Midterm reviews

How do you evaluate this course?

4.21
★★★★☆
29 Responses
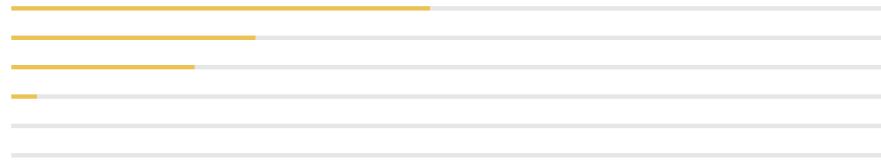
5 stars	
4 stars	
3 stars	
2 stars	
1 star	
0 stars	

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
Incredibly interesting course, taught in a really good format. The only downside is that the language the class is taught in (Haskell) is taught alongside a lot of the material, which can cause issues for students who don't have prior experience in a functional language.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
I learn have learned a lot, but it isn't extremely stressful. I really like how the class is on Discord. It allows me to easily ask for help.

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
Dan is one of the most compassionate, engaging and thought-provoking instructors I've ever had during my time at IIT. Please keep him at all costs.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
This is my fav CS class. Love Haskell and love PrairieLearn

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
This is by far the best core course I have this semester. I always come to lecture wanting to engage and leave with a little more understanding than I did before. It is a challenging but fair course and I feel 100% supported whenever I need help. The way the course is structure not only promotes student engagement but encourages students to help one another as well. I have mostly nothing but good things to say about this course. Overall, this course is very fulfilling experience.

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
Slightly difficult. Hoping for more examples.

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
The course materials are quite interesting. Learning a new programming paradigm is hard but intriguing

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

The course itself is a bit tough as it has a steep learning curve to it, but do-able nonetheless.

4

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

Course is rigorous, but structured really well. It is essentially a U OF I course, but all the machine problems and stuff are stuff we�??ve directly learned about. Go through a lot of examples in class and then there are a ton of activities that help with the MPs. Not like an IIT course where usually you�??re just lectured at and then thrown into the deep end to figure out a really tough lab (CS351,450,331).

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

Functional Programming is really interesting and teaches skills that better me in all my classes.

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

I would like to tackle more complex examples to really understand each subject

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

It is hardest class, but due to a good instructor I like it.

4

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

I love that this class is taught using Haskell. The topics seem very applicable to CS as a whole and I am happy to be taking this course. My only gripe is that the machine problems are significantly more difficult than most of the examples shown in class. These topics can be quite tricky and having more examples would be a godsend.

3

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

I like the material a lot but not the way it's being taught. We do kind of an inverted classroom where we watch lecture materials before the lecture and then do a worksheet in class. I like to just watch a lecture and take notes, then go work through things on my own. I find it hard to focus on the worksheets and pay attention to class discussion at the same time so I lose track of what's going on a lot. The materials provided to prepare for the lecture are very helpful though, so I've been doing most of my learning through those.

2

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 11:41 AM

I find some parts of this class so interesting; the much of the material feels engaging and powerful to know, but other segments of the material seem pointless and distracting. I don't see the value that lambda calculus has for this class, or world at large, except to the 8 people on earth who design programming languages for a living. Right now, the inclusion of lambda calculus in the material seemed to serve only to make the later assignment descriptions more confusing by replacing helpful code segments and verbal descriptions of the earlier write-ups with needlessly opaque lambda calculus statements. Additionally, this course employs most unnecessarily hair-brained structure I've ever seen. I've never seen of heard of a "flipped classroom" working well. It typically devolves into exactly what this class is: a double lecture.

Students are expected to watch video lectures and come to class ready to work on examples, but, inevitably the class ends up being another lecture. For any given student, there's 2 main outcomes and either is great. If they do the video lecture and handout before class, the lecture is just a boring and overlong rehash of the same material punctuated with awkward silences and annoying banter from the lecture's many loathsome characters. If the student doesn't do the prework, it doesn't matter. The material gets taught anyway. The fact encourages the second pattern of behavior. That goes back to a truth that so many people with advanced degrees just can't seem to get through their heads. Most students will not do work unless they think it's worth their time. You're teaching the material anyway; the handouts aren't graded, and the examples on the handouts are mostly trivial and unhelpful for the assignments. They are not worth our time. As a result, almost no one does them. I know what you might be thinking, "then we should make the handouts graded". NO! That is the worst possible take here, other than changing nothing. If MPs, Activities, handouts, video lectures, and live sessions were all required, this class would demand a truly unfair amount of students' time for no good reason. You don't need all of those things to teach the material effectively. This is a trap I've seen several professors fall into, particularly since the start of the pandemic. Overloading a class with too many different assignment types and material covering media serves no one. It introduces confusion, encourages cheating, and overall weakens all avenues. It forces students to choose which parts of a class a truly worth their time, since completing all of them is untenable. Rather than overcomplicating the class experience, just focus on giving well-structed, engaging lectures with plenty of meaningful examples and time for questions. Then give a few significant assignments that follow naturally from the course material in a timely manner. Do this and you'll think about flipping a classroom even again. Material-wise, this could be my favorite class of all college, but the structure really gets in the way of the material. As a result, it's lost me

