



CMSC 14100 4 - Introduction to Computer Science I - Instructor(s): Hannah Morgan, Jesus Almaraz-Argueta

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2024**

Number Enrolled: **48**

Number of Responses: **31**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
Recursive functions, and the style / structure of code that is expected from the CS courses.
Basic entry to coding
How to code (at an introductory level).
types, iterations, recursions, classes and objects, functions, and more
Recursion
Python, programming principles and logic.
Basics of Python, loops, variables, etc.
Python
Basics of coding (Iteration, Classes and Trees, Tuples, Lists, etc.)
Basics of Python— mostly important syntax stuff like for loops, if statements, lists, dictionaries, classes, and recursion.
Basic coding skills
python
I learned the basics of python and how to solve programming problems.
python
Python syntax
Python. Some object oriented, mostly just the basics.
Basic python skills
I learned programming basics
Basics CS principles in Python, recursion
Beginner coding in Python
fundamentals. how to write good code/think a bit more methodically

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
Assignments were very helpful and fun to understand the methods presented in class. They weren't too hard.
lectures, discussions, homework
The course is based around coding.
I like Professor Morgan's lectures
Classes give the basics of what you're learning, and homework is when you actually figure stuff out because the questions are so much harder than the examples in class.
Lectures and discussion sections were both useful and contributed to my overall learning.
textbook, assignments
The lectures were helpful in teaching the content and gave good examples of how these concepts were applied. Discussion sessions also gave relevant examples of material we had learned the week before.
Although the HWs took me a while, I found that they greatly contributed to my learning as they forced me to stay up to date on the material. Lectures were also very helpful — professor Morgan is very good about answering questions and clarifying concepts.
Discussion sections were extremely helpful
lectures were pretty useless since the textbook had everything you needed to know. assignments helped with understanding. discussions were also somewhat helpful.
Lectures were very helpful, as the information was presented in a clean and organized manner and the practice problems we did in class helped facilitate the knowledge I was learning. The discussion sections were also helpful to get extra practice on the material from class.
good homework
Lectures and homework.
Homework assignments were good ways of working on topics covered in class. Discussion sections seemed insignificant in my learning.
Lectures were okay, homework was good
Discussions worked very well in tandem with lectures, helped to synthesize ideas introduced throughout the week into group problem solving opportunities.
Overall good, the available practice problems are especially helpful.
the textbook is good, discussion section was useless... need more practice problems, need more practice generally

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.25	5.00	4.17%	8.33%	4.17%	25.00%	58.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	29.17%	70.83%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.00%	24.00%	68.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.04	4.00	0.00%	12.00%	12.00%	36.00%	40.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.12	4.00	4.00%	8.00%	8.00%	32.00%	48.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	4.00%	4.00%	36.00%	56.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
N?A
The class content is the same as that in the textbook. Half of my class stops showing up.
THIS IS A WEED OUT CLASS. The homework and midterm/final are very difficult, especially if you are newer to the language. The speed of the class is also very fast, so reading the textbook is extremely helpful and making sure to pay attention during lectures. Finally, everything builds on each other, meaning you have to fully understand the material.
a lot of the course feedback may look daunting but its honestly not too bad
The tests are brutal
very, very poorly structured insofar as difficulty — completely trivial at the beginning, for far too long, then far too little time spent on far more difficult material at the end

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	7.69%	92.31%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
I felt I learnt the most when the instructor explained the underlying processes for each data type and method, such as how it is stored and implemented in memory.
Professor Morgan is a phenomenal instructor. Her breakdown of tough CS concepts into digestible information for those of us with no CS experience was great. I did not expect to pick up the material in this course as quickly as I did. I hope to take her course for 142.
lectures and office hours
It was a very standard cs course.
I appreciate the instructors' dedication to answering questions on Ed.
Going over examples in class were helpful.
Professor Morgan was a very good lecturer and encouraged questions throughout the lecture. She made sure everyone who had a question was answered to the best of her ability, and also gave good examples of how to use the material.
Can't think of anything in particular
assignments
The instructor was very helpful. She presented the material from class in a good way and was very helpful when I was stuck on homework problems.
good explainer
Lecture and discussion
Talking through concepts.
Repeated examples
Professor Morgan was always responsive to students' questions and also presented clear lecture plans.
The lectures were easy to follow and understandable.
good at answering questions

