Introduction to Machine Learning and Python
ECO 6936
Tuesdays – Thursdays 9:35 AM – 11:30 AM (Periods 3 and 4)
Matherly Hall 0112
Spring 2023

Instructor:
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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 – 3:00 (Online or In Person at Matherly Hall Room 301-A)

Teaching Assistants:

None

Course Description

This course covers machine learning (ML) techniques by applying these to real-world economic data with Python. The course will provide programming exercises and assignments to introduce the syntax of Python and the relevant packages for machine learning.

Course Pre-Requisites

A basic proficiency in a programming language (e.g., R, STATA, MATLAB, C++) is required.

Prior exposure to probability theory, calculus and linear algebra is recommended.

Materials

No textbook required.

The following book is recommended for those who prefer to have a more in depth understanding about the theoretical background of the tools that we will be covering in the lectures.

Murphy, Kevin P. "*Probabilistic Machine Learning: An Introduction".* MIT Press. February 2022. Online version available at: https://probml.github.io/pml-book/book1.html

Attendance Policy and Class Expectations

No attendance required. However, you are strongly encouraged to attend the lectures.

Evaluation of Grades*

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Assignment -1	100	5%
Assignments 2 – 5 (4 Assignments)	100 each	50% (12.5% each)
Exam (04/25/2023)	100	10%
Project	100	35%

* Evaluation of grades is subject to change. Changes to grading structure or exam date will be announced through Canvas.

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
89.0 - 92.9	A-	3.67
85.0 - 88.9	B+	3.33
80.0 – 84.9	B	3.00
77.0 - 79.9	B-	2.67
75.0 - 78.9	C+	2.33
72.0 – 74.9	C	2.00
69.0 - 71.9	C-	1.67
66.0 - 68.9	D+	1.33
63.0 - 65.9	D	1.00
60.0 - 62.9	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

Students Requiring Accommodations
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

University Honesty Policy
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Software Use
All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy
There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html

Campus Resources: