Northwestern

Student Report for COMP_SCI_110-0_1: Intro to Computer Programming (Connor Bain)

Project Title: Course and Teacher Evaluations CTEC Winter 2022

Courses Audience: 190 Responses Received: 145 Response Ratio: 76.3%

Report Comments

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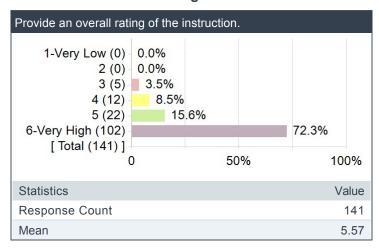
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COURSE QUESTIONS

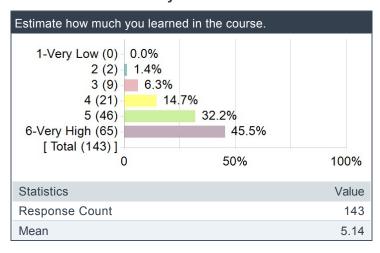
1. Provide an overall rating of the instruction.



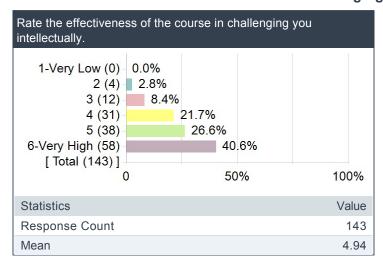
2. Provide an overall rating of the course.



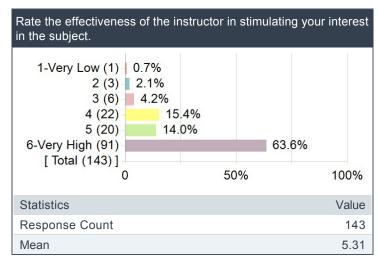
3. Estimate how much you learned in the course.



4. Rate the effectiveness of the course in challenging you intellectually.

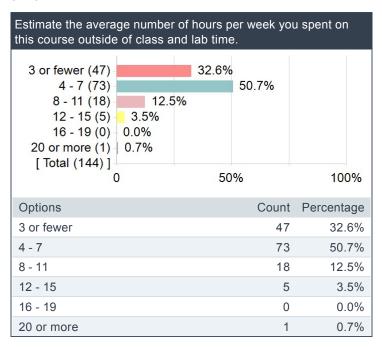


5. Rate the effectiveness of the instructor in stimulating your interest in the subject.



TIME-SURVEY QUESTION

6. Estimate the average number of hours per week you spent on this course outside of class and lab time.



ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please summarize your reaction to this course focusing on the aspects that were most important to you.

Comments

Professor Bain is a great professor! He is knowledgeable and truly cares about the success of his students. Highly recommend taking a class with him!

It was a fun course to start learning to code through python. Exams are pretty good if you go through most of the lecture quizzes and practice tests.

very good intro class, prof Bain is Nice and lots of extra credit opps

Great professor, manageable workload, interesting projects, not a hard A

I thought this course was a really good class for beginners. It has a lot of TAs, so there are always office hours to go to. Also, the professor explains things in depth and is receptive to students, so getting help shouldn't be a problem. Personally, I think the class is an easy A but it depends on the student as always. Not a big time commitment though.

The professor is great, he's interactive and understanding. There are two assignments a week, 2 projects and 3 quizzes, one of each can be dropped. Lots of work, but that's understandable considering you are learning a new language. I had absolutely no prior compsci experience, and I still did pretty well in this class.

I was truly able to get a grasp on the basics of computer science, which is exactly what I wanted out of this course.

There isn't a lot of pressure while taking this course, and there's a LOT of leniency. Work thoroughly on projects and take advantage of extra credit opportunities in the projects. Quizzes don't matter as much but are still helpful.

I really enjoyed this course. It was very straightforward and helped give me a strong understanding of programming basics and Python 101. It was pretty easy and sometimes lectures moved a bit slower than I would I have liked (I feel like we could have covered more material if we went a bit faster) but overall I feel like this class was interesting and valuable as a non–CS major. Plus Prof. Bain is a great instructor!

This is a good intro to the world of coding. It can be difficult to understand at first if you have no prior knowledge, but Professor Bain did a really good job explaining concepts if you looked for more help. I had fun with the projects and the grading system is fair for people who have never tried coding.

