	1	0	0	7	3	0	4.00	4.00	1.10
[18] The method (or methods) of presenting information in class enhances my learning.	1	0	1	5	4	0	4.00	4.00	1.18
[19] The coursework helps me understand and apply the subject matter.	0	0	0	7	4	0	4.36	4.00	0.50
[20] The amount of coursework is reasonable for what I am expected to learn.	1	1	2	5	2	0	3.55	4.00	1.21
[21] Testing methods fairly measure my understanding of the course material.	0	0	1	3	3	4	4.29	5.00	0.76
				Ques	tion Se	t Stats	4.02	4.00	1.01

	Strongly Disagree (1.00)	Disagree (2.00)	Indifferent (3.00)	Agree (4.00)	Strongly Agree (5.00)	N/A	Average	Mode	Standard Deviation
[22] The instructor is prepared for the class and is concerned about his or her preparation.	0	1	0	1	9	0	4.64	5.00	0.92
[23] The instructor makes good use of class time.	0	0	1	3	7	0	4.55	5.00	0.69
[24] The instructor is enthusiastic and interested in teaching this course.	0	0	0	2	9	0	4.82	5.00	0.40
[25] The instructor treats students in a professional manner.	0	0	0	3	8	0	4.73	5.00	0.47
[27] The instructor motivated me to understand and apply course concepts.	1	0	1	4	5	0	4.09	5.00	1.22

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[28] The instructor provides useful feedback on how I am doing in the course.	0	1	1	6	3	0	4.00	4.00	0.89
[29] The instructor is accessible for help outside of the classroom.	0	0	1	5	5	0	4.36	5.00	0.67
[26] New concepts and examples are clearly explained at a level students can comprehend.	0	1	0	5	5	0	4.27	5.00	0.90
				Ques	tion Se	t Stats	4.43	5.00	0.83

	Strongly Disagree (1.00)	Disagree (2.00)	Indifferent (3.00)	Agree (4.00)	Strongly Agree (5.00)	N/A	Average	Mode	Standard Deviation
[30] The classroom physical environment (e.g. temperature, lighting, acoustics) is comfortable for learning.	0	1	1	5	4	0	4.09	4.00	0.94
[31] The classroom is free from outside distractions.	0	0	1	5	5	0	4.36	5.00	0.67
[32] The classroom design and furnishings do not interfere with my learning.	0	0	1	5	5	0	4.36	5.00	0.67
[33] The classroom has adequate instructional equipment and technology.	0	1	1	3	6	0	4.27	5.00	1.01
				Ques	tion Se	t Stats	4.27	5.00	0.82

[1] What are 1 or 2 specific things that helped you learn in this class?

- The homework assignments are very useful in helping me truly understand the beauty of the learning algorithms. The topic summaries are also very helpful.
- The implementation-based homework is very helpful to understand the details of the algorithm.
- The instructors enthusiastic attitude
- The topic summaries
- Without a doubt, the topic summaries. Kindof a pain when you're taking 5 other classes, but
 they're probably the best way to get people to learn, that I've ever seen.
 Also, Dr. Scott is the best CS professor that I've had, so that helped a lot too.

[2] What are 1 or 2 specific things that caused a problem with your learning in this class?

- Lighting conditions in room, relatively early time the class was held
- Nothing in particular.
- Nothing really. Some topics were just inherently hard to understand though.. at least i think.. like SVMs

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[3] Please provide 1 or 2 practical suggestions on ways to help improve student learning in this course.

- Instead of having problems from the books to do, if you would make some questions (if you had time) to have for the homeworks they might be more understandable in the sense that they would be directed more toward the way you teach. If not book problems are fine.
- Lighter workload might help avoid discouraging students early in the course.
- Perhaps a list of online sources which detail some of the ML algorithms. Sometimes it's easier to
 understand core concepts when they are worded differently. So, if someone just wæn't
 understanding the book's explanation of ID3, they could go look online for other explanations.
- Perhaps eliminate the fourth homework or move presentation to earlier in semester. More uniform distribution of graded material throughout semester

[5] Other comments that you would like to make:

- I learned more in this class than any two previous grad level classes except Intro to Constraints.
- The topic summaries work.

Perhaps make other students' projects available online. (from the same class, not previous ones, well maybe previous ones too but I think you already have this)(maybe they have to agree to this?)

I really enjoyed the no-exam structure of the class now that I think about it. It seems like because I wasn't cramming for exams or a final, I was able to actually learn the concepts instead of memorizing them (the topic summaries keep you from slacking off). And then that lead me to being more interested in the course material. Very interesting course structure indeed.

Offer your opinion on the amount of work required for this course, especially on the homework.

- Although this class is very interesting, and the instructor is fantastic and all, I feel that the
 workload associated with this class is too heavy. Having to spend up to 30 hours (on average)
 on a single homework assignment seems over the top to me. On top of that, after all this effort,
 the homeworks only account for 50% of our grades!
- By itself, the work is above average in quantity, but not exceedingly so. The fact that there are
 no exams or final perhaps makes up for this.
- I did more work in this class than my other classes combined. I feel that that is too much.
- The amount of work is commensurate with the amount I learned, almost twice as much.
 Although in retrospect I might have done much more work that was strictly necessary on several homeworks.
- The amount of work is not proportional to the amount of points (60 pts for ANN vs 50 for Bayes for instance)

Give your opinion on how well the topics covered in class matched your expectations and how much they interested you.

- I didn't know anything about machine learning before, but I am very satisfied with what I learned.
 most topics were interesting, but I never really understood the details behind SVMs.. so I wasn't too interested in them
- I didn't really find candidate elimination all that interesting. All the other topics were interesting.
- I have always been interested in machine learning, so the topics were of great interest to me.
- I think they're very interesting, and definitely covers the basics of machine learning this

State your opinion of the TA.

- Never talked with him
- Responded quickly to emails and was fair on grading and approachable with questions.
- Seemed to do a reasonable job of grading.
- TA didn't seem like he was much help
- Very helpful, gave a good lecture too.

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	Strongly Disagree (1.00)	Disagree (2.00)	Indifferent (3.00)	Agree (4.00)	Strongly Agree (5.00)	N/A	Average	Mode	Standard Deviation
I learned more from doing the topic summaries and the course project than I would have learned from taking exams.	0	0	1	5	5	0	4.36	5.00	0.67
Doing the topic summaries helped me learn.	0	0	0	4	7	0	4.64	5.00	0.50
Grading the topic summaries helped me learn.	1	0	4	3	3	0	3.64	3.00	1.21
				Ques	tion Se	t Stats	4.21	5.00	0.93

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