

Instructor: **Valcourt, Scott**  
Subject: **CS**  
Catalog & Section: **5700 02**  
Course ID: **38501**  
Objectives:

Enrollment: **11**  
Responses Incl Declines: **7**  
Declines: **1**

Instructor Related Questions: Scott Valcourt (11 comments)

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

- 1 Instructor was knowledgeable, he provide us with explanation and concrete real life example of the scenarios.
- 2 Professor Valcourt knows the subject and is excited about the subject. He brings that to every class. In addition, he is empathetic and understanding of students' needs and/or concerns.
- 3 incredibly knowledgeable and eloquently articulate instructor who clearly cares about CS and teaching and is willing to put the time and effort into making sure his students understand the material.
- 4 Professor Valcourt was very enthusiastic about the course material, where he made lectures with even the smallest minutiae
- 5 Instructor knows alot about the subject.  
Instructor is good at presenting information in an engaging way.  
Instructor is happy to answer any questions in-depth.  
Homework assignments were difficult, but very well-designed to maximize learning.

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

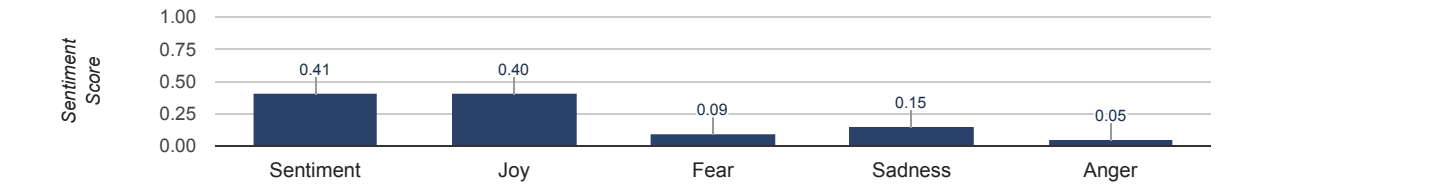
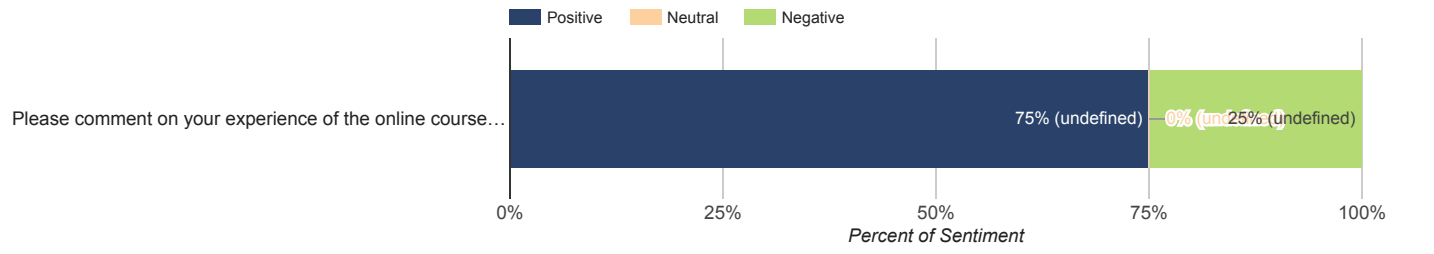
- 1 Maybe invest more time in helping each student solving their homework issues.
- 2 It would have been helpful to have examples of the coding that would end up in the homework assignments. At times it felt like the lectures and the homework were from two separate courses (one talking about the concepts of networking and one focusing on hands-on programming) but there wasn't a great bridge between the two for me.
- 3 I found that the lecture material more or less ran orthogonal to the assignments. I found the assignments very helpful in understanding socket programming and TCP/ns/paper writing/etc in hw 3, but there were a lot of difficult concepts discussed in lecture that I would have appreciated being forced to apply in the form of a programming assignment or something. For example, while I feel that I have a high-level understanding of OSPF, RIP, NAT, DNS, etc -- I wish I could have done more with those in the form of programming or writing or in-class activities or something. To generalize, I think the assignments could have been more in-sync with the lectures and the learning activities a bit more hands-on or interactive.
- 4 A quick primer in class on advice on how to read a published networking paper.
- 5 It would be helpful to see some more exemplar code walkthroughs for the ideal ways to set things up. The client-server starter code was very helpful in this way. It probably would have helped in HW3 to see some example walkthrough even if starter code is not given.  
I would also like to see more feedback on homework assignments for how to improve the code.

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

- 1 While the instructor is adept at presenting material, they could do a bit more to make it more digestible -- i.e. by making sure that students' understand by moving forward to the next slide, by presenting less information in lecture and instead focusing more on the core concepts (leaving the nitty-gritty details to be learned in reading). I would have appreciated more facilitation about what to read beforehand and how to prepare for the lectures that were often very dense and difficult to understand without preparing in some fashion.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (4 comments)

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



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- 1

The course was well organize with enough explanations. i felt like it was an in person class. ★★★★★
- 2

Could have had some more discussions, and would have appreciated some more pair/group assignments throughout the course. ★★★★★
- 3

Great professor to deliver knowledge to students and willing to help students when extreme difficulty that students faced and happened. ★★★★★
- 4

Didn't really get to know anybody in the classroom this semester, but I'm not sure there's much to be done about that in a hybrid class. ★☆☆☆☆

**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

I simply could have spent more time on this course, especially in reading and understanding the assigned research papers, which I found very difficult to understand. I could also have done more 'practice problems' which are almost necessary for me to understand a CS concept fully. However, this semester was a tad hectic for me, so I think I tried my best. Definitely the first grad class that felt like a true grad class in the sense that it was up to me to get as much out of it as possible, given my interests and time constraints.
- 2

Read the papers for each corresponding lecture after the lecture, rather than before.
- 3

I would have liked to go to office hours to get feedback on best practices for the code, but I didn't have time.