

Instructor: **Toutiaee, Mohammadhossein**Subject: **CS**Catalog & Section: **5002 35**Course ID: **20267**

Objectives:

Enrollment: **37**Responses Incl Declines: **31**Declines: **0**

Instructor Related Questions: Mohammadhossein Toutiaee (41 comments)

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

- 1 I like to use zybook to study, it's absolutely one of the best way to study for me
- 2 This course was a challenging course and it allowed for critical thinking.
- 3 The online textbook is great.
I like that the homework are labelled with zybook module number, which helps me to review formula and concepts when necessary.
I like that the prof uses iPad pen on his slides, and that he provide steps in slide for most of the in-class problems.
- 4 The curriculum itself is really good, and I am confident that I will use the concepts I've learned in my master's program. Towards the end of the semester, I observed that he was also more receptive to feedback from students. The TAs were a great resource for me as well. I also like that we did a flipped classroom approach, it helped me go at my own pace before attending the lectures.
- 5 The instructor explained basic concepts very well with detailed examples.
- 6 Fundamental to future work.
- 7 nothing
- 8 The teaching materials are very useful. There are many participation exercises in the book which are very helpful.
- 9 Very responsive via email
- 10 He speaks with appropriate pace and proper voice. Which makes his voice easier to understand than other instructors
- 11 Zybooks contained all the information necessary to succeed in this course
- 12 good foundation
- 13 The instructor has a well-organized course structure.
- 14 good interactions; a lot of in-class activities

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

- 1 maybe spend too much time on in-class exercise and did not finish a lot of questions
- 2 The instructor could do better by answering questions that students have in in-class activities and mid-term directly, instead of letting other students answer the question of a student. Most of time we all don't know what's correct and other student's answer is misleading us. Many questions are in general that we all have, so it's better that instructor go through those, for example, the common mistakes in mid-term, we need to know what's correct to improve, that's why we attend class. But now the course is finished and we still don't get it. We fully depend on TA and other students' answers, but it's better to get clarification from the instructor directly.
- 3 I am a beginner of this program, it is a bit of hard for me to understand and follow. I think it is very good that have the in-class activity, which helps us to understand, but for me, I felt so stressful when the instructor called people to answer randomly.
- 4 There could be more visuals used in the class.
- 5 Make exam review more helpful, give student proper score when they did partially correct in exam, allow opportunities for extra point.
Right now, many other Professors' 5002 classes' students can receive a much more fair grade than students in this class, although they are at similar level of hardworking. (yesterday I heard that: our higher quartile, average grade and lower quartile grade are all roughly 15%~20% lower than other classes in Midterm)
This will put hardworking students in disadvantage and will make them feel disappointed about lots of efforts and time they put on this class.
- 6 I would like the professor to do more varieties of example problems in class so that students can reference them after class and practice more problems on their own. I also would like for the professor to demonstrate a few more problems before students begin doing the exercises.

I also think the formatting of the class can improve. I understand it's hard to structure a class that meets only once a week, but some topics need a lot more time. I would have liked for the lectures to align better with the homework as well.
- 7 To go over some of the homework problems might help students understand the material better.
- 8 Offer more relevant guidance on major exams.
- 9 It could be better if the instructor could teach us to solve some complex parts in this course.
- 10 Deeper explanation of concepts
Better in class examples (especially for challenging topics)
More explanations from the professor himself instead of student solutions
- 11 I think the assignments need to be optimized, Since some of students are studying fast, more teamwork should be assigned to provide the opportunity that students can teach each other, At the same time, more hard and complicated homework can be introduced in to this course, and finally it improve the efficiency of the class.
- 12 Given that we have already read the Zybook chapter before coming to class, it would have been a much better use of time to work on exercises for the chapter to test our understanding. Going over a powerpoint during class that summarizes the Zybook chapter and contains the same examples from Zybook is redundant in my opinion.
- 13 exams should be more related to the content taught in the class and what's covered in the homework
- 14 make course more logic
- 15 make the lecture more interactive

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

- 1 .
- 2

1. The instructor overestimated our ability and didn't explain things in detail. Maybe he thought we "should have learnt that before" but that's not always true. We need to learn them in class, not all by ourselves.

2. The instructor didn't give us enough preparation questions to prepare for mid-term. And the exam is too hard. Our class has an average score much lower than class from other instructors. It's not fair that we have lower quality of class and harder exam.

3. The rating for exam is harsh. If a question is not written completely correct, many students get zero for the question.

4. Instructor forgot to save the notes for Lecture 9 slide "Probability", which means we cannot review it. The instructor was the only one who can edit and save the slides, so we cannot save it ourselves.
- 3

He is smart and inclusive, very encouraging.
- 4

He can't understand the questions we asked on class, also he can't answer the questions clearly. We always feel confused by his answer, instead we have to figure it our by ourselves after class.

Also, his attitude to us is unprofessional. He said he's too tired to answer our questions after class and let us to ask questions at his office hour, but he always change his office hour time, which makes things unconvinient.

At the last final review class, he wastes us 30 minutes because he forced us to write his evaluation. He said he will not start his lecture until most students finished his evaluation.

