DATA 23100 1 - Machine Learning Fundamentals: Theory and Practice - Instructor(s) - Kriti Sehgal

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Spring 2026**

Number Enrolled: **16**
Number of Responses: **13**

Report Comments

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

Creation Date: **Monday, June 29, 2026**

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

Comment
I learned vocabulary, implementation, limitations, and use cases for a variety of machine learning models.
A lot of theory on how ML works
Machine learning fundamentals, neural network, PCA, cnns.
Neural networks, decision trees, regression, mathematical theory behind machine learning
Topics in machine learning (LASSO, ensemble methods, neural networks and the like). A lot of it you've probably already seen in DATA 119 or 213 but this ties it all together.
A lot of the stuff were almost the same as DATA 119, just with deeper theory, and the neural networks I think were the most important
The inner workings of different machine learning models, some of the mathematic and probabilistic concepts that underlie classifiers and regressors.
Mostly classification – naive bayes, logistic regression, random forest, gradient boosting, neural networks, image processing
I think all the concepts we learned in the firts half of the course – parameter estimation, gradient descent, naive bayes etc were very fundamental and important to our learning in this course.
Machine Learning
Lots of different ML models, Bayes classifiers, logistic regression, neural networks. Very well–taught class and great professor

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

Comment
The in–class activities were extremely helpful when diving in to a new topic. I appreciated having some degree of "rails" on which to learn, before being set loose on the homework. The lecture Jupyter Notebooks were helpful both in–class and after the fact for review. I didn't find the homework extremely helpful, I mostly hunted for matching sections in the activities and lectures since it would be so much to do entirely from scratch. I liked Kriti encouraging us to speak with our neighbors.
Lectures, psets and project are hands on
The lectures were very helpful.
Lectures were very helpful
Interactive notebooks in lectures were helpful.
Lectures were solid and well–paced. Assignments were ok.
Lectures were very useful, I enjoyed them a lot, and I believe they helped the most, while assignments gave practice.
The lectures and the assignments contributed most to my learning
The lectures were extremely helpful and engaging. The professor cared a lot about the content that was being taught, and made sure everyone was ont he same page as she went through the slides.
Lectures
The lectures were perfectly paced. I had heard a lot about how hard this class was in the Data Science major, and how it is often taught at an unattainable pace, or with a really hard test, and unrealistic expectations. Dr. Sehgal was so understanding of the ability in the class, never pushed us to the next topic without making sure she had spent enough time explaining the current one. The lectures had interactive parts with code notebooks we would download onto our laptops, which were often good practice for the homeworks and also just helped to understand what was going on when the topics were more theoretical (pre–midterm).

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This class challenged me intellectually.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%
I understood the purpose of this class and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	16.67%	58.33%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	33.33%	58.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%
I felt comfortable expressing my ideas freely in this class.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	8.33%	75.00%
Overall, this was an excellent class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%

Additional comments about the class:

Comment
There is way too much material to cover within the time. We ended up "really behind," but I can hardly picture a world where we moved much faster than we did. If we had moved faster, we wouldn't have been able to understand the building blocks of the models.
She's an awesome professor!
I loved this class and thought it was a great intro to ML. It was a pity that others seemed disinterested.
I really like the way the class is taught, and the lectures were genuinely the most important & engaging part of this course.
Great professor!

I would recommend this class to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	8.33%	91.67%
Anyone interested in the topic	33.33%	66.67%

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

Comment
Kriti was respectful, knowledgeable, and talented at asking leading questions to get us on the right track. She was very encouraging to ask questions or mess up in class, and I felt safe doing so.
How she would always get the class to participate.
Lecture style was very good, hands on questions throughout the lecture and the instructor made sure were were understanding as we went
Approachability
Class activities
The lectures were very well organized and thorough, and her detailed explanations were also extremely helpful.
the lectures
Lectures
Just her attitude to class. Dr Sehgal is a great lecturer, and really read the room in terms of pace, content, understanding etc. She also learnt everyones names within a week, which, for a lecture class like this (although it was only around 20 people) is definitely not the norm and was a nice touch which made class more engaging and welcoming.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comment
I suppose just my previous point on the homework? Overall I thought Kriti was a fantastic professor.
Maybe more practice problems for midterms
Sometimes the problem sets felt slightly unrelated to the type of content covered on the exam
Give homeworks that could be more related to the test material. The homeworks were entirely code–based and the test was supposedly mainly conceptual (but ended up being computation heavy). There was no practice test or curve and the class average on the midterm was a 65.
I like more stat theories, and maybe going through code in live demonstration
Nothing comes to mind.
there was quite a bit of content, maybe covering fewer topics before the midterm
More time spent on the math
Honestly nothing

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the class clearly.	4.45	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	54.55%	45.45%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	45.45%	45.45%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the class content.	4.27	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	36.36%	45.45%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	45.45%	45.45%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	45.45%	45.45%	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.

