

University of Manchester
2015-16 Semester 2 Mathematics UG

Course: I3034-MATH-20802-1151-2SE-020800: MATH20802 Statistical Methods 2015-16 2nd Semester

Instructor: Saralees Nadarajah *

1 - Overall, I would rate this unit as being excellent

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Agree	(5)	136	79.53%		4.75
Mostly Agree	(4)	28	16.37%		
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	(3)	6	3.51%		
Mostly Disagree	(2)	1	0.58%		
Disagree	(1)	0	0%		
0 25 50 75 100 Instructor					
Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median		
171/281 (60.85%)	4.75	0.54	5.00		

2 - The feedback that I received on my work was helpful

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Agree	(5)	137	80.12%		4.75
Mostly Agree	(4)	28	16.37%		
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	(3)	5	2.92%		
Mostly Disagree	(2)	0	0%		
Disagree	(1)	1	0.58%		
0 25 50 75 100 Instructor					
Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median		
171/281 (60.85%)	4.75	0.56	5.00		

3 - This unit was well organised

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Agree	(5)	158	92.4%		4.91
Mostly Agree	(4)	12	7.02%		
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	(3)	0	0%		
Mostly Disagree	(2)	1	0.58%		
Disagree	(1)	0	0%		
0 25 50 75 100 Instructor					
Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median		
171/281 (60.85%)	4.91	0.34	5.00		

4 - The course materials were helpful

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Agree	(5)	155	90.64%		4.89
Mostly Agree	(4)	13	7.6%		
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	(3)	3	1.75%		
Mostly Disagree	(2)	0	0%		
Disagree	(1)	0	0%		
0 25 50 75 100 Instructor					
Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median		
171/281 (60.85%)	4.89	0.37	5.00		

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5 - The support classes were helpful									
Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses			Means	
Agree		(5)	141	82.46%					
Mostly Agree		(4)	26	15.2%					
Neither Agree Nor Disagree		(3)	2	1.17%					
Mostly Disagree		(2)	2	1.17%					
Disagree		(1)	0	0%					
					0	25	50	75	100
Return Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Instructor				
171/281 (60.85%)		4.79	0.51	5.00					

6 - The eLearning resources provided in this unit were helpful									
Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses			Means	
Agree		(1)	153	89.47%					
Mostly Agree		(2)	16	9.36%					
Neither Agree nor Disagree		(3)	0	0%					
Mostly Disagree		(4)	1	0.58%					
Disagree		(5)	1	0.58%					
					0	25	50	75	100
Return Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Instructor				
171/281 (60.85%)		1.13	0.47	1.00					

7 - Prof/Dr. Saralees Nadarajah's teaching was excellent									
Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses			Means	
Agree		(5)	135	78.95%					
Mostly Agree		(4)	31	18.13%					
Neither Agree nor Disagree		(3)	2	1.17%					
Mostly Disagree		(2)	2	1.17%					
Disagree		(1)	1	0.58%					
I have not been taught by this lecturer		(0)	0	0%					
					0	25	50	75	100
Return Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Instructor				
171/281 (60.85%)		4.74	0.60	5.00					

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8 - What aspect of Prof. /Dr. Saralees Nadarajah's approach to teaching best helped your learning?