The HWs and projects were way more challenging than anything discussed in lectures. I wish the lectures would've been more comprehensive and gone further into more difficult material so that we could be prepared for the complexity of the homeworks and projects.

Professor Bain was extremely helpful, clear and succinct in his explanation of course materials and instructing of logistics. It's not too hard of a class if you go to your tutorial section and office hours.

It was an easy class and interesting because the professor was so good at explaining things in engaging ways

I really enjoyed this class and learned the logic needed for computer programming. I thought all assignments were very fair and expectations were effectively communicated. The instructor and TAs were very available and helpful.

This class taught A LOT. It's super flexible so super easy to get an A in. I had no prior experience to programming before this class, so it was quite difficult for me at times but the professor and peer mentors were all super helpful! Expect to put work in – I was in office hours almost every day to get help on assignments.

Highly recommend taking this course!!!! Definitely don't be intimidated if you have no experience because I didn't. This class moves pretty slowly, but you can always put more effort into the projects and home works if you want more of a challenge. There is also a lot of support! I really enjoyed it.

I really liked this course! As someone who doesn't have much interest or experience with computer science, Prof Bain made the class really interesting and easy to follow!

Professor Bain is amazing!! He makes the class easy to manage, and makes sure to take his time so that you can grasp the concepts. There is not a lot of work in the class, no midterms or final. Three quizzes, 1 of which you can drop. 2 projects, and weekly homeworks and tutorials, but you can drop one of those each as well. Overall, a really good intro to CS class, and the activities we do are fun and interesting as well.

good intro course for non-stem people. not hard to do well if you spend time on the assignments & studying throughout the week instead of cramming

As someone with no computer science background, I think the course did a great job explaining the basics but moving at a good enough pace that by the end of the course, we're able to create full programs.

This was a great class to take, if you do the work, go to office hours + tutorial you will get a good grade in the class. Not only that, but the projects are fun and if you ever feel stuck there is always someone who can help.

This course provided a smooth transition into learning more about computer science. This is something that I did not have previous exposure to and this class provided a battering ram for charging through a wall of doubts surrounding comp sci.

The class was very interesting and a great first class. Sometimes the assignments were difficult and unrelated from the specifics of what we are learning.

super easy intro to comp sci, minimal work, professor Bain is the nicest and all the ta's are also SO helpful. Office hours are key!!!

Good class but teacher moved slow at moments and too fast at moments which could make the material confusing.

nice class. easy A if you just do the work.

This class wasn't unmanageable work or content wise. But, it was sometimes hard to connect lecture content to actual coding. I got lucky and had a good peer mentor who connected those ideas for me but other friends of mine did not get helpful peer mentor and were some times lost on the assignments.

The tutorial sessions were definitely the spaces where I learned the most!

Definitely challenging and presented some difficult-to-grasp concepts at times, but the class was ultimately very rewarding.

Great course! Super organized. Intellectually challenging, but not frustrating. Very well constructed course.

The professor was great, however, the curriculum/tutorials/homework was not. Not only did the lectures not prepare us for tutorials/homework, they were extremely difficult for an intro class. Also, I think that there are other ways of teaching intro to python that don't spend the majority of the course learning how to animate shapes and make "creatures" in Tkinter. It wasn't until the last couple of days did we finally start learning how to read files and stuff like that, which actually has more practical use than animating creatures.

I did not think that I would be interested in CS before taking this class, and now I'm possibly considering it for a minor. The work was very fun and rewarding and Professor Bain was very helpful and approachable.

This course was sold as a coding class for kids who never coded before, and the lectures certainly felt like that, but the assignments did not. He would go into the very basic definitions and uses during the lectures and then the tutorials and homeworks were like waaaaaaaaaay beyond anything he explained. The bulk of the time I spent working outside of class was me scratching my head about how any of our assignments related to what we were talking about. If you have former comp sci experience, then this is a nice class. If you do not, you will be teaching yourself python and going to multiple office hour sessions a week just to have the most basic level of understanding. I would not take this again.

This course was a good distribution requirement. It was REALLY hard though, but luckily the professor is very understanding and gives a TON of extra credit. He is very lenient with the grading: He drops your lowest 2 tutorial assignments and your lowest homework and your lowest quiz. I will admit that this course is not easy though. I had to work so hard. We have class 3x a week and then you also have a weekly tutorial assignment and you also have a weekly homework assignment that requires you to teach yourself some material. If you are going to take this class, be sure to have a friend or acquaintance that you can meet up with to do

the work together. Although I will finish with a decent grade (even though I received 2 Fs on the midterm quizzes... his extra credit rocks!), this course was exhausting at times. You must attend every single lecture if you want any chance of finishing with an A or B. Bain is a great professor though and has a lot of enthusiasm which makes the course worthwhile.

