



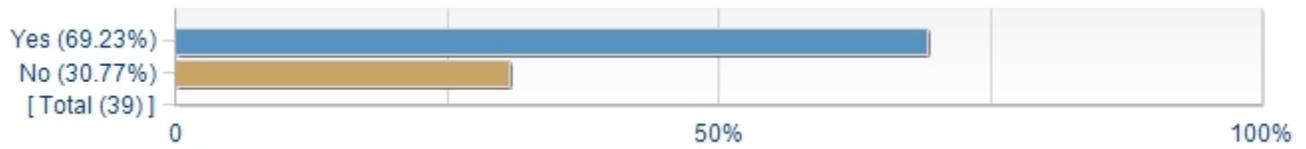
Individual Report WINTER 2019 for 20191044768-Programming & Data Structures (James Hughes)

StFX Student Course Evaluations-WINTER 2019

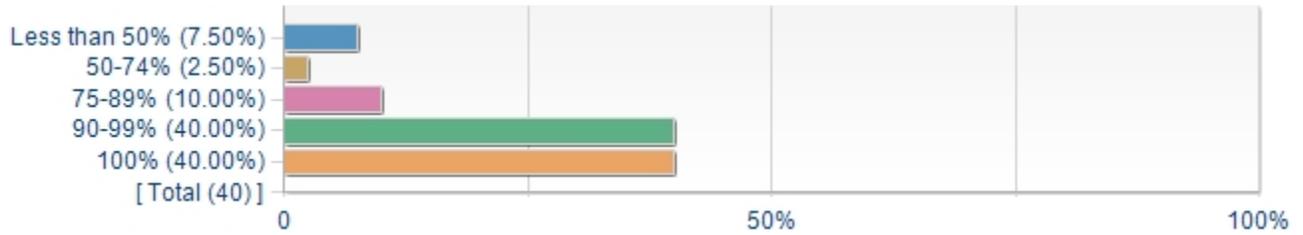
Creation Date Thu, Apr 11, 2019



Is this a required course?

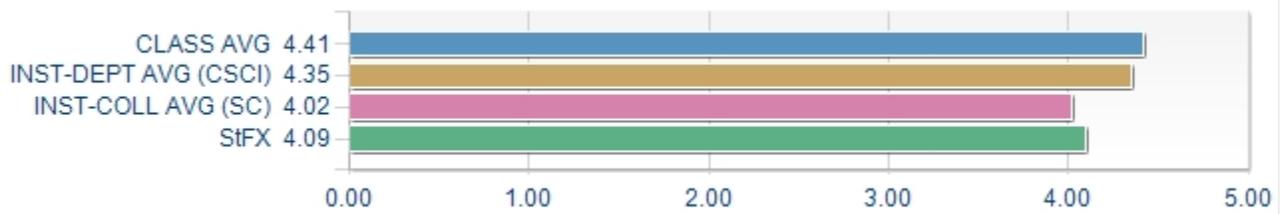


What percentage of classes did you attend in this course?



Stimulation and Challenge

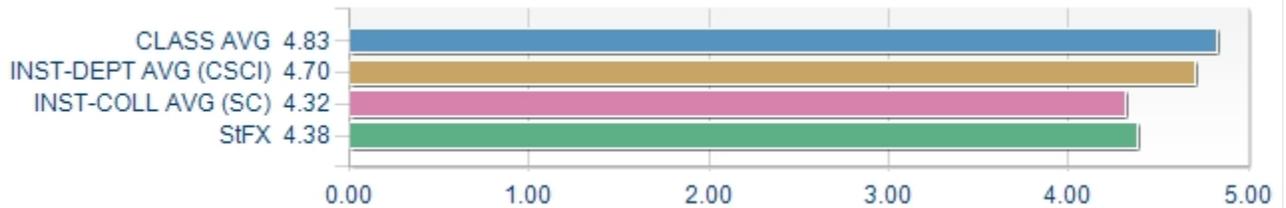
Overall



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



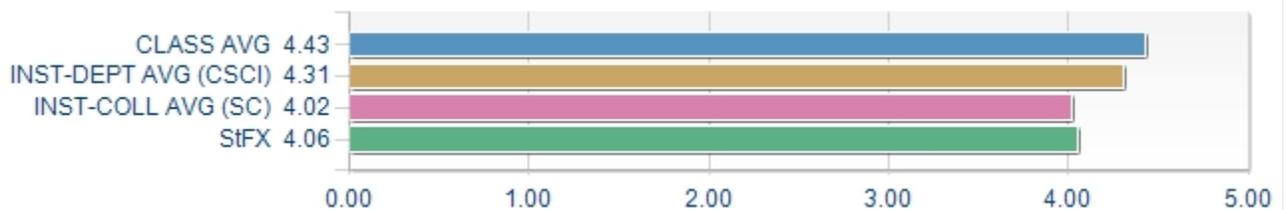
2. The instructor shows interest and enthusiasm in teaching this course.