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Spend less time on repetitive examples.
N/A
The assignments were poorly made, and the homeworks featured pre-programmed functions and variables that we were expected to use, but which didn't actually work because whoever made the homework just didn't do it well. You got points off for not using their broken/ useless aspects, and you can't argue for the points back. The CS department takes themselves too seriously for being so bad.
Additionally, the linux server that we were required to use was supposed to have nano to allow us to do some minor editing, but it didn't (I mean for a top university this is kinda ridiculous that you failed to set up the basics needed for the course). As a result I had to teach myself vim (not too hard but very much NOT within the scope of this course).
Nothing
NA
One thing that could help is giving content more aligned toward the midterm, since the midterm was extremely difficult and was different from anything we had seen before.
Nothing
Posting lecture information/slides would be great
n/a
I feel like the grading system could use a re-working. It is VERY difficult to get an A in the course and impossible to get an A+ so I feel like it would be better to make getting an A more achievable.
posted lecture notes
N/A
not sure
not sure

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	4.00%	36.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.31	4.00	0.00%	3.85%	7.69%	42.31%	46.15%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.00%	40.00%	44.00%	4.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	4.00%	8.00%	32.00%	56.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.44	5.00	4.00%	0.00%	4.00%	32.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.42	5.00	0.00%	4.17%	4.17%	37.50%	54.17%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.00%	20.00%	56.00%	12.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.00%	28.00%	64.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	4.00%	36.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.00%	28.00%	56.00%	0.00%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comments
Anjali Pullabhotla
all TAs were extremely helpful during office hours
Anjali Pullabhotla. I interacted with her only in discussion sections, where she gave us worksheets and answered our questions about cs.
Anjali Pullabhotla
The TA's were very helpful during office hours and the discussion sections.
The TA was very helpful in the discussion sections, as we were able to understand the difficult problems we were going over with her help.
rohan deme
I dont remember
So helpful. Go to office hours if you are confused it saves so much time and you learn a lot outside of class.
don't remember

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.29	5.00	7.14%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	57.14%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	7.14%	0.00%	35.71%	57.14%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.29	5.00	0.00%	7.14%	14.29%	21.43%	57.14%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.29	5.00	0.00%	7.14%	14.29%	21.43%	57.14%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.29	5.00	0.00%	7.14%	14.29%	21.43%	57.14%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	50.00%	14.29%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.15	5.00	7.14%	0.00%	14.29%	21.43%	50.00%	7.14%

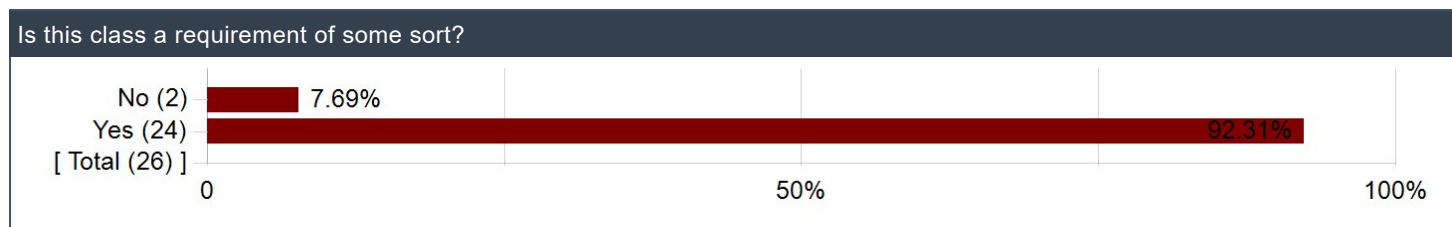
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	2.33	1.00	40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

