

CIS 201 – Introduction to Computer Science I- Students Comments

Spring 2017

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- Would love to take CSC with this teacher
- Expecting instructor Supraja Gurajala be the teacher of class 203, it will help a lot
- Yes, I would take another course with this instructor
- The instructors teaching methods are very effective. I would like for her to be my computer science 203 teacher
- The instructor's lectures are informative and well rounded, but I feel that the assignments to not follow the lecture and as a result make them confusing. The instructor is available if I ever need help and seems to care greatly about the class's progress. I would take another course with them.
- I would take another course from this instructor. Instructor does an outstanding job in establishing comprehension towards the course. I recommend professor to take control of CIS 203 as well for the 2017 fall semester.
- I wish this instructor taught all my computer science courses
- Good and patient
- Prof. Gurajala is very helpful in class and outside of the class. She's always ready to assist who ever needs help

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- I learned a lot and I understand well the course even I have some difficulty
- I learned a lot in this class and I'm interested in seeing what I'm going to learn throughout my next classes
- The course is informative and the requirements for it are easy to obtain. Making it easy for online to attend if they want to
- The class requires a heavy amount of work, which makes it difficult to also do well in the other classes
- Too many labs and assignments
- Challenging course

Fall 2017 Section 1

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- I would take another class with her
- The professor is friendly and funny. Her knowledge of the course helped us learn
- Made subject easy to understand
- Good teaching no real weakness or problems. I'm just a bad student.
- I would take another course with this instructor and I see no weakness in the instructor.
- The instructor is very kind and approachable and knows a lot about the subject
- The instructor teaches effectively and shows care for the student's progression. I would take another course from this instructor.
- The instructor is moving a bit fast with lectures, however she is a great professor.
- She's fair and understands. One thing is, she goes a little too fast.
- She is good for students who do well in lecture classes or people who learn from listening best.
- The instructor knows a lot about computer science but I do not learn well from her process of teaching.
- She is very intelligent knows her subject well. Yes, I would take another class with her.

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- No complaints from me
- The course has a very high learning curve and is very difficult at the start, but over time becomes easier
- It got really hard towards the end and I got lost on what was even happening
- The course subject and objective was consistent throughout the entire course and was well executed in its teaching
- The course content is adequate for educating students on java coding. As we advance through the 21st century it is important to realize this course should be better taught with computers in front of students to work out concepts in class.
- Course content was relevant and informative
- The course is very composed and has a lot of info and hard, so hard
- Hard but in a good way. Always on your feet with trying to keep up with everything.
- Everything relates to each other.
- The course is very informative but the way it's taught deeply impacted my grade. I believe a class like this should be taught in a computer lab hands on activities

- This course needs an intro course beforehand. There is a lot of information that has to be learned very quickly. The low class performance would be fixed with a thorough intro.

Fall 2017 Section 2

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- She's great I was just a bad student
- Instructor genuinely seems to care. Messes up from time to time writing wrong code on the board, but that is expected when writing in front of 20 people
- How do you correctly say the letter h?
- Weakness: "h"
How do you pronounce her name?
Strength: She's awesome
- She was awesome
- Sometimes she goes too quick for some students.
- Very good, knows course

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- This is a good course, 10/10 would recommend.
- The biggest problem with the course is the TA grading assignments and not knowing what they are supposed to take points off for.
- It really wasn't that hard
- Had a good time, fun people 9/10 would recommend to others!
- The course was easy at times, hard at others
- The course starts very basic then becomes very difficult in the last few weeks
- Java is a good base language and I have enjoyed learning it.
- Course difficult seems to rapidly raise at end of year

Fall 2018:

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- She's great. A little dry and doesn't seem to care as deeply about students as other professors, but her teaching is good.
- Dr. Gurajala has a strong understanding of the material and can always answer questions effectively and in depth. Yes.

- Very good teaching methods in lecture and lab. Was very kind when it came to making up work when absent.
- Slow down
- Tends to breeze through subjects at a very fast pace, would recommend slowing down and does hands on practice problems.
- Relays information well. Goes too fast at times. Should try to have students participate more in class
- She knows a lot in her area but she's not strong at teaching it. She teaches it as if we already know the subject. She read off the slides and some of the subjects she went through too fast.
- She was helpful when approached.

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- The course is fine, no problem really. The lab needs to be fixed though the printer and the computers
- Was a lot to handle at times
- Allow professors to create their own slides
- The course itself provides the needed base understanding of the programming. I wish we didn't skip the graphics chapter.
- The course had way too many requirements with not enough time. The course is way too hard for an intro level course
- This course is extremely hard! This is a course to take if you live on campus and can devote 10 hours in the lab a week outside of class.
- Great course

Spring 2019

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- I consider the instructor to be a good instructor, I would take another class with her in the future
- Keep doing what you're doing.
- Very easy to speak to and understanding.
- I would take another course from this instructor.
- Sometimes hard to read handwriting.

