

Instructor: **Shivers III, Olin**Subject: **CS**Catalog & Section: **6410 01**Course ID: **34140**

Objectives:

Enrollment: **26**Responses Incl Declines: **13**Declines: **0**

Course Related Questions (7 comments)

Q: Please comment on the strength and/or weakness of the required textbook/course materials.

- 1 The textbook and provided files are out of date.
- 2 The textbook was very easy to read and I appreciated how closely the course followed the book and the projects in a linear manner. I dont think I've ever appreciated or enjoyed the textbook in a course as much as this one.
- 3 -
- 4 This course was basically learning the textbook with in-class deep explanations. More in-class examples or after-hours/digitally-posted examples are needed to prepare for the exams.
- 5 Have to read the textbook multiple times, but that's because it is difficult material
- 6 The course textbook was invaluable in completing the course. The format provided by Amazon Ebooks is terrible though and if given the opportunity I would have returned it and found another e-reader
- 7 while generally the book is very good, it would benefit with some option to get answers for some of the "end of the chapter practice". It is very hard to make sure that we really understood the material.

Learning Related Questions (5 comments)

Q: Please comment on the strengths of this course and/or ways to improve this course.

- 1 This was by far the best course I have ever taken. It combined knowledge from many other courses and applied it all in a concrete, tangible way. Since the phases of the compiler are largely discrete, we were able to do a deep dive into many different topics while getting a great breadth of knowledge as well. The assignments did require a fair amount of time and work, but they were interesting and very satisfying. Building up to a full working compiler at the end of the semester is such a satisfying goal and end product. I cant recommend this course highly enough.
- 2 -
- 3 Very interesting course, but some times it is hard to connect the theoretic knowledge to implementing it in projects. Setting up the environment for the projects was not trivial.
- 4 This course taught me a lot. I left a lot to the last minute, but in the end I pulled the work together.
- 5 Most of the time used for doing the homework was actually trying to get the environment and tools to run. The documentation for ML and tools is lacking.

Instructor Related Questions: Olin Shivers III (7 comments)

Q: Describe instructor's strengths, areas for improvement, and any additional comments.

- 1 Professor Shivers ran a great course. His lectures are always interesting and his passion for the topics was always clear. His exams and expectations were extremely fair. This is the best course I've taken at Northeastern and Professor Shivers is definitely a major factor in that. I would highly recommend taking any course with Professor Shivers, but especially this one.
- 2 -
- 3 Class was very helpful, impossible to succeed without it. Piazza could be better used to answer questions, not just "encourage discussion".
- 4 Prof. Shivers was a great instructor. Lectures were always fun and engaging, very useful for the coursework, and contained lots of great information on compiler technology in general
- 5 Good use of supplementary stories and experiences
- 6 Great professor, great lectures. I wish we could get faster feedback, or some questions with answer so that we can test ourselves over the material and make sure we are correct.
- 7 Olin is a fantastic teacher, and his passion for the subject really shows. He stated that compilers is his favorite subject, and his passion for it really shows. I would highly recommend this course.