Instructor: **Smith, David**

Subject: **CS**

Catalog & Section: **6200 01**

Course ID: **31750**

Objectives:

Enrollment: **58**

Responses Incl Declines: **17**

Declines: **1**

Instructor Related Questions: David Smith (18 comments)

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

1   David is very knowledgeable about search engines and passionate about the material. It feels like a very niche subject but he has a great depth of knowledge. Implementing some of the topics from the class in Python felt difficult but rewarding.

2   The instructor has been very helpful throughout the semester. Anytime I got stuck in my assignments I would attend his office hours and my doubts would be cleared by him. I enjoyed his teaching !!

3   Professor is very passionate about the topic, he clearly is very very knowledgeable about every topic he covers. The homeworks are very helpful in reinforcing the content I couldn't understand the first time in class.

4   The professor is extremely knowledgeable on the subject and was able to lecture on topics covered in class with ease and was able to provide a lot of information. The professor is very nice and was always able to help during office hours and was very helpful during the office hours.
Recording the lectures and providing them on canvas was very helpful.
The homeworks were extremely interesting and actually really quite fun to work on. I feel like I learned more from the few homeworks than the entire class itself. I wish there were more.
I appreciated the breaks we were sometimes given in class. They were a good reset to allow to me to attempt to refocus.

5   the instructor was great at introducing new and difficult topics and making them easier to understand.

6   The instructor is very good in research side, which showed his ability to teach concepts.

7   The assignment gave a lot real world problem and were challenging

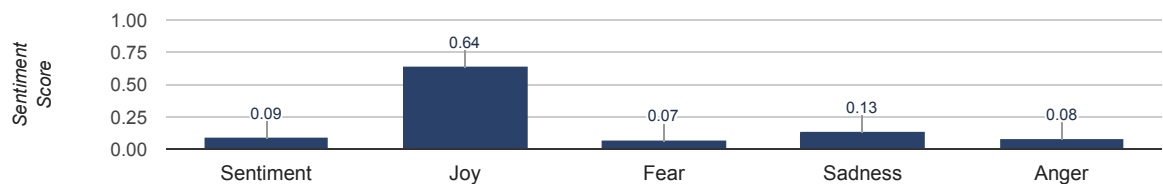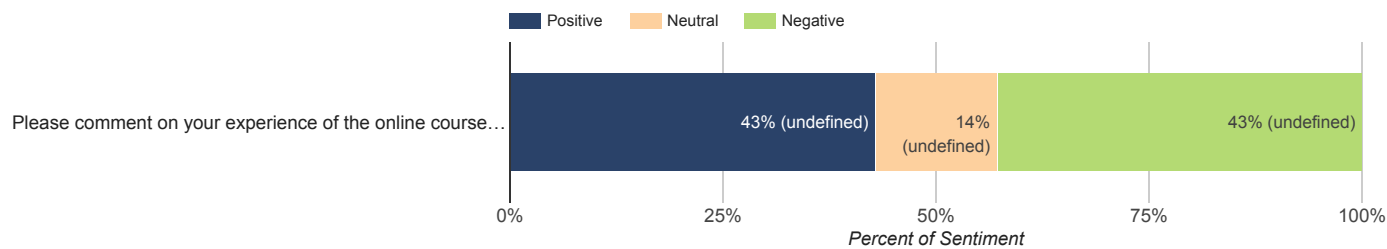### Q: What could the instructor do to make this course better?

1   The lectures were sometimes difficult to follow because of their length and complexity of the topics - I think that sometimes it was difficult to come away with the main ideas because of all the information provided in the slides.

2   Nothing much !1

3   Lectures are way to dry, people stopped showing up to class because we just couldn't follow the lectures. I think the class just covers way to much information, this could be split up into two classes. Also, I think the few lectures where we had a small in class activity were fine (ie. that one time we had to compress a file), so professor needs to have something like that almost every lecture. But, that goes back to the class needing to cover less information. Lastly, the homeworks were very helpful in learning the content, but there were only 4 of them so please add more (maybe like 6-8 slightly smaller homeworks that take a week to do). Overall, the problem in my opinion lies more with the class than the professor, but I hope the professor can adjust in the future.

4   The lectures given in class were way way way too dense to have any chance of being able to store all of the information or even take notes on it. There was also so much lecture material that I felt that there was no real benefit of going to class as there was no way I was going to remember. To solve this, I think the content in this course needs to be greatly cut down. Maybe cover half to two thirds of the content this semester. Each class just seemed like a fire hose of information, and after 15 minutes, I was usually unable to continue paying attention. I think this sentiment was felt by most other students given the severe lack of attendance in class.
I think there was also just such a huge lack of homework in the class. The fact that we had only four homeworks, one midterm, and a final project for a 4000 level class is just crazy to me. The homeworks were all really good, really interesting, and were a good level of challenging. I think we could have done with maybe 6, 7, or even 8 homeworks over the semester. These assignments is where I learned the most and also had the most fun in the class.
The midterm was good, I just feel like given the such huge amount of information covered in the course, there was no real good way to study. And the lack of reinforcement of knowledge outside of class made it even more difficult.
I think there could have been a lot more room for interactivity during class. I think that would have greatly improved attendance as well as made the class a lot less boring.
I also feel that there is no reason to have the class so theory based and having more homeworks would help greatly with this. I think what makes Northeastern CS so good is that it is so application based, and there was absolutely none of this during the course.

5   The project was very confusing to understand. What I mean by that is we had very little idea about what is actually expected of us and the scope that the instructor is looking for. This was exacerbated by the fact that we didn't have any sample project to compare to so we could understand the extent to which we should evaluate our results to match the expectations of the course.

6   The instructor could have taught the concepts more clearly, as it was like he

7   May be improve on the notifying the students whenever the assignment is released.

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

1   David is a very kind and respectful person, I definitely recommend him as a professor.

2   Professor is very inclusive, tries to get all students to participate actively in class.

3   I don't think there is anything the instructor could have done to help improve inclusive learning.

4   May be improve on the notifying the students whenever the assignment is released.

Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (7 comments)

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

Positive ▪ Neutral ▪ Negative

Please comment on your experience of the online course…

Positive	Neutral	Negative
43% (undefined)	14% (undefined)	43% (undefined)

0%   25%   50%   75%   100%

Percent of Sentiment

Sentiment Score chart:

Sentiment	Joy	Fear	Sadness	Anger
0.09	0.64	0.07	0.13	0.08

1 The course was very accessible online through recorded Zoom lectures. Slides were posted for later review. ★★★★★

2 It was a fun course and I learned a lot !! Assignments were very helpful!! ★★★★★

3 Attending class over zoom was fine, no issues. ★★☆☆☆

4 It was there. ★★★☆☆

5 I appreciated the clear instructions on how the online components worked. It would've been good to have an ideal solution set of some sort to understand what standards were expected. ★★★★★

6 The audio was not clear in the zoom meetings and was not able to listen to the class properly since the audio was not clear. ★☆☆☆☆

7 This course was not online ★☆☆☆☆

Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (8 comments)

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

1 Taken notes consistently. There's a ton of content, so it would've been good to take notes on main ideas during lectures.

2 Attended lectures more regularly.

3 Pay more attention during the lectures, attend office hours from the TA/professor.

4 Nothing really. Maybe payed attention to the lectures to make the midterm a little easier. There really was no benefit to going to the lectures though.

5 Probably reading through the other optional textbook as opposed to just the one.

6 Study regularly. The assignments, midterm, and final project are spaced out, which is great but it requires you to study regularly on your own to keep up.

7 I should have spent more time to study the subject.

8 Invested some more time in the week to understand it better