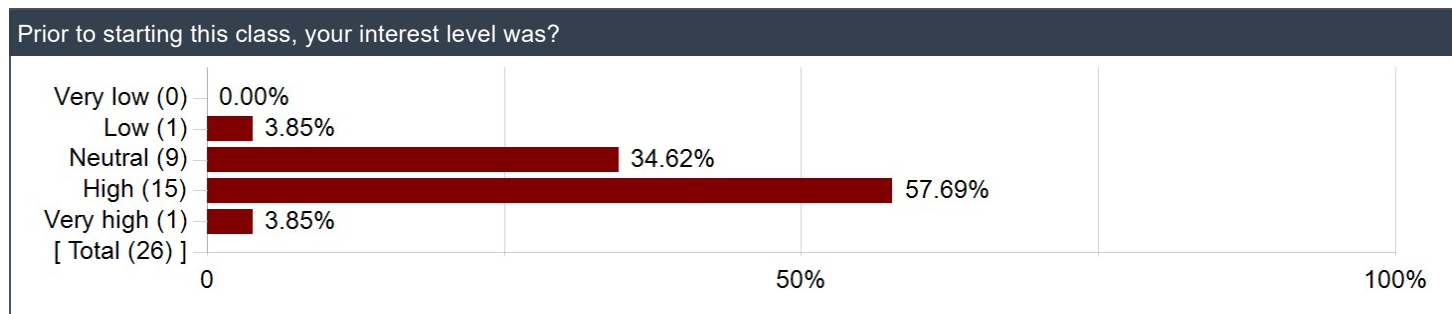
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Mandatory Discussions
Discussion
Discussion Sections; went over the material with practice problems, and was helpful in reinforcing what we had learned in class.
it was a discussion session not review session

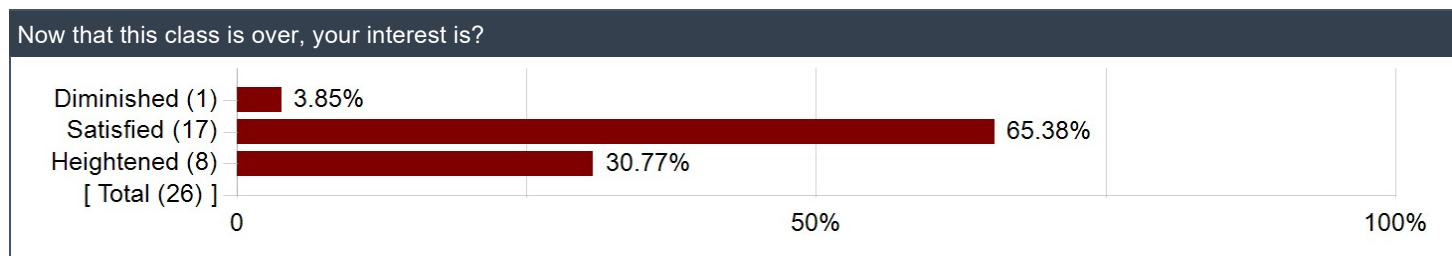
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



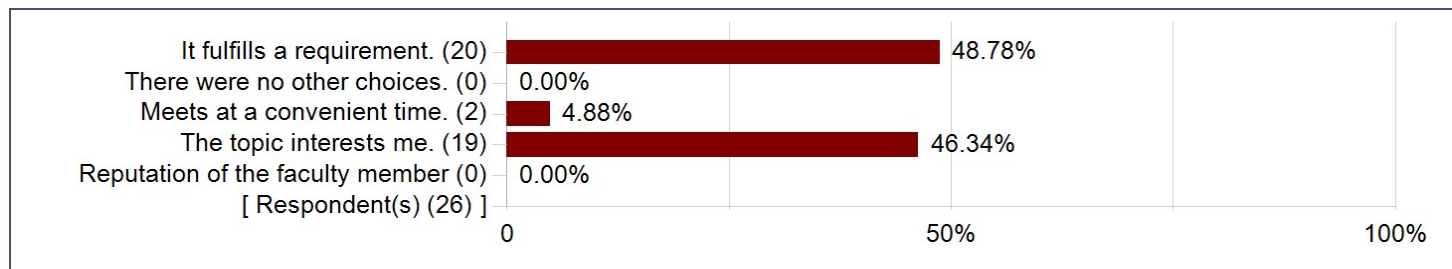
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