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



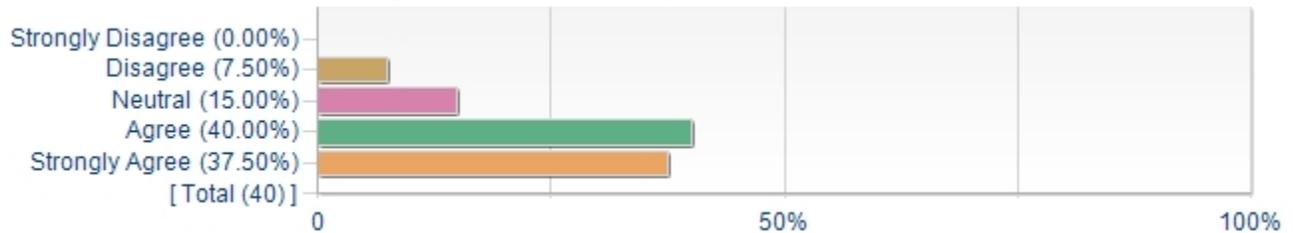
4. I was encouraged to apply my knowledge in different ways (i.e. critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, writing skills)



Stimulation and Challenge

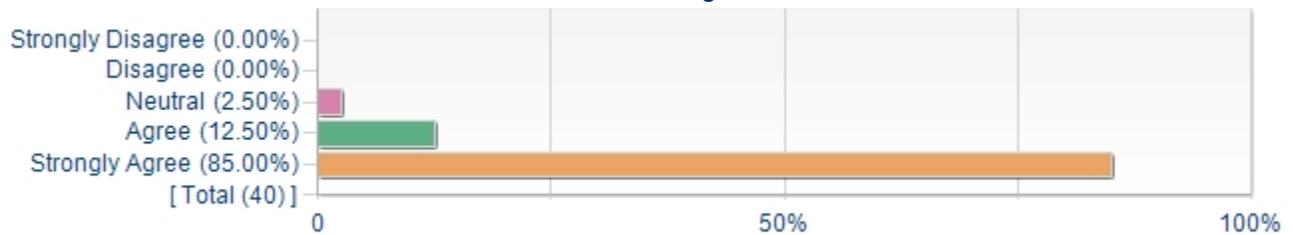
Overall	Value
Mean	4.41
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.83

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.08
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.92

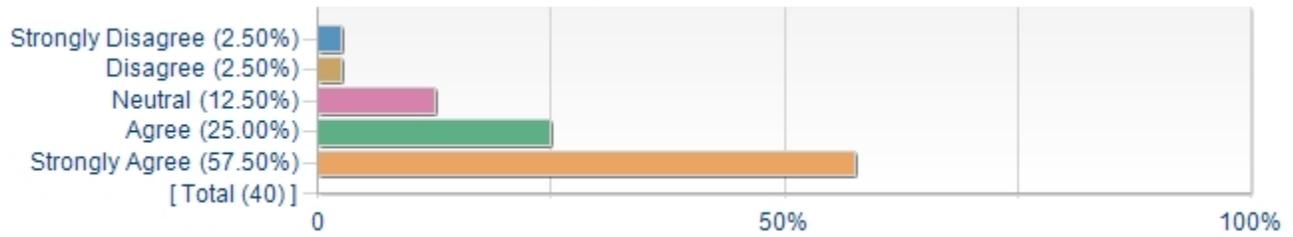
2. The instructor shows interest and enthusiasm in teaching this course.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.83
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.45

