

More about the StatBot

Presenter: Wasana Karunarathne

Department of Economics, Faculty of Business and Economics

University of Melbourne, Australia

Project Team: Angela Paladino, Laszlo Sajtos, Chris Selman, Kris Nagy, Shohil Kishore

For queries, please contact Wasana at lakeninik@unimelb.edu.au



Objectives: Why a Chatbot?

The chatbot (StatBot) was introduced to students in two first-year undergraduate and postgraduate business statistics courses to manage their diverse learning needs and to improve their learning experience.





Objectives: Why a Chatbot?

It was expected that the StatBot will facilitate their personalised learning, hence enhance the efficiency of learning and improve engagement with the course content.



Objectives: Why a Chatbot?

Further, it was expected to:

- boost students' confidence through deeper learning, better preparation for assessments and receiving ongoing feedback on learning.
- enhance self-regulated learning
- Reduce cognitive load



Cohorts

Two business statistics (Quantitative Methods) Cohorts were provided with the opportunity to use the StatBot

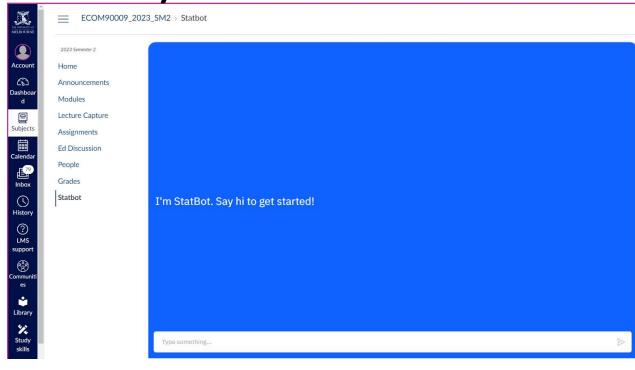
- Quant Methods 1: Undergraduates (900 students)
- Quant Methods for Business: Postgraduates (200 students)



The StatBot

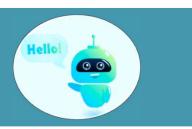
The bot was integrated with the courses' learning management system.







The StatBot



The bot had two Pathways for Enhanced Learning

- Self-directed learning through Q&A
- Guided learning through:
 - Practice questions and model answers
 - Review through revision material



The StatBot

- The StatBot was subject-specific and only used the material provided for the course.
- Mostly used to prepare for the assessment tasks
 - Self-directed learning was the most popular option.
 - Found it to be a complementary resource.



Positive Student Experience

Students found the StatBot:

- Good for effective learning.
- Provides subject-specific assistance (assurance).
- Good practice tool.
- Good for clarification and understanding (deeper learning).
- Tool for better exam preparation (confidence).



Challenges



Workload and Cost

- Designing and managing
- Al component comes with a higher cost

Competition

 Rapidly Evolving Area: How do we keep up?

Engagement

 Getting students to use it for learning (beyond assessment preparation)