

Peer Observation Report

Fall 2017 Observation

Dr. Lucas Layman

Dr. Lucas Layman was observed by Dr. D. Simmonds teaching CSC 242 in Bear 165, on 16 October 2017. Approximately 30 students were present. Dr. Layman arrived early and was addressing student needs informally and started the class at 9:00 AM by reminding students of due date of the current assignment, and overviewing the days class activities. He provided motivation for why that class material was important and where the lesson fitted in the overall understanding of programming and how computers operate. Dr. Layman then entered the lecture for the day. The planned lecture topics included the roles of and relationships between high level programming languages, compilers and interpreters, virtual machines, assemble language, machine language, hardware and microarchitecture. These topics were addresses in the first part of the class. In the second segment of the class, Dr. Layman allowed students to work of assigned projects as he availed himself to answer questions and provide guidance.

The class progressed well and the class material was clearly focused, well-chosen and presented, and the overall organization was thoughtfully prepared. Dr. Layman employed an interactive style and students participated freely. One highlight of the observation was his very clear articulation, his writing on the whiteboard in large letters, and his skillful use of practical references and explanations.

Dr. Layman's lecture was logically delivered and paced well for students. In addition, he demonstrated strong knowledge of the subject matter. There was good interaction with the students who seemed to be encouraged and positive throughout the learning experience. Dr. Layman seemed destined to be an excellent instructor.