BUSI97327 Fundamental of Derivatives
(BUSI97327-SP-20/21)

Savitar Sundaresan

Imperial College Business School

No. surveyed = 179 No. of responses = 61
Response rate = 34.08%

Overall indicators

Global Index

av.=4,44
dev.=0,7

2. Module Content -

av.=4,74
dev.=0,58

3. Instructor - Savitar Sundaresan -

av.=4,91
dev.=0,3

4. Teaching Assistant - Helen Yang -

av.=3,65
dev.=1,25

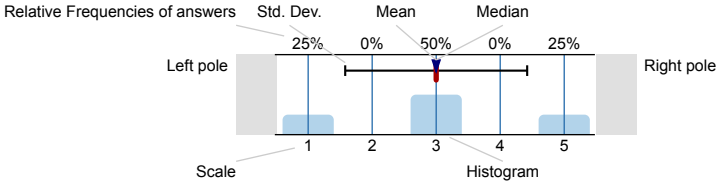
5. Teaching Assistant - Zan Zuric -

av.=4,47
dev.=0,68

Survey Results

Legend

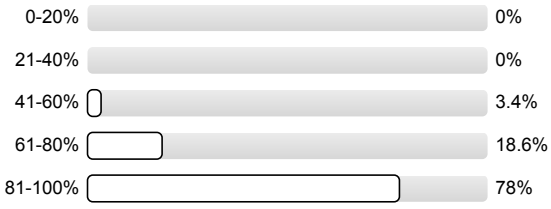
Question text



n=No. of responses
av.=Mean
md=Median
dev.=Std. Dev.
ab.=Abstention

1. Attendance -

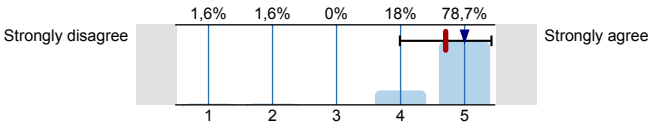
1.1) How often I took part in interactive/collaborative provision (e.g. live sessions and discussion forums).



n=59

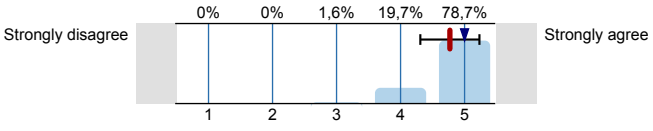
2. Module Content -

2.1) The module has clear objectives.



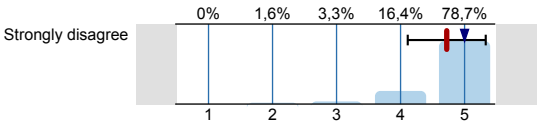
n=61
av.=4,7
md=5
dev.=0,72

2.2) The order of the module contents made sense.



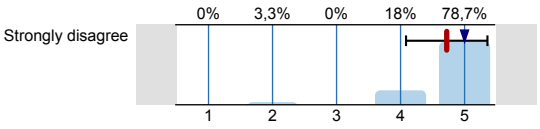
n=61
av.=4,77
md=5
dev.=0,46

2.3) The quality of the module materials (slides, readings, exercises, case studies, videos, quizzes etc.) for this module was good.



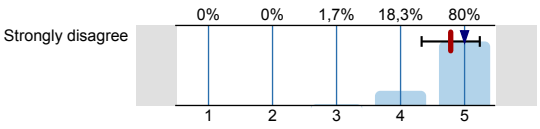
n=61
av.=4,72
md=5
dev.=0,61

2.4) The module components (e.g., sessions, tutorial sessions, coursework, etc.) enhanced my understanding of the topic.



n=61
av.=4,72
md=5
dev.=0,64

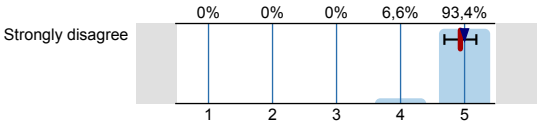
2.5) Overall, the module was effective in delivering its learning objectives.



n=60
av.=4,78
md=5
dev.=0,45

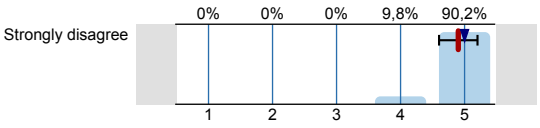
3. Instructor - Savitar Sundaresan -

3.1) The instructor was knowledgeable about the module topics.



