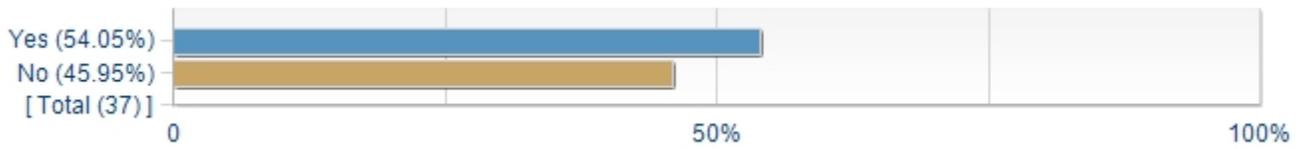# Individual Report FALL 2018 for 20191044866-Intro to Programming (James Hughes)

StFX Student Course Evaluations-FALL 2018 (201910)
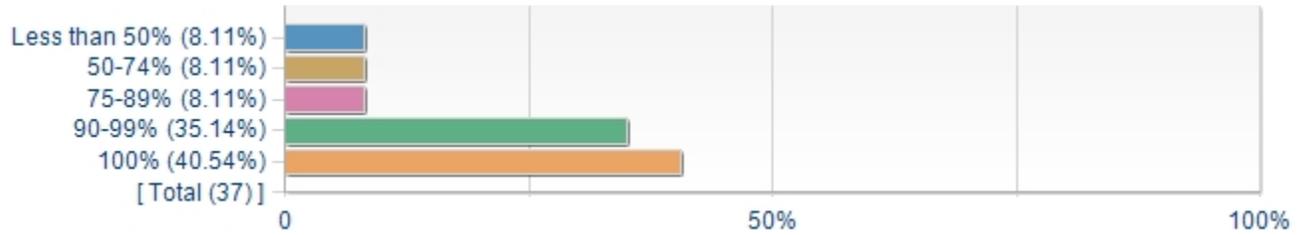
Creation Date Wed, Jan 23, 2019

Is this a required course?

Yes (54.05%)
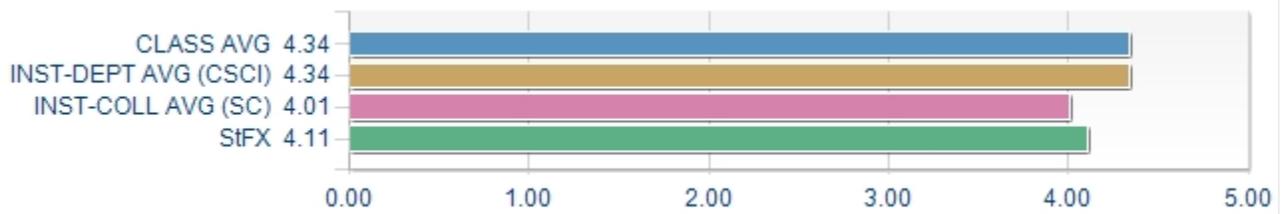No (45.95%)
[Total (37)]

0   50%   100%

What percentage of classes did you attend in this course?

Less than 50% (8.11%)
50-74% (8.11%)
75-89% (8.11%)
90-99% (35.14%)
100% (40.54%)
[Total (37)]

0   50%   100%

Stimulation and Challenge

Overall

CLASS AVG 4.34
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI) 4.34
INST-COLL AVG (SC) 4.01
StFX 4.11

0.00 — 1.00 — 2.00 — 3.00 — 4.00 — 5.00

1. The level of intellectual challenge in this course is appropriate.

CLASS AVG 4.08
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI) 4.08
INST-COLL AVG (SC) 3.96
StFX 4.02

0.00 — 1.00 — 2.00 — 3.00 — 4.00 — 5.00

2. The instructor shows interest and enthusiasm in teaching this course.

CLASS AVG 4.76
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI) 4.76
INST-COLL AVG (SC) 4.33
StFX 4.43

0.00 — 1.00 — 2.00 — 3.00 — 4.00 — 5.00

3. The instructor stimulated my interest in this subject area.

CLASS AVG 4.16
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI) 4.16
INST-COLL AVG (SC) 3.77
StFX 3.91

0.00 — 1.00 — 2.00 — 3.00 — 4.00 — 5.00

4. I was encouraged to apply my knowledge in different ways (i.e. critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, writing skills)

CLASS AVG 4.38
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI) 4.38
INST-COLL AVG (SC) 3.99
StFX 4.06

