



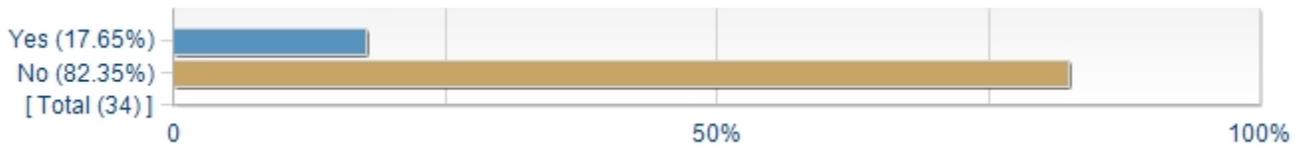
**Individual Report WINTER 2019 for 20191052099-Social Issues: Information Age (James Hughes)**

**StFX Student Course Evaluations-WINTER 2019**

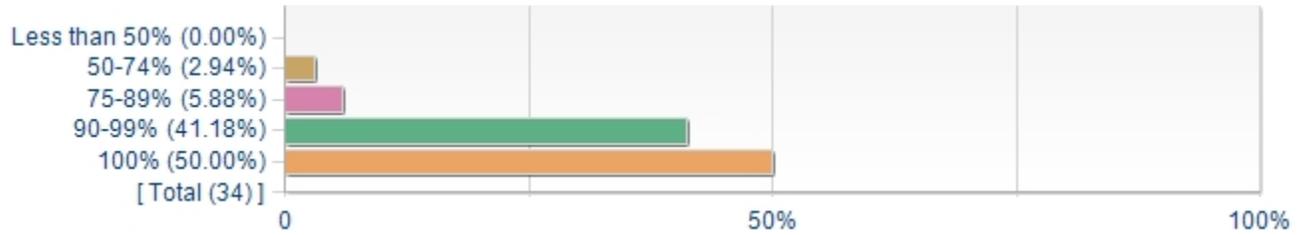
**Creation Date** Thu, Apr 11, 2019



### Is this a required course?

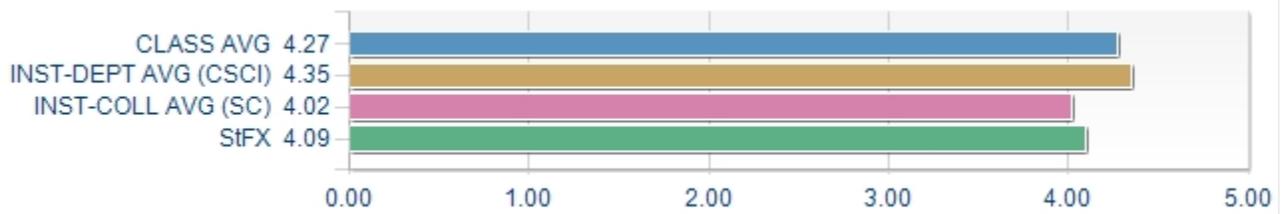


### What percentage of classes did you attend in this course?

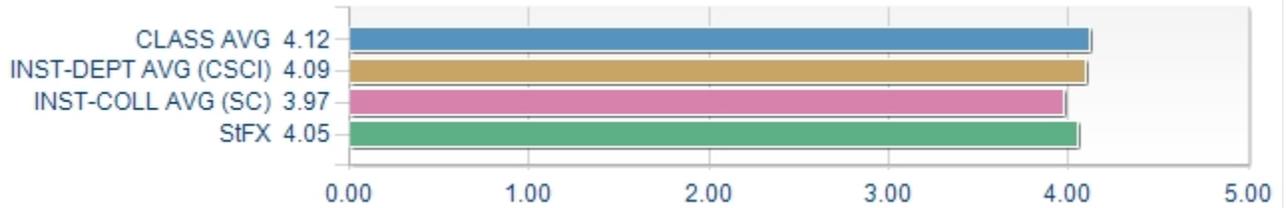


## Stimulation and Challenge

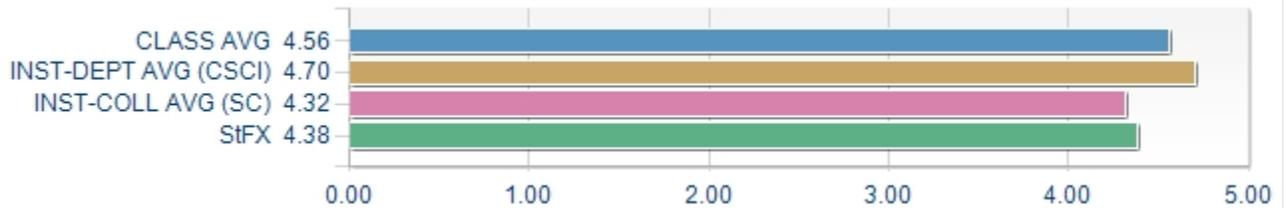
### Overall



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



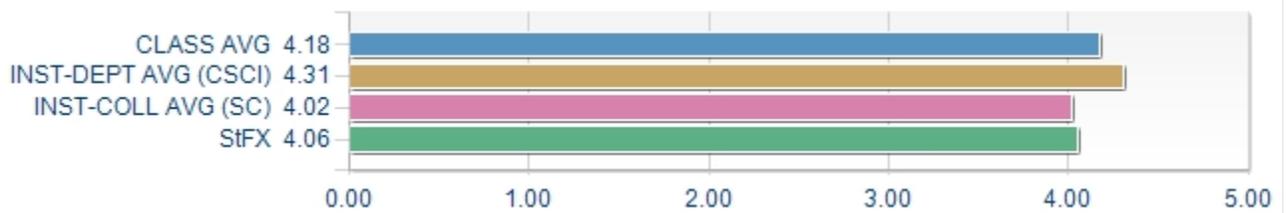
2. The instructor shows interest and enthusiasm in teaching this course.