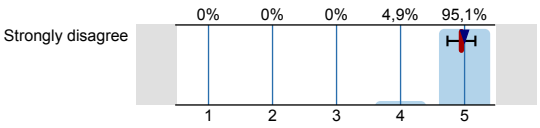
n=61
av.=4,93
md=5
dev.=0,25

3.2) The instructor presented the module topics in an engaging manner.



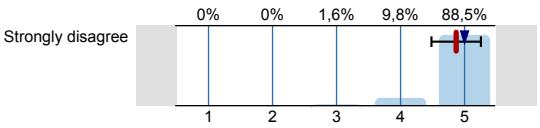
n=61
av.=4,9
md=5
dev.=0,3

3.3) The instructor was responsive to student questions.



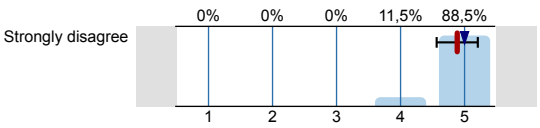
n=61
av.=4,95
md=5
dev.=0,22

3.4) The instructor helped me to understand the module content clearly.



n=61
av.=4,87
md=5
dev.=0,39

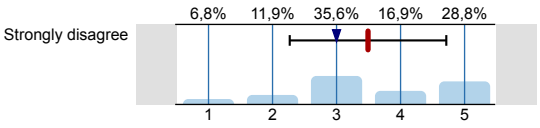
3.5) Overall, the instructor was effective.



n=61
av.=4,89
md=5
dev.=0,32

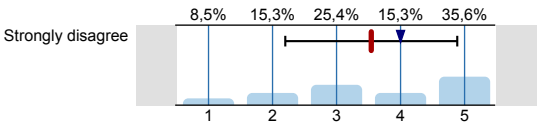
4. Teaching Assistant - Helen Yang -

4.1) The teaching assistant was knowledgeable about the module topics.



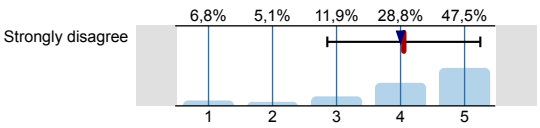
n=59
av.=3,49
md=3
dev.=1,22

4.2) The teaching assistant presented the module topics in an engaging manner.



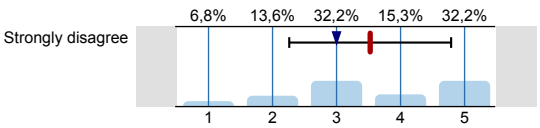
n=59
av.=3,54
md=4
dev.=1,34

4.3) The teaching assistant was responsive to student questions.



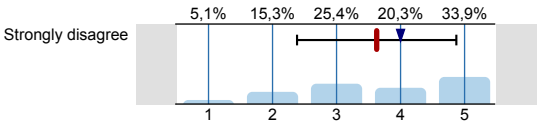
n=59
av.=4,05
md=4
dev.=1,2

4.4) The teaching assistant helped me to understand the module content clearly.



n=59
av.=3,53
md=3
dev.=1,26

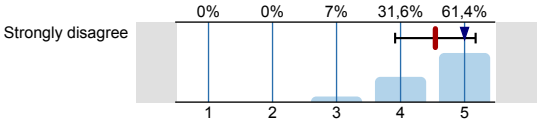
4.5) Overall, the teaching assistant was effective.



n=59
av.=3,63
md=4
dev.=1,24

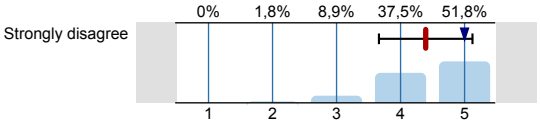
5. Teaching Assistant - Zan Zuric -

5.1) The teaching assistant was knowledgeable about the module topics.