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
Very good at teaching, interact with the students really well. Very understanding when it comes to students struggling and helping us manage our time. 100%

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
I actually learned the material in this class, which is really saying something. Great support and discord community.

3

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
This course is going a little too fast and the material cover in class does not really help learn the topic. Most of the learning is done outside the class, which is a little difficult considering I have other classes to also focus on, work, and other life responsibilities.
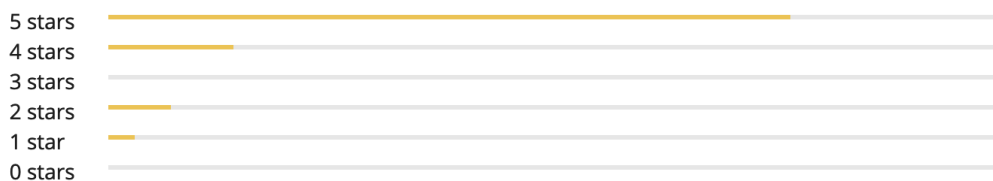
5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 11:41 AM
Dan is the best

Instructor reviews

4.52

★★★★☆

29 Responses

5 stars		
4 stars		
3 stars		
2 stars		
1 star		
0 stars		

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
Incredibly sweet, engaging, fun lecturer. He goes a bit quickly sometimes, but he also knows how to gauge how the class is running and whether or not he needs to slow down for the students. He makes an incredible environment for this class and I would HIGHLY recommend taking him at some point.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
He is very nice and provides useful help. He's a good instructor, keep him around.

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
I like the interactive examples in class, and I like that we do lots of them. Class is also just generally fun.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
Best CS prof, no cap

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
Instructor teaches very well and is easy to understand. I've had no issues whatsoever understanding topics from the instructer

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
Professor Plyukhin is an excellent instructor. He may not be perfect, but I can tell he makes an earnest effort to help students understand concepts. He, along with his TA, have fostered a classroom experience that facilitates active student engagement and camaraderie. He is very quick to answer any questions I may have in a timely manner. He wants his students to succeed and provides abundant support to prove as such. For anyone reading this Professor Plyukhin is a truly great professor and is worthy of your acknowledgement.

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
Teaches very well but would like more explained examples and less self-study.

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin • 3 days ago October 19, 2021 12:03 PM
He is nice and caring about our needs, and he makes online learning so much better than other online classes I have been taking. I love the extra practices (POTD) since I'm also practicing for coding interviews.

1

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

Plyukhin reuses videos that are ok for very basic understanding of a topic, but expects students to come to class knowing the topic well. The material he plans to go over in class is never completely covered, which leaves students having to spend more time trying to understand the material and trying to do assignments at the same time.

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

Very receptive to feedback when students give feedback or concerns regarding class material. Jumps topic to topic very fast. Very helpful feedback to students struggling on assignments.

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

G.O.A.T. Understands where students may struggle and is actively helping. Knows when he might not be doing something to the best, but comes around next lecture better. Has immensely improved from first lecture. Does a lot of examples during class and has built a relationship with class. Moves quick but needs to in order to cover the mass amount of material. Still finds a way to dumb it down. Encourages students to discuss with each other to gain greater understanding rather than trying to scare students about academic dishonesty. Because of all the discussion I can honestly say I've learned more from this course than when I've had to struggle on my own in other classes. Give the man his Ph.D.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

Professor Plyukhin is my favorite professor here. He is incredibly knowledgeable and passionate about Haskell and that influences me to share the passion. His lecture formats encourage participation and it all feels very judgement-free. Even when assignments end up taking hours to complete I never feel like I wasn't given the tools I needed to succeed.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

Professor is really committed on making us understand the materials so I am not worried about asking question if I am stuck.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

I like the way of teaching and the resource he gave us. he is definitely a good instructor

4

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

Professor Plyukhin typically does a good job covering/explaining the material, however, there have been multiple occasions where he is about to cover an example and instead says "I think you guys already understand this". This has yet to be the case for me and if I was not attending this course asynchronously I would tell him that the moment he says it. Professor, if you are reading this, please do not skip examples. They would be very helpful and definitely worth the time to cover.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM

Dan is a very kind and approachable instructor. Very receptive to feedback and excited about the material he teaches. I can tell he really wants us to learn. I really like that he put the effort into setting up a discord server for us to use. It's much better than blackboard discussions and I like that it's a space dedicated to 440 instead of just being a part of the main cs@iit server.

