Virginia Tech
Fall 2020 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course:	CS_4824_92193_202009: Machine Learning-CS_4824_92193_202009
Instructor:	Ming Jin *
Response Rate:	14/25 (56.00 %)

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1A - The instructor was well prepared.

Ming Jin

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	7.14%
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	7.14%
Agree	(5)	3	21.43%
Strongly agree	(6)	9	64.29%

Means: Question 5.43, College 5.22, Department 5.16

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	5.43	0.94	6.00	25393	5.22	1.02	5.00	3557	5.16	1.09	5.00

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1B - The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.

Ming Jin

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	1	7.69%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	3	23.08%
Agree	(5)	4	30.77%
Strongly agree	(6)	5	38.46%

Means: Question 4.92, College 5.03, Department 4.94

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	4.92	1.19	5.00	25245	5.03	1.17	5.00	3535	4.94	1.27	5.00

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1C - The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

Ming Jin

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	7.69%
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	15.38%
Agree	(5)	5	38.46%
Strongly agree	(6)	5	38.46%

Means: Question 5.08, College 4.92, Department 4.81

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	5.08	0.95	5.00	25255	4.92	1.26	5.00	3531	4.81	1.36	5.00

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1D - The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.

Ming Jin

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		5.46 (Question)
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		5.29 (College)
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%		5.21 (Department)
Agree	(5)	7	53.85%		
Strongly agree	(6)	6	46.15%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	5.46	0.52	5.00	25216	5.29	1.02	6.00	3525	5.21	1.10	6.00

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1E - Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective.

Ming Jin

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	2	15.38%		4.85 (Question)
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		4.99 (College)
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	7.69%		4.87 (Department)
Agree	(5)	5	38.46%		
Strongly agree	(6)	5	38.46%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	4.85	1.41	5.00	25112	4.99	1.22	5.00	3514	4.87	1.35	5.00

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2 - 2A - What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

Ming Jin

Response Rate	7/25 (28%)

• We always have a recap before the class starts.

• He gave great examples and demos in class.

• Provide real world examples

• Dr. Ming Jin is hands down my best professor I have ever encountered in 3.4 years of my undergraduate study. He's definitely different than most VT professors. He's approachable, inspiring and devoted to answer all of my questions about the course material. I am very fortunate to be able to take this class under his mentor-ship. I've sure learned a lot about ML, and I am more than ready to apply these knowledge to my other classes and my future career. I would definitely take his other offerings after this semester if it's possible.

• good teacher, taught the material in depth

• The instructor clearly went over how to derive equations used in machine learning.

• He was very active on piazza

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3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

3A - I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	7.14%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	14.29%		
Agree	(5)	6	42.86%		
Strongly agree	(6)	5	35.71%		

Means: Question 5.07, College 5.10, Department 5.05

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	5.07	0.92	5.00	20050	5.10	1.06	5.00	2929	5.05	1.15	5.00

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3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

3B - My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	2	15.38%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	15.38%		
Agree	(5)	5	38.46%		
Strongly agree	(6)	4	30.77%		

Means: Question 4.69, College 4.84, Department 4.79

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	4.69	1.38	5.00	19933	4.84	1.31	5.00	2916	4.79	1.37	5.00

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4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?

Response Rate	5/25 (20%)

- Get distracted less
- I could have been more attentive in class
- I wish I can spend more time on the material.
- I could have attended office hours more frequently to fully grasp the material.
- Attended all of the lectures

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5 - 5A - Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:

Ming Jin

Response Rate	5/25 (20%)

- This is about the course not the instructor, this class covers what I would consider to be very difficult material and lacks in terms of resources due to the low amounts of TAs. I think it would be in the best interest of future students to have more TAs for this course.
- At times I felt that the home works were very difficult for me to solve and perhaps would have liked some more guidance on those.
- Thanks for being a cool and inspiring professor.
- stop using true false for quizzes, they often seem like trick questions and are misleading. also for lectures maybe try to go more step by step, at times you jumped over key math concepts important for understanding a proof of derviation. linear algebra is a pre req, but most people take that 2 years before this class, so most a bit rusty.
- Though the instructors handwriting was legible, it would have been better to get a typed copy of all the equations used in machine learning models and algorithms.

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6 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

I improved my ability to problem solve.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	7.14%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	14.29%		
Agree	(5)	5	35.71%		
Strongly agree	(6)	6	42.86%		

Means: Question 5.14, College 5.03, Department 5.04

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	5.14	0.95	5.00	20019	5.03	1.05	5.00	2921	5.04	1.07	5.00

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6 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The textbook or course readings made a valuable contribution to my learning.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	2	15.38%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	3	23.08%		
Agree	(5)	6	46.15%		
Strongly agree	(6)	2	15.38%		

Means: Question 4.62, College 4.54, Department 4.55

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	4.62	0.96	5.00	19865	4.54	1.41	5.00	2896	4.55	1.43	5.00

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6 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The objectives of the course were clearly explained.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	15.38%		
Agree	(5)	7	53.85%		
Strongly agree	(6)	4	30.77%		

Means: Question 5.15, College 5.08, Department 4.95

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	5.15	0.69	5.00	19940	5.08	1.08	5.00	2905	4.95	1.18	5.00

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6 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	15.38%		
Agree	(5)	6	46.15%		
Strongly agree	(6)	5	38.46%		

Means: Question 5.23, College 5.01, Department 4.96

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
13/25 (52.00%)	5.23	0.73	5.00	19799	5.01	1.15	5.00	2884	4.96	1.18	5.00

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7 - The instructor related theories and concepts to practical issues.