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- The course has a high level of difficulty for student who is new into this entire field. I personally think it would have been easier if I was not a full-time student, as the course requires many hours outside of the classroom to actually get a better understanding of it all.

- Some course material appears to need updating. Covers a lot of material so students learn a lot.
- Get more assistants.
- Hard course that needs a lot of time dedicated to it and a lot of devotion.
- I think the course should have more labs rather than classes, it is easier to learn the content while doing it.
- Very well balanced.

Fall 2019

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- I would love to take another course with Dr. Gurajala.
- Good instructed overall.
- The professor is very knowledgeable in the field but sometimes struggles to explain things in a manner that makes sense to someone who hasn't had the course before.
- Good professor. knows subject very well and wants to teach it so the point gets across and the subject we learned. I would take another class the with her.
- Dr. Gurajala, even through her fast talking and accent, definitely gets the job done helping students gain a deeper understanding of the material. I would like to have another class taught by her.
- The instructor is very knowledgeable and cares about her students success but there have been a few times where the expectations weren't conveyed or we were tested on a question for a chapter we hadn't learned yet. I would take another course from this instructor.
- Mispeaks a lot can be confusing. Thinks everyone likes this class and wants to be here.
- The instructor has great knowledge in computer science however her teaching isn't very effective. She reads off the slides saying how one program is written and then the we immediately move onto the next topic building off of something we just "learned". The grading on tests in the class is very harsh considering its an intro class. This is the second time taking the class and I'm a senior so if I don't pass this is the only class holding me back and that's not fair.
- Strengths- knowledge of the coding language and ability to teach code in a relatable way.
Weakness – for students who need time processing, the course maybe too fast-paced and overwhelming.

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- I feel that what she did a good job, she was limited to the time allotted. These 201 CIS courses should meet three times a week or be longer so the professors aren't rushed. This is not a professor complaint, but scheduling and administration complaint.
- Very difficult course for someone who is not a computer science major with the very overwhelming work load. It seems rushed but that is a lot of content.
- Made the homework available for students more. For example, give instructions of where it's wrong in the code
- The homeworks were a little too tedious and time consuming at this and having quizzes every other day might not have been the best approach in my opinion but I did learn a fair amount from the class.
- Course content was interesting and engaging however sometimes workload for homework presented a challenge due to use the computer lab.
- I find a way of teaching strange, although it does seem fair.
- The course contains a lot of content so we do need to attend every class and spend a lot of time on this class but it all contributes to learning the material.
- Shouldn't be required from non-majors of computer science. Way too much time for the class that means nothing to half the students in it.
- The course has way too much content for the time that we have to learn it. Content is way too difficult for an intro level course. For non-CIS majors this class takes up way too much time for it to be worth it. I don't understand why non-majors are required to take this. This class is hard to pass if you don't pick up things easily and that's unfair to students.
- Course is great introduction to learning Java, for anyone that is interested.

Spring 2020

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- She is always available to help outside of class and she responds fairly quickly. She goes into the fine detail of the program when explaining it making it easier to understand. The only thing I would say is giving more examples in class. Maybe ones where the class comes up with a type of program or chooses one from a list given and the whole class has to figure out how to write the program.
- Professor Gurajala is very helpful and was always available outside of class, especially with the COVID situation. I would take another class with her if I wasn't bad at comsci. Her weekly schedule for us during COVID was a good amount of workload.
- I would definitely take another course with you professor, I'm sorry I didn't end the semester as strong like I planned during the beginning of the semester, thank you and have a great summer.

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- This course is very helpful for someone like me who has no prior knowledge when it came to coding. The course does through you right into it to start, but you learn to keep up, this course may seem difficult that is only being you need to practice quite a bit to full understand coding.
- Computer science is very hard, but is interesting once you get an understanding on how to do it. I wish that I enjoyed and was better at it because I think it is a good and marketable skill. But, unfortunately my brain is not wired that way. I think I did relatively well overall.

Fall 2020

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- Dr. Gurajala is an amazing professor. She's incredibly invested in the progress of her students, and presents the material in a way that can be easily understood. No complaints whatsoever.
- Sometimes class felt a little rushed but I knew it was because we had a lot of material to get through. Maybe she could check in on students more to make sure that they're understanding and following along. Very nice teacher and a compassionate person.
- The professor was available every day of the week excluding weekends and Friday which was a great help, knowing you could always go for help puts you at ease. Was very helpful whenever I was confused with any assignment too.