Return Rate	95/281 (33.81%)
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- Took it slow - didn't race ahead
- Dr. Saralees Nadarajah is a really responsible professor and I will receive about two or three emails from him every week while these emails are really helpful to review or prepare for the lectures next week.
- Organisation of the online notes and the response to the midterm test.
- well organised
- He's efficient and clear about his explanation in class.
- he was really great with making sure any notes or materials we needed were online and available and he marked our midterms in a night which I really appreciated
- His clear and concise notes
- He is very effective with his teaching method, and his examples are very detailed
- He's very thorough and always ensures all materials are available.
- He is very thorough and organised.
- He is very thorough and provides absolutely every resource he possibly can which is great. It is fantastic that even the tutorials are podcasted. I really like how he also emailed us to let us know which of the course materials are relevant for the exam which saves us wasting time revising irrelevant content. I would recommend this course to anyone.
- He is great!
- Everything written in lectures is put online, this was extremely useful as I had a clash that could not be avoided. Also most things are clearly explained. Plenty of email reminders so you always knew what was going on.
- All the course materials are made available online from the very beginning, and all formulas and methods we need to know for the exams are online, which made learning the course much easier. Also the fact that he uses the visualiser while he lectures is a huge help
- Communication via emails was the thing that stood out. Especially around exams, where we received emails with all the content we'd need for the tests.
- Easily the best lecturer that I have had. You could tell that he clearly cares about how we do and wants us to do well. He has offered the most support out of any lecturer. Often goes out of his way to provide us with all of the information we need. He is also very good at explaining the mathematics and the pace was just right in the lectures. I look forward to taking his course on extreme values and financial risk next semester!
- patience
- enthusiasm in teaching and caring for each student
- Clear explanation
- Gave us a lot of lecture notes and examples. Well organised course website. A lot of material from last years.
- Clearly cares about the students, I really appreciated it.
- Takes a great amount of time and effort into helping the students and it really shows. My favourite course this semester ans has pushed me to take further statistic based modules.
- He gave us loads of feedback and marked all our work really quickly which was great!
- Very organised and got the points across clearly
- His online resources
- His dedication of teaching and aiming to help student understand deeper into the course
- Very thorough, explains everything in detail. Very approachable, so easy to ask questions when struggling.
- He provided lots of examples to reinforce the points he was making. He podcasted everything too so it was easy to catch up if you were to miss a lecture or tutorial. He also didn't include any unnecessarily difficult things into the course, he just made it clear what we needed to know.
- Very good teacher
- everything
- He is very quick at uploading lecture notes. And he gives a lot of examples in class and goes through the course at a steady pace
- At least an 11/10 in effort and caring about how we do. Makes up for his slightly weaker lecturing ability by passion about both us and the course content.
- Lots of examples, good pace and approachable to ask questions. 10/10.
- Straight to the point, well guided, puts as much effort and Time in as he expects from students
- Clear lectures and very helpful having all the notes printed and given out at the start. Also VERY helpful having the tutorials podcast so that you can look back on them and hear an explanation to solutions.
- Working through many examples
- Loads of examples in class really help to make sure you have a full understanding of what we have been taught. Materials provided by Saralees are excellent as there are so many examples provided to practice and also with everything being podcasted if you don't understand something the first time it's great to be able to listen again. Saralees really goes the extra mile to help students and his response to emails is very quick. He is extremely approachable and I wouldn't hesitate to ask him any questions as he always gives a thorough explanation.
- He broke up lectures very well going through material and examples with around equal weight.
- Saralees puts a lot of effort in his teaching, and actually cares about the achievement of his students, and I find that his efforts to go above and beyond has helped me in learning for this module. The format of his tutorials were very good, where he goes through every / most question after we have an attempt ourself. One of the best lecturers or even teachers I've had in my time in education.
- E learning support
- He is very good in explaining difficult concepts and he makes sure that everyone has truly grasps the topic taught.
- All of his information can be found on the online course website. A really responsible and helpful lecturer!
- Excellent lecturer. Online resources available were excellent and I have a lot of examples to work with. Brilliant.
- He takes the course teaching seriously, and the course material is complete.
- Very helpful in lectures. Spent a fair amount of time going through examples.
- Lots of examples
- gave us everything that we ever need.
- Lecture notes were available in advance. Many examples both in lectures and in tutorials. Great explanations given in lectures an tutorials, many reminders on what's important throughout the course.
- Prof. Saraleed is the most dedicated lecturer I have ever met!