0.00 — 1.00 — 2.00 — 3.00 — 4.00 — 5.00
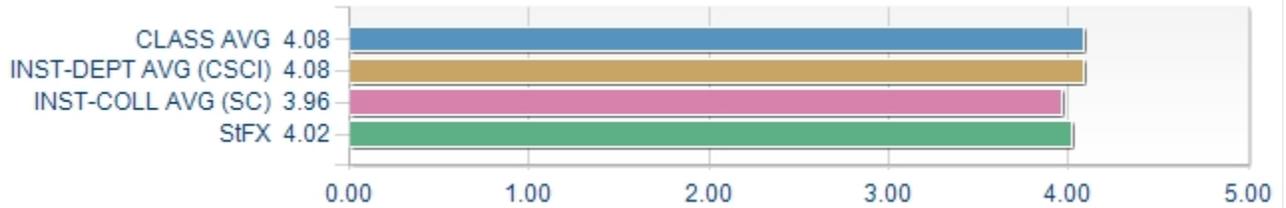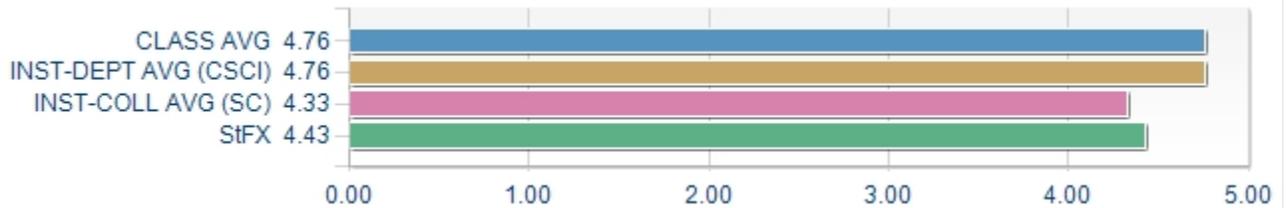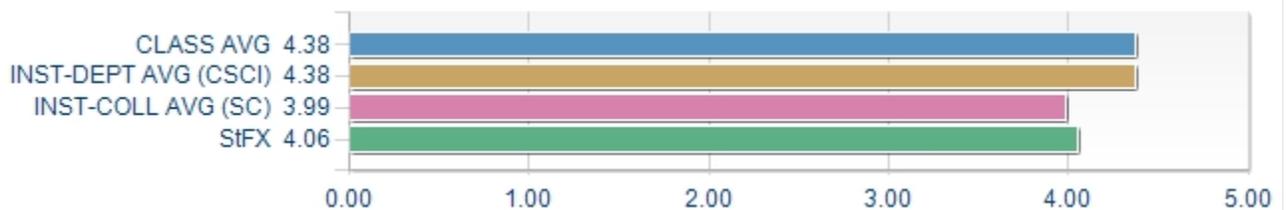
Stimulation and Challenge

Overall	Value
Mean	4.34
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.94

1. The level of intellectual challenge in this course is appropriate.
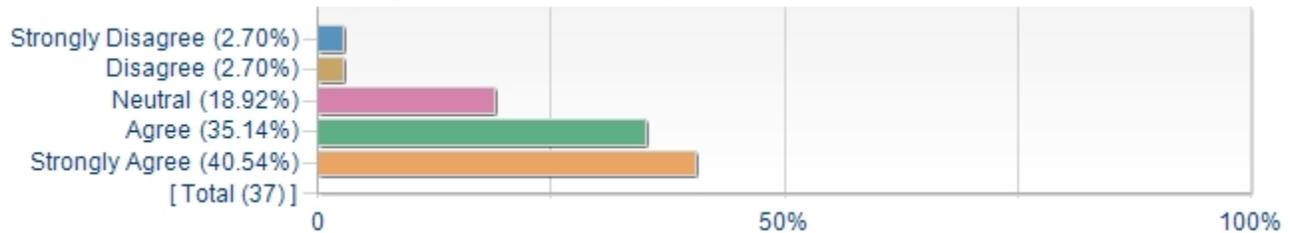

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.08
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.98

2. The instructor shows interest and enthusiasm in teaching this course.

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.76
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.60

Stimulation and Challenge (continued)

3. The instructor stimulated my interest in this subject area.
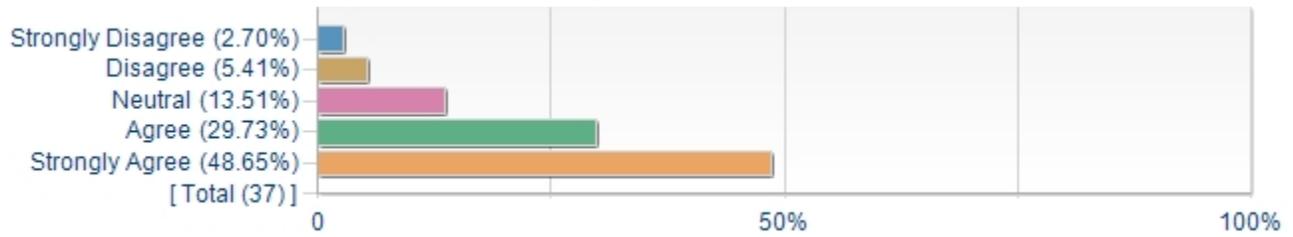
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.16
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.04