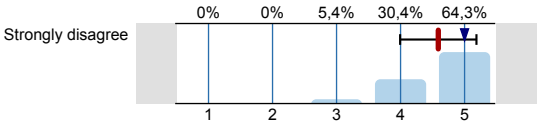
n=57
av.=4,54
md=5
dev.=0,63

5.2) The teaching assistant presented the module topics in an engaging manner.



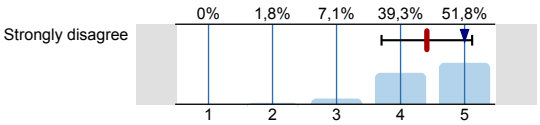
n=56
av.=4,39
md=5
dev.=0,73

5.3) The teaching assistant was responsive to student questions.



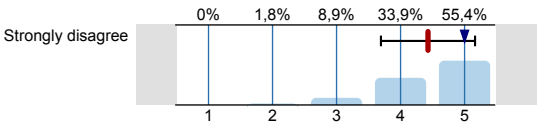
n=56
av.=4,59
md=5
dev.=0,6

5.4) The teaching assistant helped me to understand the module content clearly.



n=56
av.=4,41
md=5
dev.=0,71

5.5) Overall, the teaching assistant was effective.



n=56
av.=4,43
md=5
dev.=0,74

Profile

Subunit: Imperial College Business School 2020/21
Responsible for modules: Savitar Sundaresan
Name of the course: (Name of the survey) BUSI97327 Fundamental of Derivatives

Values used in the profile line: Mean

2. Module Content -

2.1)	The module has clear objectives.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,70	md=5,00	dev.=0,72
2.2)	The order of the module contents made sense.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,77	md=5,00	dev.=0,46
2.3)	The quality of the module materials (slides, readings, exercises, case studies, videos, quizzes etc.) for this module was good.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,72	md=5,00	dev.=0,61
2.4)	The module components (e.g., sessions, tutorial sessions, coursework, etc.) enhanced my understanding of the topic.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,72	md=5,00	dev.=0,64
2.5)	Overall, the module was effective in delivering its learning objectives.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=60	av.=4,78	md=5,00	dev.=0,45

3. Instructor - Savitar Sundaresan -

3.1)	The instructor was knowledgeable about the module topics.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,93	md=5,00	dev.=0,25
3.2)	The instructor presented the module topics in an engaging manner.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,90	md=5,00	dev.=0,30
3.3)	The instructor was responsive to student questions.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,95	md=5,00	dev.=0,22
3.4)	The instructor helped me to understand the module content clearly.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,87	md=5,00	dev.=0,39
3.5)	Overall, the instructor was effective.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=61	av.=4,89	md=5,00	dev.=0,32

4. Teaching Assistant - Helen Yang -

4.1)	The teaching assistant was knowledgeable about the module topics.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=59	av.=3,49	md=3,00	dev.=1,22
4.2)	The teaching assistant presented the module topics in an engaging manner.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=59	av.=3,54	md=4,00	dev.=1,34
4.3)	The teaching assistant was responsive to student questions.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=59	av.=4,05	md=4,00	dev.=1,20
4.4)	The teaching assistant helped me to understand the module content clearly.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=59	av.=3,53	md=3,00	dev.=1,26
4.5)	Overall, the teaching assistant was effective.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=59	av.=3,63	md=4,00	dev.=1,24

5. Teaching Assistant - Zan Zuric -

5.1)	The teaching assistant was knowledgeable about the module topics.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=57	av.=4,54	md=5,00	dev.=0,63
5.2)	The teaching assistant presented the module topics in an engaging manner.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=56	av.=4,39	md=5,00	dev.=0,73

