DATA 11800 1, STAT 11800 1 - Introduction to Data Science I - Instructor(s) - Kriti Sehgal

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Spring 2025**

Number Enrolled: **81**
Number of Responses: **36**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Wednesday, June 25, 2025**

What are the most important things that you learned in this class? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
I learned a lot about general data science principles and about coding with Python.
basic python coding and statistical sampling methods
I learned how to use Python to analyze large pieces of data.
Python and a bit on statistics
Basic coding, some statistics
Intro to DS,python, data analysis, stats
Coding and basic statistics
N/A
How to think about data collection and the basics of coding for parsing statistics.
extensive use of pandas, probability theory, hypothesis testing, statistical analysis, simulations
learned how to code in python
How to work with pandas, numpy, and jupyter notebook to analyze data.
I learned how to apply coding to statistics in order to simulate real world situations.
This course was an introduction to python coding, statistic concepts, and data science. It started with a focus on python fundamentals, leading to data collection and visualization, and ending with a probability and hypothesis testing focus.
The first half of the quarter was focused on basic python coding – we learned everything from formatting to basic methods and functions, ultimately building up to for loops and user defined functions. We also spent a lot of time on data visualization. The second half of class was entirely focused on statistics, and applied python functions to the probability section of statistics.
Dataframes
Statistics, how to calculate probabilities and how to do statistics and simple things using Python
How to use Pandas and Numpy Python libraries
Python coding in Jupyter Notebook.
basic python, statistics, numpy, pandas, dataframes
data analysis
How to use Pandas, Numpy, and Matplotlib in Python, Basic Probability, Statistical Distribution Analysis, Conducting Statistical Experiments
How to use python to perform a data analysis. How to use NumPy and Pandas libraries.
The first half of the class was an introduction to Python, with an emphasis on arrays and Data Frames. The second half of the class was introductory statistics.
Very basic coding and data science. E.g., probability, sampling techniques, bootstrapping.
Introduction to coding in python, hypothesis testing, bootstrap testing, probability, and data visualization
Basics of Python, how to analyze data, basic statistics
Python and stats

Describe how aspects of this class (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
I found the homework and labs to be really helpful.
Lectures were helpful when it came to reviewing some stuff about statistics, but the professor went too fast through stuff. Labs were fine and homework was fine. The quizzes were very challenging and weren't very helpful when it came to learning.
Lectures are clear and psets help with understanding
lectures were very useful and so was homework and labs. do the optional labs.
Lectures were everything
N/A
Lectures were helpful for introducing concepts and labs and homework were helpful practice. The textbook was a useful addition to this course as a helpful independent self–instruction.
The lectures were pretty helpful but were sometimes too slow. The lecture notes and labs were very helpful. If you didn't go to class, usually just reading the lecture notes would be the same.
the homeworks and the asignments helped the most. just googling stuff on your own.
The lectures and lecture notes were really beneficial, especially all the examples and practice provided. Also, the homework did feel like a good way to make sure you are understanding the content.
Lectures were very useful in learning the topics – optional labs helped practice concepts discussed in class.
Lectures were extremely helpful.
The homeworks helped a lot
lectures were helpful
The labs in the beginning were helpful practice for the code we covered in class and to prepare for the homework and the quizzes.
Lectures were fairly helpful. Homework and labs were primarily coding practice.
Doing labs in office hours was helpful!
Lectures provided a good way to learn about the topic, and it was helpful to review the notes prior to each week's timed quiz. Apart from quizzes, which encouraged weekly review, homework assignments and labs provided good practice using the tools from class.
Homework and labs were the most useful, lectures if you paid attention

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This class challenged me intellectually.	4.19	4.00	0.00%	9.68%	3.23%	45.16%	41.94%
I understood the purpose of this class and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.42	4.00	0.00%	3.23%	0.00%	48.39%	48.39%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	6.45%	9.68%	48.39%	35.48%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.97	4.00	3.23%	0.00%	32.26%	25.81%	38.71%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.84	4.00	6.45%	6.45%	16.13%	38.71%	32.26%
My work was evaluated fairly.	3.87	4.00	3.23%	6.45%	19.35%	41.94%	29.03%
I felt respected in this class.	4.50	5.00	3.13%	0.00%	3.13%	31.25%	62.50%
I felt comfortable expressing my ideas freely in this class.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	3.33%	6.67%	36.67%	53.33%
Overall, this was an excellent class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	6.25%	21.88%	37.50%	34.38%

Additional comments about the class:

Comments
This class is very difficult for students without prior coding experience
Def take this with Professor Seghal, she is very understanding and a great lecturer. Wants to see you understand material and suceed. Midterm was a project.
N/A
I was a complete beginner in this course and thought it was taught well, although the homework was significantly more advanced than the concepts taught in class.
I enjoyed having a midterm project instead of a midterm exam. It really allowed us to be creative and test our coding skills. It also encouraged us to do some learning on our own which I think was really beneficial.
really easy if you have prior cs or stats experience
It went very slowly. If you have done any highschool stats, you would find a lot of it boring and repetitive.