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- frequent emails complete material
- Very helpful, His way of teaching with sufficient detail and good delivery. Good lecturer make the course easier.
- He is really devoted and always keeps you up to date with things. Also really impressed with how quickly he managed to mark the midterm papers.
- Really an excellent teacher in UoM!
- He went through many examples in lectures, and all of the notes from the lectures were scanned and made available on the webpage.
- Lot's of examples
- Everything explained well, and lots of examples worked through together. Nice pace and great lecturer
- his resources
- I like how Saralees does so many examples in class, it really helps to make the material clear.
- He is just amazing By far the best lecturer i have ever had and probably will ever have Please give this man an award he marked 200 and something papers in like 5 hours this man is amazing he knows his subject very well he also replies to his emails incredibly fast please give this man an award or something
- Saralees is one of the best lecturers I've had the pleasure of encountering so far, he goes over and above at every opportunity to help the students in any way possible.
- Plenty of examples done both in lectures and tutorials
- He is the most responsible teacher that I have ever seen.
- The best and the most dedicated lecturer I have ever seen!!!
- that he explains everything steps in details.
- all round
- He is very thorough when going through examples and explains each step of his work very carefully.
- All the details about the course contents
- He is amazing. The material he provides is more than sufficient for you to revise. You know what you need to know. He also sets aside time for revision classes, etc.
- clear
- Never in my life have I ever seen such a dedicated lecturer. He is simply amazing. He has patience, he knows how to explain really well.
- His commitment to the cause
- I think all the resources online are the best i've ever had. thank you
- Plenty of examples, especially in the tutorials where everything was clearly explained that could have been difficult to follow in the online solutions etc He has given plenty of information throughout the year also, with helpful emails with links and making all the sheets etc available online has been very helpful!
- Everything's online so if you missed something in the lecture you can catch up. Having example classes podcasted was also excellent. Getting individual emails about our midterm results helped us know where we'd gone wrong, and we weren't kept waiting for ages to get our midterm results.
- I liked the fact that he goes through every problem on the problem sheets in the tutorials whilst also recording every lecture and every problems class, so I can't go over them again in my own time
- A lot of effort given. All the materials was very useful and uploaded in blackboard. very attentive to students
- His online resources.
- Using email to send the materials instead of blackboard are quite more convenient during the IT maintenance period.
- His emphasis on lots of examples in lectures.
- Dr. Saralees Nadarajah, unlike most lecturers, seems to be open to change and is willing to improve his methods of teaching for the benefit of his students. I have not enjoyed any of my previous statistic modules until it was taught by this lecturer. Though his papers may be difficult, he does EVERYTHING in his power to prepare you and help you for the duration of his course. There are so many things this lecturer does to benefit his students' education, all i can say is ; YOUR EFFORTS ARE EXTREMELY APPRECIATED. Please carry on teaching future generations in the same way.
- Good lectures, tutorial classes, great learning resources
- Saralees provided an extensive amount of online resources to help us with our learning, the solutions online are useful and he always explains things thoroughly. The podcasts of lectures and tutorials are particularly useful.
- The wide variety of past papers and large number of examples to help during revision.
- Great and clear scanned lecture notes. Nice teaching.
- He was phenomenal. Absolutely phenomenal. Get this man a knighthood. I don't even know where to begin. This great adventure with Dr Saralees Nadarajah begun even before the course start date. After enrolling onto the course, I was greeted by a warm, friendly and PERSONALISED email. Which is slightly insane barring in mind there is 200+ students. Especially since this continued for 12 weeks, personalised emails to 200+ students? Well you can do the maths here, no pun intended. Anyway, to put into context how good he was, barring in mind I only had the fortune of being taught by him for just shy over 3 months; I would go as far as to say he is one of the best teachers I have ever had. Period. In terms of his teaching, his lectures were clear, he was loud, humours (mostly accidentally which added to his comical nature), approachable, very punctual and caring. Now I think many teachers/lecturers may be great, but to be excellent this goes beyond the teaching and more towards your general attitude to your students. Aside from his weekly personalised emails which eventually started to feel like spam, he gave plenty of examples (probably the most questions since sitting my C4 entry exam; which is great), he communicated with us during lecturers and tutorials as a pose to talking AT us. He was by far the most approachable since he stayed behind after closing hours to help when the course got more complex. Finally he recognised & spoke to me personally outside, about campus; the recognition by a world leading statistician was not only flattering but made me appreciate his humble persona. Even though I am going off topic, simply; his teaching was marvellous.
- Saralees is AMAZING. Undoubtedly, one of the best lecturers I have ever had! He is SO lovely and ALWAYS willing to help
- Saralees helps everyone individually, does a good number of examples to help understanding of methods.
- Going through examples as a group rather than individually. Extensive correspondence and materials were very useful.
- His willingness to help, made me want to understand his module!
- He provided us with lecture notes and a booklet of exercises and kept us informed throughout the course of any extra material, tests, proofs, etc.
- Dr. Nadarajah is incredibly organised which highly benefits the course. Having all of the lecture notes provided to me allowed me to focus on trying to understand the content, as opposed to quickly trying to take it all down. I also found his emails very useful, as he would provide links to all of the materials the had been covered in all of the support classes, in particular his email about the final exam is very useful, as it gives all of the material available in one succinct list. Having several full papers and solutions for both the exam and midterm is also very useful.
- Saralees is the best lecturer! The online resources are very thorough, it is extremely useful having tutorial classes podcasted. The emails are very helpful, even there is a lot of them, as it means every student is up to date with the course and knows what is required of them. What I appreciate the most is the extremely quick marking of the mid term exam. thank you for this! so helpful! Saralees is very supportive of his students, and I really appreciated that he kept running all lectures and tutorials right until the end of term.
- He is a brilliant lecturer! Very caring towards the students and probably the best lecturer i have had so far.
- Very well organized materials online. Notes, problem sets and solutions were available from the beginning of the course. Lots of examples.
- went through all details in class, even though sometimes it was quite painful at others it was useful