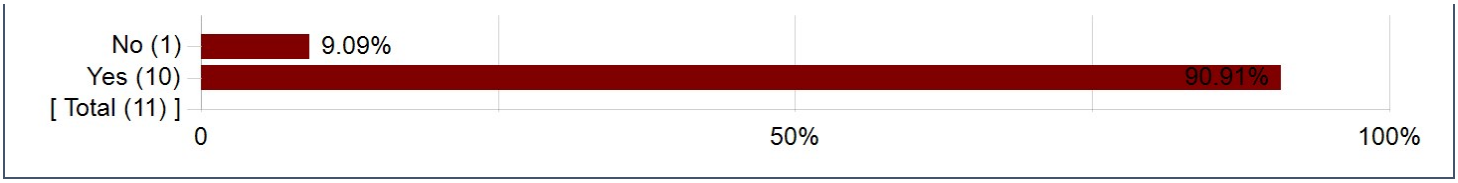
Comment
Nihar Mauskar. Didn't engage except by mandatory meeting. He did not attend class and during our meeting didn't have a good idea of what we covered/what was relevant to the course. He was clearly really knowledgeable, though, and once we got on track with the course material he was helpful. He hosted very long office hours which was generous.
I didn't talk with the TA other than checking our project proposal with him.
Nihar
Helpfule

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	3.67	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	3.75	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.67	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.67	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	3.25	3.50	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	3.60	4.00	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.00	3.50	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%

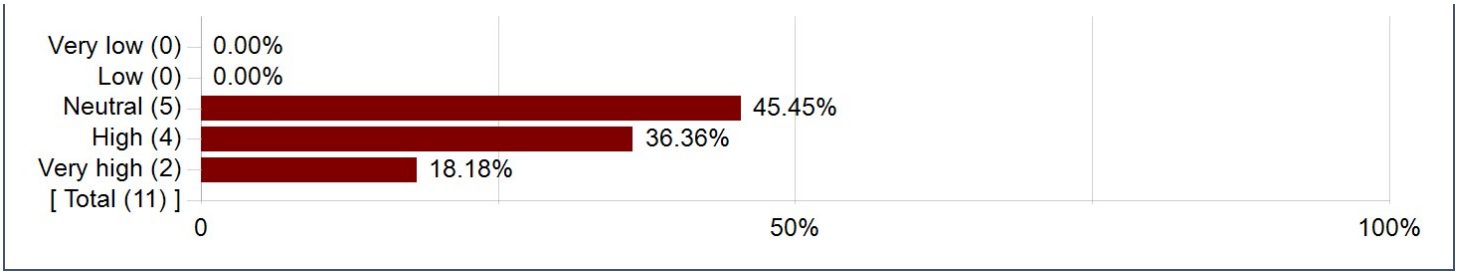
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

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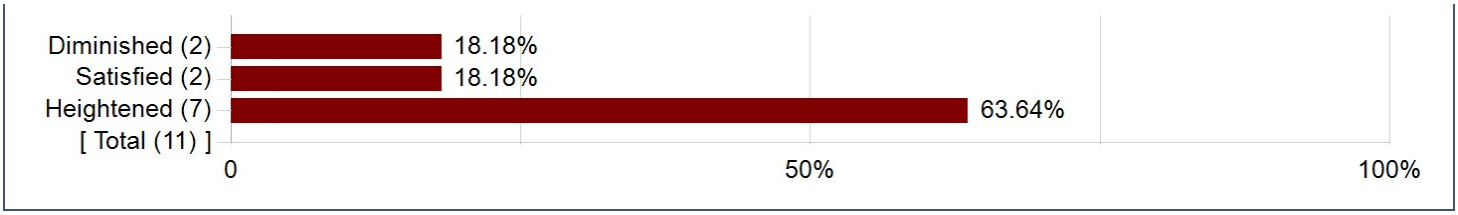
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

