#### Intensive Foundations of CS (Fall 2023)

Instructor: Mullen, Anthony Subject: CS Catalog & Section: 500131 Course ID: 20259 Enrollment: **60** Responses Incl Declines: **18** 

Declines: 0

Instructor Related Questions: Anthony Mullen (21 comments)

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

- 1 They are very nice and easy to reach out at email and piazza.
- 2 The professor is helpful and makes everything easy to understand. All the labs and assignments are quite interesting and can boost students' enthusiasm.
- 3 N/A

Objectives

- 4 Clearly communicating the concepts of the knowledge in class
- 5 It is a great course to help beginners get familiar with python and algorithms.
- 6 Tony gave lessons clear and organized. Some of teaching assistants are very responsible and patient to answer out questions. Really appreciate Qifeng Huang and Boyang Liu's work.
- 7 patient and nice

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

- 1 If he/she can lead us building a large backend system.
- 2 I think the professor is really good and nothing needs to improve.
- 3 I have to share my true feelings. I never thought that the courses in the first semester would almost extinguished my enthusiasm to learn CS.

 $I \ would \ not \ doubt \ professor \ is \ a \ very \ nice \ person, however, it \ doesn't \ necessarily \ mean \ that \ he's \ a \ great \ instructor.$ 

As very the first course in the CS align program, in my opinion, the meaning of it is not just equip student with basic programming knowledge, but more importantly, it should act as an encouragement, especially to those group of students who didn't touch much CS before, helping them feel more confident with it, rather than feeling discouraging and ooover-difficulty.

Unfortunately, I do feel so upset and discouraging. Every week, we had at least one huge lab and one huge assignment, and even during the week of exams we need to submit them on time. The workload is truly too much overwhelming, and I had always been struggled with it and burnt out couple of times. Most of the Chinese students were so obedient and too shy to tell, we communicated after class and I believe it was not just me acting or feeling this way and I tried to reflect if we can reduce the course load or adjust the pace, but seemed like no one cared.

At most of the time, the lab's content is far beyond what teacher lectured in class, I truly believe it is necessary for the instructor to spend more time on walking students through the answers of lab assignments, considering TAs were not that knowledgeable and powerful to cover them — yes, the overall grade in class may look good, however, it cannot reflect everything, they would just copy and paste others assignments, or simply use tools like ChatGPT, we never know.

In my opinion, the way to improve students' capabilities and enthusiasm to learn CS is to lead them into this world in a more manageable pace, rather than assigning tons of homework and let them study and figure it out by themselves, we spend tuition to learn.

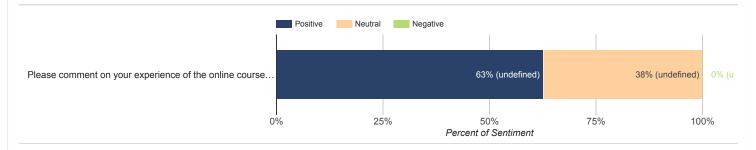
- 4 Provide correct answers and descriptions of the assignments after the submission deadline
- $5 \hskip 5mm \hbox{I hope that more self-learning resources can be offered for us.} \\$
- 6 The workload is too huge and sometimes requires very strict but bluring grading standards, which requires us to devote more time on unnecessary things. And he doesn't consider students' feelings and situations that much.
- 7 The learn speed is a little bit high for those who know nothing about programming.
- 8 slow down would be better

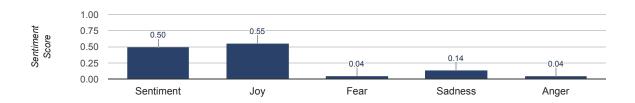
## Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.

- 1 They are really experienced and good at related knowledges about the course.
- 2 N/A
- 3 Provide assistance on assignments
- 4 He should've listened to students' concerns more
- 5 Even though there are six TAs, some of them are working really hard to help while some seems to be not. There happens that TA didn't show up at office hour several times. And it happens that TA wasn't patient to look into my code to understand my logic and find the bug but keep telling me change to another logic. So we always reach out to the ones that are patient and responsible to answer our questions. Sometimes there are too many students reach out to them that I have to wait for a long time. So it is really helpful if we have a higher standard of hiring TAs.
- 6 nice people

# Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (8 comments)

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





- 1 It's pretty good. ★★★★
- 2 The online materials are well organized and convenient to navigate  $\star\star\star\star\star$
- 3 N/A★★★☆☆
- 4 good online materials ★ ★ ★ ★
- 5 Very friendly and helpful.  $\star\star\star\star\star$
- 6 No comments ★★★☆☆
- 7 None★★★☆☆
- 8 nice but a little difficult to catch up for totally new in cs  $\star$   $\star$   $\star$   $\star$

## Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (8 comments)

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

- 1 Focus on each details among different programming languages.
- 2 Mostly I did the lab by myself and seldom communicated with other classmates. I could have talked to other students to share ideas with each other and probably learn from each other.
- 3 N/A
- 4 Taking extracurricular courses
- 5 I should adapt better self-learning methods.
- 6 I worked really hard myself, and I actually want to reduce time effort on this clas.
- 7 Learn the data structure in advance
- 8 it would be better if hw is easier