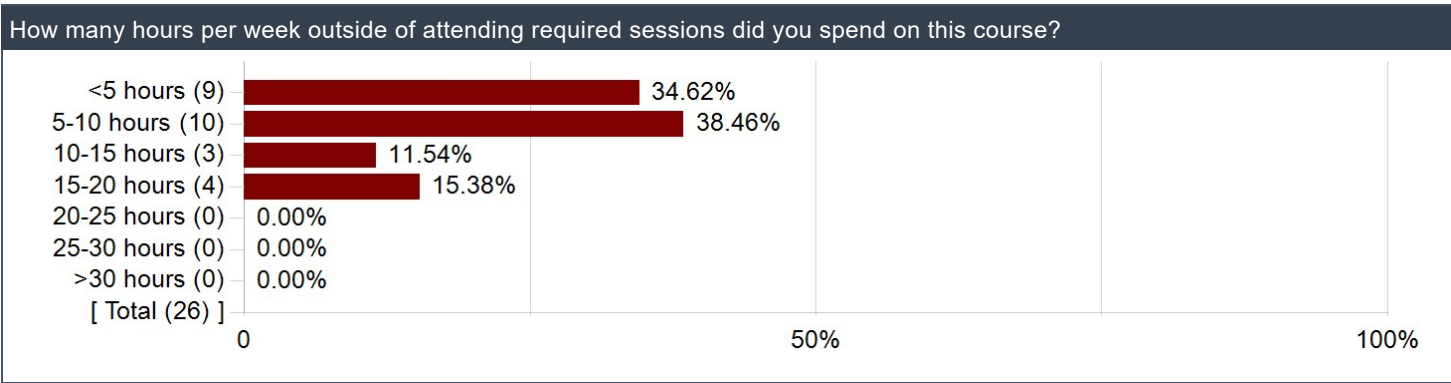
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



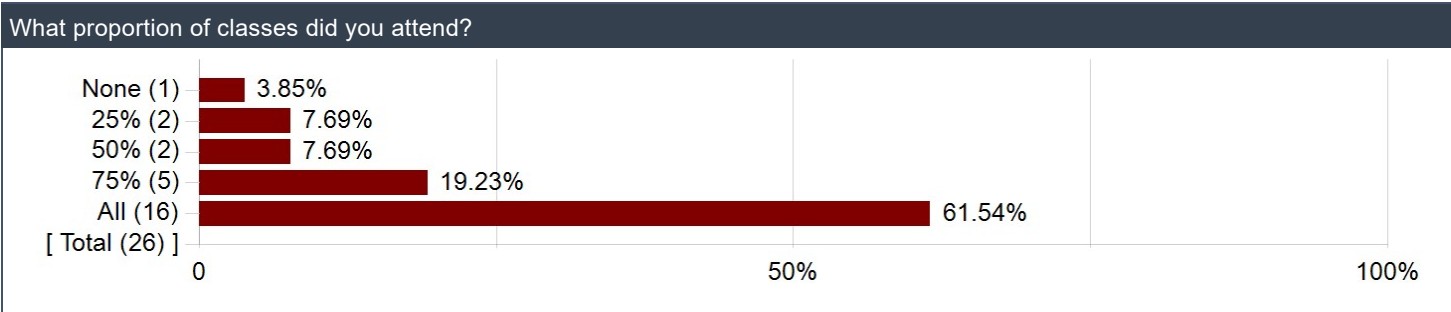
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
It was very easy because I had a lot of python programming experience
The course has a degree of challenge for those with no background experience, but the course is designed very well and they expect it to be difficult. Thus, there is a lot of support in getting you the tools you need, and to get you to succeed.
could be fast and challenging for someone who doesn't have background and experience, but overall manageable
I did AP CSA but had zero python experience and up until recursion everything was extremely straightforward. Recursion actually involves thinking so it's harder.
Took CS in high school
I've got a 5 in AP CSA but failed the recursion part on the placement test of this class. The class is really repetitive for me, and recursion was only spent only for a week. I slightly regretted not self-studying recursion and place out of this class.
Coming from little to no coding experience, this class was extremely difficult. The homework takes up a ton of time, especially the ones at the end of the quarter. Also, the midterm was extremely difficult and was hard to prepare for.
With no previous coding experience the class is very difficult but it is doable if you are willing to put in the effort.
I came in without about zero coding experience. This course is do-able with no coding experience but realize in advance that many of your classmates will have experience (and don't let that discourage you)
Quite difficult for somebody with 0% experience because it's fast paced but fine if you have some sort of experience
i didn't take any cs classes and i thought it wasn't too bad
I have some experience in python so the beginning of the course was not too challenging for me. However, the last couple of weeks of the course were very difficult, especially the last homework despite my prior experience in python.
easy
Difficult
This course is very difficult for an intro CS course.
It was a difficult class for me
Doable without prior experience
Came in with no experience, got the hang of the early concepts but struggled with the more advanced material later on.
the final and midterm were difficult