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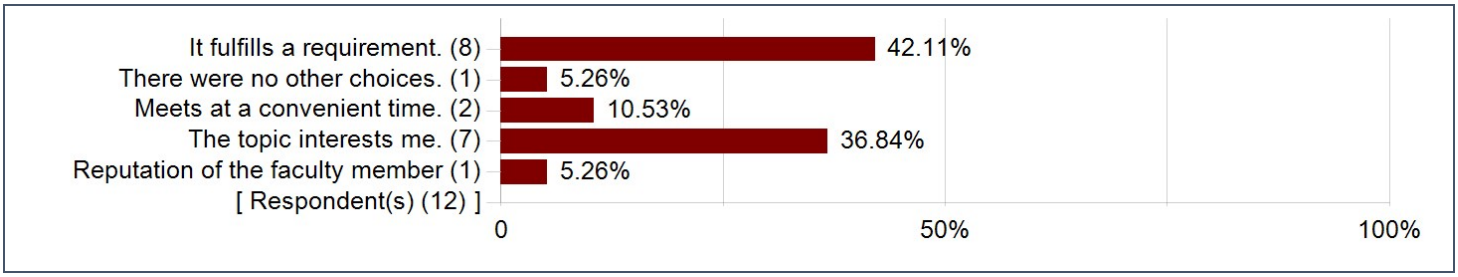


Now that this class is over, your interest is?

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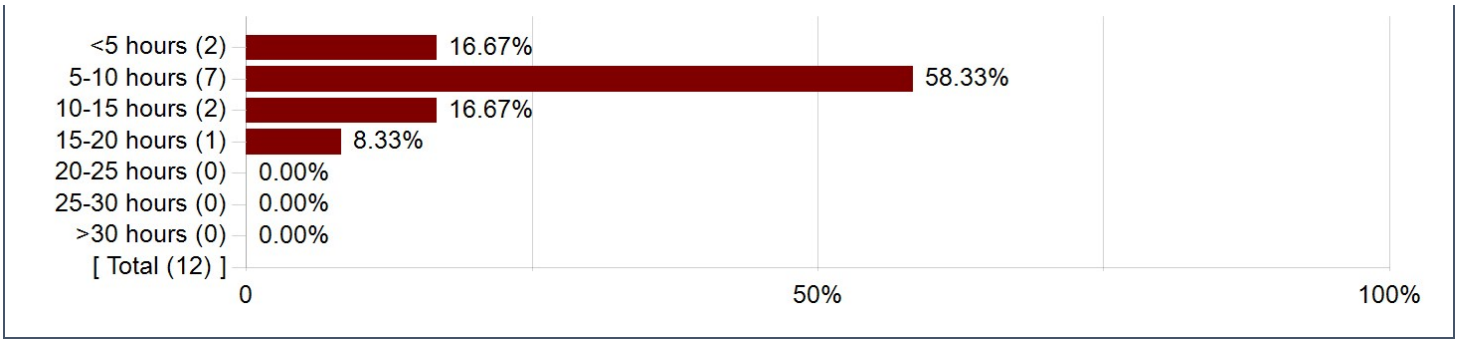


Why did you choose to take this class? (Select all that apply)



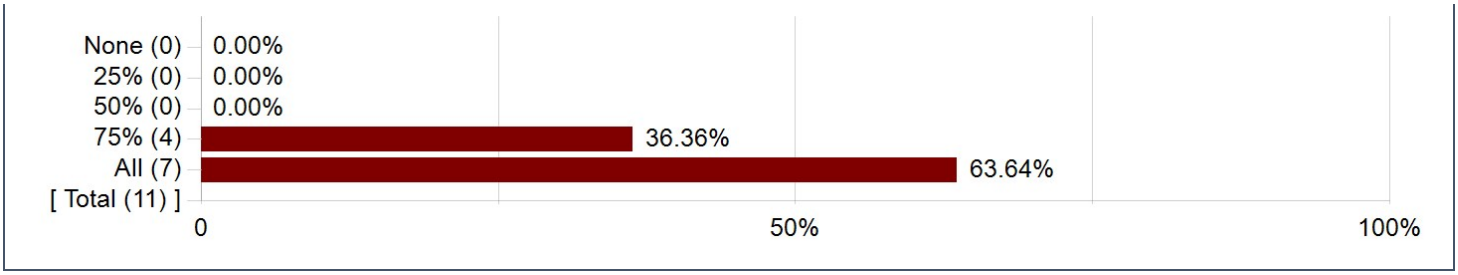
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this class?

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What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



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

Comment
Low conceptual lift but homework took a long time as a poor coder
It was definetly difficult but manageable with enough studying
Very fast paced, almost every lecture was on a completely different topic.
It was about what I was expecting. Probably harder for those trying to rush it in first year to put on their resume, which a couple of classmates were.
It was difficult but definitely manageable with just a bit of former experience with stats and data science
I took all of the prerequisites for this class and it builds nicely on the concepts covered on a surface level at the end of 119.
zero of the official prerequisites, third–year physics major. I was super interested in learning ML, so I put in time and effort and found it fairly easy.
it is hard, but if you put in the time you should be okay. no final – just a project
math was the problem
It is a difficult class, but Dr Sehgal made it much better. Some of the stuff we learn is from 119 and 213, but it is also a lot of new content and also introduced in new contexts