I would recommend this class to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	9.68%	90.32%
Anyone interested in the topic	9.38%	90.63%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
I appreciated the instructor showing us a lot of examples to follow along with.
The prof was helpful when it came to reviewing some stuff about statistics, but when it came to teaching coding, she often moved way too fast through examples. I didn't have enough time to write everything down and actually understand what was being taught.
Professor Sehgal is great, she is very passionate and considerate. Although the course is rigorous, she makes it accessible by putting herself in beginners' shoes. It's hard to imagine a better instructor for this class.
Lectures were great
N/A
The professor was very open to helping during office hours and offering methods of support. The professor was also very responsive in class, willing to walk through concepts at a slower pace to ensure everyone's understanding of the material.
the demos and live coding helped the most
I loved her willingness to answer questions and how she always made sure everyone was understanding the lectures throughout the class time.
It was very helpful to have such a structured lecture and access to labs in addition to homework.
Kriti was an excellent teacher who really emphasized the fact that the course was for beginners – she really tried to build from the ground up and ensure that everyone understood what was happening. She was an excellent teacher and I wouldn't have enjoyed the course as much without her.
Lectures
Lectures, I guess
answering questions
Dr. Seghal's examples were usually very helpful and the 'your turn' questions and the understanding questions in the lectures were also good for working through the lecture content.
Professor Sehgal interacts with students during lectures that helped us to stay engaged with the topics. She also encouraged questions during class and was patient in answering questions after class. The posted lectures were helpful as well for review.
Homeworks and labs were good. Instructor did explain things well.
She was very good at encouraging questions before moving on to ensure that the class understood everything that we were learning.
she was very sweet and answered all questions

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Move more slowly through the class material and offer more time for assessments
Slowing down during lectures so that people have time to write down important examples.
Quizzes not reflective of other assignments in class. Midterm was open note project online, Final was on paper, nowhere did we have to generate code in a timed manner outside of quizzes. But outside of this the graph was great
N/A
I would appreciate more low–stakes practice with real–time feedback. For example, the professor recommended looking at coding sites for practice, however I think it would have been helpful if this was baked into the structure of the course as optional practice for students who need extra guidance. Perhaps having a course link that leads to a set of practice problems that students can repeat over and over and get real–time answers something like a khan academy practice.
The grading on many of the assignments, specifically the quizzes, was pretty harsh. Many points would be taken off for just a typo in the code or if you missed just a little part of the question when writing the code. We would get many or all points taken off on a question if we used a function or method that we did not cover in class yet at that point, which was difficult for people who have done some python before and wouldn't think to check what functions we have learned vs not learned yet. It would be helpful if either the grading was less harsh for these minor mistakes, or if the functions we are allowed to use for each homework are posted somewhere.
just do more live coding. It gets easier when students can watch someone do it the correct way first.
I think that while the lectures were informative, it was a little slow.
This class wasn't the best — Kriti didn't make requirements clear and then penalized a ton of people, especially for the quizzes.
I believe the submission expectations could be a bit strict at times, such as no leniency for late work. So, that policy could probably modified to include an extra late day with some penalty to reduce stress. Similarly, quizzes were also very strict in timing and felt rushed at times.
It would've been helpful to discuss topics that more closely mirrored the types of questions we were expected to answer in homework, which were much more advanced than concepts discussed in class.
I think the course is perfect and taking quizzes each Tuesday was really challenging, but now I understand that because of them I've learned more – because I had to prepare for them every week.
Being more helpful when students have questions.
I think extra time to complete the quizzes would be very beneficial. 15 minutes was not enough time to provide thoughtful responses.
Go faster and more in depth.
She could move a little faster through the topics that the class seems to understand and leave the extra practice problems that she does (such as with hypothesis testing) to labs and external practice so that we can cover more coding and stats topics.
I needed more explanation of Python syntax; it felt like we were learning a language but not being taught the grammar and we just had to figure it out as we went along.
i think make the midterm and final expectations more clear