4. I was encouraged to apply my knowledge in different ways (i.e. critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, writing skills)
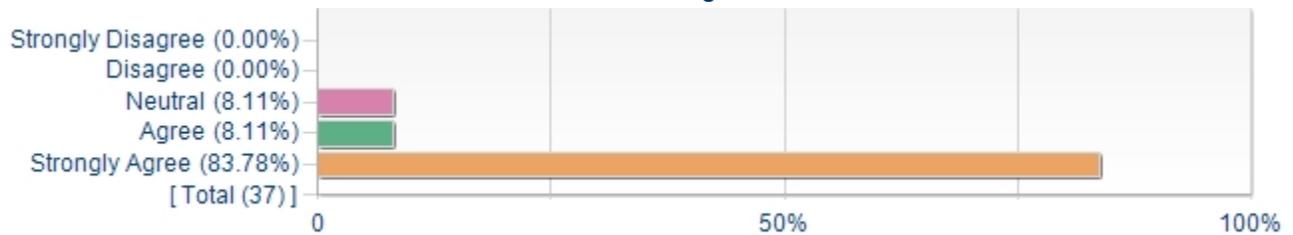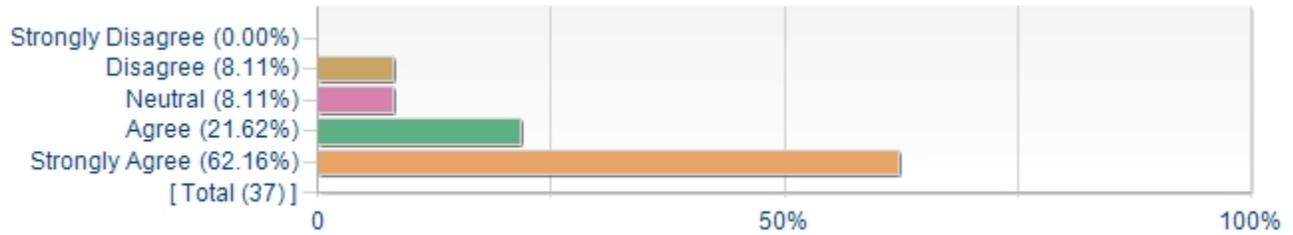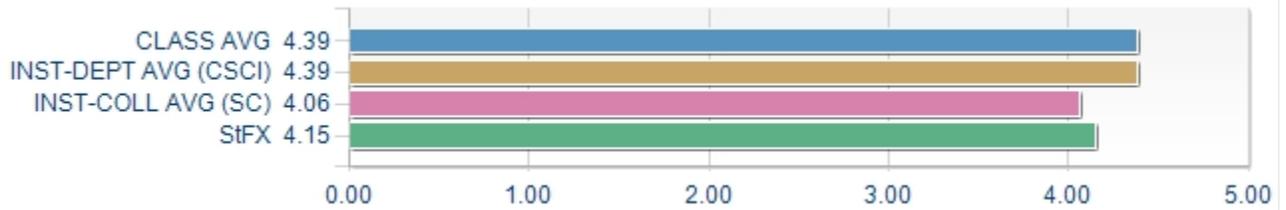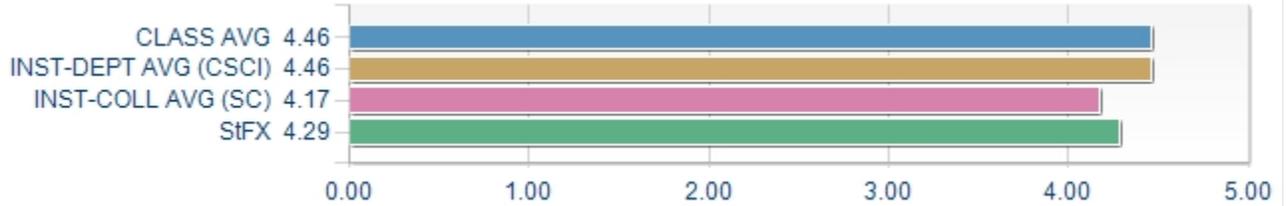

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.38
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.95

Instructor Communication

Overall

CLASS AVG	4.39
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.39
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.06
StFX	4.15

1. The instructor makes students feel free to ask questions and express their ideas.

CLASS AVG	4.46
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.46
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.17
StFX	4.29

2. The criteria for assessment are clearly communicated to students.

CLASS AVG	4.22
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.22
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.00
StFX	4.06

3. The instructor's communication skills (volume, enunciation, speed, tone, vocabulary) are appropriate for the course.

CLASS AVG	4.54
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.54
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.04
StFX	4.16

4. The instructor is effective in organizing and presenting the course materials.

CLASS AVG	4.32
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.32
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.03
StFX	4.09
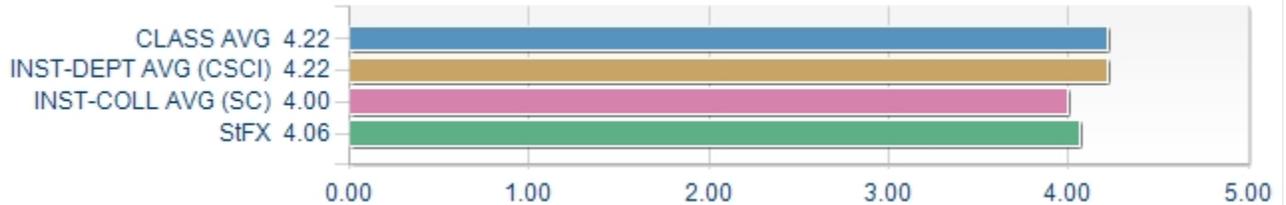
Instructor Communication

Overall	Value
Mean	4.39
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.97

1. The instructor makes students feel free to ask questions and express their ideas.

Strongly Disagree (0.00%)
Disagree (2.70%)
Neutral (10.81%)
Agree (24.32%)
Strongly Agree (62.16%)
[Total (37)]

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.46
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.80

2. The criteria for assessment are clearly communicated to students.

Strongly Disagree (2.70%)
Disagree (5.41%)
Neutral (5.41%)
Agree (40.54%)
Strongly Agree (45.95%)
[Total (37)]

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.22
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.98

