Instructor: **Veliz, Oscar**

Subject: **CS**

Catalog & Section: **5002 09**

Course ID: **21367**

Objectives:

Enrollment: **38**

Responses Incl Declines: **15**

Declines: **0**

Instructor Related Questions: Oscar Veliz (17 comments)

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

1   n/a

2   Nothing

3   He showed up to class always prepared with the weekly quizzes and weekly in-class assignments but that was about it. He is a kind human being, but a horrible professor/lecturer.

4   The in-class activity and the homework assignments have been highly effective in enhancing my understanding of the course material. Personally, I believe that practical application is the most efficient method of learning.

5   One strength is that it was structurally organized, meaning that every week we could expect the same sort of routine for the class: a weekly quiz, lesson and an activity. This organization in the professor's syllabus helped me with my weekly expectations of the course as well as my planning my studying sessions for the week.

   Another big strength I see with this course is that there were videos specifically made by Northeastern Khoury CS faculty that helped explain course content. These videos were useful to preview and study the material in advance of the lecture so we can deepen our knowledge with repetition of seeing the material various times. Additionally, in case the professor severally lacked in his explanations or examples (which was unfortunately a lot of the time), these module videos were essential to my learning process throughout the entirety of the course. I actually feel like I learned a lot.

   I also appreciated the fast grading on the part of the professor and TAs. This class is not a small class but I felt as if the teaching team (1) graded our assignments at a quick rate and (2) responded our concerns about graded work very quickly.

   Finally I want to thank the professor for his openness to feedback and criticism. He has openly said in our class multiple times that he always welcomes feedback from his students. I felt as if I could openly express my concerns in the class.

6   Prof V was supportive and friendly.

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

1   prepare for the class

2   Encouraging a more open and responsive approach to feedback is recommended. There appears to be a perception that feedback has not been taken seriously, with a sense of disregard for many suggestions. The quizzes and in-class assignments seem to deviate significantly from the material covered, causing confusion among students. Additionally, the delayed release of answer keys has made it challenging to gauge the accuracy of our understanding. Cultural references in problems may not be universally understood, particularly by international students. Concepts appear to be briefly covered, yet students are held accountable for their application without sufficient guidance. Furthermore, addressing mistakes made by the instructor on assignments and quizzes is essential to ensure that students are not unduly burdened with rectifying errors.

3   The professor is friendly and willing to help whenever I send email or ask questions. However, the structure of the class is a little confusing. Every class we spend half-1 hour for the quiz, then ppt, (which I cannot understand very clearly and need to review the whole lecture knowledge thru canvas), then another 1 hour for the practice, but usually we cannot get the practice answer on time to get our own work

4   Come prepared. He made so many mistakes while lecturing which left students often confused. Whenever he was corrected by a student, he would have some kind of excuse as to why he got it incorrect. I would also say less quizzes/in-class assignments and more lecturing. While it is great that we're getting hands-on practice. I think it's ridiculous that out of the whole class time, he spends about 20min - 30 minutes and then the rest of the class time is us just doing constant problems. He also needs to stop trying to make his questions "fun" because they are not fun whatsoever,

5   I believe it would be more beneficial if Prof. Veliz could post the solutions to in-class activities immediately after class. Currently, I only gain certainty in problem-solving at the beginning of the next class, which is too late, as I have already submitted the homework assignment and the quiz is just moments away.
   Additionally, it would be helpful if Prof. Veliz utilized slides during lectures, instead of handwriting notes. This change would make it easier to follow along while taking notes, especially since his handwriting can sometimes be hard to read.

6   Prof V seemed less prepared for the classes sometimes; there were often times when he got confused himself when delivering course materials. There were sometimes disconnections between what was discussed in class and what was tested. Final project seemed extremely extensive, difficult and time-constrained comparing to the day-to-day class materials and assignments and the extent of the project could have been communicated to us in the beginning of the semester so we can be mentally prepared. Some of the homework/quiz questions were obscure or did not have a straight answer. The actual lecturing time was short; majority of class time was spent on quizzing/going over homework questions, which might not be the most efficient way to spend the time in the classroom. Sometimes the classes were less coherent or clear, i.e. the topic/theme of the class was not introduced, making it hard to understand why we were talking about certain topics and how these topics connected to other stuff talked about earlier.