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the class clearly.	4.45	5.00	3.23%	3.23%	0.00%	32.26%	61.29%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.48	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.68%	32.26%	58.06%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.41	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	13.33%	26.67%	50.00%	10.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	16.67%	3.33%	33.33%	46.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.32	5.00	0.00%	6.45%	12.90%	22.58%	58.06%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the class content.	4.26	5.00	0.00%	12.90%	6.45%	22.58%	58.06%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.47	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.68%	32.26%	54.84%	3.23%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.32	5.00	0.00%	3.23%	12.90%	32.26%	51.61%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.52	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.45%	35.48%	58.06%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.19	5.00	0.00%	6.45%	19.35%	22.58%	51.61%	0.00%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comments
Megan and Vincent were so helpful. They walked me through everything very carefully and made sure I understood what was going on before moving on to the next thing. They were very patient and great TAs overall!
Meghane Saidenberg
I went to Vincent's OH a few times. Great guy, was super helpful when it came to the project
Meghane Saidenberg–Coriston
We had two TAs but I particularly only saw Meghane Saidenberg. They were super helpful and kind in guiding through topics and questions during office hours.
Vincent Zheng was super helpful during office hours.
Meghane Saidenberg — very nice and helpful. Vincent Zheng — very helpful, available, and extremely friendly whenever I went to his office hours.
Vincent
Vincent was extremely helpful! I attended his office hours every week and he always answered my questions perfectly.
Meghane was very helpful during office hours.
Meghane Saidenberg–Coriston
Vincent was really helpful!
Meghane and Vincent always replied to Ed questions promptly and were patient and helpful during office hours.
Vincent

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

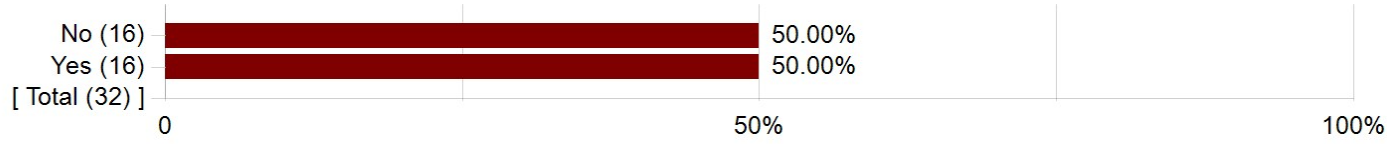
	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	43.75%	18.75%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.88%	11.76%	76.47%	5.88%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	50.00%	12.50%
Challenged you to learn.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.25%	31.25%	50.00%	12.50%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	23.53%	64.71%	11.76%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.81	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.88%	5.88%	82.35%	5.88%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.88%	11.76%	76.47%	5.88%

How much did the following elements of the class contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

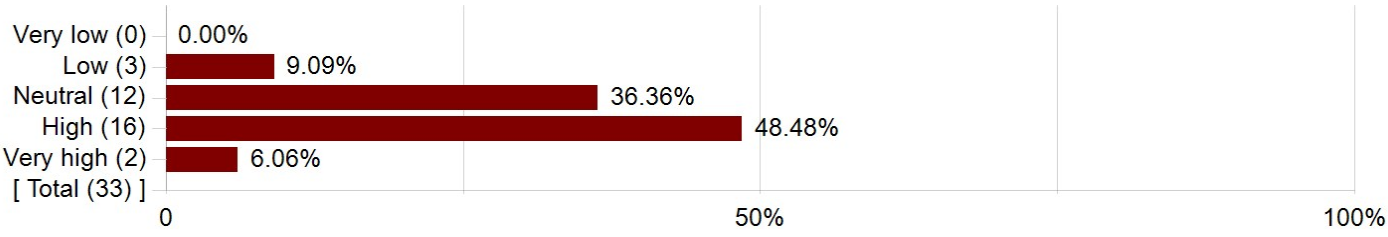
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

