Items analyzed and approach

Items

- What is helping you to learn in this course?

- What is hindering your learning in this course?

- If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the student experience?

- If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the course?

Approach

- Topic modeling (Latent Dirichlet Allocation) to identify common topics (UW-IT)

- Word cloud were generated using term weights based on word topic probabilities and their frequencies

Sample for end-of-quarter evaluations

Courses with fewer than seven student responses were excluded. Presentation only includes Seattle data; findings from campuses were mostly indistinguishable

Question	Total Responses	Number of Courses	Avg N of responses per Course	Avg N of words per Course
What is helping you to learn in this course?	43,574	2229	19.55	384.44
What is hindering your learning in this course?	37,029	2022	18.31	449.54
If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the course?	22,236	1123	19.80	435.81
If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the student experience?	22,380	1124	19.91	518.09

W

If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the student experience?

Three distinct topics were identified

1. Changes to **course interaction**
   - *"The strengths in this course as it currently stands are in student peer to peer interactions and guest lectures that give us a window into current events in the field. These aspects should be reinforced going forward with more opportunities for student discussion."*
   - *"Honestly I would try to make the breakout rooms smaller and more intimate, like three to five kids rather than six/eight."*
2. Changes to format of **instruction**
   - *"We often finished early which was typically a good thing meaning that we understood what we were talking about but talking about the labs would add value to that unused time in my opinion."*
3. Changes to format of **coursework**
   - *"Being a little more homework focused and explaining concepts that would help us on exams and homework as these are very difficult."*
   - *"I do not feel like the study questions and practice exams accurately reflect the exam questions so relating them more closely would be more helpful."*

W

If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the student experience?
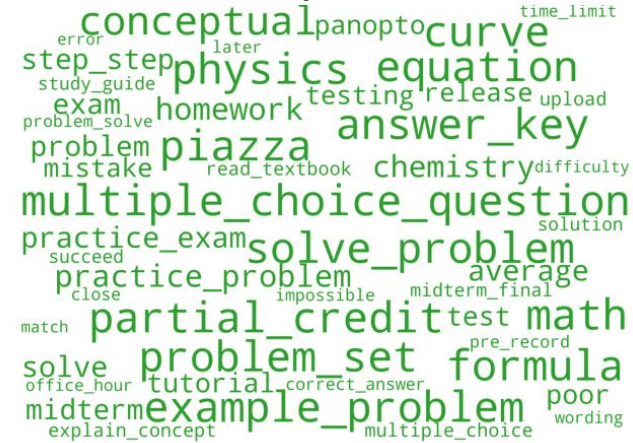
If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the course?

Three topics were identified

1. Changes to remote **course interaction**
   - *"The main benefit of the class is in utilizing the [physical learning space] and learning the different [equipment]. Maybe instead of only presentations on [skills] that are not available in the [physical learning space], demonstrations of existing [equipment] can help remote students understand what is available/ possible."*
2. Facilitate **peer connections**
   - *"Remote makes it hard to make connections with students or form study groups so if there was a way for the course to promote creating a community that way some form of group exchanging contact info it would be nice."*
3. Changes to **coursework** and **content**
   - *"I would suggest reducing the length of the homework and exam. That, or being more clear what will be on the exam and the learning objectives you want us to achieve for that material."*

W

If this course were offered remotely again, what suggestions do you have to improve the course?

What is helping you to learn in this course?

Four topics were identified

1. Quality of **graded coursework**
   - *"The lectures and homework contributed most to my learning. The material in lectures were related to the homework and the exam."*

2. Quality of course **organization** and **content**
   - *"The daily lectures provided necessary links between the readings or videos in order to grasp the subject matter, and I had confidence in the instructors knowledge of* [the course subject].*"*

3. Quality of **non-graded coursework**
   - *"I loved the interactive study sheets that grace made for students. the powerpoints that were sent out to explain topics and the questions that we went over in quiz section really helped with learning the material"*

4. Quality of course **engagement**
   - *"I had done some research of my own prior to the presentations; the questions I came up with were answered by the guest speaker."*

W

What is helping you to learn in this course?

What is hindering your learning in this course?

Three topics were identified

1. Lack of course **expectations** & exam **prep material**
   - *"I think it would be helpful to have all of the rubrics online at the beginning of the quarter have a solid plan that we stick with through the entire quarter etc. My peers and i were always confused on if we had homework or assignments & what was expected of us."*
2. Feeling **overwhelmed**
   - *"Group assignments during a pandemic are a lot to ask of people in my opinion since they can already be tough to coordinate remotely but even tougher when everyone's individual situation is extra difficult to manage."*
3. Lack of course **organization**
   - *"Though the content was amazing, I found navigating the classroom site hard. Information was hidden behind layers of modules and such rather than quick links to discussion boards and assignments."*
   - *"I think it would be more helpful if the worksheet came after the lecture that way we can practice the topics that were taught in lecture."*

W

What is hindering your learning in this course?

Contributors and contact info

UW Information Technology

Peter Seibel pseibel@uw.edu

Henry Lyle, Ph.D. lyle3@uw.edu