Ming Jin

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	1	7.14%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		5.36 / 5.19 / 5.08
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%		
Agree	(5)	5	35.71%		
Strongly agree	(6)	8	57.14%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	5.36	1.08	6.00	24854	5.19	1.02	5.00	3427	5.08	1.10	5.00

8 - I learned to apply principles from this course to new situations.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	7.14%		5.07 / 5.01 / 5.01
Somewhat agree	(4)	3	21.43%		
Agree	(5)	4	28.57%		
Strongly agree	(6)	6	42.86%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	5.07	1.00	5.00	2895	5.01	1.11	5.00	2895	5.01	1.11	5.00

9 - Select below to indicate your level of assent with the following statement:"In this class, my instructor was approachable and welcoming."

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	1	7.14%		
Somewhat Disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		5.29 / 5.02 / 5.02
Somewhat Agree	(4)	1	7.14%		
Agree	(5)	4	28.57%		
Strongly Agree	(6)	8	57.14%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	5.29	1.14	6.00	2887	5.02	1.27	5.00	2887	5.02	1.27	5.00

10 - Select below to indicate your level of assent with the following statement:In this class, my experiences encourage me to continue studying computer science.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	1	7.14%		
Somewhat Disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		4.93 / 4.83 / 4.83
Somewhat Agree	(4)	3	21.43%		
Agree	(5)	5	35.71%		
Strongly Agree	(6)	5	35.71%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	4.93	1.14	5.00	2902	4.83	1.35	5.00	2902	4.83	1.35	5.00

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11 - Select below to indicate your level of assent with the following statement:In this class, the VT Principles of Community were honored.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly Disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat Disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat Agree	(4)	1	7.14%
Agree	(5)	4	28.57%
Strongly Agree	(6)	9	64.29%

Means: Question 5.57, College 5.42, Department 5.42

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	5.57	0.65	6.00	2892	5.42	0.83	6.00	2892	5.42	0.83	6.00

12 - Select below to indicate your level of assent with the following statement:In this class, I felt excluded or marginalized.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Not at all	(1)	12	85.71%
Slightly	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat	(3)	2	14.29%
Moderately	(4)	0	0.00%
Very	(5)	0	0.00%
Extremely	(6)	0	0.00%

Means: Question 1.29, College 1.45, Department 1.45

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	1.29	0.73	1.00	2902	1.45	1.17	1.00	2902	1.45	1.17	1.00

13 - Select below to indicate your level of assent with the following statement:In this class, I witnessed some individuals making derogatory or insulting comments about others.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Never	(1)	14	100.00%
Very rarely	(2)	0	0.00%
Rarely	(3)	0	0.00%
Occasionally	(4)	0	0.00%
Frequently	(5)	0	0.00%
Very Frequently	(6)	0	0.00%

Means: Question 1.00, College 1.31, Department 1.31

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/25 (56.00%)	1.00	0.00	1.00	2901	1.31	1.02	1.00	2901	1.31	1.02	1.00

14 - What, if anything, could the instructor have done to improve classroom climate and equity?

Response Rate	3/25 (12%)

• N/A

• N/A

• I think the instructor did everything he could to make the class engaging as possible given the current situation.

15 - Please give the name of the first TA, #1, for whom you wish to provide feedback.

Response Rate	5/25 (20%)

• Padmaksha Roy

• Padmaksha Roy

• Padmaksha Roy

• Padmaksha Roy

• Padmaksha Roy

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Response Rate: 14/25 (56.00 %)

16 - Please select an overall rating for TA #1:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Very Poor	(1)	1	12.50%		
Poor	(2)	1	12.50%		
Fair	(3)	0	0.00%		
Average	(4)	3	37.50%		3.88 (Question) 5.34 (College) 5.34 (Department)
Good	(5)	2	25.00%		
Excellent	(6)	1	12.50%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
8/25 (32.00%)	3.88	1.64	4.00	1101	5.34	1.16	6.00	1101	5.34	1.16	6.00

17 - Please explain your rating for TA #1.

Response Rate	4/25 (16%)

• This TA was probably the worst TA I have ever had. With the lack of a good explanation to hardly any of my questions, with no explanation in some cases. The time I spent in his office hours could have been better spent starting at a wall, as it would most likely have accomplished more. Furthermore, the TA constantly canceled office hours on a regular basis when assignments were getting close to being due. I would completely understand if this was to happen once or twice, but towards the end of the course, it was consistently.

• Padmaksha was extremely welcoming. He was able to help me with all my doubts regarding the homework. He was pleasant to approach and seek help from.

• sometimes i felt like there was a communication barrier but you put in alot of effort to help me when i asked

• He helped in debugging to run machine learning models.

18 - Please give the name of the second TA, #2, for whom you wish to provide feedback.

Response Rate	0/25 (0%)

19 - Please select an overall rating for TA #2:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Very Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(2)	0	0.00%		
Fair	(3)	0	0.00%		
Average	(4)	1	100.00%		4.00 (Question) 5.17 (College) 5.17 (Department)
Good	(5)	0	0.00%		
Excellent	(6)	0	0.00%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
1/25 (4.00%)	4.00	0.00	4.00	570	5.17	1.20	6.00	570	5.17	1.20	6.00

20 - Please explain your rating for TA #2.

Response Rate	0/25 (0%)

21 - Please give the name of the third TA, #3, for whom you wish to provide feedback.

Response Rate	0/25 (0%)

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22 - Please select an overall rating for TA #3:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Very Poor	(1)	0	0.00%
Poor	(2)	0	0.00%
Fair	(3)	0	0.00%
Average	(4)	1	100.00%
Good	(5)	0	0.00%
Excellent	(6)	0	0.00%

Means: Question 4.00, College 5.01, Department 5.01

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
1/25 (4.00%)	4.00	0.00	4.00	414	5.01	1.31	5.50	414	5.01	1.31	5.50

23 - Please explain your rating for TA #3.

Response Rate	0/25 (0%)