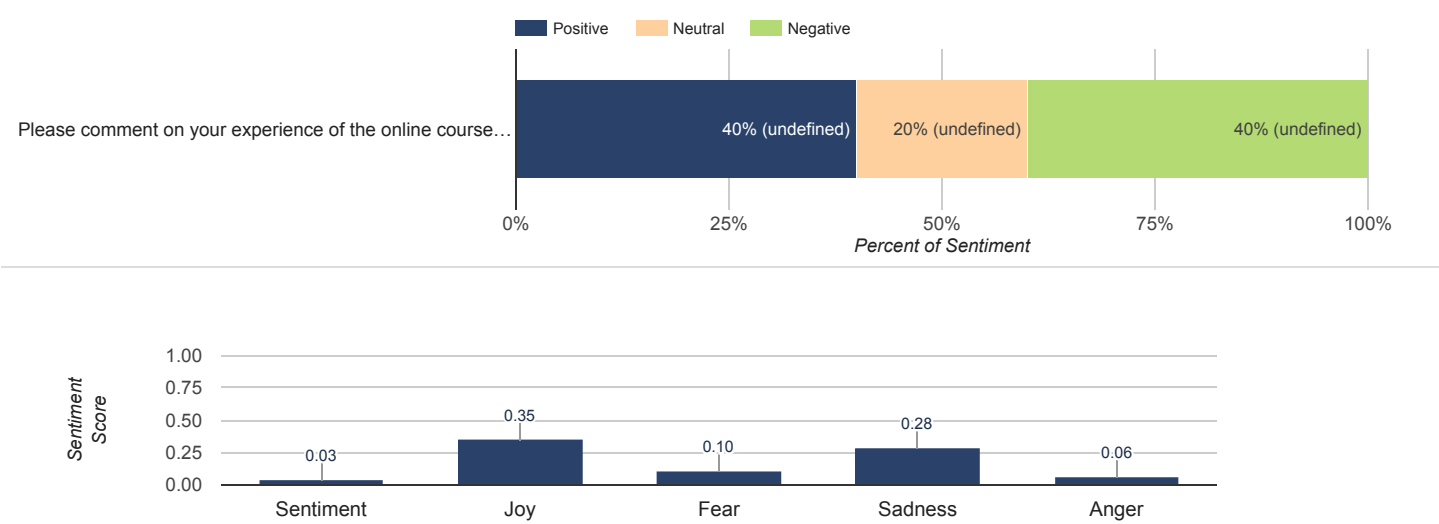### Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.

1   make less mistakes

2   Streamlining content by simplifying problems and setting realistic expectations is advised. Conducting practice lectures in advance can ensure accuracy on the board during instruction

3   I just want my professor to be able to teach and not rely on in-class quizzes or in-class assignments to make up majority of class time.

4   Some questions in quiz and exams are interestingly designed, such as using D&D gams or some movies . However, for those who are not native speakers of English, these problems took more time to read in the example or were difficult to understand. It would be better if the professor could design some more universal senarios in the designing of questions.

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

5   The unrealistic expectations for the final project for this class made me feel excluded from the learning process. It feels like we suddenly went from learning Discrete Math to being expected to make data science models that use AI and machine learning. This heightened level of expectations is only warranted if the professor gave us ample time to come up with a topic and implement it. He gave us a mere 2 weeks. This project did not feel inclusive because people who have experience (which many of them do) can complete this project than those like me who have no experience. This unbalanced playing field results in again a further exacerbation of feeling like I am not prepared enough to complete this course.

If I had to make a title for my experience in the course, it would be this: "A Willful Negligence: A Look into the Consistent Incompetence of Northeastern Seattle Campus Computer Science Professor Oscar Veliz, the Deliberate and Utter Side-Eye from the NEU Seattle Administration, and the Constant Gaslighting of Students".

I hope what I have written in this evaluation will be taken seriously. This "teacher" (in quotes because I do not think this professor is currently fit to be in a teaching position) does not have the right to call himself a "teacher" and I am writing an extensive review in hopes that this will at least spark a debate about next steps. I am writing for us students because it is our job to study, not to deal with gross incompetence and pretend like everything is okay when it is not.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (5 comments)

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

Legend: ■ Positive ■ Neutral ■ Negative

Please comment on your experience of the online course… : 40% (undefined) | 20% (undefined) | 40% (undefined)

Percent of Sentiment

Sentiment Score bar chart:
- Sentiment: 0.03
- Joy: 0.35
- Fear: 0.10
- Sadness: 0.28
- Anger: 0.06

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1   I attended every class in person and don't know much about the online version. ★★★☆☆

2   He is not making great effort for teaching this class students have to learn ourselves. ★☆☆☆☆

3   I wish that Professor Veliz was consistent with posting the module videos and the homework on time. It felt like he posted them at random. He would not adjust homework due dates even when he posted them late, giving us less time to work on the homework. ★★☆☆☆

4   Prof. Veliz actively engages on Piazza, promptly answering most questions. However, it would be highly beneficial if he could also post announcements on Canvas regarding any required revisions for homework assignments so that all students are aware of what needs to be updated. ★★★★★

5   This course was fully in person. If I have any comments about the use of technology in this course, I would say that I wish the professor provided us with recordings of the class as that would have helped my understand and what the professor is expecting in the homework and exams. ★★★★☆

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (7 comments)

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

1   Maybe I should buy an iPad and apple pencil to finish the assignments more efficiently.

2   Dont take Oscar's class

3   Find an alternative instructor

4   chat more with my classmate

5   Use outside resources to learn the topics covered in Discrete Structures because Professor Veliz's explanation/lectures left me more confused.

6   I could spend more time reviewing the video lectures on Canvas.

7   I could have gone to the instructor and TA office hours more when I needed help and I could have asked more questions in class. But it is also equally true to make this course better for myself, I could have chosen to take an entirely different professor.