5.3)	The teaching assistant was responsive to student questions.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=56	av.=4,59	md=5,00 dev.=0,60
5.4)	The teaching assistant helped me to understand the module content clearly.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=56	av.=4,41	md=5,00 dev.=0,71
5.5)	Overall, the teaching assistant was effective.	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	n=56	av.=4,43	md=5,00 dev.=0,74

Comments Report

2. Module Content -

2.6) Did you find this module sufficiently challenging? Please give comments below:

- 2nd coursework
- A definite yes.
- Absolutely
- Found i was learning a lot of new things in the tutorials (more application/mathematical sessions).
- It challenges me in the sense that it is taught in a different way compared to similar courses I've taken before, so pushes me to think deeper and understand the rationale behind many concepts.
- Mathematical components are quite difficult
- Not really, because I have learned the module in my undergraduate time.
- Quite challenging, but it went good.
- The concepts covered in this course were quite challenging and it difficult to comprehend, which makes it even more rewarding as the lecturer did a great job of breaking it down for us to understand
- The module was sufficiently challenging and interesting at the same time
- The module was sufficiently challenging. However, I feel like if we had had more practice exercises (within the tutorials or just Exercises and solutions sheets given to us) it would have made the challenge more bearable.
- The topic is very challenging for the coursework and some topics in the module (e.g. risk neutral probabilities)
- This module was very helpful and taught us the fundamentals of derivatives (as the name suggests). Savitar is an exceptional Professor who really takes the time to listen to students and provide help where possible - my favorite Professor at Imperial thus far.
- Y
- Yes (4 Counts)
- Yes it was challenging, to say the least. It made me cry tears of pain.
- Yes this build very nicely upon the IPM course.
- Yes very
- Yes! sometimes too challenging
- Yes, asking lots of questions during the class, which are all been answered clearly by Savitar.
- Yes, both in terms of breadth and depth of content
- Yes, more than sufficiently challenging.
- Yes, strengthened my intuition around derivatives and actual application
- Yes, the concepts are challenging
- Yes. Very.
- Yup
- ye
- yes (3 Counts)
- yes, I found it very intellectually stimulating!
- yes, only thing is that it is very similar to that of Professor Miles; there is a clear overlap, so potentially I would try to focus on other stuff (e.g. Securitization is extremely interesting, waterfall, credit enhancement)

2.7) Did you find that this module provided the necessary tools/methodologies/intellectual development to help you advance your career or improve your job prospects? Please give comments below:

- Definitely.
- I have developed some intuition on the topics at hand, therefore I would think I was provided with the tools I need.
- I think the module could be improved by reducing the theoretical part and maybe introduce more real-life exercises
- I would not say so, I think it is slightly too theoretical and not too practical.
- It had interesting concepts, however, I found the delivery unorganized in a sense that once the lectures were over I had no clear idea of what to focus on.
- Not quite sure.
- Not very related to my career path but it was a great pleasure to learn from Savitar
- The course was highly applicable and allowed me to implement the concepts in this course to my professional aspirations.
- Yes (5 Counts)
- Yes it did. However, it could have included more real life example such as "as a risk manager, you monitor that your clients swaps, the company swaps don't go past a certain number, or a certain risk range or we make sure that all margin calls have been answered by our clients through X, Y or Z etc.". Here we were always looking at trade execution and less focus on the day to day which sometimes surrounds this.
- Yes very interesting and useful
- Yes, I don't know if I would ever use these concepts for my career but still, it's extremely useful to understand the concepts. Also for personal reasons.
- Yes, extremely relevant to real life work situation
- Yes, it gives me more trading strategies,
- Yes, it is important to understand fundamentals of derivatives, black scholes etc
- Yes, it provided all the necessary tools
- Yes, learnt a lot about derivatives and market activity; very enticing to what we can observe in the news
- Yes, very good.

