Cultural Differences in the Classroom

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US Classroom Environment

- Relaxed Atmosphere
- Technology Friendly
- Student Centered
- Critical Thinking
- Students Freely Express Opinions
- Active Learning
  - In class discussion/debate
  - Presentation
  - Role-playing
  - Team-work
  - Papers
  - Case study
US Classroom Environment

- Various class formats
  - Lectures (LEC)
  - Labs (LAB)
  - Seminars (SEM)
  - Discussion sections (DIS)

- Office hours (OH) outside of class

- Multimedia technology
  - Power Point
  - Recording
  - Ctools & Canvas
Class Formats

Lecture
- Instructor is principally responsible for the preparation of the subject matter and conduct of class
- Success Tips
  - Preview + review
  - Participate and take notes
  - Ask questions

Seminar
- Format varies
  - Guest lecture
  - Led by students with class discussions
- Success Tips
  - Be prepared
  - Be open-minded
Class Formats

Laborator & Recitation

➢ A supplement of a lecture
➢ Smaller class size
➢ Flexible section choices
➢ Exercises directly related to the lecture materials supervised by instructor/GSI

➢ Success Tips
  ○ Ask why - understand the science behind the experiments
  ○ Be a good team player

Independent Study

➢ A type of flexible course credit that varies among different programs
➢ Students receive individual consultation and guidance from the instructor

➢ Success Tips
  ○ Ask your program coordinator
Preparing for Class:

➢ Read the syllabus carefully for each class
  ○ Important days (assignment due days, exam days, no-class days...)
  ○ Requirements of homework submission (paper version, canvas...)
  ○ Grading scale
  ○ Deadline extension / makeup exams policy

➢ Find your own way of taking notes
  ○ Cornell note taking template
  ○ Notebook / laptop / ipad / taking picture of the notes
  ○ Software to organize annotation/citation/bibliography: endNote, Zotero, Mendeley
Def. 1.2.
A regular estimator $T_1$ is asymptotically linear if
$$T_n = Q(x) + \frac{1}{n} V_n(x) + o_p(n^{-1})$$
where $V_n(x)$ is called the influence function of $T_n$ satisfying
$$E(V_n(x)) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad V_n \leq L_2(f)$$
Hence, $F(T_n - q_1(x)) \rightarrow N(0, V_0(x) V_0(x)^T)$

The function $V_0(x)$ is called the efficient influence function, denoted by $L_0$. Then $\tilde{F}_n = q_0 + L_0 \tilde{V}_n \tilde{V}_n^T$.

In particular, $\tilde{F}_n = q_0 + \tilde{V}_n^T L_0^{-1} \tilde{V}_n$.

Theorem 1.3. (Lo’s 3rd formula, a special case)
Suppose $q(x) = \alpha + \beta f(x)$, and $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$. Then
$$\tilde{w}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_n \left[ \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \alpha \partial \beta} \right]$$
under $\mathbb{P}_n$ (LAM)

\[ \frac{1}{n} N_n \left( \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} C & \Sigma \\ \Sigma & C \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad \text{under} \quad \mathbb{P}_n \]

(Non-normal)

2. Efficient Likelihood Estimation

Def. 2.1
Let $P$ be a probability measure and let $Q$ be a sub-probability measure on $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B})$, with densities $p$ and $q$ w.r.t. a finite measure $\mu = p \# Q$ always exists.

Then the Kullback-Leibler information is
$$K(P, Q) = \mathbb{E}_p \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

Note: $0 \leq Q(x) \leq 1$
Preparing for Class:

➢ Read papers efficiently and strategically
  ○ Remember 3 things
    ■ Keywords in the title
    ■ Primary authors’ last names
    ■ Journal name (publication year)
    ■ Eg: A and B developed C method, which is published on D Journal in 2016
  ○ Start with abstract, move forward to method and conclusion section for detail
  ○ Highlight/add comment while reading
  ○ Summarize the main points in your words
Join the Class Discussion

What prevent us from freely joining the class discussion?
- Not used to the feel-free-to-ask-question environment
- Don’t think that fast in class
- Lack of confidence
  - Afraid to disagree with others
  - Language concerns
  - Questions too simple to ask

Solutions
- Be familiar with the topic before go to the class
- It’s OK to question/disagree with your classmates/professors/reading materials
- Be confident
Go to the Office Hours

➢ Highly recommend!!!
➢ Check the time and location before you go
➢ Have questions prepared or just show up and listen to others’ questions
➢ Build personal relationship with your professor
Useful Technology

Generally available software: http://its.umich.edu/computing/computers-software
CAEN environment: https://caen.engin.umich.edu/software/
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Software at Campus Computing Sites

AppsAnywhere Software Portal
Software on SharePoint Windows computers is available via AppsAnywhere, a software portal similar to an app store. Search for and launch the software you want to use from the portal instead of opening the application from the Windows Start Menu.

Use Sites Software on Your Personal Computer
Use Virtual Sites to remotely use a Campus Computing Sites Windows computer from your own device. By using a Remote Desktop connection, you can access university-licensed software. If you have a Mac, you are able to use Windows-only software.

Request Sites Course Software (Instructors Only)
Request specialty software to be available on Campus Computing Sites computers for your course using the Classroom Reservations & Instructional Software Operations (CRESO) portal. When you make your request, please keep the end-of-semester campus computing sites software environment schedule.