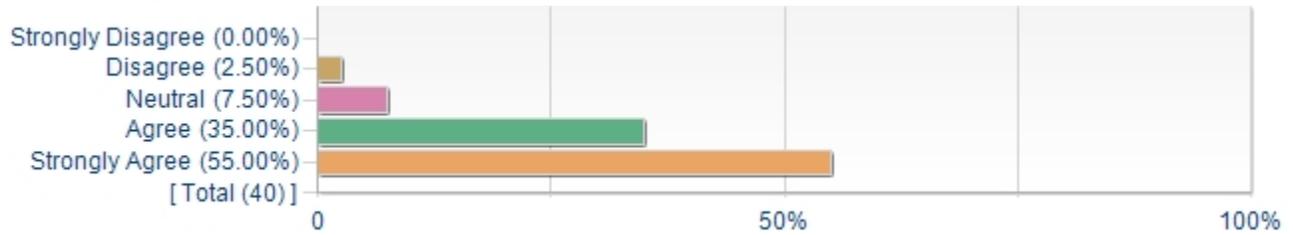
Stimulation and Challenge (continued)

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.33
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.97

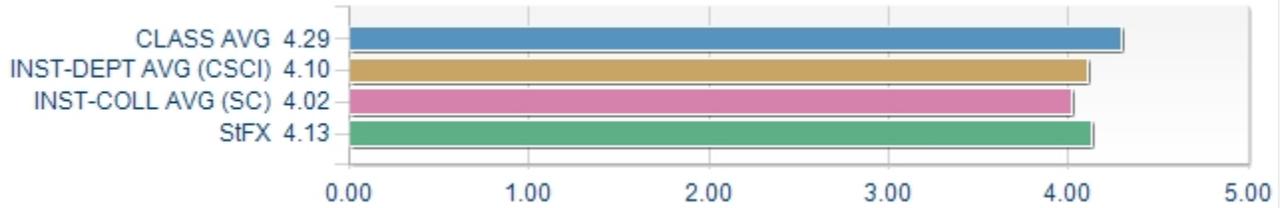
4. I was encouraged to apply my knowledge in different ways (i.e. critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, writing skills)



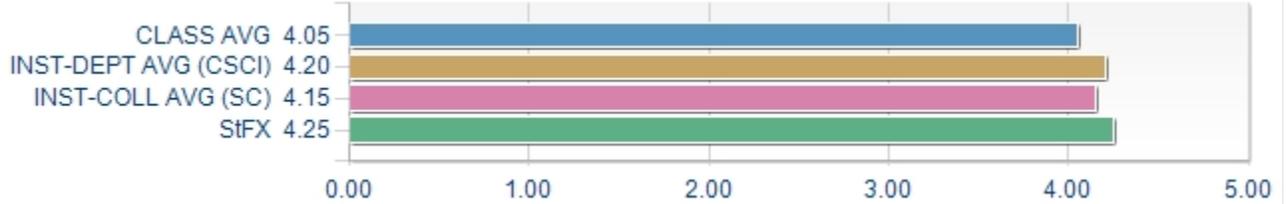
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.43
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.75