  Our discussions were really practical and "real-world-like", making me more confident about approaching markets.
- Yes. All menti questions and courseworks were very fun.
- Yes. I benefitted from the application of theoretical concepts.
- Yes. The coursework is especially very useful at it aims at the practical application of learnings and they were a fun way of enhancing understanding and facilitated thinking
- Yup
- yes (4 Counts)
- yes most definitely, I think Savitar is by far the best lecturer I have had this term

4. Teaching Assistant - Helen Yang -

4.6) Please enter any feedback on the Teaching Assistant below.

- As much as the TA was very much trying to answer our questions, being reffered back to the book is a bit of a throw off. If we attend a Master degree we expect more than just look at the book. While I agree that some questions were maybe too simple and could have been answered by looking at the slides, most of the others should have been addressed by the TA. If we were to refer to the book on our own, we would not been attending a MSc. I was seeing myself coming out of some TA sessions with even more brain fog than when I had entered them. Rather than copying the solution of the pdf I would have given more explanation on each steps, maybe split some calculus explanations etc.
- Helen usually says that she needs to look into the textbook or ask Savi for help, and couldn't provide good answers to students' question in live sessions,
- Hellen is a great person. She looks very nice. However at certain points during the lecture it looked like she lacked self confidence and was not very sure of her methods, the exercises and the explinations. Most of the times when asked a question she replied - I'll ask Savi/ You can ask Savi/ Consult the Book. Not very helpful.
- His work helps a lot! Thanks!
- I love how Helen explained things and I was sad when the programme told us she had to go, the other TA gave more mathsy

explanations but it was ok

- Note this feedback is for Helen, once the assistant was changed to Zin then it was fantastic.
- Nothing to add
- Seemed to just present solutions given to her, and hadn't actually solved them herself. She did a good job of presenting them, but when asked a question the answer would often be "I'll need to discuss this with Savitar".
- She did not seem very prepared.
- She has got a good attitude but could have prepared better with her tutorial
- She was engaging however as said above the tutorials were unorganized. We would go to class and not know beforehand the material we should have prepared.
- She was not very helpful and doesn't understand student questions.
- Sometimes Helen appeared to be overwhelmed with more difficult questions; when she said she would get back to us on that point, she usually did not; but very friendly TA and easy instructions to follow the exercises
- The exercise questions should be released be the session and there were some questions which cannot be answered during the class.
- There were some difficulties in terms of explaining the intuition behind what we did - mostly focused on formulas/mathematics of what we were doing.
- although she was a lovely girl, she was not very useful or helpful in my learning

5. Teaching Assistant - Zan Zuric -

5.6) Please enter any feedback on the Teaching Assistant below.

- A bit too much on the mathematical perspective. You could probably talk more about the intuitions and applications
- After Helen's experience, I have stopped attending the tutorials, so cant say much about Zan.
- As much as the TA was very much trying to answer our questions, I think he could have been simpler in some of his explanations. I was seeing myself coming out of some TA sessions with even more brain fog than when I had entered them. Rather than copying the solution of the pdf I would have given more explanation on each steps, maybe split some calculus explanations etc.
- Felt too focused on the mathematical side of things, going into deep proofs of the formulas that felt like overkill.
- Great TA. Very knowledgable. My problem - you can see that he's from the math department. While Savi was trying to dumb things down for us, Zan was too 'mathematicy' for my taste.
- He is really a very nice TA and gives me so much help to learn derivatives.
- He is very smart, can be more engaging and thought provoking
- He was very knowledgeable about the subject!
- I really like the way Zan delivered the tutorial sessions (i.e. writing on his whiteboard).
- I really liked the methodologies you used to solve the problems, like explaining the math behind a formula and the reasoning.

  I also found really easy to follow your tutorials on the whiteboard you used. The problem sets were also challenging and interesting to solve.