Software Upgrades
Upgrades to software and operating systems are typically made during Spring/Summer semesters, when such integration will have

Happening @ Michigan

M Farmers Market at Ad Serv
July 25, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Administrative Services Building

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Software at Campus Computing Sites

- Remotely access your student computing account from any computer with a web browser.
- Use your student computing account to access software and files on your computer.
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- Use your student computing account to access software and files on your computer.

Use Sites Software on Your Personal Computer

- Use the SoftwareAnywhere portal to remotely access your student computing account.
- Use the SoftwareAnywhere portal to remotely access your student computing account.
- Use the SoftwareAnywhere portal to remotely access your student computing account.

Request Sites Course Software (Instructors Only)

- Request software for your course on the SoftwareAnywhere portal.
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Classroom Expectation

Group Activity

- Turn to your neighbors
- Discuss the question on each slide- 30 seconds
- Practice your classroom participation: Speak out, and you will get a prize!
Is it okay…?

- To greet my professors/GSIs with their first name?
  - Start with Dr. ___ or Prof. ___ or Mr./Ms. ___, be open to first names when preferred.
Is it okay…?

- To eat during class?
  - Yes!
  - Food should not have strong smell
  - Please eat quietly
Is it okay…?

- To avoid asking and answering questions in class because of language challenges?
  - No!
  - Improve your English skills by practicing and taking risks
Is it okay…?

- To ignore my University of Michigan email account?
  - No!
  - UM email is your professional communication tool
  - Avoid accumulating 100+ emails and delete in 1 click
  - Download the gmail app
Is it okay…?

- To leave the classroom before the class is over?
  - No, unless you have a legitimate reason and are given permission in advance
  - AND
  - Yes, you are in charge of your own learning
Is it okay…?

- To ask your partners to contribute more time and effort to the group project, if you feel like you are doing all the work?
  - Yes!
  - It is their responsibility to participate and you shouldn’t be the only one working on a group project.
Is it okay…?

- To paraphrase someone else’s writing in your own essay?
  - Yes!
  - However, if the words and/or ideas you express originated elsewhere, proper citations are required.
Is it okay…?

- To work on your homework assignment together with your classmates?
  - Yes!
  - You are encouraged to discuss homework problems with your classmates. But you are required to hand in your own copy
To go to class when you are sick?

- No!
- You will only get others sick and make yourself worse.
- Instructors will likely encourage you to stay home if you are sick and are very accommodating with regards to helping students catch up.
Is it okay…?

To bring notes to your exams?

➢ Maybe
➢ Some instructors allow cheat sheets
Improving English Proficiency

➢ Take courses at English Language Institute (ELI)
➢ Join Sweetland Writing Center
➢ Revise paper at writing lab in your department
➢ Attend social events (college, department, International Center, etc.)
➢ International Center Summer Orientation Workshops:
  ○ Writing Effective Emails
  ○ Communicating with Your Academic and Research Advisors (for graduate students only)
Academic & Professional Integrity

Academic Misconduct
- Cheating/obtaining improper advantage
- Plagiarism
- Research misconduct
- Dishonesty in publication
- Abuse of confidentiality
- Misuse of computer facilities

Professional Misconduct
- Misrepresentation of one’s credentials or status, including professional experience and positions held
- Unethical consulting activity
- Conflicts of interests

Often unintentional - be aware of the policies!
Academic Integrity & Misconduct Resources

- LSA academic integrity guidelines
- Rackham academic and professional integrity policy
- Office of Student Conflict Resolution
- Ombuds: Resource for any problems or concerns where you need confidentiality
Academic Integrity & Misconduct

- Potential consequences of academic misconduct include loss of legal immigration status

- Ignorance of academic integrity policies is *NOT* an acceptable explanation for academic misconduct

- Honor Codes and Academic Integrity policies are published by each School and College
Campus Resources

- **Academic and Professional Resources**
  - Rackham Graduate School
  - Your college’s website
  - Libraries
    - International Center Orientation Workshop: Library Basics
  - Academic Advisors
  - Math Lab
  - Science Learning Center

- **Career Development**
  - Career Center
  - Career Fairs

- **Personal Interest**
  - Student organizations (1,550 to choose from!)
    [https://maizepages.umich.eduorganizations](https://maizepages.umich.eduorganizations)
  - Festifall is Friday, September 7, 2018 from 2:00pm-6:00pm on the Central Campus Diag
  - Northfest is Monday, September 3rd, 2018 from 11:00am-2:00pm at Pierpont Commons
Common Campus Terms

http://parents.umich.edu/page/u-m-lingo

- NO MORE Michigan time
- Wolverine Access
- Uniqname / UMID
- LSA: College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
- UGLi (Shapiro) / Hatcher / Taubman / Duderstadt
- CCTC: Central Campus Transit Center
- CCRB/NCRB/IMSB: Recreation Buildings
Fun Fact

Don’t step on the “M” block on the diag, otherwise you will fail your first exam!
Remember to Go Blue!

G: Go to class prepared
O: Organize your time wisely
B: Be ready to participate in class
L: Learn by observing, thinking, doing, and asking
U: Utilize campus resources
E: Enjoy yourself while adapting to your academic environment.
Thank You!

Please complete the Workshop Evaluation. You will receive details in your umich email soon.

Your feedback is valuable to us and will help us to improve the experience for future participants.