Instructor Communication

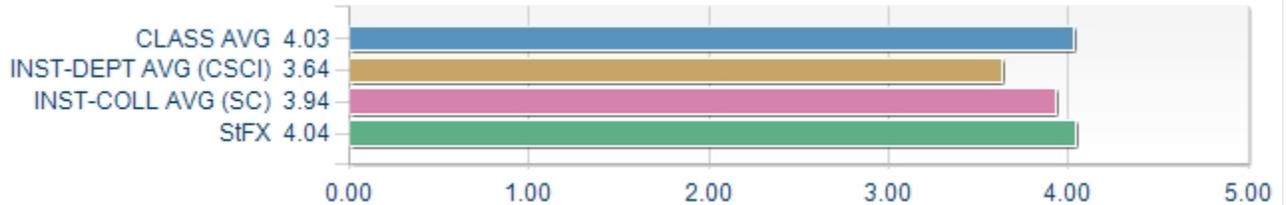
Overall



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



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



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



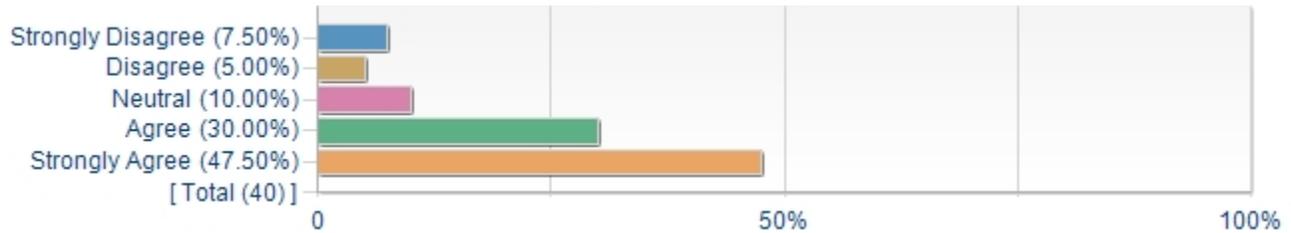
4. The instructor is effective in organizing and presenting the course materials.



Instructor Communication

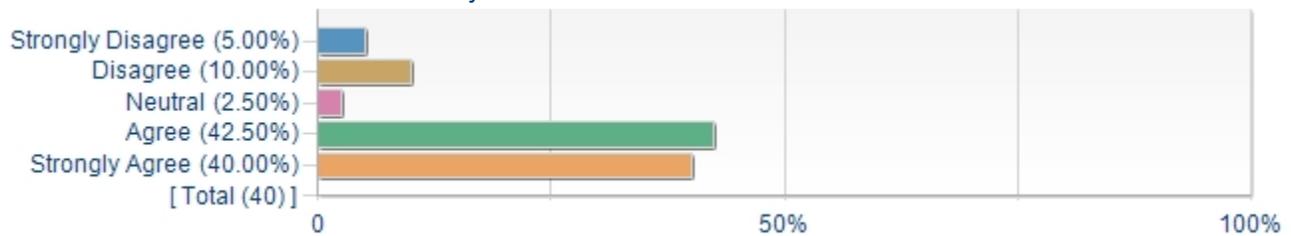
Overall	Value
Mean	4.29
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.05

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



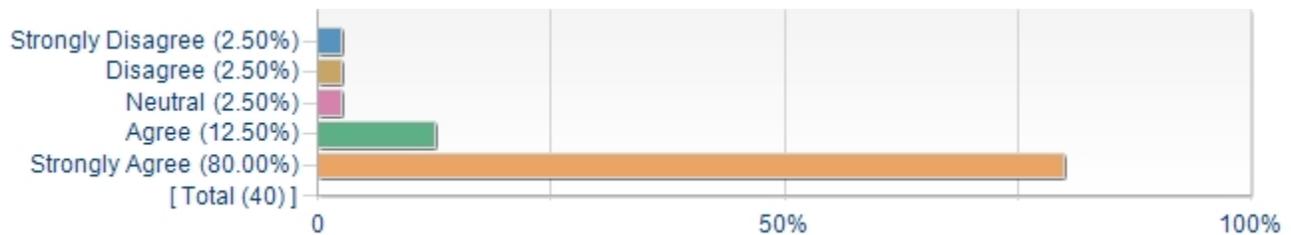
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.05
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.22

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.03
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.14

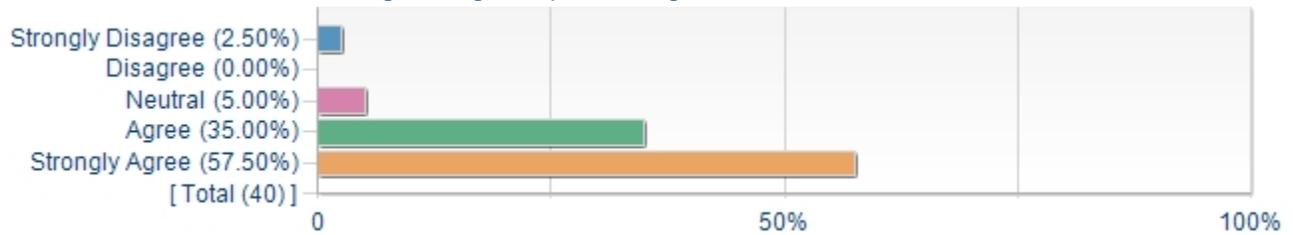
3. The instructor's communication skills (volume, enunciation, speed, tone, vocabulary) are appropriate for the course.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.65
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.86

Instructor Communication (continued)