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



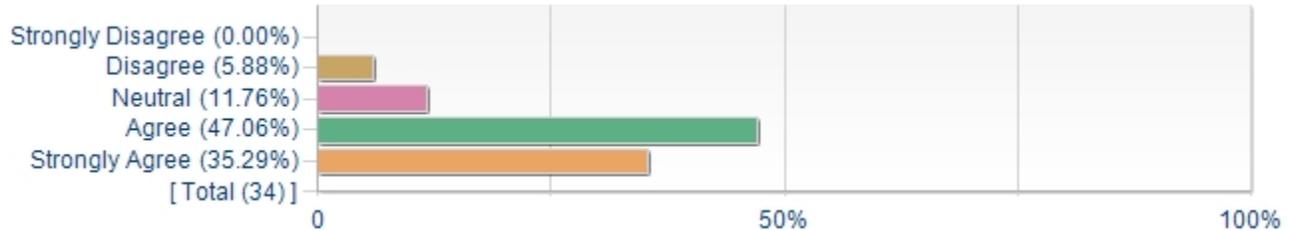
4. I was encouraged to apply my knowledge in different ways (i.e. critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, writing skills)



## Stimulation and Challenge

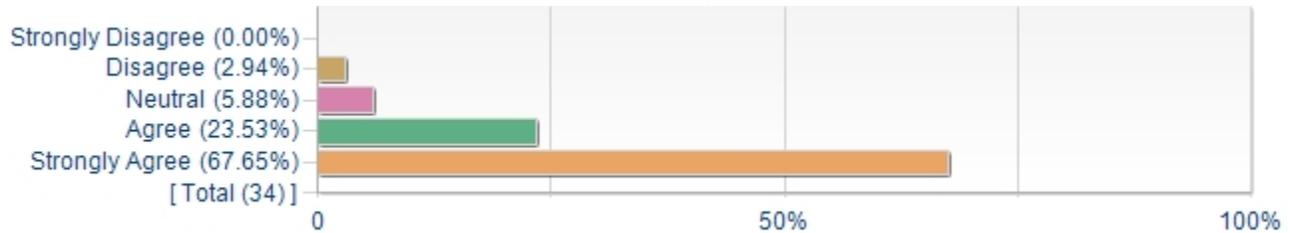
Overall	Value
Mean	4.27
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.00

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.12
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.84

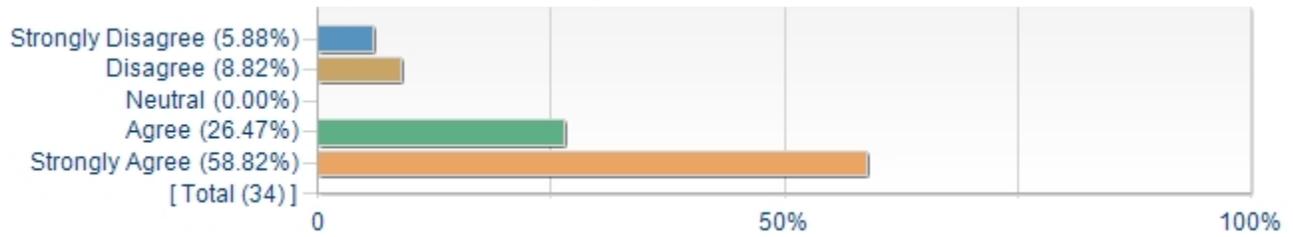
2. The instructor shows interest and enthusiasm in teaching this course.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.56
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.75