  What I also found extremely good, was the solutions that you provided for each problem set. All the calculations and all the explanations were clearly stated. This helped a lot. Thank you.
- It would be more effective if the TA can go through calculation in more details. There were some steps which required mathematical technique to solve the question. If students can follow it clearly, it would be more efficient.
- Thanks!
- Very knowledgable
- Very smart person. Delivery not of my taste but nonetheless he was very helpful as we were given the material to prepare beforehand and he was engaging
- Zan was excellent and very informative in his TA sessions
- Zan was very knowledgable, and sometimes answered questions in an advanced way, so it was not as easy to follow
- ok

- sometimes talked a bit too fast and had too much to cover in 1h, would need longer session

6. Learning Environment and Support -

6.1) Please comment on the learning environment that impacted your experience in this module (for example: the Hub, video conferencing technology, discussion platforms, support staff, etc.).

- All good
- Derivative games that didn't work, but it's a consequence of the current situation.
- Everything worked perfectly
- Excellent!
- For example, for coursework one where we had to play a game on a platform, the learning environment was terrible. There were always problems with the platform
- Good
- Good in Hub
- Good learning environment, text book was available upon request on the TA
- Great. The game with cards (coursework 1) was very useful and engaging.
- I can not enter the breakout room 1 on zoom. However this is solved on later classes because the instructor is answering questions in the main room.
- NA
- The amount of mentis in each session was great, even more would be even better. It would be better to also make sure the TA AND the lecturer AND the programme check the calendar dates for the assignment prior to the start of the term please. If the latest version of the slides could be posted prior the start of the term it would be great so we don't have to reprint them. I would also add more mentis on intuitional questions. I really enjoyed how available the professor was and it was always a nice time to attend the lectures.
- The coursework has some bugs and cost some time but overall it was fine
- The derivatives card game was a bit of a hassle from time to time but the solution with a small report etc was extremely helpful. A big thank you to Savitar and the module team for their flexibility!
- The platform which provided for coursework1 seems to have so many bugs, we were trying to play several times. However, the game itself is very interesting and enjoyable. Hope that the platform can be improved properly for the next class.
- Very good learning environment. Savitar has a very good style. Pausing to ask if people have questions etc.
- Was okay as usual.
- Works well
- all good except for it is remote teaching
- all good.

  I think that a positive aspect of using Zoom for the lecture was that the professor was able to see the name of the students and so call us with our names. I think this is not possible with in-person lectures as we don't have a name tag on our head. This made the lectures more intimate and engaging.

7. Overall Feedback -

7.1) What did you like most about this module?

- Clear logic and connection to the real world data.
- Good explanations and interesting ideas
- I enjoyed every part of it.
- I enjoyed the mathematical demonstrations
- I liked the teaching style of the professor. Not too slow, not too fast. Always open to answer questions and connect with students.

  Mentimeter questions were also good and engaging. It was also always interesting to discuss about current events and how we could use the learnings in practice.

I really liked the coursework2 because it made us think about a relevant issue that will probably impact every one of us.

I think that a positive aspect of using Zoom for the lecture was that the professor was able to see the name of the students and so call us with our proper names. I think this is not possible with in-person lectures as we don't have a name tag on our head. This made the lectures more intimate and engaging.

For coursework1 I think that it was not bad considering that you had to build a new software from scratch.

- I love menti questions. All whiteboards which the professors went through countless times.
- I love the lectures. Very engaging and interactive. Mentimeter really helped. The break-out rooms in the break was a great initiative and it is something that can be implemented by every professor.
- I loved the lectures teaching style and loved every aspect of the course.
- I really enjoyed how the professor was teaching us. Starting up with each theoretical concept then making exercises and applying concepts through examples was very much helpful. I think it is great also to ensure we develop an intuition on all concepts but I feel like we were less trained for that. The quizzes on the Hub were great. I really enjoyed how available the professor was and it was always a nice time to attend the lectures.
- In this spring term, this module is my favorite one. Thanks for Savitar’s clear illustration and structural course.
- Lecturer is very engaging, knowledgeable and present the supposedly dry content in very engaging and thought-provoking way. Very well delivered
- Love Savi. Love the slides and the colours. Loved the coursework (although nothing worked.)
- Menti's were a great way to apply and test out knowledge.