3. The instructor's communication skills (volume, enunciation, speed, tone, vocabulary) are appropriate for the course.

Strongly Disagree (2.70%)
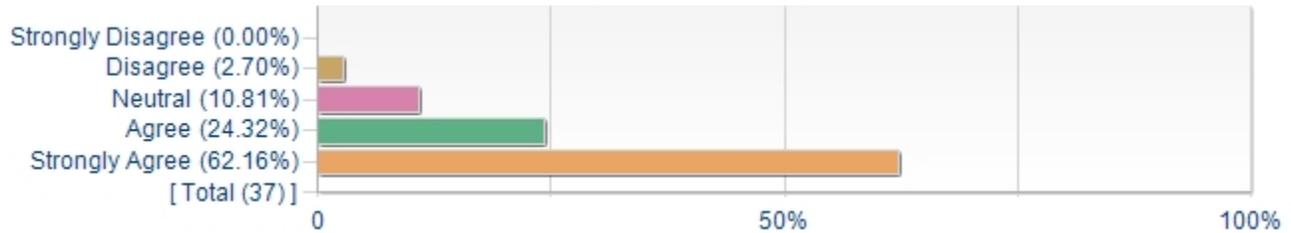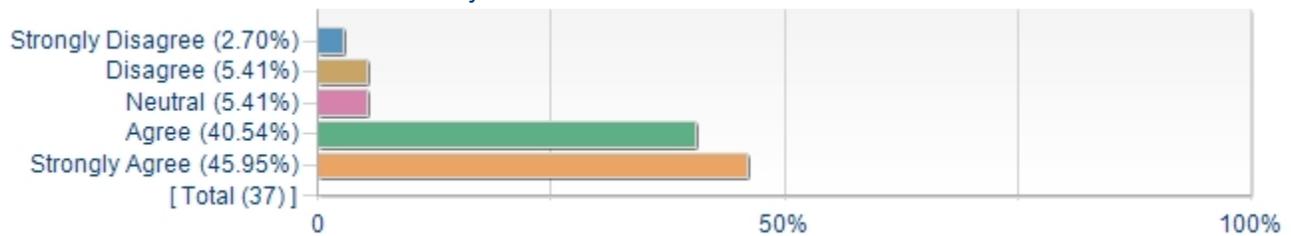Disagree (5.41%)
Neutral (2.70%)
Agree (13.51%)
Strongly Agree (75.68%)
[Total (37)]
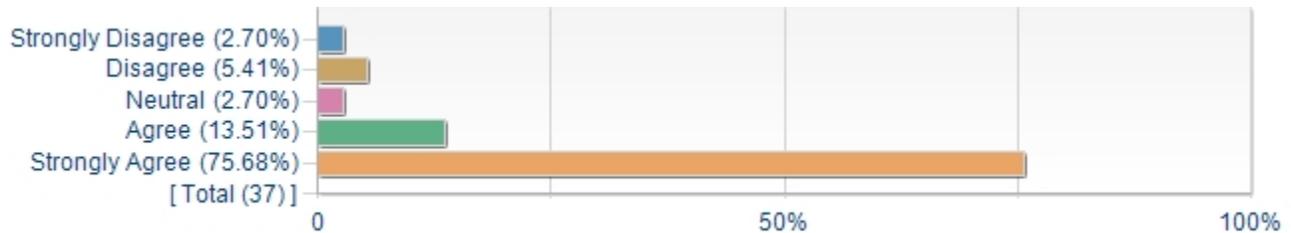
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.54
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.99

Instructor Communication (continued)

4. The instructor is effective in organizing and presenting the course materials.

Strongly Disagree (5.41%)
Disagree (2.70%)
Neutral (8.11%)
Agree (21.62%)
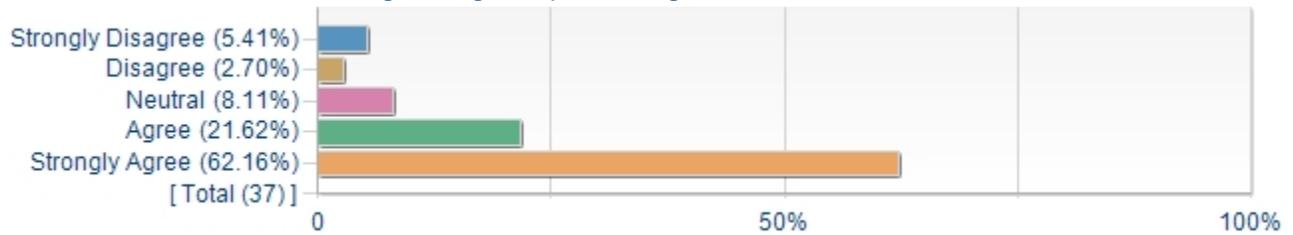Strongly Agree (62.16%)
[Total (37)]

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.32
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.11

Knowledge and Expertise

CLASS AVG 4.78
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI) 4.78
INST-COLL AVG (SC) 4.55
StFX 4.60