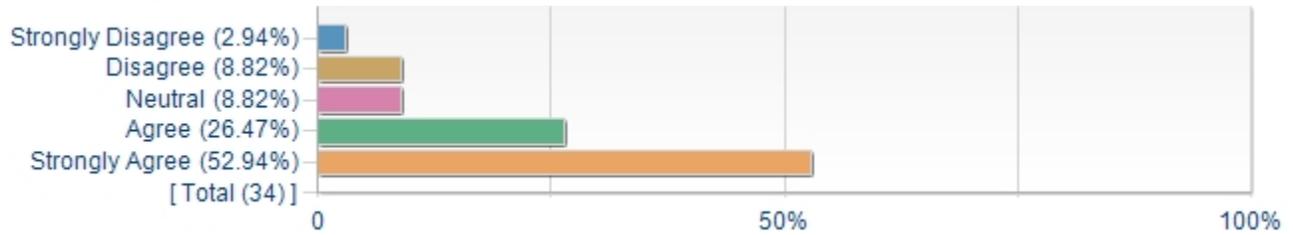
### Stimulation and Challenge (continued)

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.24
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.21

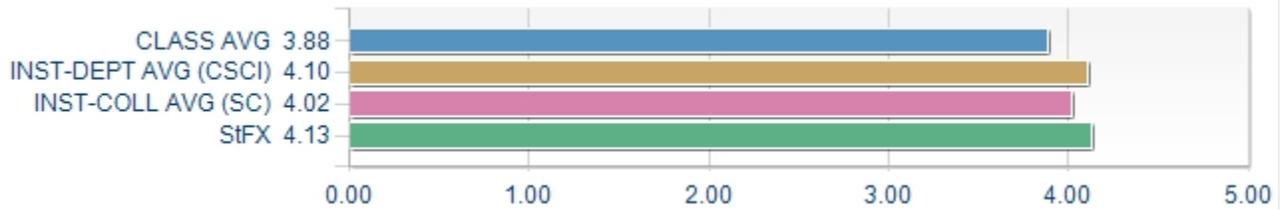
4. I was encouraged to apply my knowledge in different ways (i.e. critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, writing skills)



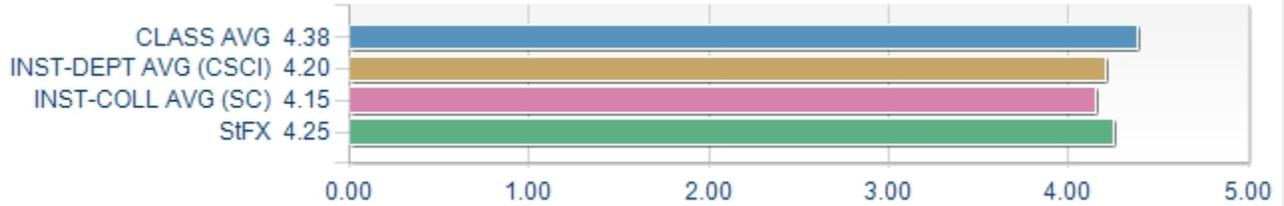
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.18
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.11

## Instructor Communication

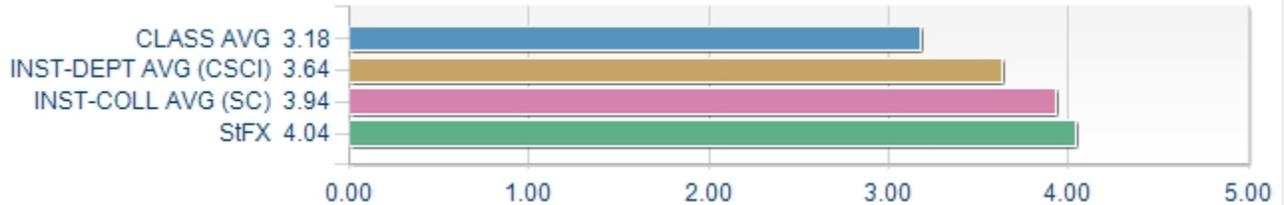
### Overall



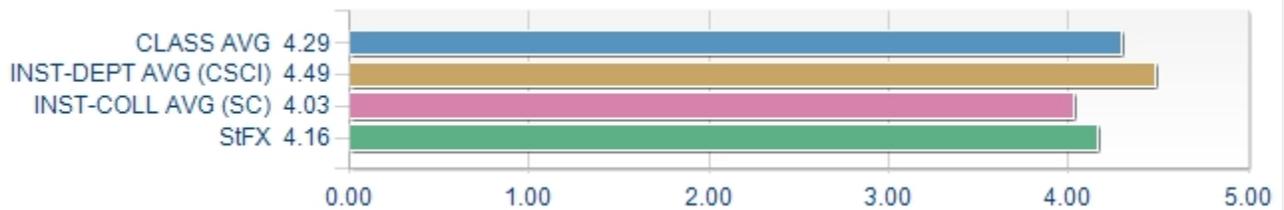
1. The instructor makes students feel free to ask questions and express their ideas.



