

Instructor: **Farahmand Asil, Maryam**
Subject: **CS**
Catalog & Section: **5008 300**
Course ID: **39754**
Objectives:

Enrollment: **35**
Responses Incl Declines: **26**
Declines: **3**

Instructor Related Questions: Maryam Farahmand Asil (33 comments)

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

- 1 no
- 2 strong methmatics background.
- 3 The instructor has absolutely NO passion teaching this course and has no idea what she's teaching.
She didn't spend enough time and energy preparing the course materials, the notes have lots of overlapping with CS5002, no new contents and she's bad at live coding. Live coding only happened a few times and every time it's very lousy and introduces lots of bugs.
Also, the instructor randomly changes the syllabus without notifying the students earlier, often there is lecture contents being skipped and schedules being changed, which caused lots of confusion and trouble.
- 4 Giving examples/
- 5 I like that the instructor will go through the algorithms step by step on the white board.
- 6 the instructor is able to explain the problems clearly, it feels like explaining math problems.
- 7 The instructor covers the material well and clear.
- 8 patient
- 9 the instructor is patient and kind
- 10 This course is very important for us, as many areas of knowledge need to be used when we find our jobs. But I do not think it helps us a lot, as it seems like we still learn something from 5002.

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

- 1 no
- 2 stick to the syllabus and add more difficult algorithm.
- 3 Change the instructor
- 4 less online classes.
- 5 Oakland is a new campus, so the curriculum design needs improvement.
- 6 We had too many online classes this semester.
- 7 Instructor might better plan out the syllabus, there is one module on syllabus that is not taught due to presentation and mock interview, these are not planned ahead. I think mock interview is interesting and I learned a lot in the process of preparing it. But I would appreciate the instructor to have better planning of the course structure in advance. Also there is one final module missing due to the change, I would like to learn addition course material. TAs hours are sufficient.
- 8 The pace of the class could be improved. Feels like some topics were rushed in the later 1/3 of the class.
- 9 manage time better
- 10 I suggest including the topic in the syllabus and discussing it further during lab time to clarify any questions.
- 11 Please don't change the syllabus and exam format two weeks before the final week when there is no fair reasons to do that.
Please don't change the homework instruction on Canvas without notifying students.
Instead of spending whole 3 hours in class solving one to two LeetCode problems, I'd rather learn about important concepts and applications of various data structures and algorithms. I wish we could learn some of the more advanced yet important data structures, such as union find, trie, compression, and concurrency.
- 12 There are too many times instructors change the syllabus or requirements before the deadline. To be honest, it makes me feel confused. I think it is not reasonable.
Also in our syllabus, we need to finish modules 12 and 13 (Concurrency and Compression). These two modules are challenging for me, but I am not sure why they have been canceled.
Maryam was the instructor for 5002 last semester. Last semester, I liked her very much. She has enthusiasm and provides high-quality teaching. But I think 5008 may not fit her. She is good at teaching math-related courses.