This was a super great course! Very easy to do well if you put in the work. You can drop one quiz/hw/2 tutorials which is super nice. You can also get hw extensions and the office hours are very helpful. Great introduction to compsci and python!

I was completely new to the field, and this course was excellent in introducing me to Python's basic ideas and skills. Professor Bain is a fantastic professor, and I would highly recommend taking the course with him. He keeps us entertained even at 9 am and is super helpful on Campuswire and easy to reach over email. Professor Bain is also flexible in grading and cares about every student's improvement. Also, he tells the best jokes!

Overall positive experience. 3 midterm quizzes (30pts each), 6 homework (8 pts each)(drop 1), 9 tutorials (3 pts each)(drop 2), and two projects (40pts each). Overall decent class. Not too difficult to get an A given that there is a total of 16 possible extra credit points for the semester given on projects. You also get to drop one midterm quiz. If you do good on the first two you do not have to take the final midterm. Start projects early, the deadline always comes quicker than expected.

Professor Bain is an amazing professor. I thought his explanations were very clear and easy to follow. I had no experience working with Python or coding in general and was worried that everyone else would already have an understanding. However, this class is definitely for people with little to no experience. I will say that as long as you put in the work, such as doing every tutorial and homework assignment and the project you will definitely get an A in the class. The biggest thing is to go to the office hours to ask for help because I definitely would not have been able to go through this class without the office hours of the peer mentors. There are two major projects which are also not bad and if you can get extra credit points, it definitely helps your grade. This class is very manageable overall.

Prof. Bain is such an incredible teacher. He is so kind and helpful and you can tell that he really cares about his students, especially with how attentive he is on campuswire and how willing he is to stay after class to answer questions. I couldn't recommend a better professor for this class. 10/10 teacher! The class was challenging at times, especially for someone with no comp sci background, but Prof. Bain really tries his best to make it engaging and interactive with the projects and examples. There are also lots of extra credit opportunities which are really helpful, especially if you aren't the best test–taker. Even though it was hard at times, I had a great time in this class and I can definitely see why people would pursue a major in computer science.

As an introductory course, I thought it was very interesting although I'm not sure how applicable it can be in other aspects. It was very fun learning python and as long as you do the assignments and pay attention to the details it goes by fast.

Professor Bain was amazing — his teaching is great. There are lots of resources available, along with a plethora of office hours to attend. That said, you get what you put in, and if you don't pay attention or ask for help, you're going to struggle. There's built in lee—way in the class so if you mess up on something, the lowest gets dropped (2 lowest tutorials out of 9, 1 lowest homework out of 6, 1 lowest test out of 3).

Though it may seem scary at first, programming is not so bad. I went into the course scared that I was going to do badly, but this course may have been my highest grade this quarter. I learned about many important fundamentals of coding and had a fun time doing such. The key to this class though is ASKING FOR HELP. If you do not understand something, do not waste your time trying to figure it out on your own out of pride. You will be much better off having a TA help you, and this will improve your class experience. Also the professor was amazing and you can really tell that he cares about students doing well in the class. The class is also so forgiving in that you can drop a homework, a quiz, and a couple tutorials. I don't know any other class this forgiving. If you ever get the chance, go to professor office hours and just have a conversation with him. If you are looking for a class to fulfill a distro or are just interested in coding but not sure you want to pursue a major/minor, this is a good course for you.

The class is not super easy but doable, there are a lot of homework assignments (2 per week), so it is a little time consuming. I recommend going to office hours a lot to ask help on homework assignments, I found it very useful. Professor Bain is very enthusiastic and is very understanding.

The lectures have almost no relation to the homework and it's extremely frustrating. Why do I have to go to office hours constantly just for material that could be stated in class? Also some TAs are mean. You have to find the ones you like, which is fine I guess because there are so many TAs in the course to fit your schedule. Prof Bain is nice and understanding but this course was not for me.

This course taught me so much about CS. I had never taken a CS course before, and while the pacing was a bit slow at times, I learned a lot and I think I have come out of this course with a lot of new tangible skills. All of the assignments were really helpful to my learning and I also found them enjoyable.