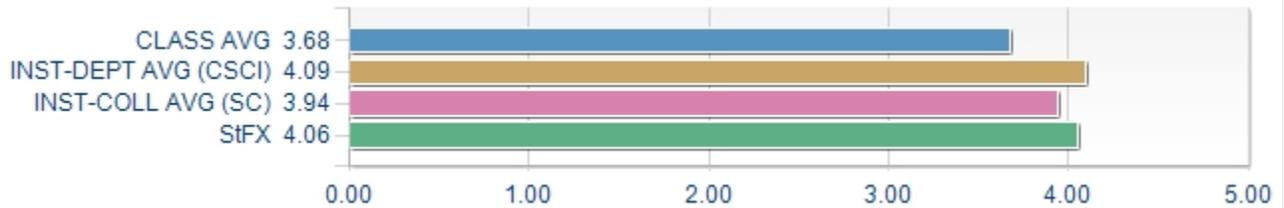
2. The criteria for assessment are clearly communicated to students.



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



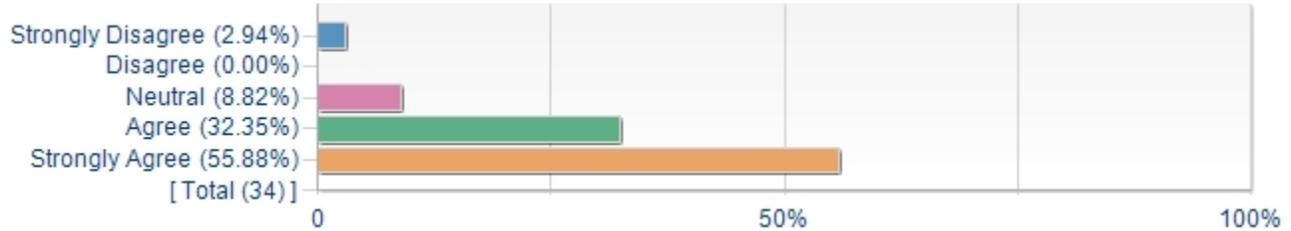
4. The instructor is effective in organizing and presenting the course materials.



## Instructor Communication

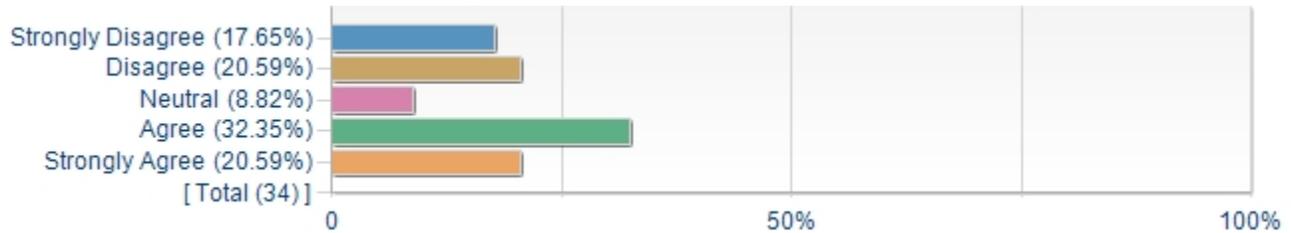
Overall	Value
Mean	3.88
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.31

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



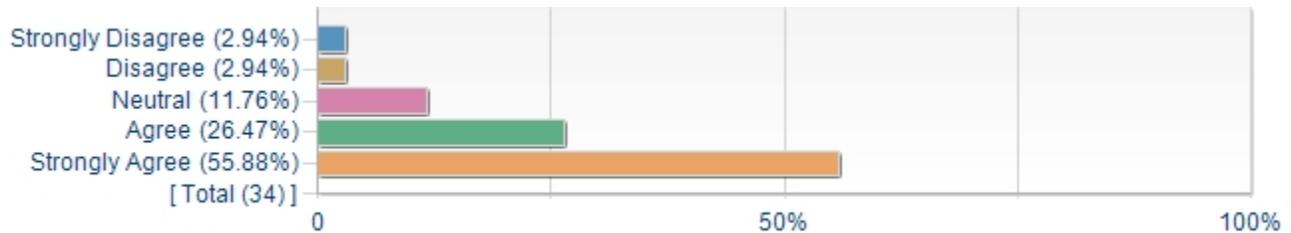
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.38
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.89

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.18
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.45