About the final exam, he choose 3 difficult coding questions, each worth 16 scores, and one of the three is the hard question in leedcode, which is almost impossible for an align student to work out.
- 5

The teaching materials are very useful.
- 6

The professor had a very strong understanding of the material.
- 7

Improvement on topic explanation, this is a program for students with no experience in this field and it needs to be taught in a way for students to understand and be able to keep up.

Original examples would be helpful.

Transparency and an emphasis on more important topics

Explanation of the topics and their connection to CS, sometimes seeing that connection is difficult
- 8

All good.

Please provide extra points opportunities, if the rubric of exams can not be changed.
- 9

Develop more reading material and provide students with them.
- Generally, the instructor is good. But for students want to learn more than average, that is not enough. If the instructor worried that schoolwork may be too hard for some students. After introducing more teamwork, Teaching Assistant should be utilized to assist students teamworks.
- 10

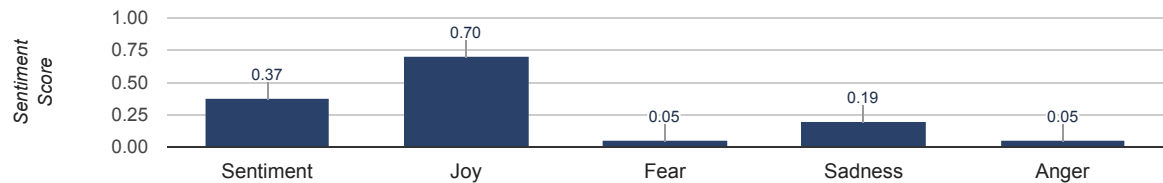
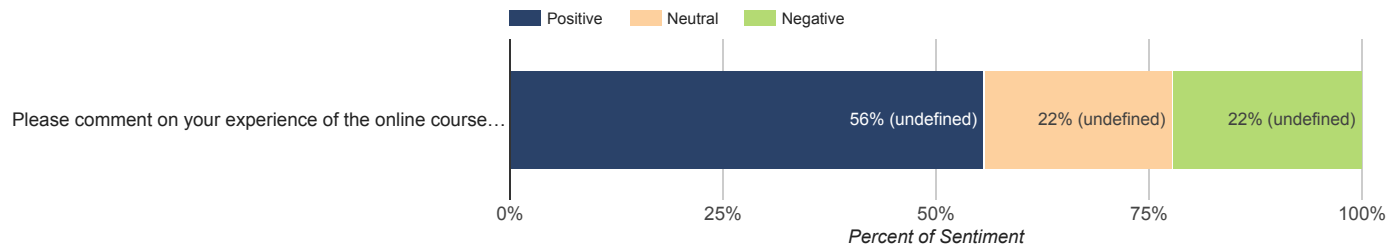
In-class exercises should be the main focus of the class - not going over the chapter that we just read.
- 11

The instructor spends way too much time making students answer questions on knowledge they are limited to, and won't stop until he gets a right answer out of one student. He could of use the time to communicate the right solution and steps. By " too much time", I meant he once did that for more than half of a hour, which creates a sense of he is trying to punish the students for not knowing the contents, adding stress and misleading the students' focus in class. The course contains overwhelming amount of new material for students who just got into this field, I think this is perfectly fine and very helpful but it gets way too hard if the instructor is not being helpful during class nor outside of class. If I do pass the class, I am confident to say that I passed the class because of the quality of zybook (our textbook and material), it provides detail explanation of every concept which the instructor tend to rush through so that he can get to the part where he make everyone answer his questions (in-class exercise).
- 12

good foundation

Questions to Assess Students’ Online Experience (9 comments)

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



- 1 did not take online courses ★★☆☆☆
- 2 The lecture was overall helpful in helping student to build a general understanding of the basic concepts. ★★★★★
- 3 The Zybook material is well- designed with topics and practice questions. However, it would be challenge for students to fully beneficial from the additional questions since we were not provided by the answers. ★★★★★
- 4 Great. ★★★★★
- 5 There was a mix of online and onsite learning ★★★★★

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

6 The question might not apply to this course since this course only have in-person lecture. No online session, no recording.

It does have an online textbook called zyBook, it's well-drafted and tbh it helps me a lot. ★★☆☆☆

7 okay ★★☆☆☆

8 Not really agree with the teaching method and overall course structure. ★★☆☆☆

9 Online materials are well-organized and helpful, but a little expensive. ★★★★★

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (12 comments)

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

1 review well before lecture

2 Practice some of the textbook exercise before going to the lecture could make me better understand the course materials.

3 The amount of hours I spent on this course is fair, including 4-6 hours on homework, 6-10 hours reading on Zybook, 3 hours in class and also 1 hour for some exercises. Overall, I spent 14-20 hours on this class. This is expected.

4 Practice more.

5 spend more time in reading and understanding

6 I did use visuals but I can watch youtube videos as well for concepts that are difficult for me.

7 Organization of study material for exams

8 This course is tough and grading is very stressful. I understand most of the course content but I can barely do anything to help my grade. zyBook is very helpful. I may practice more if it can provide more exercises.

9 Go to TA office hours to check solutions

10 Read more book

11 I wish I had gone to the TAs more often from the beginning of the semester. I started going to office hours with the TAs, who were incredibly helpful.

12 do enough previews and reviews