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

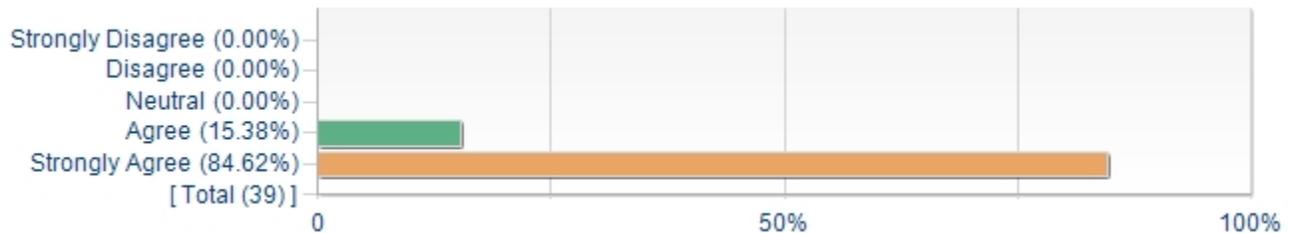


Statistics	Value
Mean	4.45
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.81

Knowledge and Expertise



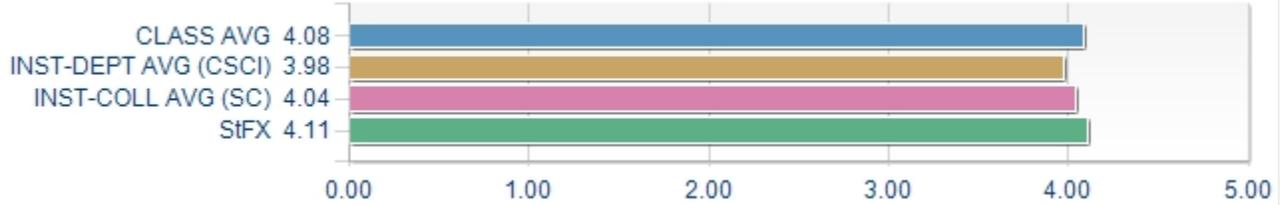
Knowledge and Expertise



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.85
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.37

Course Organization

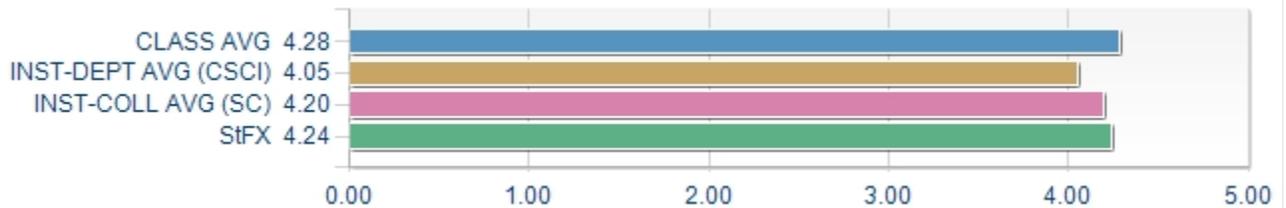
Overall



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



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



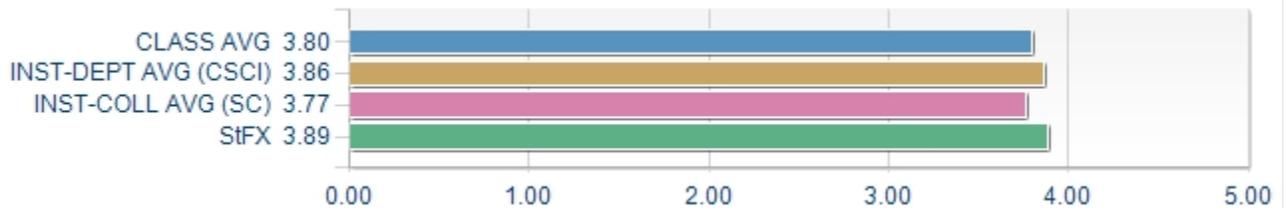
3. The course material is well organized.