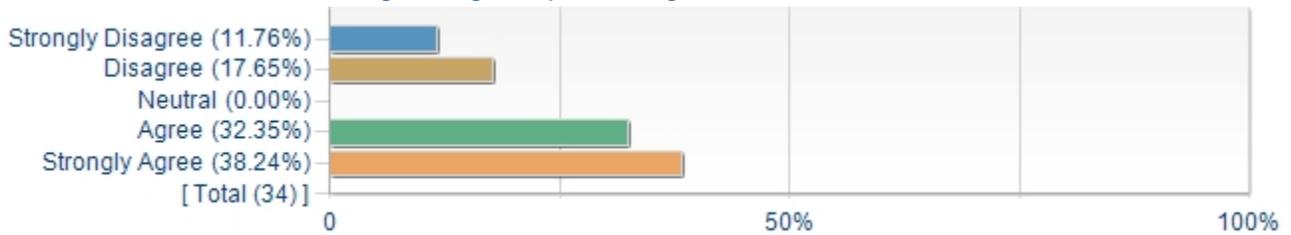
3. The instructor's communication skills (volume, enunciation, speed, tone, vocabulary) are appropriate for the course.



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.29
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.00

## Instructor Communication (continued)

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

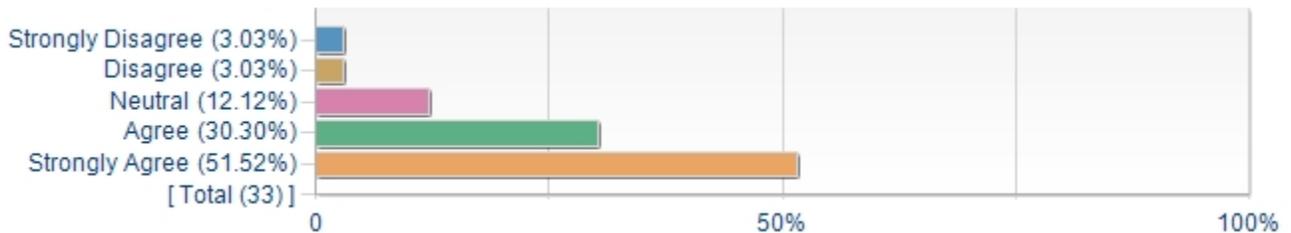


Statistics	Value
Mean	3.68
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.45

## Knowledge and Expertise



## Knowledge and Expertise



Statistics	Value
Mean	4.24
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.00

## Course Organization

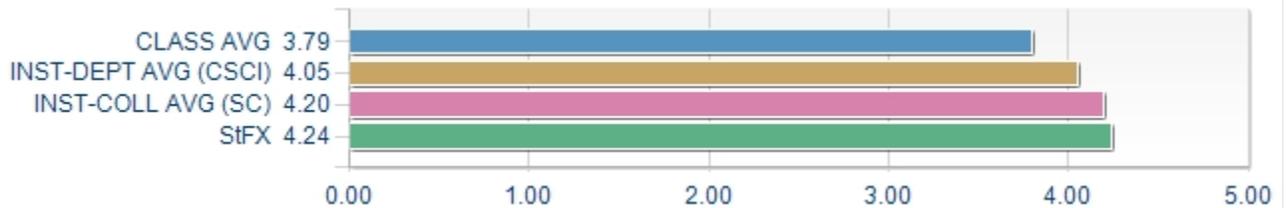
### Overall



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



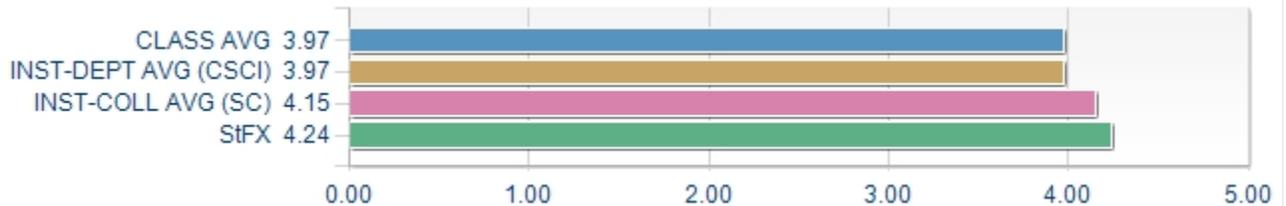
2. The instructor adheres to the criteria for assessment and evaluation as described in the course outline.



3. The course material is well organized.



4. The instructor is available for consultation outside of class



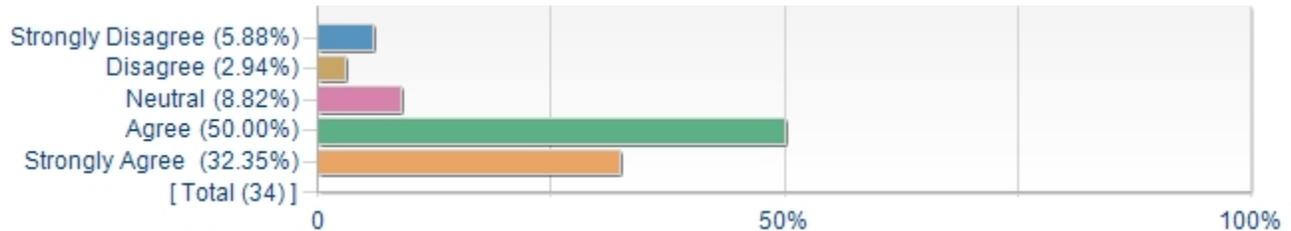
5. I would recommend this course to fellow students.



