CMSC 14100 3 - Introduction to Computer Science I - Instructor(s): Hannah Morgan, Jesus Almaraz-Argueta

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

Number Enrolled: **51**
Number of Responses: **17**

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**

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

Comments
Basics of coding, mainly implementing and creating functions, and good coding style practices.
fine–tuning my computer science skills
Generally how to think in terms of problem–solving, thinking like a programmer, etc.
recursion, iterating through lists–of–lists, understanding classes and objects, tuples, tuple and list unpacking, and understanding loops
Basic python: variables, conditionals, loops, classes/objects, recursion, general programming
Trees, Recursion, Dictionaries, Classes, Basic Python programming
We learned basic python variables and operations, and about stacks, classes and objects, recursion, and a way of thinking that helped us approach each problem effectively.
Basics of Python and computational thinking
Beginner programming methods and methodology
basic python
I learned the basics of Python.
I learned how to solve a variety of problems computationally.
Basics of Python Programming

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

Comments
Discussion was somewhat useful.
I think lectures were usually helpful for seeing examples, but reading the textbook assignments was often sufficient to replace the lectures. The discussions were also useful because they prepared me for what the exams would be like. I think the homework assignments were the most helpful for really understanding the material.
the assignments helped me remember certain skills
Homeworks are helpful if difficult
lectures with professor morgan were very helpful, 100% recommend attending her classes if you get her. discussions were okay, and assignments helped me understand the concepts better with the exception of the last assignment.
Lectures were helpful and textbook was pretty good too.
Lectures were somewhat helpful. Discussions were more helpful than I expected. Assignments were generally the most helpful.
Lectures were helpful to explain course content effectively, and discussions were helpful to get extra practice in a supportive setting, collaborating with others. Homework assignments were helpful to gain practice with problems that were similar to the exams.
Lectures were a nice way to get introduced to the material, and the textbook was good for reinforcing the content. Discussions were a nice way to practice/clear up any confusion.
Lectures and p–sets were helpful
discussion sections , reading the textbook, and the homework assignments contributed the most
The homework assignments were the most useful; they helped me apply the concepts we learned during lectures. The live coding during lectures was useful, too. Discussions were a bit long but they did help reinforce the material of the class.
Lectures were clear and helpful, discussions were nice to practice class material with structure

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.19	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	31.25%	43.75%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	6.25%	0.00%	37.50%	56.25%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.25	5.00	6.25%	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	56.25%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.56	4.00	6.25%	12.50%	18.75%	43.75%	18.75%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.13	4.50	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	31.25%	50.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	6.25%	0.00%	43.75%	50.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.31	4.50	0.00%	6.25%	6.25%	37.50%	50.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.00	4.00	6.25%	0.00%	6.25%	62.50%	25.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Worst course I've taken thus far.
Not the best as an intro course if you've never programmed before – you'll learn, but don't expect to have the best grade, overall
Pretty easy, just make sure you understand the concepts before attemping the homework problems
It is difficult and goes quickly for someone who has no experience with cs, however it was a fun and intellectually challenging course.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	12.50%	87.50%
Anyone interested in the topic	26.67%	73.33%

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

Comments
Working through examples for each topic was the most helpful aspect of the lectures.
not much just feedback for homework
Office hours
willing to answer questions and explained the concepts in a way that was easy for even a dumbo like me to learn.
Lectures
The lectures were somewhat helpful, though you could skip them and still do well in the class.
Professor Morgan is a great lecturer. She helped me understand concepts that I might not have understood just by reading through the textbook. I really enjoyed going to class every day, even if my class was quiet. It was very helpful.
Professor Morgan always made sure we understood the content before moving forward.
Feedback on Ed
doing examples in ipython
Professor Morgan is really good at breaking down the course material into more digestible content. Her live coding sessions during lectures really helped, as well. She also encourages questions, which I think is great.
Communicated concepts clearly