Knowledge and Expertise

Strongly Disagree (0.00%)
Disagree (0.00%)
Neutral (0.00%)
Agree (21.62%)
Strongly Agree (78.38%)
[Total (37)]
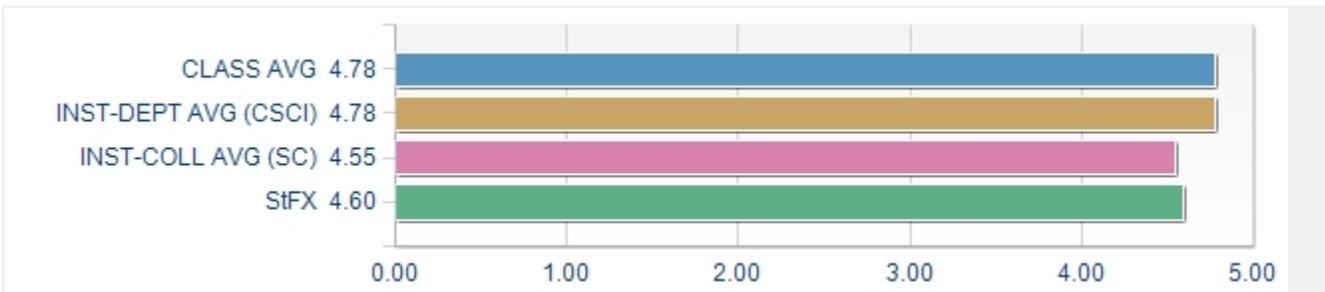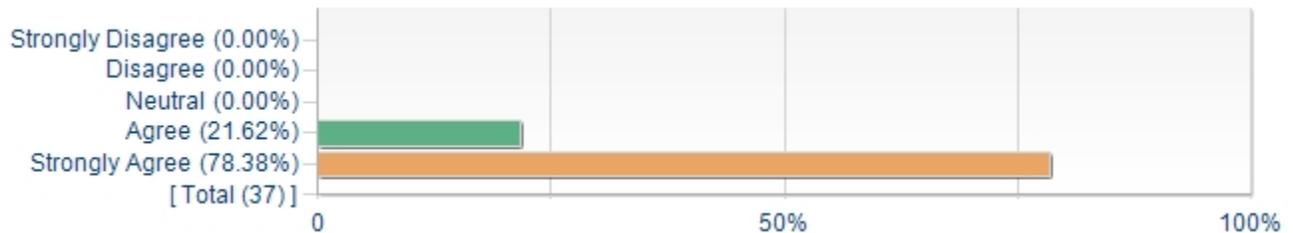
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.78
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.42

Course Organization
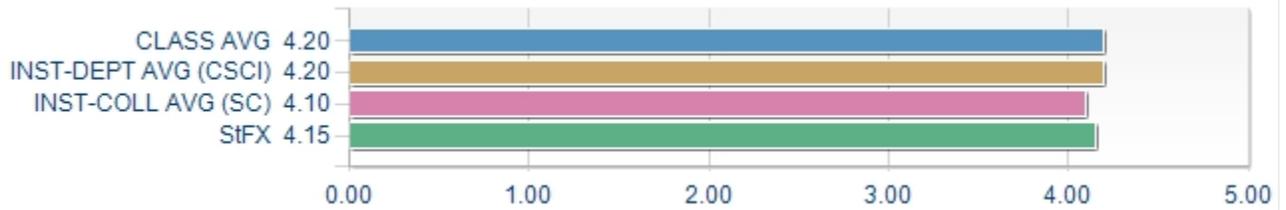
Overall

CLASS AVG	4.20
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.20
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.10
StFX	4.15

Scale: 0.00 – 5.00

1. Assignments and tests are returned to the students within a reasonable time.

CLASS AVG	4.08
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.08
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.22
StFX	4.21

Scale: 0.00 – 5.00

2. The instructor adheres to the criteria for assessment and evaluation as described in the course outline.

CLASS AVG	4.38
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.38
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.22
StFX	4.26

Scale: 0.00 – 5.00

3. The course material is well organized.

CLASS AVG	4.24
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.24
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.06
StFX	4.11

Scale: 0.00 – 5.00

4. The instructor is available for consultation outside of class

CLASS AVG	4.46
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	4.46
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	4.19
StFX	4.28

Scale: 0.00 – 5.00

5. I would recommend this course to fellow students.

CLASS AVG	3.84
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	3.84
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	3.79
StFX	3.91

Scale: 0.00 – 5.00
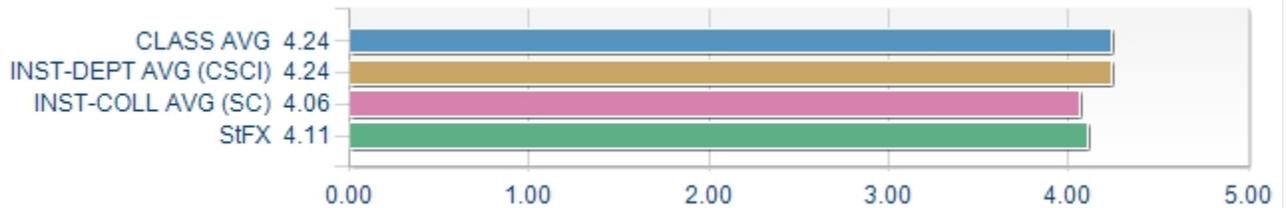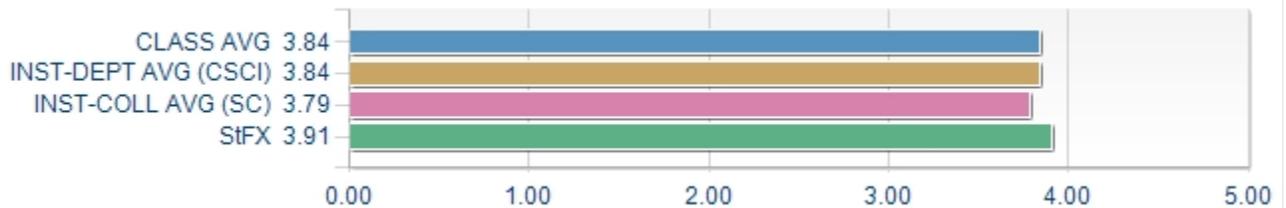
Course Organization