## Course Organization

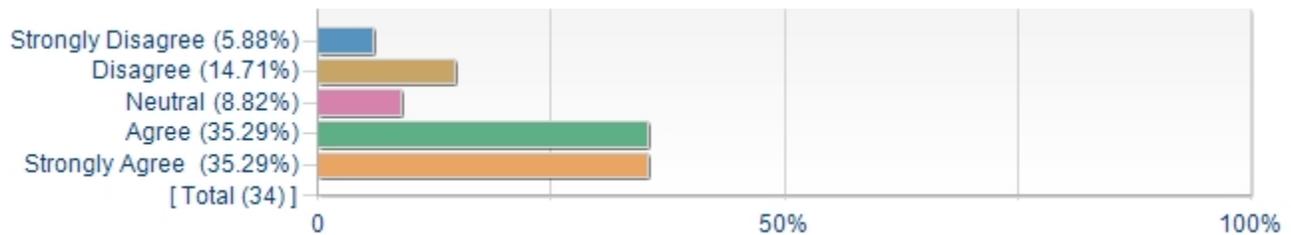
Overall	Value
Mean	3.86
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.12

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



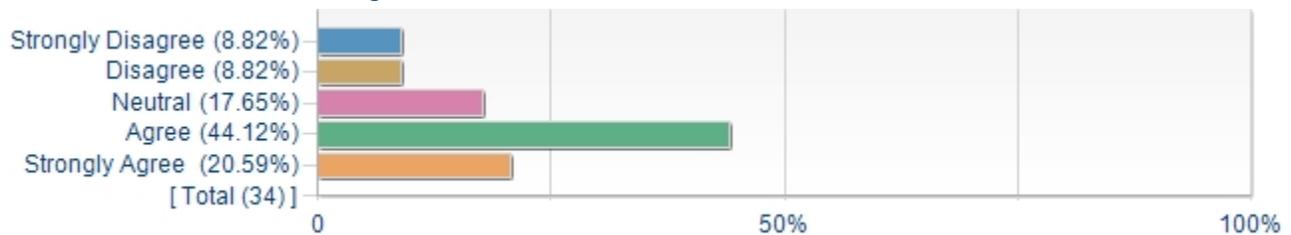
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.04

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



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.79
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.25

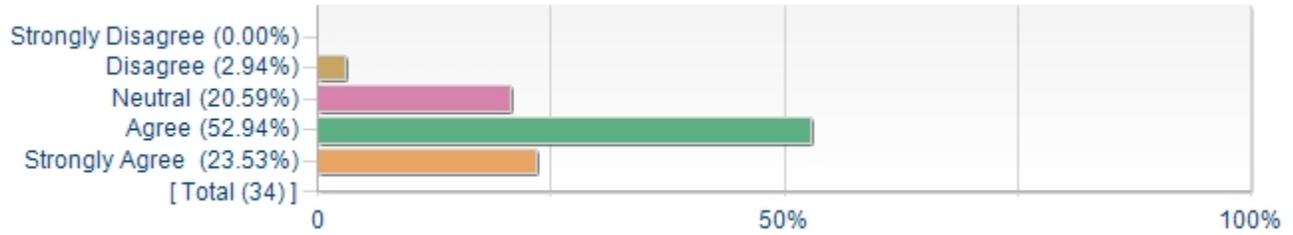
3. The course material is well organized.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.59
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.18

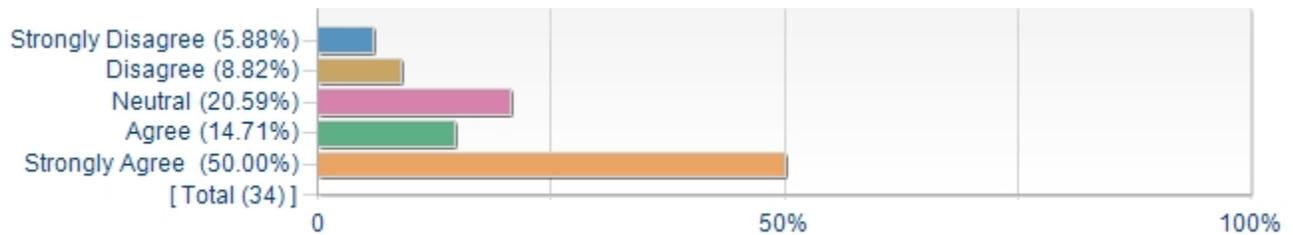
## Course Organization (continued)