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Allow collaboration. When it's considered cheating to talk to classmates about homework it becomes very hard to find a useful support network.
It would be nice to have little exercises in class where they could ask us to do something, give a few mins, and then walkthrough their way of doing it. I think it would help ensure that I am understanding and following the material covered.
its a lecture so not much
Not much, it's individual
n/a
Maybe provide HW solutions
Nothing!
It would have been nice if some of the strategies needed to solve the more challenging homework problems were discussed in class.
None
more organized lectures
Nothing. Professor Morgan is great.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	6.67%	6.67%	33.33%	53.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.06	4.00	0.00%	6.25%	18.75%	37.50%	37.50%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	3.79	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	46.67%	13.33%	6.67%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	3.80	4.00	0.00%	6.67%	20.00%	60.00%	13.33%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.07	4.00	0.00%	6.67%	0.00%	73.33%	20.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.07	4.00	0.00%	6.67%	6.67%	60.00%	26.67%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.25%	50.00%	31.25%	12.50%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	6.67%	0.00%	46.67%	46.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.13	4.00	6.25%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	43.75%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	13.33%	53.33%	33.33%	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
Lena Liang. She was great.
Zhiru Zhu. They led my discussion sections. I think she was good at answering questions and encouraging us to find and point out any mistakes in the solutions we came up with. It might have been helpful to occasionally walk around the room and ask each group if they had any questions.
I don't know
Zhiru Zhu. She was good in the Discussion sections with providing solutions and leading the discussion, but she could have perhaps been better with time management for the later discussion sections.
Tess. Tess was helpful with homework assignments and helping us understand discussion problems. I think if they were able to facilitate discussion a little bit better, discussion would have been more engaging.
Tess Eschebach – She was very patient when walking through challenging solutions during discussion. Sometimes her adherence to the specific group roles was a little extreme and prevented me from being able to think through problems on my own.
Zhiru Zhu. She was great at answering questions.
Zhiru Zhu

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

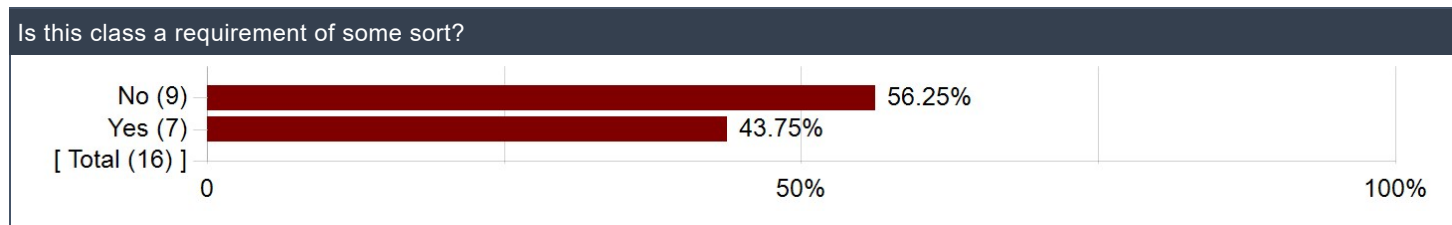|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	45.45%	45.45%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	27.27%	54.55%	9.09%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	36.36%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.09	4.00	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	45.45%	36.36%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.25	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	18.18%	36.36%	27.27%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.09	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	36.36%	36.36%	0.00%

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

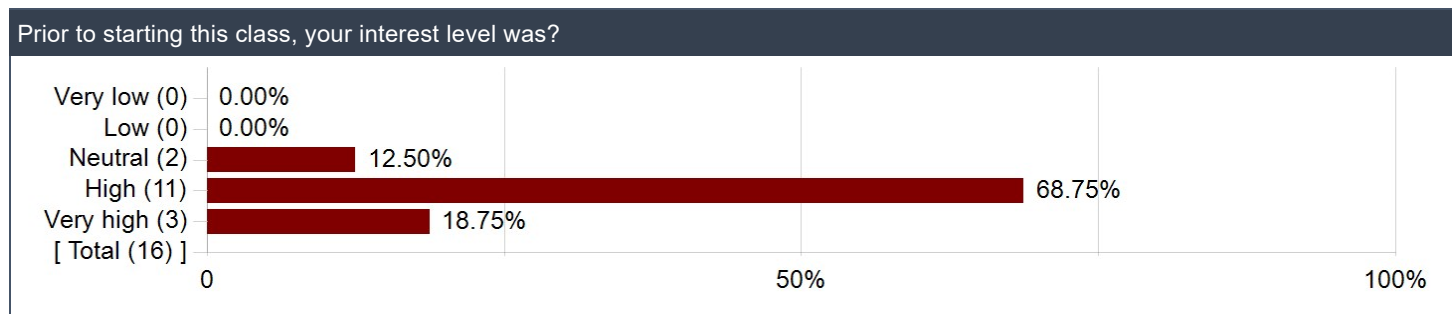|	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	16.67%	50.00%
Writing Seminars	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