Overall	Value
Mean	4.20
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.99

1. Assignments and tests are returned to the students within a reasonable time.

Strongly Disagree (2.70%)
Disagree (5.41%)
Neutral (2.70%)
Agree (59.46%)
Strongly Agree (29.73%)
[Total (37)]
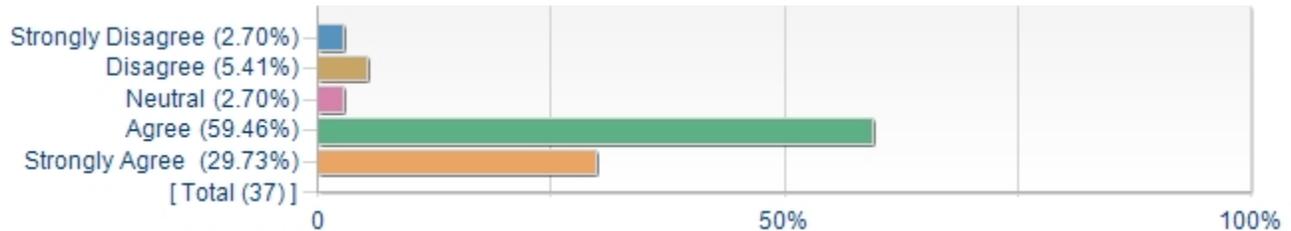
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.08
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.89

2. The instructor adheres to the criteria for assessment and evaluation as described in the course outline.

Strongly Disagree (0.00%)
Disagree (0.00%)
Neutral (8.11%)
Agree (45.95%)
Strongly Agree (45.95%)
[Total (37)]

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.38
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.64

3. The course material is well organized.

Strongly Disagree (8.11%)
Disagree (0.00%)
Neutral (2.70%)
Agree (37.84%)
Strongly Agree (51.35%)
[Total (37)]
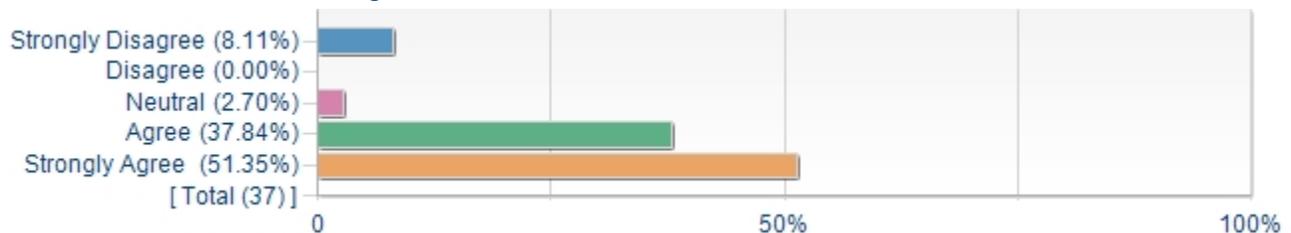
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.24
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.12

Course Organization (continued)

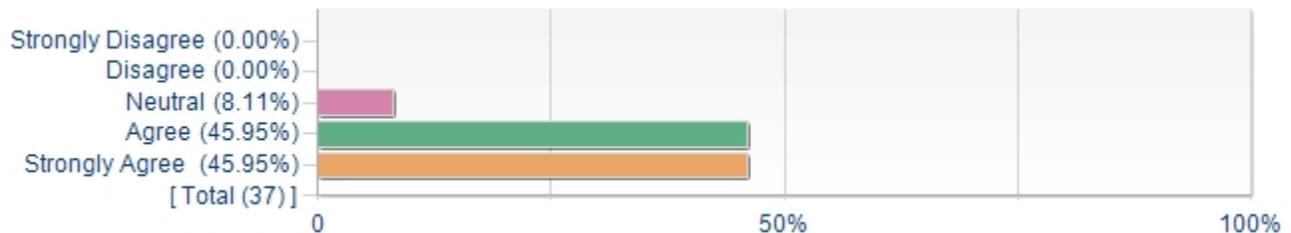### 4. The instructor is available for consultation outside of class
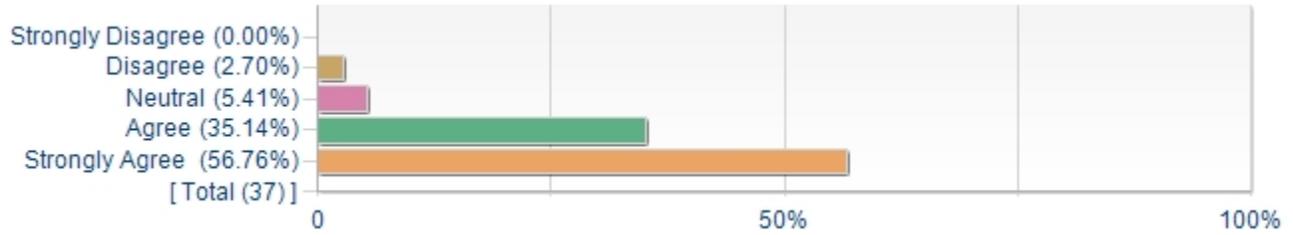
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.46
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.73