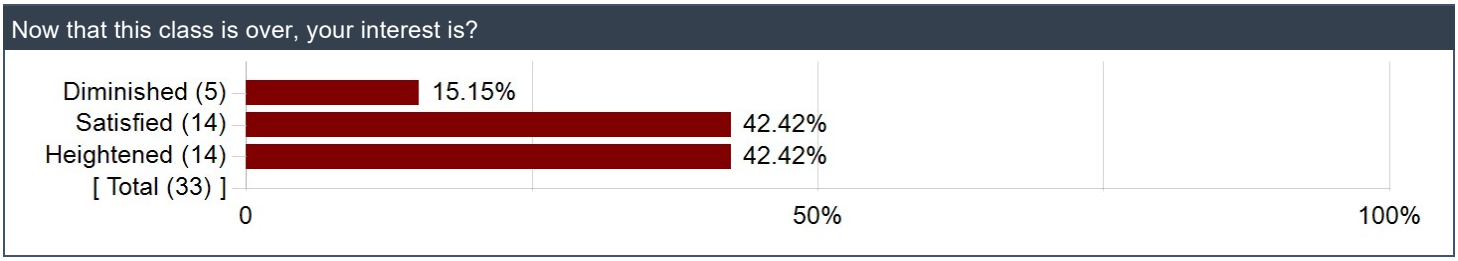


Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

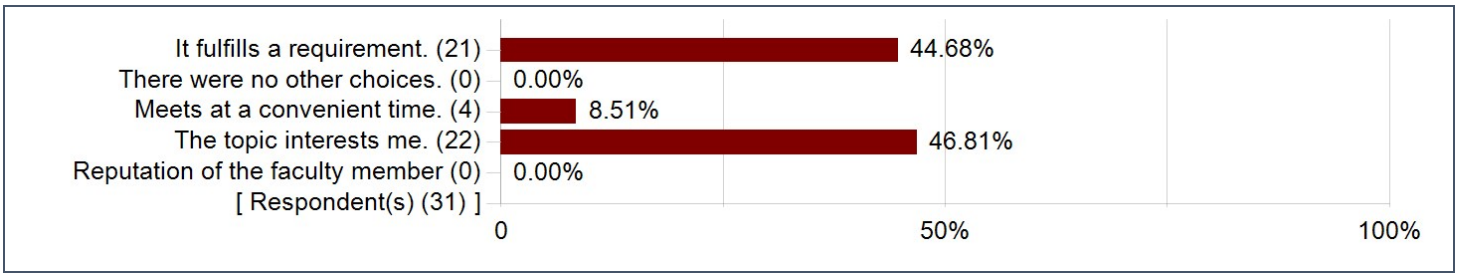
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



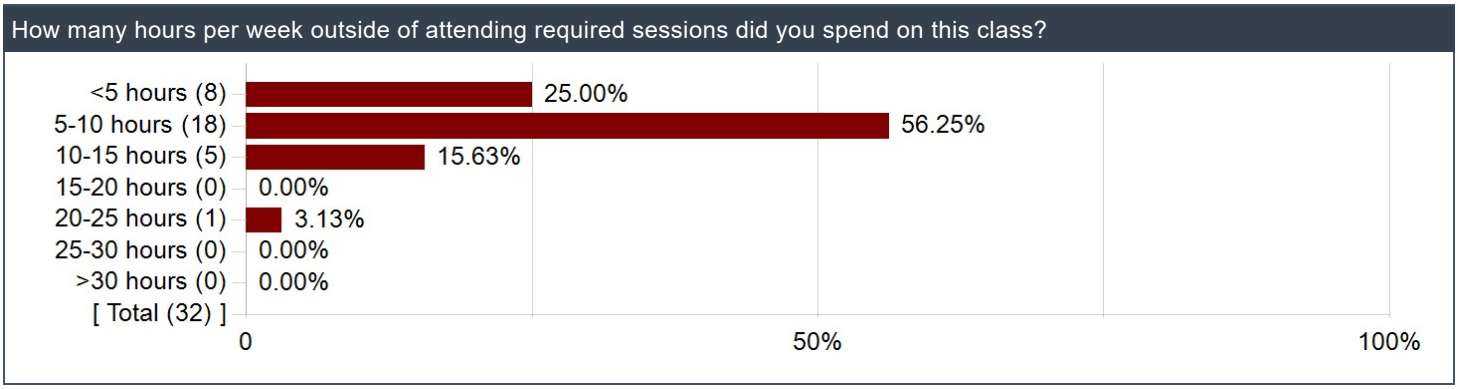
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