Other course elements not mentioned above:

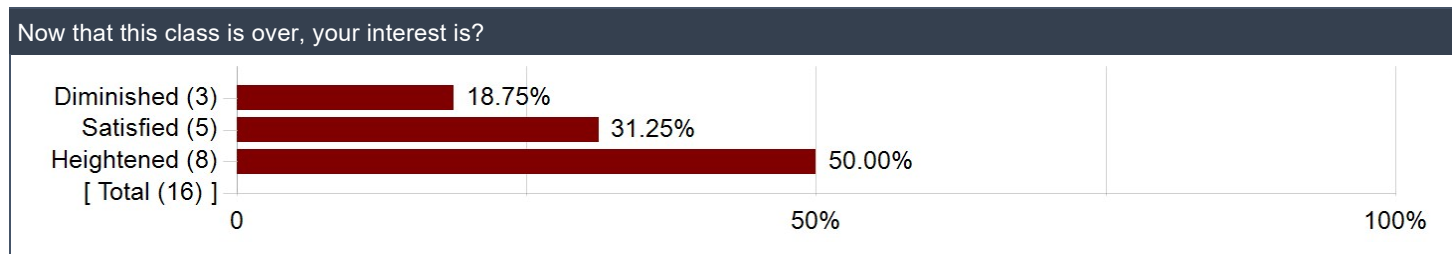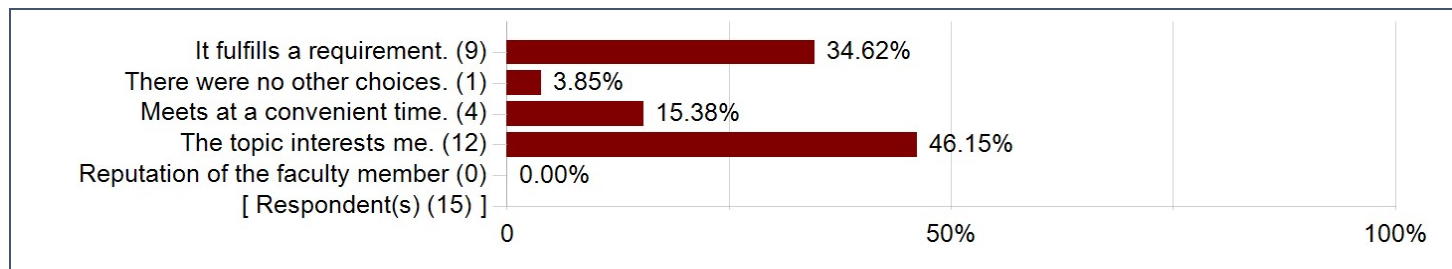| Comments |
| --- |
| Discussion sections; these were helpful to understand new things better |
| Discussion sections |
| Discussion Section |

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

No (9) — 56.25%
Yes (7) — 43.75%
[Total (16)]

0   50%   100%

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Very low (0) — 0.00%
Low (0) — 0.00%
Neutral (2) — 12.50%
High (11) — 68.75%
Very high (3) — 18.75%
[Total (16)]

0   50%   100%

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Diminished (3) — 18.75%
Satisfied (5) — 31.25%
Heightened (8) — 50.00%
[Total (16)]

0   50%   100%

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

It fulfills a requirement. (9) — 34.62%
There were no other choices. (1) — 3.85%
Meets at a convenient time. (4) — 15.38%
The topic interests me. (12) — 46.15%
Reputation of the faculty member (0) — 0.00%
[Respondent(s) (15)]

0   50%   100%

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

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

- <5 hours (3) — 18.75%
- 5-10 hours (6) — 37.50%
- 10-15 hours (3) — 18.75%
- 15-20 hours (1) — 6.25%
- 20-25 hours (2) — 12.50%
- 25-30 hours (1) — 6.25%
- >30 hours (0) — 0.00%
- [Total (16)]

