

Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition (MLPR)

Response to student feedback in 2018/19 course survey

The vast majority of responses to the survey were from students who were happy with the class. In addition I also read ~100 responses to a mid-semester survey, and had many individual conversations with students in the class during the year. I found all of these interactions helpful. Thank you.

The vast majority of responses also advise you to look at what the class is, and work out whether you should actually take it. We will continue to listen to feedback, and do what we can to teach the wide variety of students that machine learning attracts. However, this class is not for everyone.

Before coming to any lectures in 2019/20, please try to look at the background material in the notes on the [course website](#), and work out if MLPR is a good fit for you.

The course assessment [remains mainly exam-based](#), appropriate for the learning outcomes of this course. Many of the questions are technical/mathematical and conceptual, which some students find disproportionately hard. We also find less time for practical details and case studies than other courses. There are other, more practical machine learning courses on offer; please take those if that is what you want.

The [course website](#) has more information, including examples of questions in a background self-test.

MLPR is a popular course. We may need to make special arrangements to cope with numbers in the first two weeks of class. Please keep an eye on the [course website](#). If you're not taking the course for credit, please don't come to lectures in the first two of weeks of Semester. Lecture recordings will be available.

Iain Murray, March 2019