  The trading game was lots of fun, although there were too many bugs.

  Savitar was a great lecturer!
- New concepts in Derivatives, talking about news; Menti questions are engaging
- Risk neutral probabilities & the intuitive thinking. I
- Savitar does a great job in explaining concepts!!!
- Savitar had a way of helping you understand the topics and not be very afraid of the exam.
- Savitar had an engaging way to deliver the module
  The slides were very structured

  Revision week is very useful
- Savitar is an excellent professor . He explains concepts very well and also builds complex ideas in an effective manner.
- Savitar was engaging during the lecture, he presented the topics clearly and it was fun to attend his classes. I liked how the 'bridge' between student and professor was much shorter compared to other classes.
- Savitar. He's really good at teaching. I think all students agree on this.
- The B-S model due to its high-frequency of use
- The courseworks were interesting, and even if there were some technical issues with the game, it was a fun exercise! The professor was great and made the course interactive. The break-out rooms during the break was a fantastic idea!
- The engaging manner in which the instructor delivered the lecture. Also the fact that the theory can immediately be applied in constructing portfolios (on a very basic level) is very useful.
- The graphs used to illustrate the ideas
- The instructor was very effective. Savitar is extremely knowledgeable and cares about his students understanding the material. The assignments were also fun and interesting to do.
- The lecturer was able to take complex concepts and present them clearly in order to allows us to understand well.
- The second coursework
- The teacher was really nice, involved and comprehensive. I really like this class!
- explanations and examples
- prof is pretty knowledgeable and nice
- really liked the module and the structure. Good with mentis and interactions in class

7.2) What would you most like to improve in this module?

- -
- Change a bit the content, maybe I would focus on other parts given the significant overlap with Professor Miles' class.
- Derivative games is a really good idea, I hope it will work better next year!
- Helen had a horrible performance.
  I really liked the approach followed by Zan.
  Content was very difficult to understand.
  The difficulty of questions in class is much lower than questions of exams.
- I really thought about this but I do not have any suggestions. My overall feeling is very good.
- I would love for it to be more mathematical, going deeper into the mechanics of the formulas etc.
- I would suggest that you ask another team than the Ed Tech team to help with the game if it continues being online. As they seems to take care of other matters than just the game, all answers came delayed, the professor had to chase them up making everything even more difficult. I would also advise that the game is tested prior to the start of the term by a significant number of people (more than one or two teams playing at the same time) to make sure all bugs have been fixed. And I would also make sure the TA AND the lecturer AND the programme check the calendar dates for the assignment prior to the start of the term please. If the latest version of the slides could be posted prior the start of the term it would be great so we don't have to reprint them. I would also add more mentis on intuitional questions.
- Maybe incorporate a session where we read the options spread and understand market sentiments and a live trading session
- Maybe more weekly TA questions for practice
- Maybe you can take questions every once in a while so we will be less distracted by random questions.
- More relevant exercises
- Nothing
- Nothing to add.
- Nothing! Okay, maybe the TA's (although Zan was an improvement).
- Nothing, keep it as is
- Please speak more slowly haha :) but I would say that my listening skill has been improved because of you. Thank you!
- Savitar speaks too fast , and I lose focus .... Please ask him to slow down a bit .
- Seeing how we can apply the learned concepts in practice
- The CW1 Trading game was really fun but there were many bugs in the game. I understand this was the first year of the game being online but these need to be fixed
- The idea of card game is good but the website doesn’t work well
- The whole organization of the course. More exercises on the tutorials, more information in the slides instead of only some lines that are not really explanatory on their own.
- Tutorials
- What I find always useful as a student, is to have page numbers on the slides.
- Would be superb if Savitar could upload updated slides of this year rather than the slides from last year in order for students to make notes directly on slides.
- fewer mathematical components, more information on the slides (slides are quite empty, would be good to have more information)
- more mcq
- the design of the online game for the assignment could have been developed in a nicer way