2

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM
I can see that he is trying! He's also extremely friendly and always up to help students. But he doesn't cover much during lecture, he's mostly there to answer questions and we pretty much have to teach the subject to ourselves from external sources, internet, etc., which is making this already hard class extremely harder for us.

2

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM
I don't like the way the professor encourages the people who make the lectures annoying. Between idle bragging, pointless condescension, and annoying personal banter delivered to entire class the chief participants in most lectures really need to shut up most of the time. They make me feel uncomfortable participating class because of them, and I know I'm not the only person who feels that way. But the professor favors and encourages them. He's overly friendly with them. He doesn't stop them from wasting time with their constant rabble. It drowns out normal, productive participation. Overall it feels like this class is being taught exclusively know-it-alls without jobs or social skills who don't value their own time.

5

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM
Accidently answer instructor part on other survey 100% love his teaching, allows us to understand clearly. very understanding. I like how he interact with students on discord

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM
Makes sure students understand what is being taught.

5

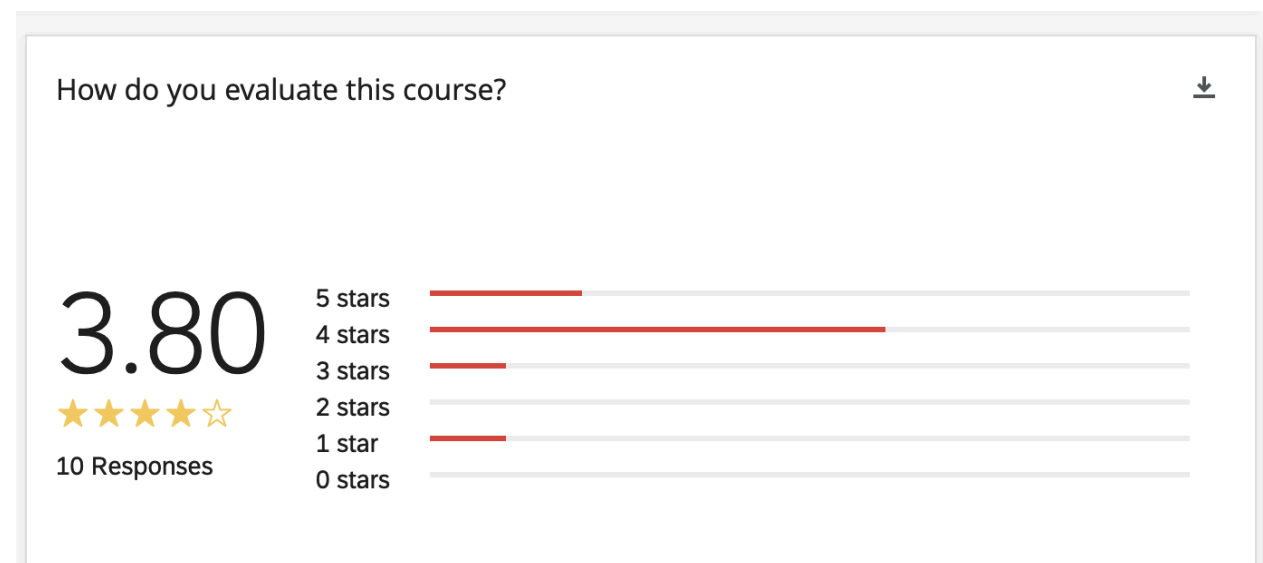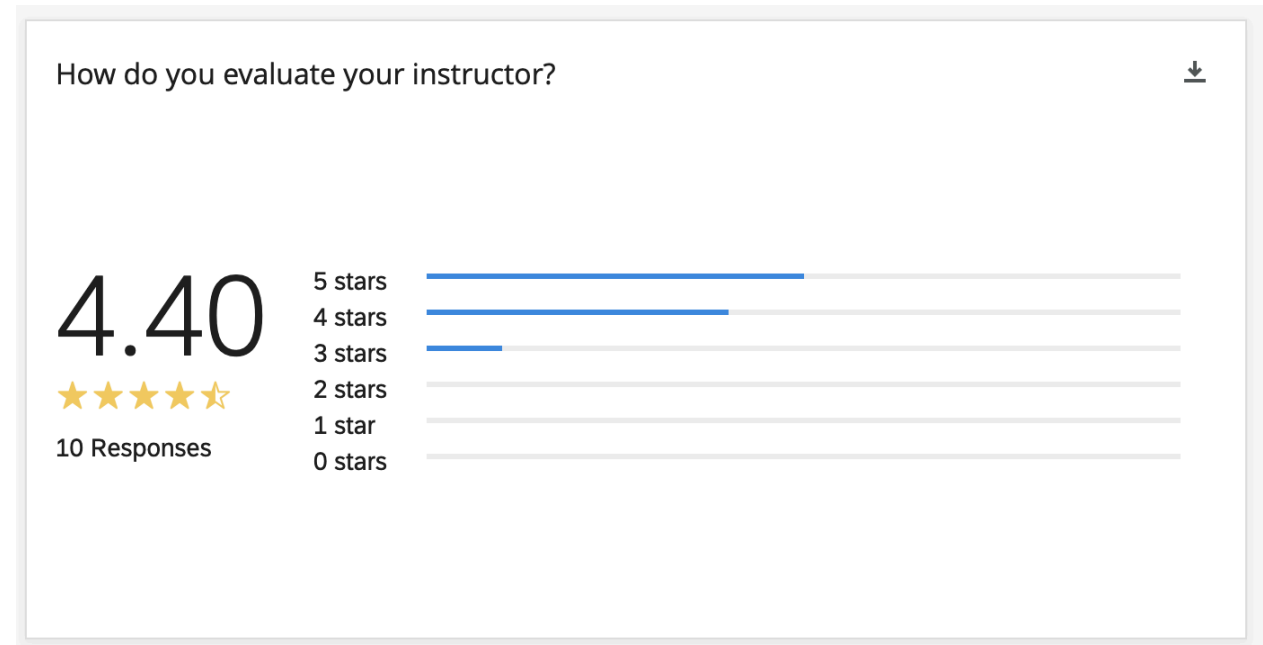CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM
The best professor I've had at IIT by far! Very understanding, and teaches the material in a way that's easy to understand. Also, I really liked using discord for the class.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•3 days agoOctober 19, 2021 12:03 PM
I wish Dan taught ever single CS course at IIT.

