

Joseph Brooks

Feedback Review

**What went well:**

The overall objective of the course seemed to be well explained. The goal was to teach students methods for error handling, and each lesson targeted a different area. I got feedback that the content of the lesson was very clearly explained, something I am happy about since I tried to narrow down my project to one area.

I also got positive feedback on how I took the students abilities into consideration and used appropriate scaffolding. This was a strength because I based it off of the course material from the Intro to Programming 2800 course, and because I planned on even the least proficient student being able to complete the course. During the assignment on googling errors I made the actual code very simple and made sure that each error googled was available in the first 2-3 search results. In the error testing assignment I gave test code, empty methods, and hints on how to complete every method.

**What needs to be improved/ Strategies to address feedback:**

The negative feedback overwhelmingly applied to my in class project, where I had the class fill in methods and use preset test code on each method. The majority of it is easily fixed coding errors, and more instructions and guidance as they set up the project.

There were a few errors in the test code, which is a huge mistake and would ruin the assignment in an actual class where students were relying on it to test their methods. I do not want students looking through their own methods for errors when in reality it is the instructors fault. I wrote down the errors as they came up in class and fixed them within the code.

Another point of confusion came in actually getting the class to set up the project. There were some problems having them download the files, and the files names were confusing. This would be remedied in an actual class where all the information was available in a central location. I renamed the files and changed my test code java file into a text file to differentiate it from the actual java file. The majority of the class had not used java for quite some time and this led to extra confusion. Some people in the class had forgot how to run simple print statements, and multiple people asked me the commands to compile the code. One student did not have an IDE and was using notepad, while another had to learn to use jdoodle the first time. I should have made the set up instructions more clear, and demonstrated the set up, gone through with each student to make sure they had the project set up correctly, and included some basic notes on compiling and running java programs within the program.

I relied on the in project text to guide the students. This was not adequate as multiple students complained about lack of instructions. I should have filled in the first method and demonstrated the correct manner for using the test code on it. As well as provided sample output for the first method.

Someone suggested I give sample output for all of the methods, but I feel that would be too much scaffolding, especially when each methods output is easily followed by reading the code.