

Instructor: **Cantrell, Gary**
Subject: **CS**
Catalog & Section: **5520 04**
Course ID: **40246**
Objectives:

Enrollment: **21**
Responses Incl Declines: **12**
Declines: **0**

Instructor Related Questions: Gary Cantrell (17 comments)

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

- 1 Dr. Cantrell is a fair and open teacher who clearly cares about his students. He has an infectious enthusiasm for the subject matter. The assignments were well chosen and didn't feel like busywork.
- 2 The professor fostered a positive learning environment, and he displayed a lot of enthusiasm for the course.
- 3 The topic of Mobile Application Development is a monolith, and a quickly evolving one at that. This course benefits immensely from dividing its time between lecture and in class workshops. Helping hammer home the concept and see where students struggled.

The discussion items and examples were also up-to-date and relevant. Impressive since some examples in our textbooks were already depreciated despite being barely a year old.

I appreciated the challenging nature of the course subject. It felt good to focus on coding something and building a large end of semester project. After several courses of theory and basics it felt like letting loose!
- 4 The ICEs were the right size and helpful.
- 5 Demos given the class are the best part. They might be very small weekly activities but gained a lot from all the demos.
- 6 Dr. Cantrell is great. He is professional, funny, and balances lectures and in-class exercises well. I enjoyed the in-class exercises and the opportunity they provided to explore concepts, break things, and understand how to fix them.
- 7 In class exercises as opposed to slide deck style teaching.

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

- 1 A lot of our class time was spent doing programming labs. The labs themselves were useful, and a hands-on class is definitely preferable to nothing but lecture, students who finished the in-class exercises early mostly cooled their heels until others finished. I also think the course will naturally improve, as this was Dr. Cantrell's first time teaching it and we were all on the shakedown cruise together.
- 2 Several homework assignments felt cumbersome large, taking up more than their fair share of out of class work time. Perhaps having assignments built on one another rather than starting from a blank slate each week could help?
- 3 The order of the modules could be moved around a bit.
- 4 I wish we worked on kotlin to keep up with the current market requirements
- 5 I liked the discussion around app design and intent. I think choosing an App to discuss each week-ish could generate some interesting conversations. You could talk about what UI componenets are being used, how the UI is laid out for ease of use, etc.

The idea of addiction seemed to be very offputting for people, "engagement" sounds a little less intense and hits the same notes.
- 6 Teach kotlin and/or Flutter (more modern than Java although it was nice to brush up on my Java knowledge).

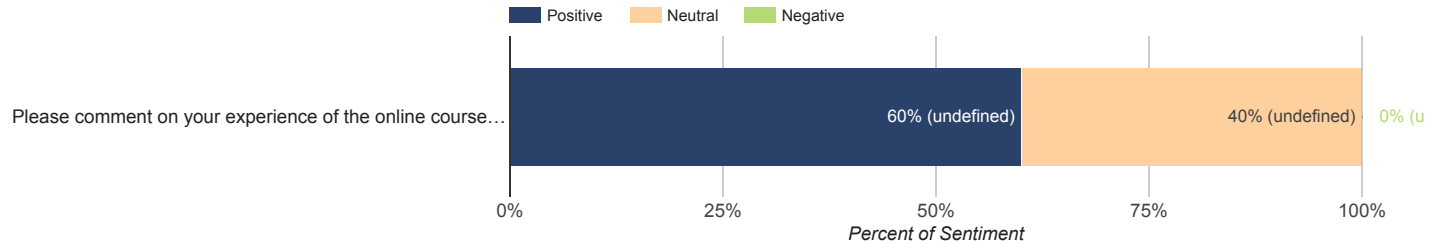
Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.

- 1 Dr. Cantrell is respectful of all students.
- 2 The professor used class time effectively, and gave us informative In-Class activities for enhancing our understanding of concepts.
- 3 Dr. Cantrell approached this course with excitement and enthusiasm. He made it clear from the start of the semester this would be his first go at teaching this topic, so there may be hiccups. I personally appreciate the heads up and set expectations well, particularly since those expectations were exceeded.

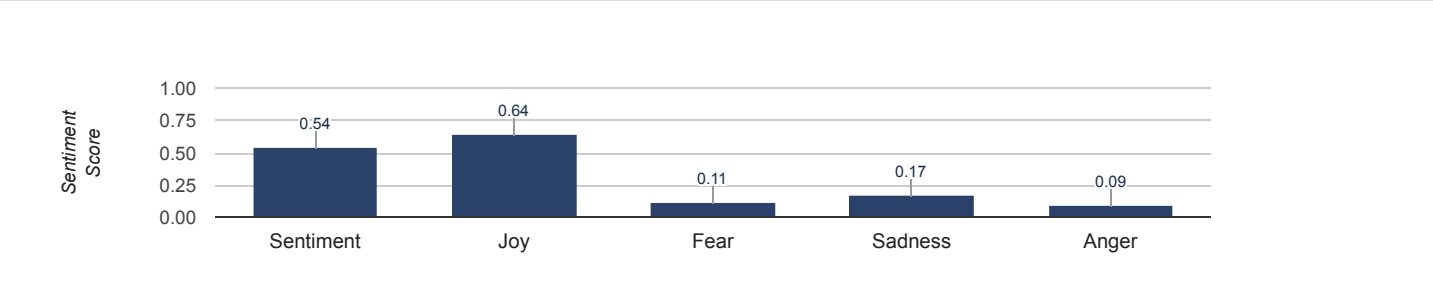
The assignments were challenging, and the resources informative. Considering how big mobile development is these days I'd recommend this class to anyone in earshot.
- 4 Dr. Cantrell makes learning fun. No additional notes.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (5 comments)

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



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- 1 This course has been enjoyable and informative. I learned a lot. ★★★★★
- 2 The online videos I found helpful, if the professor is considering removing them I might suggest replacing them with other video based examples.

Well organized module structures with plenty of information. ★★★★★
- 3 I have taken the offline course ★★☆☆☆
- 4 The online experience was great. Dr. G kept things organized and tidy. I particularly appreciated the reading notes and weekly reading questions. There are so many parts to mobile development, highlighting the key concepts each week was very helpful. ★★★★★
- 5 Did not partake, but saw how it was operated and it looked healthy. ★★☆☆☆

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (7 comments)

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

- 1 If I had time, I would have liked to do more supplemental reading.
- 2 I could have been more consistent, and managed my time effectively.
- 3 Read through the documentation, don't skim it otherwise you will be revisiting the page repeatedly. And write some notes!
- 4 Work on the project earlier in the semester
- 5 The main concepts are covered after the mid sem. It would have been better if at least few main topics like firebase would have started little early to use them in the final projects.
- 6 Taken time to think things through before diving in and starting my projects. I spent a lot of time restarting and refactoring code because I didn't fully understand what I was doing until I ran into enough errors for things to "click".
- 7 NA