What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

- None (0) — 0.00%
- 25% (0) — 0.00%
- 50% (4) — 25.00%
- 75% (4) — 25.00%
- All (8) — 50.00%
- [Total (16)]
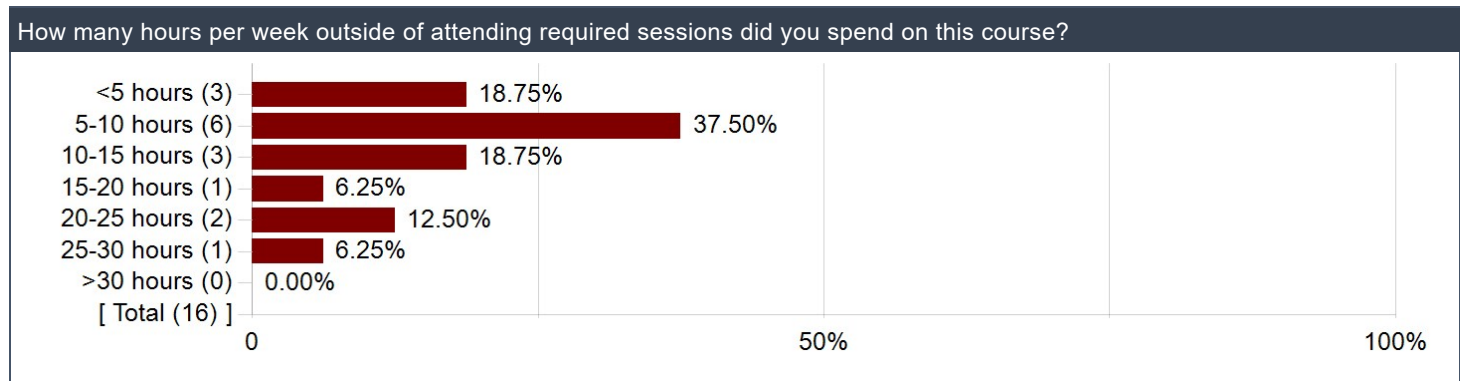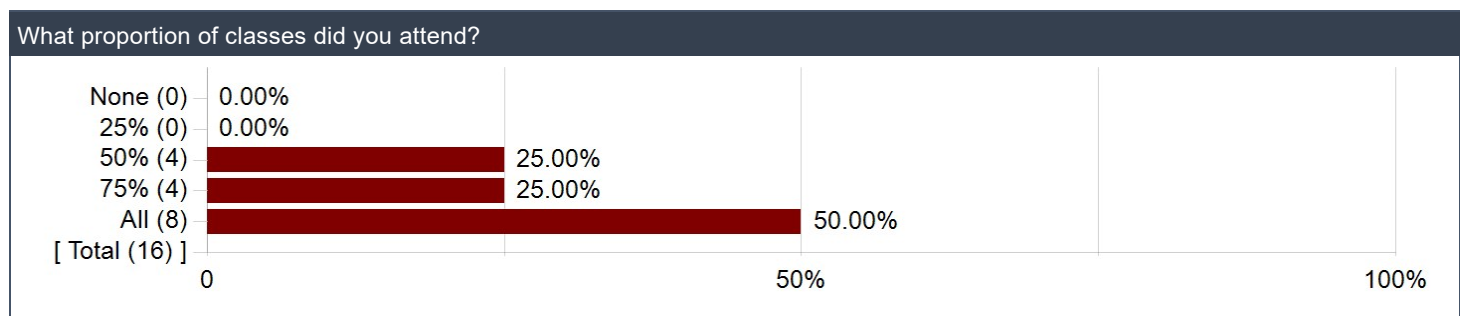
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Very difficult for someone who had little CS background. Homework can take a very long time and is essential for your grade.
I took an online CS course a few years ago, so I did not find this course very difficult at all. I would say most of what I gained was a refresher and more rigorous code styling.
Not that difficult for me because I have some prior experience, but it would have been extremely hard had I not had that before
i had some experience and honestly, it was moderate difficulty
Pretty easy if you read the textbook and actually try to understand
I had a bit of Python experience (equivalent to the first 3 – 4 weeks of the course). It started off easy, but became very hard at the end with recursion. I managed the final, but the pace picks up.
I had no experience with computer science, and I felt that this course was a great introduction to python. Take comp sci even if you don't know it! It's like doing puzzles for homework.
I had some coding experience going in, and the class was quite difficult. The hardest part was not being able to collaborate with others when working on homework/other assignments. In many ways, this felt very isolating and made it a much more stressful experience. Also, I wish there were more supports to help with some of the more challenging homework problems.
Not hugely difficult
had no experience and the course was difficult but reasonable
This course is great for anyone with a sufficient background in python or another coding language. It may be harder for someone completely new to coding, but manageable.
Had coding experience in other languages so it wasn't too difficult, but still manageable for those new to programming.