Instructor: **Hu, Wenqing**  
Title: **Special Topics**  
Section(s): **MATH 6001 106**  
Term: **SP2020**

Number Responding: **14**  
Number Enrolled: **22**  
Percent Responding: **63.64%**  
Effectiveness: **3.43**

## Student Comments

### What are the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?

Dr. Hu is always very prepared for class. Not only does he do lectures with handwritten notes, but he also has a well organized/formatted PDF of the notes (which was very helpful due to the complex notation inherent to the course). It is very obvious that Dr. Hu has put a lot of work into this course and has developed code to help students apply/visualize the concepts learned in class. The only weakness is that Dr. Hu writes and talks a bit fast, making it difficult to keep up in class. Slowing down just a little would help give students time to write down and process the information better.

Strengths: - Knows the material very well, including recent advancements in the literature - Very passionate about optimization and machine learning - Very willing to answer questions, elaborate on a topic, or revisit a previous topic - Always starts the class with a brief review of the last class, also quickly reviews old topics whenever they are needed for proving a new topic - Proficient with OneNote and Zoom for online classwork

Weaknesses: - My only comment here is that when using OneNote, he adds a new page several times during each lecture instead of scrolling down in the same page. He writes very fast, so it is difficult to write all the notes down before the next slide appears.

Nothing

The instructor understood that we didn't have a lot of time since we were mostly grad students. Thus, he made the course really easy. However, the problem was that it wasn't easier in just knowing the most fundamental things, but more of just writing down the very complicated things. I did appreciate how the instructor was always anxious to do another day of lecture.

### Speaking too fast. Cannot follow

The algorithms Dr. Hu talked in the class are very useful, and he can explain them clearly and consistently. Maybe he can speak a little bit slower, that's should be better for us to understand and follow him.

Incredible understanding and good communication. Very caring and up-to-date on subjects presented. Truly under the impression he is an expert in the field.

### What suggestions do you have for improving the quality of instruction?

>
No suggestions other than maybe the OneNote comment mentioned earlier. Overall, Dr. Hu did a great job of delivering the material.

No suggestions

More examples than just equations

Asking more questions during the class, and giving the students more time to answer his questions.

I think this course was delivered appropriately and would not augment.

What are the strengths and weaknesses of the course?

Excellent course, very relevant to engineering and mathematics/statistics majors.

This class is excellent and offers extremely useful information that cannot be gained from any other class at the university. Though I wish we had more time to write code and implement the various optimization algorithms, I understand that in a 6000 level math class the focus needs to be on analysis and proofs. Still, we learned a wide variety of algorithms from classical to cutting edge, and I am confident that I can implement them myself instead of using commercial packages.

Good course

Looking forward to more applications

It is pretty good to learn these algorithms, and Dr. Hu also explains his code to us, maybe it is even better to have one homework with coding included.

Very wide range of topics delivered with appropriate detail. Applications to an endless number of topics.

What suggestions do you have for course improvement?

I think assignments asking students write or use the code already written would enhance the course.

No suggestions, this course is one of the single most useful courses I have taken.

Nothing

Plz give more details of course instructions to let us know it focuses more on theory not applications. Really can’t follow and have no idea

Would not augment the course. Very well structured and delivered.