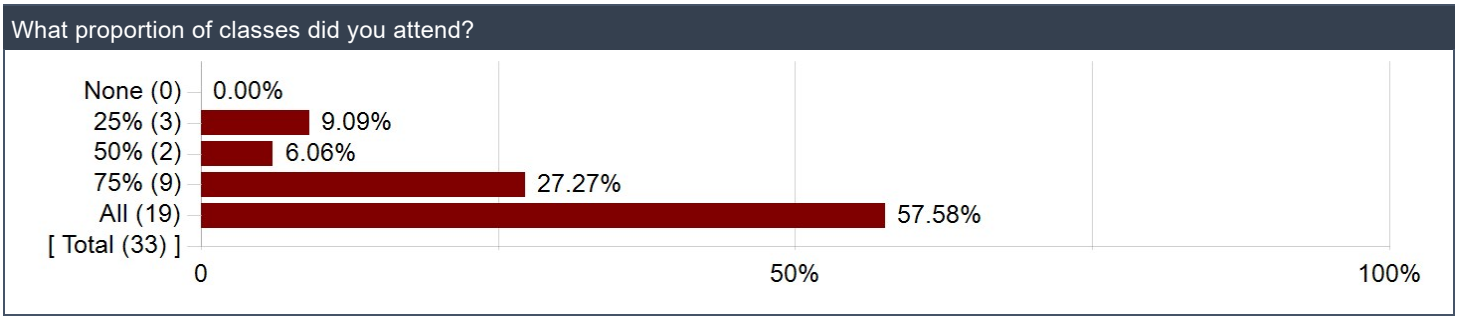
Why did you choose to take this class? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this class?



What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the class relative to your background and experience.

Comments
I found the class difficult, but not overly so.
This course is especially difficult for students without prior coding experience. Strictly timed quizzes make it hard to think through all the problems in time.
This class was difficult as someone coming from a background with no coding experience. It is claimed that this class is friendly for coding beginners, but I would highly disagree. The labs and homework were fine, but the quizzes were quite difficult and require a lot of memorization and a genuine understanding of Python concepts. The quizzes are also very quick (15 minutes) including time for download and submission.
Not too difficult but psets can be hard sometimes
Never took a data or coding class —> not overly difficult Midterm is a project which was helpful final exam TBD but is on paper, not responsible for generating code Statistics heavy the second half of class (in my opinion the easier portion of class)
N/A
I had no prior experience with statistics or coding so for me it was quite difficult, however, I think that others may struggle less because the professor and TA was very willing to assist students.
This is a very beginner–friendly course, no experience in coding needed at all
Not a terribly difficult class. If you've already taken statistics and CS then it's pretty easy, otherwise moderate difficulty.
I previously took AP Stats in high school and am taking the Computer Science intro sequence (currently in CS 143), so the content was pretty much stuff I have seen before, but was learning to apply it in different ways or with the implementation of different functions. Through my background the new aspects, like simulations and graphing were easy to understand and master.
I had never coded before in my life, and found the material difficult but manageable. I definitely had to work hard to understand what was going on, and the homework was extremely difficult given they didn't resemble what we learned in class, but the quizzes, labs, and lectures were all relatively straightforward.
I had no previous background in data science and this is a great class!! I learned a lot!
Easy with a solid coding background
This class provided a good introduction to data science. I had no prior coding experience before taking this class and I thought the class wasn't too difficult.
Pretty easy if you have any coding experience. Even without coding experience doing well is straightforward
easy class with cs experience
I would highly recommend at least getting a brief understanding of how python works before starting because the first half of the class is relatively coding–heavy and you might fall behind if you have no prior experience. I felt like the starts portion of the class was reasonably paced and manageable even for people who do not have any background in stats
I had ZERO previous coding experience, but an okay amount of statistics experience. Quizzes are difficult in the sense that there is a time limit for their completion. The actual concepts aren't too bad; it's just stressful to complete them in such a short amount of time. Homework assignments are very code–heavy, so it was pretty difficult and time–consuming for me. The midterm project was alright, graded pretty easily. And the final was fairly straightforward. The coding questions are just asking you to interpret code, so most of the exam was statistics concepts.
If you have done any stats or coding ever, this is easy.
Having taken courses on Java and statistics in high school, the course was not too difficult
I had no experience coding (except a bit of R). The first 5–6 weeks of the class move pretty fast and you have to teach yourself a lot of code. The HW and quizzes are pretty difficult. Then the last few weeks the class transitions to basic stats. I had taken STAT220 last quarter so it was a repeat of everything in that class, making it a lot easier. If you haven't taken stats before it might be harder. Overall the hardest part of the class is just learning Python syntax and doing the HW, especially at the beginning.
python and stats