5. I would recommend this course to fellow students.
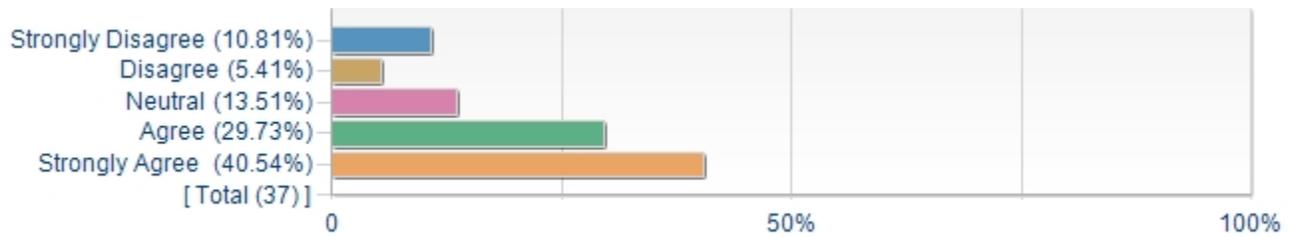
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.84
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.32

The amount of material covered in this course is:

Too low (0.00%)	
Appropriate (72.97%)	
Too high (27.03%)	
[Total (37)]	

I would describe this course as:

CLASS AVG	3.68
INST-DEPT AVG (CSCI)	3.68
INST-COLL AVG (SC)	3.40
StFX	3.54

I would describe this course as:

1 Poor (8.11%)	
2 Fair (13.51%)	
3 Good (8.11%)	
4 Very Good (43.24%)	
5 Excellent (27.03%)	
[Total (37)]	
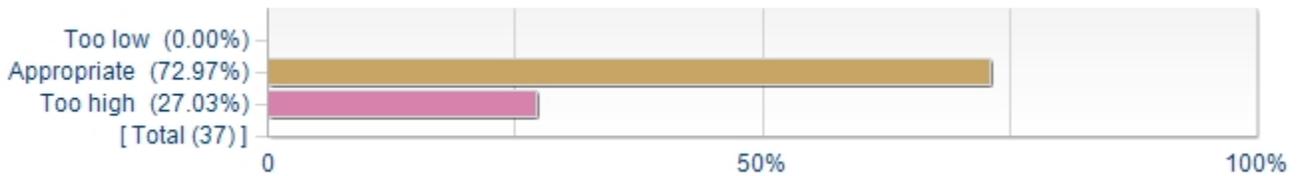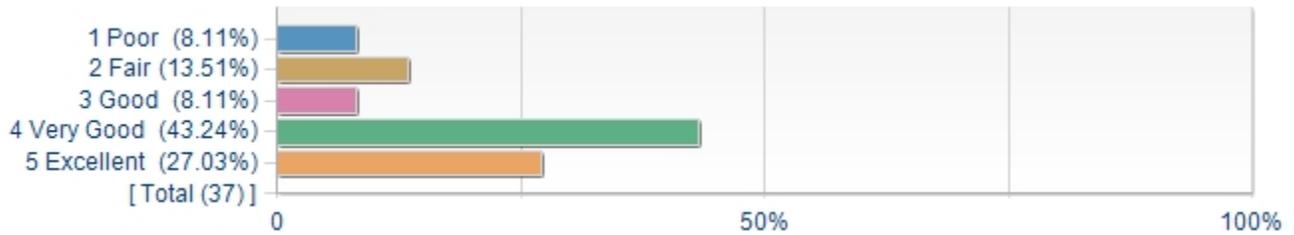
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.68
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.25

What were the best aspects of this course and/or instructor?

Comments
Teach the course well in a period of time
CSCI 161 is a very interactive and hands on based course, which makes for a lot of fun.   James Hughes is an excellent professor. He is very animated during lectures and encourages critical thinking and any questions students may have. Very down to earth professor, and well versed in the course content. He is evidently very passionate about Computer Science, which makes the course much more enjoyable and easy to digest. Readily available outside of class, and a joy to speak with.
You have a good base in python programming
The best aspect of this course was learning how programs are written and how they work.
The professor's enthusiasm and passion for the subject were remarkable. The course material was extremely interesting also.
The best aspect of this course is that 15–20% of the grade is based solely on attendance (labs and in–class activities).
Interesting. Material presented at a good pace. Professor enthusiastic, usually very helpful.
the fact that it is challenging
The course was very well thought out and was made easy by having access to the entire course via the course website. The professor was very enthusiastic about the subject also.
the lab mark was attendance based
James is always entertaining an makes learning easy.
The 30 second break between assignments
Instructor demonstrates passion for the subject, instilling interest in students.
Interactive activities. Good connections to real life problems. Always open to questions, and pushing us to do our best.
Interactive, thorough teaching of subjects.
The instructor is very good at explaining the course content an dI am always happy with how I understand the material in the course after he explains it further.
He is very enthusiastic and engages really well with his students
The interest that professor Hughes shows incourageing for his students as his passion shows through his lectures
Enthusiastic professor, he's really interested in computer science and teaching he's on the ball. Cracks jokes a lot and tries getting the class participating in the lectures. Very good put together notes on moodle, so good you could probably get by just by reading those and not even going to class, videos are also included in those notes. He's very fair and clear on what is needed to be done, first class of the semester he went over a lot of simple rules. Has ended up learning people's names by the end now. Small class size.
James is very passionate about computer science and he is able to spike interests in a field of work that may be a bit dry to some.
The course was very well–organized and students were given adequate learning tools to do learn the material relevant to the course and their own learning styles. Students were encouraged to apply their knowledge and challenge themselves. Labs tested a variety of learning abilities and students were not put under pressure to get everything done in the 2 hours (which I liked because sometimes I was tired and didn't get a lot done in the lab time).
James is extremely enthusiastic about the course, and is excellent in keeping the class's attention
Very intuitive, always have fun when at class, professor very friendly and understanding
Instructor is very engaging in class lectures.
It was intriguing to be exposed to material.   Very positive and well enunciated.
office hours are very helpful. he helps you find the answer yourself with assistance.
The course and the instructor were both equally as captivating which gave me motivation to listen and to do good
Office hours.