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9 - Please provide details of what you valued about this unit

Return Rate	71/281 (25.27%)
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- Everything was online from the start and easy to access
- This course has a really really really good lecturer.
- Online notes and revision material was very useful. Especially the formulas to remember for the exams.
- online notes were really useful
- Thank you for all you do!
- Great lecturer, probably the best one I have had, nice content in the course
- The amount of emails I received letting me know what is going on.
- See above
- Everything is podcasted!
- The unit is clear, but I found that it a bit hard as it is a module of learning a method rather than simply remember something.
- All resources you could ever wish for are readily available on the webpage. Notes are uploaded within the hour which is fantastic too, Saralees very reliable and keeps to his word. Clear structured example sheets with quite good solutions too.
- The dedication he clearly has for the course and for the students is admirable, and I appreciate that very much
- Liked the fact that the tutorials are podcasted as well as the lectures and that all of the information is scanned. Also liked the fact that everything which is and isn't examinable was made clear and that he provided a list of formulas to remember for both the midterm and the end exam.
- Fully detailed explanation and notes online
- statistics
- He records all the lectures and tutorials and provides detailed solutions for the example sheets :)
- The amount of different examples that were available.
- The time put into making sure everything is clear and understandable.
- Usefulness
- Brilliantly organised materials and teaching. His effort in giving the best of the course to students.
- Very well organised
- Well organised, lots of examples, access to lots of past papers with solutions, also lecturer always readily available to help and replied to any questions or problems over email rapidly.
- Veryverygood
- nice content
- He is very thorough in everything and he would repeat sentences a lot to remind people.
- Methods based, lots of questions to practise with, and a good set of notes.
- Interesting topic and good lecturer
- Dr. Saralees' eagerness to help
- Course materials provided are the best I have ever had. Extremely approachable lecturer who provides maximum help he can.
- There was a genuine care shown from the lecturer of the like I have not seen yet at my time here at Manchester. Maximum effort was put in to make sure we had the most available resources and that we had the midterm marked extremely fast with very detailed feedback given.
- This module has made me more interested in learning about statistics and I am likely to take more stats courses in my 3rd and 4th year now.
- The application of certain concepts to real life events.
- Lots of past papers and he will respond to your emails quickly
- Lecturer provide us a lot of resources and guide us with helpful information for the course.
- much deeper knowledge about statistic method
- Consideration and the amount of time spent making sure all students have the materials.
- Inferences about a population parameter
- learned about many distribution that could be helpful in the future.
- Great example sheets and examples, the examples booklet alongside the lecture notes proved incredibly helpful.
- useful
- excellent
- Online materials are really good.
- Learning about the Neyman -Pearson Lemma and Power Function
- Good examples and lots of feedback and emails notifying me of changes and help for exams and the midterm
- best lecturer
- Saralees is very thorough, I feel as if everything we need has been covered well. I really appreciate how the notes and problem/solution sheets are provided well in advance which helps to work at my own pace. Emails are thorough and help to keep track of everything! Thank you, Saralees.
- The course materials online for the unit are amazing. The extensive examples and problem sheets really help you to get thoroughly stuck into learning the material and maths content in the course.
- provided lots of past paper with solution and a lot of example question for practise use.
- :)
- clear e-materials make revision easier
- I felt that this unit has given me a good grounding in statistics for if I want to pursue other related modules further on in my degree.
- clear and good materials
- I loved the fact that there were so many examples and applications, this meaning that what I do here I can do in real life in work etc. I loved the fact we had no proofs.