Final Reviews

How do you evaluate your instructor?

4.40

★★★★☆

10 Responses

5 stars	
4 stars	
3 stars	
2 stars	
1 star	
0 stars	

How do you evaluate this course?

3.80

★★★★☆

10 Responses

5 stars	
4 stars	
3 stars	
2 stars	
1 star	
0 stars	

Course reviews

4

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin•18 days ago December 5, 2021 5:04 PM
The course introduced some interesting and useful topics, especially if you plan on doing something with translators or interpreters. Some of the topics were a bit challenging to understand though.

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages Translators Plyukhin•18 days ago December 5, 2021 3:34 PM
I learned stuff, but I have no idea to what extent I will be using this

4

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•20 days agoDecember 3, 2021 12:17 AM
While the Discord component of the class was a little bit unusual, the assignments and exams were all very reasonable and the ability to make up credit was greatly appreciated. The automated evaluation of the assignments leaves no room for possible partial credit, but the issues brought about by that component were made up with the opportunity to make up points by doing extra assignments. The class provided an overall positive experience.

4

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•22 days agoDecember 1, 2021 10:06 AM
Very good and understanding professor. Very accommodating and understood how hard this course is for students and accounted for that.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•a month agoNovember 26, 2021 8:37 PM
Brilliant course, lecturer was lovely. I really enjoyed the way he taught it.

Instructor reviews

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•18 days agoDecember 5, 2021 5:06 PM
Professor Plyukhin is a great professor. He explains topics well and is very understanding. To my knowledge he is new to teaching, but that did not stop him from teaching better than a sadly large number of senior lecturers here at IIT. If I have the chance to take a course with him again, I will.

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•18 days agoDecember 5, 2021 3:37 PM
A gem of a professor. I would love to have him again. One criticism though: I wish I could do more practice problems that includes their answer since I always heard that "Oh, they're doing things this way or that way, but we're doing it this way" And it's hard to look at external resources to learn because I'm afraid to learn things differently and wrongly.

4

CS-440-02: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•22 days agoDecember 1, 2021 10:07 AM
Well versed, experienced in the topics he was teaching, easy to understand(except a few times when he would go a bit fast in class)

5

CS-440-01: Prgmng Languages TranslatorsPlyukhin•a month agoNovember 26, 2021 8:37 PM
I don't have anything bad to say about this man. He's genuinely one of the sweetest people I've had the pleasure of learning from. Absolutely lovely to learn from c: