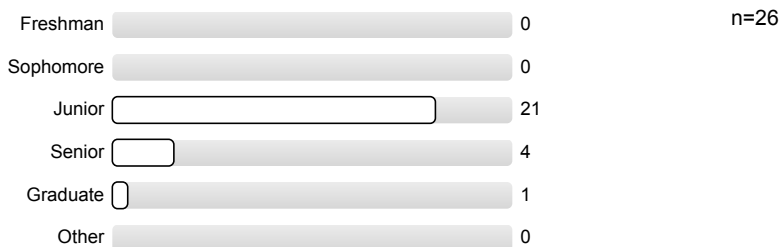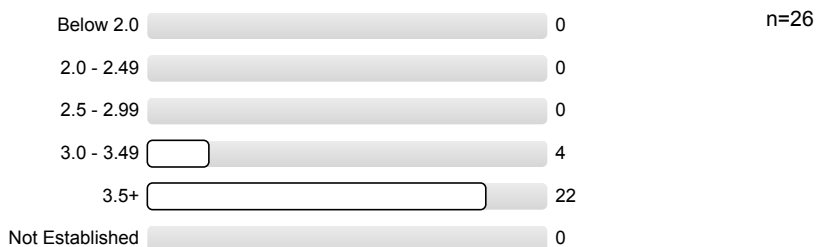**UCLA | EIP**

J. HAO
Evaluation of Instruction Program Report
20F: COM SCI 145 DIS 1C: INTRO-DATA MINING
No. of responses = 26
Enrollment = 34
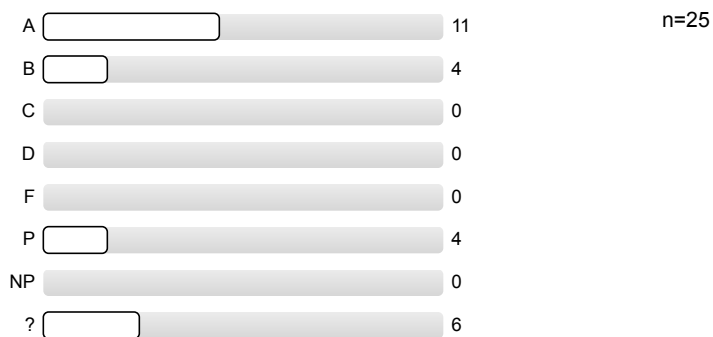Response Rate = 76.47%

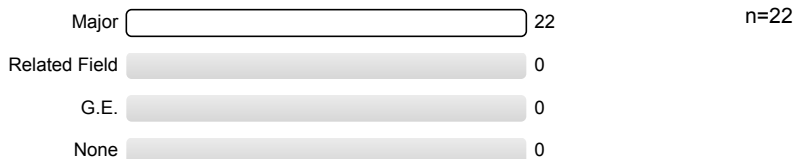## 1. Background Information:

1.1) Year in School:

		n=26
Freshman		0
Sophomore		0
Junior		21
Senior		4
Graduate		1
Other		0

1.2) UCLA GPA:

		n=26
Below 2.0		0
2.0 - 2.49		0
2.5 - 2.99		0
3.0 - 3.49		4
3.5+		22
Not Established		0

1.3) Expected Grade:

		n=25
A		11
B		4
C		0
D		0
F		0
P		4
NP		0
?		6

1.4) What requirements does this course fulfill?

		n=22
Major		22
Related Field		0
G.E.		0
None		0

2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1) Teaching Assistant Knowledge - The T.A. was knowledgeable about the material.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 2 2 5 8 8 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=7.72
md=8
dev.=1.24
ab.=1

2.2) Teaching Assistant Concern - The T.A. was concerned about student learning.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 2 5 7 11 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=8.08
md=8
dev.=1
ab.=1

2.3) Organization - Section presentations were well prepared and organized.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 2 0 4 8 11 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=8.04
md=8
dev.=1.17
ab.=1

2.4) Scope - The teaching assistant expanded on course ideas.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 1 0 1 3 3 7 10 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=7.72
md=8
dev.=1.54
ab.=1

2.5) Interaction - Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 1 1 6 6 11 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=8
md=8
dev.=1.12
ab.=1

2.6) Communication Skills - The teaching assistant had good communication skills.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 3 0 5 6 11 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=7.88
md=8
dev.=1.33
ab.=1

2.7) Value - The overall value of the sections justified your time and effort.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 3 3 3 6 10 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=7.68
md=8
dev.=1.44
ab.=1

2.8) Overall - What is your overall rating of the teaching assistant?