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- Constant email updates so we knew what we were doing each week ahead of lectures.
- Definitely the fact Saralees podcasts every thing there is to know, also sends frequent emails and what we need to know and what we don't need to know
- it is hard but the lecturer's explanation eases the unit a lot.
- Saralees' communication.
- There are too many things to mention. Lecture materials 10/10 Support classes 10/10 Online materials 10/10 General attitude and effort given to his students 20/10 Give this man an award.
- Saralees is always happy to explain things in more depth where required, which was very helpful when struggling. He is also incredibly responsive to emails, which is very useful if you can't understand the solutions online.
- lots of revision materials
- The great number of resources available which were extremely helpful and the number of revision classes was very helpful.
- Calculating things.
- Everything. He made statistics enjoyable, which is a difficult feat barring in mind statistics can feel very unvarying and tedious. The unit was very well organised, the midterm was after Easter giving us plenty of time to revise, his notes were not too dense, making it a breeze to extract the formulas you need. The value of this course outside of the lecturer himself was the e-commerce aspect, in the form of his MATH20802 webpage. Although very plain, the beauty lay in the content. It was definitely the most useful I have used since Examsolutions in A level. The site dates back as far as when he was appointed and the availability of the 10 past papers all with solutions, along with 10 midterms, again all with solutions is unprecedented but it put us all immediately at ease. I could go on and on but I simply do not have the time since I want to do more statistics.
- EVERYTHING
- Plenty of examples, feedback, plenty of time to ask questions, friendly and approachable lecturer.
- The content of the course.
- I valued the fact that Dr saralees Nadarajah showed he about each and every one of his students. He always made himself available to us would respond very fast when we in need of help. His effort is next to none! Brilliant lecturer, we need more like him!
- I got to practice working on seemingly complex integration and break it down to simple steps.
- Dr. Nadarajah clearly wants the students taking his class to succeed, in particular providing marks to the midterm test within 24 hours and then further detailed feedback shortly after, as well as the original scripts was very useful for knowing where to focus my revision, as well as being an excellent example of the level of support that was provided in this unit.
- Very interesting unit and maths. It ties probability and statistics together in an interesting way.
- online material were really good!!! lots of resources everything was podcasted

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10 - Please provide details of what you think could be improved on this unit