4. The instructor is available for consultation outside of class



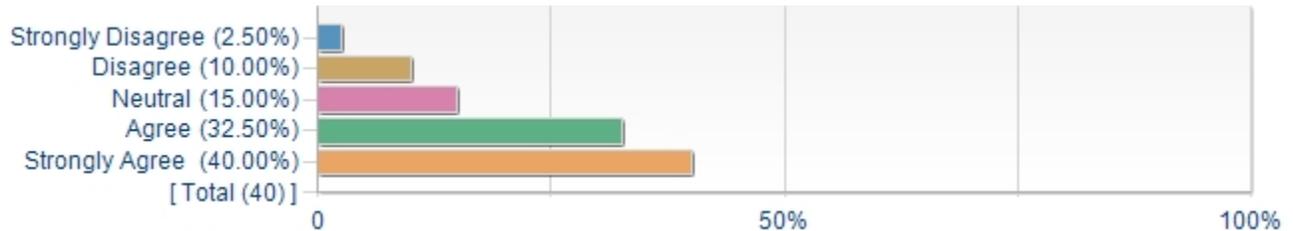
5. I would recommend this course to fellow students.



Course Organization

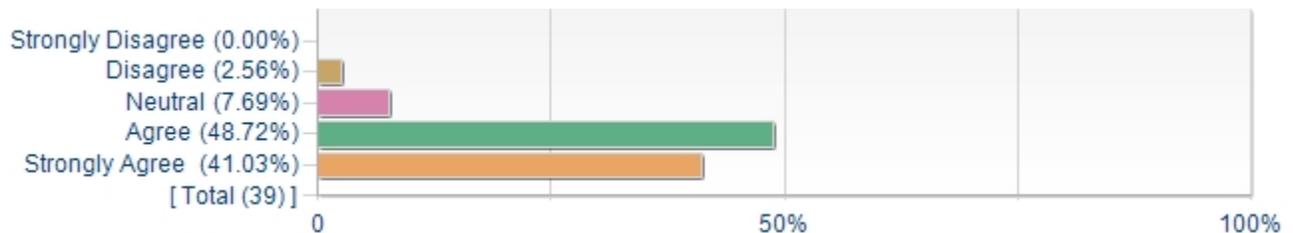
Overall	Value
Mean	4.08
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.03

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



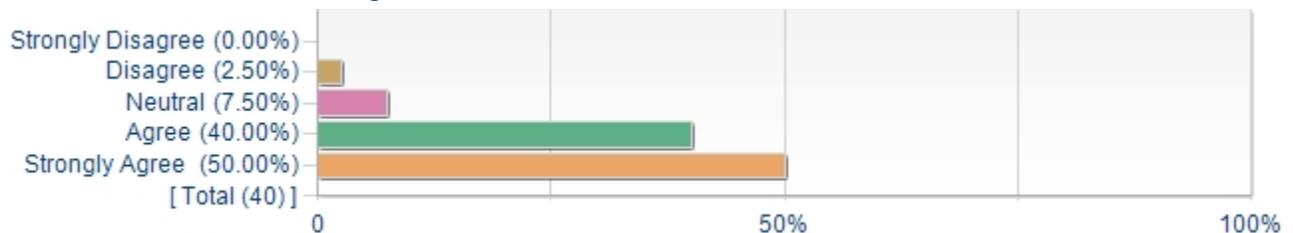
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.98
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.10

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.28
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.72

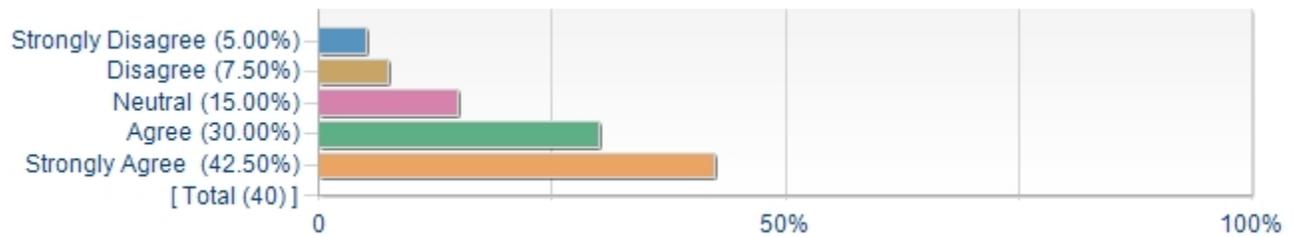
3. The course material is well organized.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.38
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.74

