Computer Systems (Fall 2023)

Instructor: **Hamandi, Lama**
Subject: **CS**
Catalog & Section: **5600 06**
Course ID: **20293**
Objectives:

Enrollment: **31**
Responses Incl Declines: **22**
Declines: **0**

Instructor Related Questions: Lama Hamandi (16 comments)

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

1	Professor Lama explained every concept clearly and with examples which helped me to understand. The discussion and Oral Synthesis sections are beneficial.
2	Hi, I'm Xinyi Liu. The CS5600 Computer Systems course has been quite challenging for me. I decided to take this course because, during my summer internship at Pixelberry Studios, my manager, Jacky, mentioned that he had previously worked at Microsoft as a general software engineer, specializing in kernel-level coding. Throughout the course, I gradually grasped concepts that Jacky had previously mentioned during my internship. These included learning to write assembly language within the kernel, understanding distinctions between Python and C programming languages, comprehending how programming functions call other functions in the stack, and managing error swallowing and return values. While the content mentioned above aligns with my initial reflections, I opted to include them in this final reflection, as they underscored my motivation to delve into computer systems. As I progressed in the course, I gained a deeper understanding of a question asked during a past interview: "Explain how data structures/algorithms work, and explain data structure with daily life examples." Before taking the computer systems course, I could only offer examples of practicing LeetCode questions lol. However, the course provided insights into the necessity of studying algorithms. In Module 3, synchronization utilized various data structures and algorithms to design locks, preventing deadlocks and ensuring proper thread functionality. Module 5, virtual memory, employed FIFO, Random, and LRU algorithms to implement page-replacement policies, determining which page to evict from the cache. This course serves as an advanced application of knowledge acquired in algorithm and object-oriented programming courses to real-world scenarios. One of the most rewarding aspects of the course was gaining a better understanding of my manager's advice during my internship regarding writing code more effectively in real-world codebases. This proved especially valuable when dealing with extensive code and packages interacting with each other. Additionally, I developed a deeper comprehension of the importance of studying math and algorithms as prerequisites. The course illuminated why big tech companies emphasize algorithm questions in their interview selection process, as these concepts form the fundamental components of the operating system and all software applications, playing a crucial role in their development. In conclusion, the Computer Systems course has been a rich learning experience. I extend my gratitude to Professor Lama. Despite your strict attendance policy (which cost me some points lol), your dedication as a teacher stands out compared to others who may prioritize convenience. I genuinely learned a lot, and I believe this course will contribute significantly to my growth as a future general software engineer.
3	The subject knowledge and the detailed theoretical explanation.
4	knowledge is important
5	lecture is very good
6	Instructor taught very well, so well that it was easy to understand the concepts in class and no need to go back home and search online to learn
7	Dr.Lama is a very patient and knowledgeable professor and answering all questions I raised in class or by emails. I really appreciate that.
8	discussions are really helpful for us to understand the key points

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

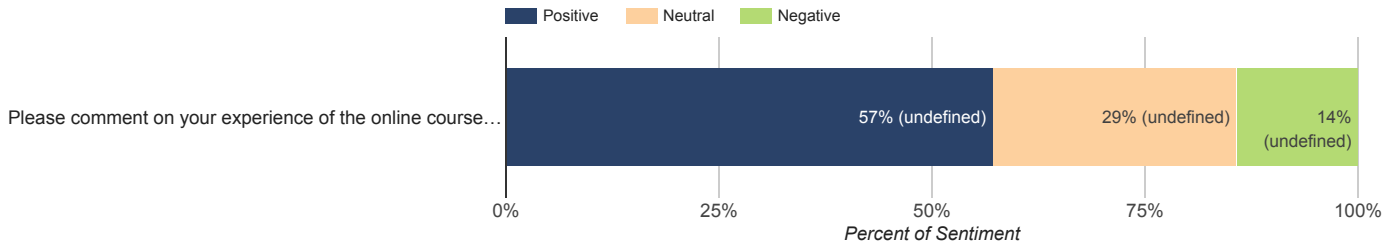
1	Professor Lama had tried her best to teach this course. I really appreciate her hard work.
2	There could have been more practical coding assignments.
3	do more in-person class
4	N/A
5	Give two breaks in class instead of 1, to maintain the concentration level throughout
6	I am not sure about that, but I believe Dr. Lama already did a really good job in class to help us get ideas for each topic.

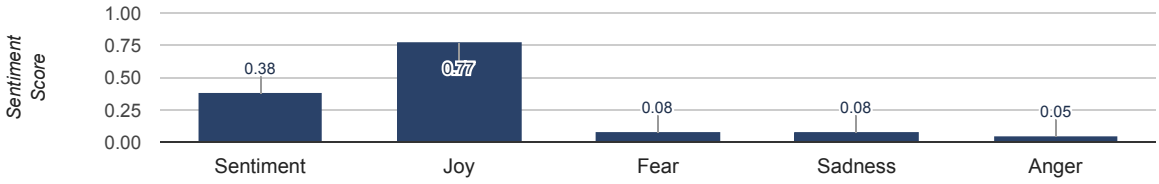
Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.

1	post grade early
2	So far so good

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (7 comments)

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





1	The professor was not that much interested in teaching★★★☆☆
2	Experience is good. Materials are very helpful.★★★★★
3	online class is not very good★☆☆☆☆
4	This is an on-ground class.★★★☆☆
5	good★★★★★
6	Dr. Lama always prepare the learning materials and video recordings well for us to navigate and review. Appreciate that!★★★★★
7	materials are well organized★★★★★

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (5 comments)

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

1	Read the textbook material seriously.
2	There could have been more practical coding assignments.
3	post the score earlier and more time to communicate
4	I could have read the material before the lecture more thoroughly so I can have a better understanding of the lecture.
5	I have tried my best to read additional textbooks to help me to understand the course materials better. Not sure what I can do more.