

Instructor: **Jamieson, Alan**
Subject: **CS**
Catalog & Section: **5002 18**
Course ID: **37692**
Objectives:

Enrollment: **27**
Responses Incl Declines: **17**
Declines: **0**

Instructor Related Questions: Alan Jamieson (20 comments)

Q: What were the strengths of this course and/or this instructor?

- 1 great enthusiasm, patience, good explanations, availability, flexibility
- 2 Enthusiastic and clear on communication!
- 3 I really liked Alan. He was super passionate and knowledgeable about the topic and clearly really cares about the Align program which really energized the class. I felt like he came in prepared every single week, was funny, personable and was an effective professor. He did a great job at highlighting how exciting and interesting discrete math could be and I felt like he did an awesome job talking about potential application while still keeping the math parts central. Overall, I learned a lot from this course, the material was challenging and it was fun to work through it both in class and out. With a different professor this topic could have been very dry and very hard to approach. I really liked Alan
- 4 Alan is a truly good teacher, capable of adjusting his style from student to student in order to facilitate learning, a real skill. Also ZyBooks is fantastic!
- 5 i like Alan's personality.
- 6 The strengths of this course were the knowledgeable instructor that provided excellent learning materials and informative points during the class along with the discord
- 7 Encouraged asking questions
Availability
- 8 Very enthusiastic and obviously knowledgeable on the subject.
- 9 Dr Alan was extremely passionate about the subject, He simplified all the concepts specifically for non-math students.

Q: What could the instructor do to make this course better?

- 1 ??
- 2 Less remote classes if possible
- 3 This isn't something Alan can control but is more feedback for the university: I wished that Alan didn't have to travel on recruiting trips so much while teaching. When he did travel Alan worked really hard to make sure we got as good of an experience as we could get with him not being on the ground and I really valued that. However, it would be nice if there were fewer recruiting trips. Again, I would like to reiterate not a criticism of Alan I just don't know where else to provide this feedback to Northeastern.

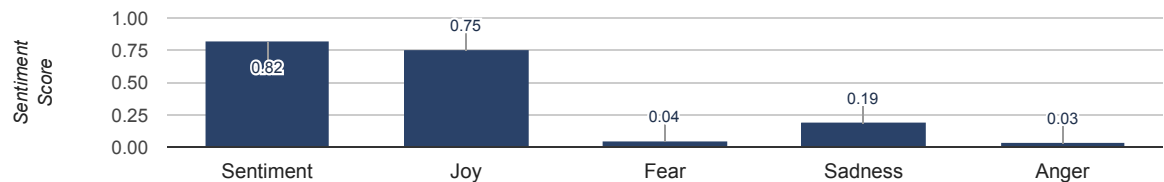
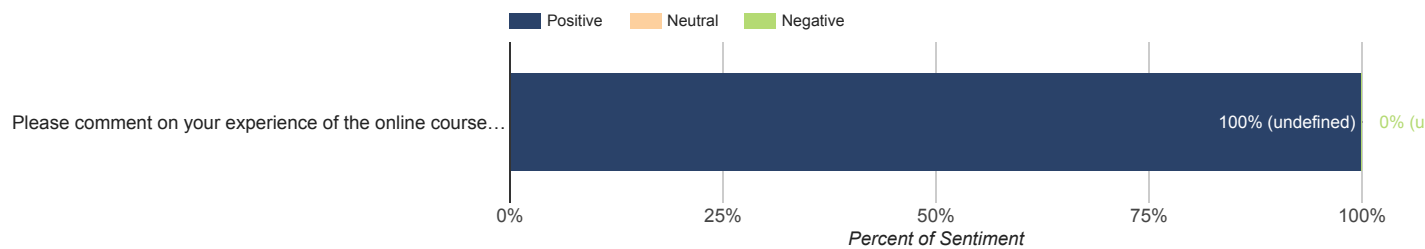
My biggest piece of course criticism (I'm probably alone on this) is I really disliked the required ZyBooks textbook. On principle, I dislike the licensed textbook you need to buy to complete course materials. Additionally, I found that the problems in the ZyBooks were easy to do without knowing the material. I don't really know how well I can articulate this but it felt a lot like standardized tests. Basically, I felt like I could do well on them because of the format not the content.
I much preferred the optional resources which were fantastic. Basically, if the ZyBooks were optional and we had to do shorter problem sets in the style of the quizzes I would have much preferred that. I learned a lot from the quizzes because the problems could be difficult and were generally comprehensive. Working through them could take awhile but generally I had to go in and work through the topics and come to a full understanding to complete them which was often challenging but a great learning tool!
- 4 nothing
- 5 From my point of view, it could be perfect to have a final exam instead of a project to evaluate students' knowledge. However, team projects should be implemented during the semester as well
- 6 More assessments focusing on the application of concepts to practical problems with feedback on worked problems.

Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.

- 1 Alan is great and patient when the student (me!) struggled to understand something. Also was very flexible about deadlines when there were mistakes, things came up, etc - it greatly reduced stress!
- 2 Has dedication in making sure we understand.
- 3 Alan is great! I have no complaints at all about his teaching style. I thought he was a fantastic professor.
- 4 Again, the ability to pivot and adjust his style to individuals is a real talent!
- 5 I found the course to be accessible to me despite not having a strong or recent mathematics background.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (6 comments)

Q: Please comment on your experience of the online course environment in the open-ended text box.



- 1 TAs were great in person but didn't really make it easy for remote attendees (forgetting to unmute the room, for example) ★★★★★
- 2 Very useful resources and easy navigation ★★★★★
- 3 I prefer in-person but the online components of this course were effective ★★★★★
- 4 Online portion of this class was fantastic, ZyBooks is one of the best platforms I've used in schooling to date ★★★★★
- 5 It was an excellent opportunity to have this course Hybrid and I could manage my time to take advantage of the lecture out of using being on campus ★★★★★
- 6 The course was organized well and all online components were easy to access. I typically attended class in person, but on the occasions I joined remotely the only downside was a lack of discussion in the breakout rooms. To remedy this I would recommend that the professors or TAs make appearances in breakout sessions to promote and guide discussion. ★★★★★☆

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (3 comments)

Q: What I could have done to make this course better for myself.

- 1 take better notes
- 2 Give myself more time to manage full-time schedules
- 3 More practice problems