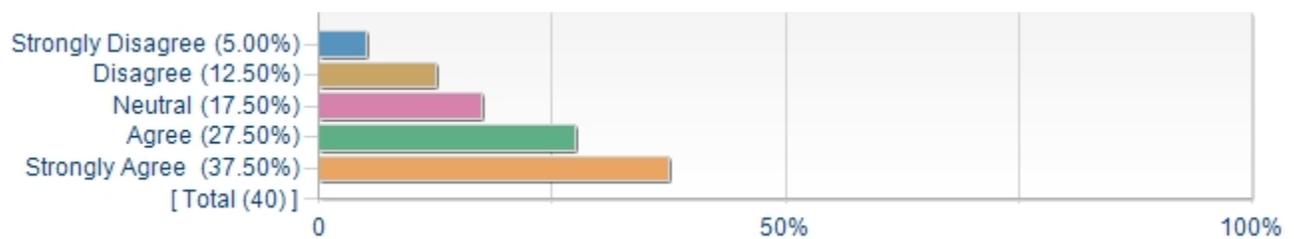
Course Organization (continued)

4. The instructor is available for consultation outside of class



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.98
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.17

5. I would recommend this course to fellow students.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.80
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.22

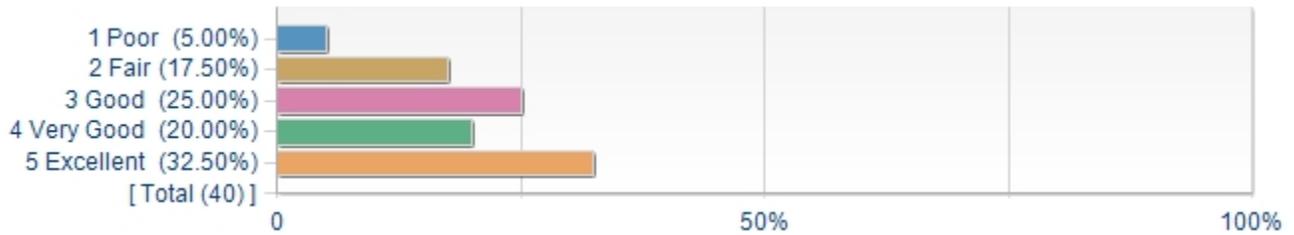
The amount of material covered in this course is:



I would describe this course as:



I would describe this course as:



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.58
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.26

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

Comments
James has an excellent teaching method and connects with his students well. Whenever there is questions, he takes his time to effectively answer them and make everything make sense. A great fit for this course.
Labs were helpful and the professor is really enthusiastic about the material
You show a deep understanding of your subject and your classes are not only accessible but honestly fun to go to. Really makes me want to see if I can do more comp sci. Great lecturing and help at office hours.
The instructor clearly knows what he is talking about during his office hours and class.
enthusiastic
we practice what we learn through assignments and labs
Learning over the semester how to connect all the things we had learned up to that point together for assignments
James is very enthusiastic and his high energy brings a new level of excitement to the class
Your twitter account.
although some of the assignments are very challenging, especially if you are struggling with the material at the time, accomplishing them not only teaches you a great deal but has you feeling accomplished as well.
Very enthusiastic and intelligent. Very willing to help when requested, also doesn't just give the answers he prods your train of thought in the right direction so YOU solve the problems.
The best aspects are the labs at the end of the week to really learn what has been taught to us theoretically.
Instructor was very engaging in lectures, and connects with students well
The instructor was very interactive and explained concepts thoroughly and effectively. Loved the structures we learned and hope to learn to apply them in programs and applications.
Very entertaining. James is able to make concepts of computer science easy to digest. Makes me want to learn more.
You are really enthusiastic which makes it easier to understand. Doing examples in class with students is helpful
James is good at teaching ideas but he should teach us how to code.
The instructor really knew the course material well and also he connected well with the students on a personal level
The instructor is very enthusiastic and made the material easy to understand
James is a very good at presenting lectures. His passion is noticed and keeps us engaged.
James is very passionate about Computer Science and it shows in how he teaches. He's very approachable and down to earth, and does an excellent job of explaining new concepts
its like csi161 but continued
The instructor shows a lot of enthusiasm and excitement in the material
I learned a lot. The mark distribution between assignments, labs, tests and in class activities was nicely spread out.
The assignments.
The Pokemon in range of the classroom
Great teacher, easy to talk to, interesting material.
Lecture slides
The labs were helpful.
Allowed for a good grasp of cpp prior to getting into data structures. Class was interesting and had a lot of work put into slides so going to class was very worthwhile.
Great presenter, very engaging lectures.