Return Rate	65/281 (23.13%)
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- The tutorial classes weren't particularly helpful if you'd done the sheet or attempted it with the solutions and understood it.
- sometimes it is not that easy to find out the webpage at the beginning.
- Make lecture notes and example sheet answers available after lectures so it encourages people to still go to the lectures.
- sometimes the lectures are a little dry
- nothing
- One thing I would add about Saralees is sometimes he would explain in detail something which is quite simple and we all already knew and understood, yet then other times when something is really hard (for example how to draw the graphs of the indicator functions) and certainly all of me and my friends were confused, he did not explain this thoroughly. I thought this distinction he had made as to what to explain and what not to explain was odd.
- Set the exam a bit easier as we heard from our seniors say that the unit is hard.
- Slightly more interesting lectures, good lecturer overall but sometimes enthusiasm is lacking which can make for lectures that are slightly dull.
- He is silent for a lot of time during his lectures while writing, we spend a lot of time writing and not a lot of time taking in any of what's being written down
- The only improvement would be if answers were provided to all of the examples. (As some of them weren't covered in either the lectures or the examples classes.
- none
- -
- Nothing, I thought it was perfect.
- Nothing, excellent course.
- There were lots of pauses in the lectures whilst he wrote things on the board and didn't always explain things very clearly
- The lecture style was pretty boring, I think sometimes he came across as a bit dismissive when I asked questions after lectures
- nothing
- I think that the emails should be fewer and I think that his demeanour could be better as he doesn't captivate the class.
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Very good
- nothing more
- Nothing
- When teaching us about the distributions at the start, more explanation about how less familiar distributions such as the beta and weibull distributions are useful in practice.
- Literally nothing, the perfect module.
- Some knowledge is presumed known and I have no idea where we are meant to have seen it before! Often says "you should know this" and I sit thinking where from?!?!
- Sometimes the lectures move a little slow. Examples in lectures can be a bit repetitive. I would prefer if the examples done in lectures could be more varied in terms of difficulty as sometimes the exam paper questions are much harder than ones we have been going over in lectures.
- Nothing
- The notes on his webpage are very good but the handwritten notes are just listed as week 1, week 2 etc, which makes it harder for me to find something I'm looking for in particular. I think it would be better if it was listed as, for example, "week 4 - maximum likelihood estimators". Some of the last lectures that involved just going through the different rejection rules for hypothesis testing were very dull as it felt like copying down the same formula repetitively.
- Good as it is.
- Make it easier, kidding. It's fine
- It is perfect!
- Everything of this course is perfect.
- - Maybe go deeper into new material. I felt that a lot has been repeated from Statistics in the first year.
- The lecture notes could be more in depth.
- explanation should be improved on some of the theory.
- Nothing. This is a terrific module!
- No better idea than current teaching
- Maybe better lecture notes online. Class notes are good but the typed up notes aren't great
- The printed notes were lacking detail (e.g. examples, proofs). Whilst I understand they were mainly for reference (for formulae etc), and that material and examples were covered more thoroughly in the lectures/handwritten notes, some people (myself included) prefer working from a full set of printed notes instead of copying everything down. Please note that this is just my personal preference, and even then, I don't think the course itself suffered because of it.
- The more simpler things learnt in this module were explained in a lot of detail and more complex things were just skipped over. Possibly more detail explaining new concepts and less about concepts we have already learnt from previous education
- clearer teaching
- It can be difficult to remain engaged during lectures and tutorials. It can be repetitive if you have done the sheets already, as when you come to the tutorials they are gone over again. Other lecturers provide specific 'tutorial sheets' with a few questions to go through in tutorials instead of doing problem sheet questions, this might be something to consider for the future?
- nothing can be improved anymore
- All he have done is perfect.
- :)
- Nothing.
- more explanation of the meaning and use of the approaches
- Can really say anything has to be improved.
- Make a pro webpage so the page isn't so long, like paul johnsons only a suggestion, content still fantastic

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- Sometimes examples in lectures are not as clear, and the example booklet would be more useful if there were also solutions to those (perhaps could be given at the end of the course)?
- none at all. keep up is all i can say
- The mid term should be taken before the 3 week break. It covers 7 weeks content whereas other mid terms only cover 4 weeks.
- Nothing. Please change nothing.
- The teaching is very monotone and boring very hard to keep your attention. When i asked for a question in the revision classes the teacher said he had already done it in a tutorial but i dont think it is fair to assume we can go to all 4 revision classes and the podcasts can be hard to follow.
- I hoped those $e^{\wedge}(\dots)$ could be replaced by $\exp(\dots)$ so I can be more clear about what's inside the brackets.
- Nothing. Just sheer perfection. Maybe an easy final exam would be nice ? Haha
- NOTHING! In Saralees' many years of teaching, he has mastered the art of perfection. Congratulations Saralees!
- More content, or harder content not previously seen. Fewer emails. Increased speed in lectures
- Marks are often lost where mathematical tricks are required, rather than a lack of understanding of the course. Perhaps these techniques should be formally taught. Also some things are assumed to be known by the students when they are sometimes not.
- There is no improvement requirement. This unit is run successfully.
- I think that the module is a little bit too methodical, I understand that it's already in the name but more actual applications of statistics could be helpful to keep students interested.
- the pace in lectures is sometimes a little slow. maybe a few practical examples could be added
- His lectures can be a bit slow sometimes, he should speed up his delivery but thats all!
- slow delivery