4. The instructor is available for consultation outside of class



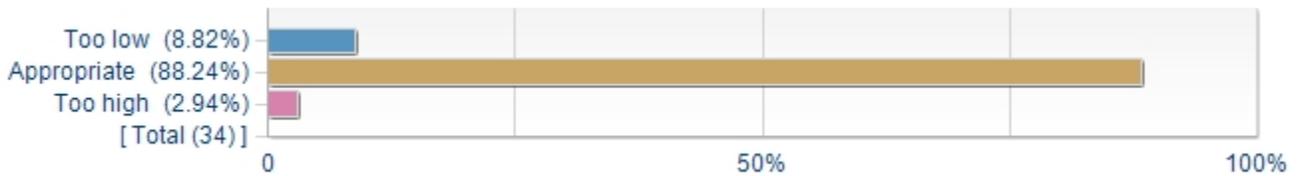
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.97
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.76

5. I would recommend this course to fellow students.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.94
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	1.28

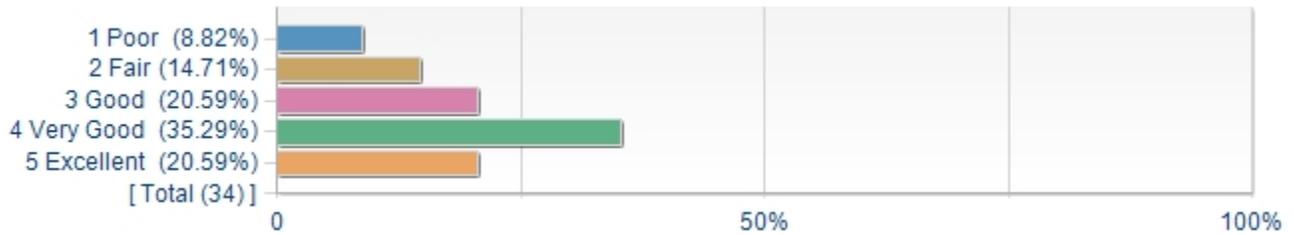
**The amount of material covered in this course is:**



**I would describe this course as:**



**I would describe this course as:**



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.44
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.24

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

Comments
The best aspect of this course is the seminar. I believe professor Hughes does a really good job directing our discussions with prompts and gives us the freedom to explore topics on our own.
Interesting discussions.
James made the class very enjoyable. I enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere.
Lecture slides
Different projects and assignments, I enjoyed the variety of the course.
James is very enthusiastic about the topics and really engages with students and the way he structures his class by putting them in groups with people they don't know is great. He seems like he really enjoys talking about the subjects we cover and makes the boring ones a little bit more interesting.
The content was really interesting, and the way the course was set up (to be discussion based) really complimented the material well. Especially with CS 215 being a night class and all, it really helped make the lectures more stimulating.
This course feels a lot like a sociology course for people that may not be interested in taking more arts-driven courses. James does a great job at keeping students engaged in the material and encourages people to look deeper into subjects that they find interesting.
James is very enthusiastic and this made the night class much more engaging.
Very enthusiastic and entertaining while still educating – which is very good and very tough to do in a night class
There is a lot of discussion and promotion of working in groups
Discussion based activities
enthusiastic instructor, knowledgeable in the course. I enjoyed the presentations, allowed students to be creative and find their own issues
The professor was very enthusiastic and engaging in teaching course material.
Instructor was very excited and into the material being taught.
Very passionate; cared about everything he was talking about
Interesting topics, very engaging
Lots of opportunities to discuss and apply your own knowledge
–knowledgeable – entertaining – discussion oriented
This course topic is interesting
This course is very current and relevant. The subjects are new and exciting and make for good conversation. I like the way the course is set up with content and discussion makes for a unique course that helps us students apply skills for future employment. The mark breakdown makes sense for the way this course is set up and isnt too heavy on testing
One night a week was great, this class works best as a night class
I don't see any good aspects at all.
1) the discussions 2) the topics covered
They managed to make a 3.5 hour night course interesting, and not something you dread going into. it seems to go by faster than a normal 1.25 hour class
The open-ended lectures and group discussion aspect of this course compliment the material very well. James does an excellent job with keeping things structured while also making the class feel more like a fun group conversation rather than a Wednesday evening class. I'd definitely recommend James for this course.
Very interactive class. James is a very enthusiastic and always open for discussion. Had a great time in this class :)
The material was very interesting and the professor taught it in an interesting way