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

Comments

The professor should make himself more available and more approachable.

James, at first I didn't understand your "no cheating" fetish. Now at the end of the course although, although I do agree that I feel proud of the work I've accomplished, there were nights I literally (not a euphemism) thought of self-harm in desperation while doing these assignments due to the fact I felt as though I couldn't reach out to you or any of my peers out of fear of losing –100%. I get what you're going for, but man, this is also a mandatory first-year intro comp sci course, I think you may be slightly past your happy medium. Also (AND I REALLY NEED YOU TO NOT TAKE THIS AS AN ATTACK ON YOUR PERSON), I don't understand why you sometimes act straight up mean in class. In lab, and in office hours, you go out of your way to help and make students feel comfortable. But then there was that day we were handing in the in class activity, you SAW people walking up to hand it in, everyone was getting ready to leave, and you decided to pack up your things and turn away. Maybe you were having a bad day, and that's alright, and sure, those people were late. But the fact that half the class didn't get to submit was a huge "fuck you" to all of those people, and it wasn't like we learned a personal lesson from it or anything, it just showed us that given the option, you would rather fuck us over or not.

I have profs who are assholes and I don't give them feedback because an anonymous comment won't fix that, but you're an extremely competent prof, a fantastic lecturer, great guy in office hours and lab so I don't understand why you choose to treat the students with sudden bursts of cruelty. I hope you think about this, maybe it's a long term plan, if it's not I think it's something you could work on.

The assignments could be more related to the content taught during the semester, rather than just loosely related

Assignment correction time

more time to go over the topic during class

Get the TA's to actually mark the assignments in a reasonable time. It takes way too long.

Less complicated assignments at the start of course! A lot of the self-taught aspects were difficult to grasp.

On some of the assignments, you need to do some things that are not taught in class, for example making a priority queue when all we've learned is queues. I think this is fine as it really makes you understand the concept you learn in class. A little more direction or hints on how to get from what we've learned to the new concept would be nice and save many hours of google searches per assignment.

Sometimes over enthusiastic? Not really

The way the class material intertwined with labs was confusing.

the amount of "google it" on the assignments was a little tiring... even after researching the things I still wasn't sure if I had a good enough grasp on them for their application and I couldn't ask questions about it because the answer would be "research it more"..

No, pretty sick class.

.

Teach us how to code.

Not really

Not assigning as complex of topics to be learned on our own for assignments.

To put it bluntly, James is a dick in situations he doesn't need to be. In front of the class he seems power hungry.

More memes on twitter

There is a little bit of a scare factor in the beginning of the course and there is discouragement towards collaboration

The FAQ page on assignments has a really negative tone

Too many labs, lessons feel rushed at times. No revision of assignments.

C++ for the whole year.

No assignment due right after February break.

I didn't like James attitude during the course. I felt intimidated to come to office hours.

Maybe a little bit more definition of structures used in assignments, such as a priority queue. Not necessarily actual source code but just high level ideas of what they are.

The assignments are impossible. They took 30+ hours for most students. Some of the engineering students have full course loads already and its just impossible for us to have the time to complete these assignments. They have material that is not covered in class. He has an FAQ section on the assignment, but most of his answers are just

Comments

"google It". I did not pay for this course to use google more than what my prof taught me.

I found the assignments very challenging and the time it took to complete some of them was unreasonably high.

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

Comments

A great resource and an excellent conveyor of ideas, James is an excellent fit for this class. I enjoyed the class, was adequately challenged, and look forward to any courses with him in the future.

It'd be super helpful if we would be shown where in our code we lost points, some of the marking is pretty tough to decipher.

Aside from that, thanks for the good compsci course!

Nah

no

Great instructor, very strict but in a good way.

You are incredibly well dressed! Immaculate young man.

Definitely would recommend for anyone.

N/A

generally a really really good course

Awesome second semester, can't wait for next year.

Very strict on having material in on time, walk quick for lecture activities

Post solutions to assignments

No.

If he expects us to do command line arguments a specific way, then he should tell us what that is.

Less pointers

It would have been nice to do assignments on material that is being covered in class i.e function parameters, maps, etc. The assignment and midterm directly after February break wasn't very desirable.

None

Less yelling

James was great!

Great Course, really good prof, I am now a big fan of computer science.