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- This is a really fun course and I've learned a great deal this semester about computer science and object-oriented programming.
- Learned a lot of useful information in this course and I enjoyed it a lot.
- The course was easy enough to understand, especially with material that can often get confusing. The tests were also challenging enough to get you thinking, but not to the point where you had to waste a ton of time on one question. It was an overall enjoyable course.

Spring 2021

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

None

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

None

Fall 2021

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- I would definitely not take another course from this instructor if I had the choice. if there was another professor offering the course. I would take it with that professor. she rushes through the material and I do not get much from the lecture once she's done. when I go to her office hours I do not get enough help as I thought I would. I had no prior knowledge of java so this class was a bit tough for me. grasping the concepts was not that easy. I'd suggest she slows down a bit when going through the material in class.
- Supraja Gurajala's strengths lie in her ability to help her students with problems that they may have. Her weaknesses lie in how fast she goes through material. I would not hesitate to take another class from this instructor.
- She was amazing! Super structured and fast paced, and I learn best from teachers like that. She was also very nice, and I loved talking casually with her before class. She gave very good help to students who asked for clarification and encouraged us all to participate. She also went out of her way to change examples about questionable topics (i.e. a program about dropping "bombs" on "cities" which were just circles drawn around points on a plane, so they could have been given other meanings), and I respect that so much because she was very vocal about disapproving of what the example program was suggesting. I just loved her class so much and would absolutely love to take another course from her!

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- The course content was interesting and engaging throughout the semester.
- I LOVED THIS COURSE! I think it may just be my favorite course I've taken in college! It was the perfect balance of being beginner-friendly for coding but also fast-paced enough that I didn't ever feel bored or underwhelmed. The presentation of the material was engaging and by the end of 8 chapters I felt like I had learned so much and could apply it to my own files! I will say that some of the assignments were very hard (like 7 and 11), while others were surprisingly easy (like 8 and 12 I think), so I guess difficulty could have been a little more evenly spread but they were still really great assignments that were fun and satisfying to complete.

Spring 2022

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- She's very knowledgeable in this course but her grading is so spractic and random
- A great instructor who's very adept at explaining how code works, line by line, statement by statement, method by method.
- Please respond to emails please do not rush when teaching the material take your time
- I would take another course from Dr. Gurajala because she gives plenty of opportunities for students to make sure they fully understand the course content, whether it is in class or during her office hours. I appreciate her patience when it comes to helping students and taking however much time to get them where they need to be. I really enjoyed the course and this professor, and have not seen any weaknesses to comment on.
- Very knowledgeable and fair grader. I would take another class
- Dr. G is really good at coding, you can clearly see that through the lectures and when she helps you with your labs. She will go over a topic in class and ask if someone doesn't understand it and then repeat it if they don't.
- So good! She was understanding with deadlines and very helpful when I was confused about a problem. At one point, I went up and asked her something about a while loop, and I was incredibly confused and had trouble explaining to her what I was confused about, so we wrote everything out on the chalkboard and talked through it and it was just such a good and helpful experience! I wish more professors were like this. I'd love to take another course with her.

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- Engaging and informative. Not much else to say.
- As a student who has never learned anything about computer science or programming, I feel the course was effective and I learned a lot in a very short amount of time. The assignments were challenging, but I appreciated that they were direct applications of what we had learned in class each week.
- big difficulty spike between assignments
- The course is hard, there's no way to understate that. A lot of the students have talked about how they have had problems throughout the whole course trying to get their codes to work. Dr. G often talks about how the more you code the more natural you will think about how to solve the problem correctly, while this is true, it's hard to figure out the structure and when to do what.
- The labs were fun, and I looked forward to going to CS lab every week. I put 0-1 hours outside of class because I almost always finished the lab during the

lab period. I liked the mix between doing actual programs and working on practice problems with the Practice It website.

Fall 2022

Please comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. Would you take another course from this instructor?

- Dr. Gurajala was always willing to help and even nice enough to offer extensions on assignments if needed. Like I said in the previous section, a student is only going to get what they put in for this course. Dr. Gurajala is beyond fair when it comes down to it. She wants her students to succeed in the class but can only do so much if the students are not engaged or meeting for office hours for help. I never once was denied an extension or help on an assignment I was struggling with.
- The professor doesn't care about the performance. She just dictates all what is meant to be told and that's all. Even if there is a very poor progress in the whole class she moves on with it

Please comment on course content, requirements or any other aspect of the course

- This is a challenging course and without any previous computer science knowledge you will be fighting an uphill battle. I spent hours outside of the classroom in the computer lab, but I still believe that this class is fair. A student will only do as well as the effort they are willing to put into this course.
- Written exams feel out of place as we are encouraged to use the compiler to help us find errors in our code. Some labs feel impossible to finish within 1 lab period, which causes difficulty for commuting students. I would've liked to have seen a creative project where we can write any sort of code we want.