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 2 6 7 10 | Very High or Always
(scale 1–9)

n=25
av.=8
md=8
dev.=1
ab.=1

3. Your View of Section Characteristics:

3.1) Difficulty (relative to other courses)

Low | 0 17 8 | High
(scale 1–3)

n=25
av.=2.32
md=2
dev.=0.48
ab.=1

3.2) Workload/pace was

Too Slow | 0 19 6 | Too Much
(scale 1–3)

n=25
av.=2.24
md=2
dev.=0.44
ab.=1

3.3) Integration of section with course was

Poor | 1 11 13 | Excellent
(scale 1–3)

n=25
av.=2.48
md=3
dev.=0.59
ab.=1

3.4) Texts, required readings

Poor — Excellent

n=23
av.=2.35
md=2
dev.=0.49
ab.=3

Distribution: 0 (1), 15 (2), 8 (3)

3.5) Homework assignments

Poor — Excellent

n=25
av.=2.36
md=2
dev.=0.64
ab.=1

Distribution: 2 (1), 12 (2), 11 (3)

3.6) Graded materials, examinations

Poor — Excellent

n=25
av.=2.32
md=2
dev.=0.56
ab.=1

Distribution: 1 (1), 15 (2), 9 (3)

3.7) Lecture presentations

Poor — Excellent

n=25
av.=2.32
md=2
dev.=0.63
ab.=1

Distribution: 2 (1), 13 (2), 10 (3)

3.8) Class discussions

Poor — Excellent

n=25
av.=2.48
md=2
dev.=0.51
ab.=1

Distribution: 0 (1), 13 (2), 12 (3)

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4. Comments:

4.1) Please identify what you perceive to be the real strengths and weaknesses of this teaching assistant and course.

- A lot of times discussion felt like lecture part 2 and it was a lot of information at once. I appreciate the going over material, but I think I would've preferred more interactivity and doing example in class. I think the best way to learn is to have an interactive component and this is what we're missing on zoom. Our TA did answer questions to the best of his ability which I appreciate.

- Care about students learning

- Great at teaching and breaking down concepts.

- I found discussion to be most helpful, and the slides were very well written

- I had a great time in the class. Thank you for all your help!

- I think Junheng is a phenomenal TA and clearly one of the best that I have had in my CS career at UCLA. He was very competent in the material and did a wonderful job clearly enumerating the unique challenges posed by each algorithms/what we should be cognizant of. I really appreciate his superb effort towards this course and am very grateful to have had him as my TA.

- It was a good class in terms of content, I learned the things I wanted to learn going into the course. I have to say that I don't like the way the class project is scored based on our models' ranking on the scoreboard. I feel like it fosters unnecessary competition between students, rather than practical use of trying to apply what we learned. I think a goal score of our models to reach would be a better measure of how well we learned and applied our skills. I think it's also unfair and unreasonable to ask students to figure out what method to use ourselves which may be a method that's not taught in the course. While the goal of the competition is interesting and relevant to current news, I think it's too difficult for an intro to data mining course. The scoreboard is also dominated by students with prior experience, which is completely unfair in a course that's meant to teach data mining, rather than a course to evaluate which student can write models best regardless of background. This isn't a job interview. I think such ranking-based scoring on projects is best suited for an advanced data mining course, not the intro course (as the professor keeps stressing the course is). A little more guidance from the TAs about how to do the project would also be really appreciated. I think it's kind of ridiculous for the TA to say "sorry I haven't written any models for this before" and just tell us to figure it out.

- Junheng was great, and really did a fantastic job summarizing all the things the professor went over in

the lectures.

- Junheng was very clear at explaining concepts and went over a lot of cases for concepts. Even if I did not attend his section, I would review his slides or lecture recording.

- Overall, Junheng was very on top of his game - on the Piazza, with homework, in discussion, etc. In different (non-virtual) circumstances, would love him as a TA again!

- She was way better than the professor.

- Strengths: seemed to be knowledgeable, was responsive to student questions. I haven't had enough interactions with the TA to determine weaknesses.

- Thank you!

- The TA was very approachable and always tried his best to answer questions. He seemed to care a lot about our learnings, and discussions were well presented and organized. I really appreciated the effort he put as a TA, and was glad to have been in his discussion.

- The discussion had good content

- ta was great! helps clear up confusion during lecture

Profile

2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1)	Teaching Assistant Knowledge - The T.A. was knowledgeable about the material.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=7.72
2.2)	Teaching Assistant Concern - The T.A. was concerned about student learning.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=8.08
2.3)	Organization - Section presentations were well prepared and organized.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=8.04
2.4)	Scope - The teaching assistant expanded on course ideas.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=7.72
2.5)	Interaction - Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=8.00
2.6)	Communication Skills - The teaching assistant had good communication skills.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=7.88
2.7)	Value - The overall value of the sections justified your time and effort.	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=7.68
2.8)	Overall - What is your overall rating of the teaching assistant?	Very Low or Never — Very High or Always	n=25	av.=8.00

3. Your View of Section Characteristics:

3.1)	Difficulty (relative to other courses)	Low — High	n=25	av.=2.32
3.2)	Workload/pace was	Too Slow — Too Much	n=25	av.=2.24
3.3)	Integration of section with course was	Poor — Excellent	n=25	av.=2.48
3.4)	Texts, required readings	Poor — Excellent	n=23	av.=2.35
3.5)	Homework assignments	Poor — Excellent	n=25	av.=2.36
3.6)	Graded materials, examinations	Poor — Excellent	n=25	av.=2.32
3.7)	Lecture presentations	Poor — Excellent	n=25	av.=2.32
3.8)	Class discussions	Poor — Excellent	n=25	av.=2.48