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

Comments
I think there should be more of a structure to re note taking portion of the course. I find it hard to keep up with notes while also listening to the professor and my classmates during our discussions.
Organized content, more applicable technological use.
The marking scheme was pretty harsh, I had really bad anxiety that my work was not going to be good enough.
The time block.
Be a little be more organized when it comes to getting the information and expectations out to the students.
I think the outlines for the reports and other submitted work were a little vague, which was intended, but it would have been nice to have been provided with a few examples of a 'good' report just to make sure I was on the right track. Also, the Marker and the Instructor weren't on the same page with how the reports were supposed to be, as Dr. Hughes said they didn't need to be overly formal, but the marker deducted points for using contractions... Also, we didnt get any specific feedback on why our reports received the grades they did so I was difficult to correct ourselves.
Professor didn't take his job seriously and often joked about how he was unprepared for class lectures, there was almost no requirements for any assignments so you had to guess what he wanted and hope it was good enough. He also changed the due dates for the assignments several times which made it very confusing to what material they were supposed to cover.
Professor Hughes will fully admit to the class that he does most of the course content "on the fly" and will sometimes be working on powerpoint slides minutes before class starts. Though it is understandable that this can occur due to the fact that he has other classes that consist of a heavier computer science material as well as his work outside of teaching.
Instructions for assignments are unclear at times and the breakdown of the grades are unclear. Many students are unsure what the concrete grading scheme looks like or were unsure if new criteria was added when grading but wasn't originally required of the students. TAs are slow to return report grades.
Be more clear in expectations of students when it comes to things like the reports, I know this was the first time teaching the class but the tough rules about hand-ins were a bit intimidating and unclear or changing
If the prof could explain assignments more clearly and stick to what is on the syllabus it would improve this course greatly
I lost 10 percent of my grade because I assumed I could hand things in based on the due dates outlined on the syllabus, i might fail because of this.
syllabus was changed mid semester regarding the report due dates. a little frustrating
Clearer plan for course outline
Would have liked to do more stuff to do with the computer science world
There was an alarming amount of threats from the prof about penalty for academic misconduct. While I respect being strict on that it introduced an unnecessary amount of anxiety about submitting anything. I have never in my life cheated on anything in my life but each time I went to submit something on Moodle I could physically feel my heartrate increase for fear of accidental plagiarism or something of the like. I brought this up to my group members and they all shared the same feelings.
nope
mark the assignment by instructor himself. Don't ask student assistance to do that
In the beginning some things were a little unclear as he developed the course, but communicating information was effective for clarifying any issues. At times I was concerned about academic misconduct, but it was made clear many times how not to do it.
N/A
Please do not tell us the midterm syllabus 2 days before the midterm that happened after the whole study break. Not fair to students at all and it's ridiculous.
Submitting report is also chaotic and a mess. Should be marked by the prof himself rather that some random TA, gave 0 on readability with me getting full marks for all arguments, clearly simply wants to mark me down.

**Comments**

The outlines for assessments could be laid out more thoroughly

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

No

N/a

I think the professor put so much of a focus on the beginning of the year that everyone (My entire group for sure) were terrified of submitting anything. Nobody in my group plagiarized but we were all paranoid that maybe we incorrectly cited something or just made a mistake and the professor spend well over 20 minutes talking about how he'd try to get us expelled and give us -100% if we were to get caught. That kind of fear mongering isn't necessary considering the people who actually plagiarize their work know full well the potential consequences of their actions. It just makes everyone else scared to submit things. Also the professor could be a little more compassionate towards his students. One class I asked for an extension on an assignment (only a one day extension at that... It's not like the assignments were getting marked the moment they got turned in), and the prof said no without even letting me finish my sentence as to why I thought I needed the extra time. In all my time at STFX, I have NEVER been turned down for an extension (I dont ask unless I think it is justified) and I know many of my friends who are in that same boat. Most of the professors here, in my experience, would prefer to have their students spend a little bit of extra time to produce quality work, than to throw something together last minute. I think that dynamic is something that makes STFX special and not like other schools, and I strongly believe that professors knowing and caring about their students success should be a standard here, unlike schools where class sizes exceed 200 people.

No

Prof has no sympathy for students, you have a problem, go fuck yourself

great youtube videos. Participation worth 30% was a great way to engage students in the topics covered

This was a great course and I would encourage any student to take this course.

good class

Love the class. Most days the last hour it was hard to pay attention because of the time slot and pacing of the course

nope

The class is interesting I don't think I will take anymore class from this instructor never

I've enjoyed being in James Hughes class and have gained a lot of new knowledge which I feel will benefit me in the future. He is always open to the opinions and ideas expressed in class

N/A

I regret taking this course. It wasted my time.

since there were peer evaluations I felt a small amount of pressure to speak on topics that I felt I didn't really have much to say / contribute

No actual comments/feedback on our 4 submitted reports. Mistakes or questionable things highlighted but nothing clearly expressed to help with the following reports

See his FAQ page and ask yourself if any of that is appropriate