Comments
The instructor is passionate about the course and the program in general. The labs were enjoyable and challenging enough for a first year course.
course was good, Prof was bad.

Are there any aspects of this course or of the instruction that could be improved? If so, please explain.

Comments
No
I think sometimes the course moved a bit too fast. The midterm exam and assignments were more difficult I felt then the content covered in the lectures.
No.
The instructor's attitude toward the class was poor. I felt uncomfortable asking questions in class and going to office hours. His "FAQ" on the bottom of assignments are intimidating and immature for a professor. Instead of encouraging peer tutoring, or explaining the exact rules of plagiarism, students were called out (in front of the class in one case). He kept mentioning a "fine line" even though the line was never defined and caused confusion in the classrooms. I found the fundamentals of programming were skipped and the class was almost incomparable to year's previous. I think changing programming languages for the second half of the course is going to be an extremely difficult task for many students. I also felt time was wasted in class by polling the class on whether or not they understood topics. It's hard to admit you don't understand a concept in a room of 70 people. I don't think these gave a genuine response or were helpful.
Approachable in class but often rude over email/ online. Obviously means well but sometimes hard to contact for consultation.
It is a little challenging for first year course if you do not have previous experience in computer science.
considering this is a first year class and is supposed to make students want to pursue a computer science path, i believe the courses difficulty should be evaluated. i will not be taking any further classes in the computer science faculty because of the bad taste left in my mouth after this semester. I've never been more stressed than when working on one of the four assignments for this class, which students are forbidden to work on together under threat of failure, and/or expulsion. " I will also advocate for an automatic failure in the course, or expulsion from the university when allowed." This is embarrassing for a school that likes to brag about the professor–student relationships. disappointing
Lots of material covered, but important.
It moves very fast for beginners who don't have prior experience
More hand–holding within the first few weeks of course content could prove effective. Many students are quickly discouraged by the course if they don't understand the fundamentals. So much of the material builds on itself – without the core rules of python, it's difficult to comprehend the more complex elements of the course.
This course has no prerequisite,it was less considered while making the course outline. More practice time was needed on the individual topics. Pace was high.
Assignments could be shortened. I believe a lot of people find them too long as people have most likely not had enough time and led to cheating.
Not really
I don't think so because you can tell the instructor has a high understanding of the course material and teaches at a reasonable pace.
This course is very good, the only thing is the pace he moves is too quick for me
I would only say that there is room for improvement would be more smaller assessments
Asking questions seems weird but I think it's just the fault of the class, not a lot of people speak up and ask questions. Afraid of being judged I guess. Personally if I have a question i'll think to myself and think it isn't so important so I won't ask. Feels awkward at times when the prof is waiting in silence but oh well.

Individual Report for 20191044866-Intro to Programming James Hughes

Comments
I believe that the assignments are a bit too challenging to do with minimal guidance. I understand that they're made to be tough and require the students to put many hours in, but I found myself at a constant uphill battle to do well on them, regardless of going to office hours, TA office hours, etc.
I generally liked it and although I don't think that computer science is one of my strong suits, I definitely learned a lot. I think that peer work could have been stressed as being a useful tool a little more– maybe even through comparing assignments after receiving them back. I found that even though my peers and I had different ways of solving the problems, amalgamating our work afterwards allowed us to learn how to be more effective in writing code from our own perspectives.
Assignments seemed a bit too far reached for a beginning class
no
Additional extra help.
All the assignments minus one assignment did I enjoy, certain assignment criteria could be changed, but overall they were fairly challenging.
bad

Do you have any other comments about the course and/or the instructor?

Comments
No
Easily my favorite professor from my first year. If I choose Computer Science as my major, he will be one of the instrumental factors.
Overall Dr Hughes was an excellent professor.
I would like to thank professor Hughes for such a great semester.
Are professors allowed to give negative marks? I've heard that he gives –100% for any indications of cheating. Seems like this goes against academic policy. I am considering dropping 162 based on this semester.
REALLY needs to be more clear on what level of cooperation is acceptable on assignments. Very frustrating to get berated for working together on assignment 3 and then being allowed to work together on assignment 4. Felt like he was arbitrarily changing rules whenever he felt like it.
thanks for nothing
The amount of work in the introductory course is a deterrent
Nope. Overall I learned a heck ton! Thaaanks.
It would be really nice if you could hand back midterms.
nope
Very good at explaining the course materials and even if you have no prior knowledge with computer science you come out of the course feeling like you learned something.
Great course, great prof.
The course was very challenging but rewarding when completed
James is a great instructor, would want him again.
I found the marking of the assignments pretty inconsistent between what my peers and I received back. I didn't fully understand the marking scheme and lost significant marks for what I felt were small errors. I also would have preferred more constructive criticism on my errors. Despite not deserving full marks on most of the assignments, I definitely felt that I had more than 0% knowledge of how to build and represent the functions that I received that mark for.
Amazing course, loved every second of it, can't wait for 162.
I was looking for a little more exposure to computer science to improve analysis of data sets and graphing. I did not expect the course to be as intense as creating games.
no
bad