

# A Professor Recommender

*Many of our professors are “awesome”*

Chelsea Fried  
Mackenzie Leake  
Arianna Perkins

# Picking Classes is Hard

## George Gorse



School: **Pomona College**  
Location: **Claremont, CA**  
Department: **Architecture**























 Submit a correction

Number of ratings **23** / Average Grade: **N/A**

### User Comments and Ratings

### Professor Feedback

DATE	CLASS	RATING	COMMENT
11/3/12	ARHI051B	 Good Quality Easiness  Helpfulness  Clarity  Rater Interest  Grade Received N/A	Gorse is a really good professor. His lectures can get a bit boring and tedious, but his love for the material makes up for it. He loves to talk about anything related to art, and he knows his stuff. For papers, he has a very specific style he's looking for, but if you know what it is you'll be fine. And he's just the sweetest. <a href="#">Report this rating</a>
5/18/10	ARHI179	 Good Quality Easiness  Helpfulness  Clarity  Rater Interest  Grade Received N/A	I absolutely adore Gorse. I had zero interest on the subject of architecture, but it was the only art history course that fit with my schedule. I ended up loving the subject after taking this class. Though the course is lecture based and can be boring at times, I really learned a lot. Easy class! Take it!! <a href="#">Report this rating</a>
5/15/10	ARHI51C	 Average Quality Easiness  Helpfulness  Clarity  Rater Interest  Grade Received N/A	Avoid. Readings in class are generally not discussed, downplaying their usefulness. Take home papers/exams are very long and as some have mentioned, the grading is either arbitrary or harsh. Goes offtopic during lecture too often. Yes he is friendly, passionate and knowledgeable about the subject, but that alone does not redeem the class. <a href="#">Report this rating</a>
4/26/10	AHIS51C	 Good Quality Easiness  Helpfulness  Clarity  Rater Interest  Grade Received N/A	A very genuine and kind man. He truly cares about your work and really invests himself into the class. I would liked to have seen a little more student engagement -- and it was often difficult to prepare for a lecture as the schedule went out the window early on. Not an ideal situation for a survey, but I'm sure he'd be amazing for upper-division. <a href="#">Report this rating</a>

# A Professor Recommender

Users input 3 professors they've liked in the past, and we recommend 5 new profs they should check out.

Pick three professors whose classes you've enjoyed

Select All OK

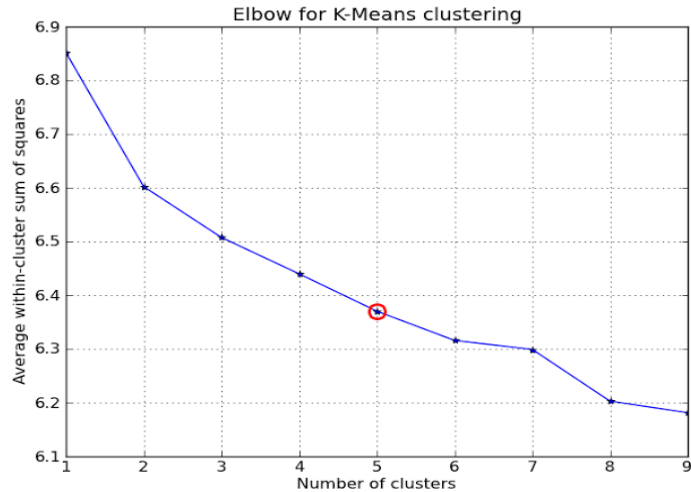
Clear All Cancel

Aaron, Eric  
Abecassis, Jack  
Allen, Mark  
Allison, Don  
Andrabi, Tahir  
Andresen, Martha  
Anne, Lisa, Auerbach  
Atlas, Jay  
Bailey, Jon  
Banks, William  
Beck, Colin  
Becker, David  
Beckett, Lisa  
Bernhard, Betty  
Blakenburg, Gayle  
Blumenfeld, Alan  
Bolton, Ralph  
Borelli, Jessica  
Bradford, Bobbie  
Brown, Eleanor  
Bruce, Kim  
Bull, Everett  
Buriel, Raymond  
Burke, Deborah  
Busacca, Jeremy  
Caron, Roger  
Cartagena-Calderon, Jose  
Cavalcanti, Andre  
Chavez-Silverman, Suzanne

# The Data

- Rate My Professors scraper
- Manipulate data to prepare for clustering
  - dictionaries
  - excel
  - stop words
- Bigrams
- TF-IDF

# Clustering



K-means clustering (with  
a k of 5)

*Clustering provides  
structure for our  
unstructured data*

# Results

## Cluster 0 (size 120)

- dont
- not
- work
- material
- hard
- extremely
- easy
- fun
- time
- nice

## Cluster 2 (size 40)

- awesome
- is awesome
- reading
- guy
- of reading
- awesome guy
- the material
- material
- I love
- his head

## Cluster 4 (size 31)

- amazing
- passionate
- the subject
- subject
- an amazing
- subject matter
- theater
- politically
- one view
- really lovable

## Cluster 1 (size 27)

- super
- easy
- super fun
- super nice
- teacher nice
- fun
- nice
- interesting
- relatively easy
- fairly easy

## Cluster 3 (size 11)

- psych
- social
- social psych
- her stuff
- stuff
- political
- politics
- and political
- as interesting
- as social

# Clustering Validation

- Subjectively
- Distribution across clusters (size of clusters)
- Distinctive numeric ratings within each category for each cluster