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

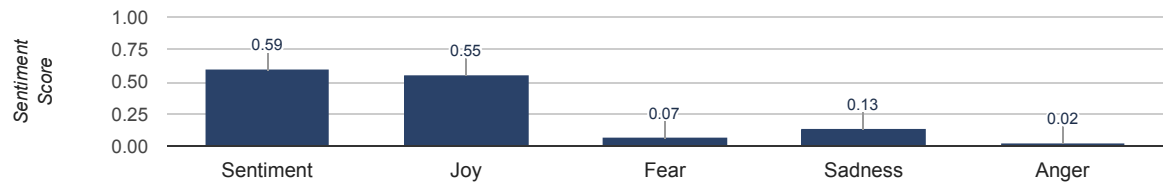
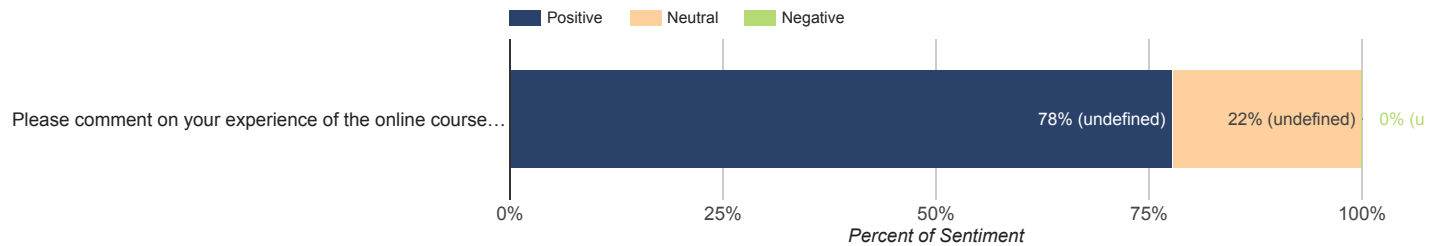
- 1 no
- 2 Stop repeating things you told us before in another class and teach something new and useful (e.g. in the module of greedy algo, instead of spending too much time talking about Dijkstra's algo, which is already covered in another course, I hope you can spend more time on other algos, like the algo to find Eulerian path);
Spend more time on designing challenging and useful lab/homework assignment;
Cover more on C language, implementation and computer system.
- 3 more chanllenging algorithm to teach
- 4 Feels like TAs do more work than the professors.....
- 5 I think it would be great if lab classes could be kept online.
- 6 the instructor gave online modules video to help students prepare for the lecture, she uploaded corse materials and course recording, I like all these forms of study. I would appreciate if the instructor can upload the lab at least half day in advance, so that we have more time to prepare for the lab. The lab problems are usually requiring some time to read and understand. Also lab solutions should be provided after the lab. The instrcutor should have scheduled office hours, it seems like we have to schedule office hours with the professor in person, rather than just follow the office hours stated on the syllabus.
- 7 In-class lectures were very helpful to understand the material because the instructor takes their time to make sure questions are answered, especially on difficult concepts.

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

- 8 patient and kind
- 9 N/A
- 10 She canceled class or switched the class from in-person to online quite often and with short notice. There were a few times some students went to the classroom just to realize the class is not happening there.
There was one final assessment that's said to be released at midnight but ended up being delayed without notice. She replied to students' questions on this issue on Teams channel the next morning saying TAs were not ready.
She sometimes modified the homework instructions on Canvas but did not make announcement on that. Sometimes it's frustrating because she changed it after I submitted my works.
She often left us doing "discussion" problems for 20 minutes for multiple times in class. This makes me lose focus when the question does not require that much time to solve.
The homework assignment sometimes required using something we did not learn in class.
She replies to some Teams message but not all.
- 11 Do not arbitrarily change homework or test requirements

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 Course was challenging ★★★★★
- 2 I really hope it could be released before the class so that I could better prepare for the coming class. ★★★★★
- 3 excellent. ★★★★★
- 4 Online content is more clear and helpful compared with class lectures.... but online videos are very short and dont cover a lot of the details and information, could upload longer videos for studying purpose ★★★★★
- 5 n/a ★★★★★
- 6 The modules are helpful. ★★★★★
- 7 this is on ground course, the professor uploaded the courses notes and video recording online which are helpful for students to review ★★★★★
- 8 The videos were helpful. Having more online materials will be beneficial to supplement the topics covered in class. ★★★★★
- 9 NA ★★★★★

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (11 comments)

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

- 1 communicate with others more
- 2 add more interest in exploring how to use C language to create projects which are favorably for C.
- 3 Teacher is bad and class is not helpful at all....
Need lots of self studying and research outside of class
- 4 Study more
- 5 Reading the whole code more detail.
- 6 I should practice the materials I learned from class for my leetcode preparations.
- 7 as a student I spent more time after class to fully understand each line of code in lab and course. I should review this in a timely manner

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

8 I would go through the materials slower to make sure I really nail down the basics.

9 self study outside the class

10 Do my own research

11 Improve my self-study ability.