This course had weekly lectures where you learned about Python and then you would have a homework and tutorial each week and the tutorial is supposed to help you with the homework. Overall, I enjoyed the class.

I really liked how organized the course website is. Every resource I needed was super easy to access. Personally, I didn't go to inperson lectures but still managed to get a really good grade for this course.

This is a really great course that I highly recommend taking especially if you have no experience with coding. Professor Bain is one of the kindest professors I've encountered. He makes a big effort to make everyone feel welcome and appreciated both in class and at office hours. He makes the content of lectures very clear and the homework assignments and projects are challenging enough to

be interesting without feeling overwhelming. This course has made me want to pursue computer science further which is not something I thought I would say.

Prof Bain is very good in lecture, course is structured for you to do well as long as you put in effort, very easy to get help if you need it

I knew nothing about coding going into this and I took it for IMC. Professor Bain is really nice and helpful in office hours, however, his lectures do not help you learn to code. They are very theoretical and less application based. You really only learn in tutorial sessions and office hours. OLIVIER WAS THE BEST TA. I was not in his session, but I went to his office hours and he was great. My TA, Cindy, was awful. She did not teach me a single thing and her zoom links were constantly not working. Her tutorial session was absolutely useless. GO TO YOUR TUTORIAL AND OFFICE HOURS AND YOU WILL GET THROUGH THE COURSE

This course helped me learn how to do basic coding, while making the content digestible and manageable.

The way the course was structured was really appealing. The flexibility in being able to drop your lowest quiz, project, tutorial, and hw grades were really useful.

A fun and easy course to get a basic understanding of programming.

Great intro course, would highly recommend over CS–110 if you are a complete beginner. Definitely can follow along with the class if you attend/watch lectures and go to office hours if you need. There were office hours basically any time of the week, which was really helpful. Super interesting class that actually even made me consider doing something in CS.

This was really great at supporting beginner students and i always felt like I could get help.

I liked this course the professor was very helpful and and made learning about new topic that previously intimidated me much more manageable

This class is great! Challenging, but doable with time and efforts. Professor Bain is so cool, and the TAs are so helpful. The lectures are easy to digest and give great examples for required skills in the course work.

Though challenging, this course was definitely worth taking. Not an easy A, but a lot of extra credit is offered on projects. A lot of my and my classmates experiences were dependent on which PM you are assigned to, but it is easy to attend the tutorials/office hours of alternate PMs. Overall, I feel that this class has taught me skills that I will use in the future and I am glad to have taken it.

Not bad if you don't have a very heavy workload already. Make sure you have a good tutorial person though (you can change if you need to, it's not a big deal).

loved it

I really enjoyed this course. I'm not much of a STEM fanatic, but Prof Bain really helped people who were completely knew to the subject leave feeling like they can code. The projects were also super fun and the end result was always so interesting. Prof Bain is also just a really nice guy and an amazing prof.

This is a great course for someone who doesn't have any experience in a coding language. The assignments can be frustrating at times but that's simply because you're trying to learn something new and there are a lot of unknowns. If you put in enough effort and go to tutorials and office hours (I can't stress enough how important it is to go to these!!!!) you will learn a lot from this class. Prof. Bain is a great instructor, his lectures are fun and engaging and he is always ready to answer all questions and help.

i loved learning intro to comp sci

This course is primarily catered towards people who have little to no experience in coding. It is extremely beginner friendly and can be taken to see if you have interest in computer science. Homework is very easy and tutorials help a lot, quizzes are not stressful and are graded very leniently. Highly reccomend

Prof Bain is a great prof! I think the overall structure/grading of the class allows you to get an A as long as you put in some effort and ask for help.. i have some thoughts about assessments in CS classes to test knowledge of code, but that does not affect my overall view of the prof or things I have learned!

This class is great! Connor is an amazing teacher. I was really intimidated to take this because I've never done comp sci, but that was not a problem. There is a good amount of work, but it pays off and is interesting! Its like learning a language. I didn't love the last week or two of lectures because it got really complicated for no reason and the second project was way more complex than the first.

This class was a great introduction to coding in Python! I found that the workload was just the right amount of challenging, as someone who isn't particularly STEM.

This was honestly was super incredible challenging. The lecture itself did not exactly line up with the assignments nor HW so it is a lot of self studying and going to OH. There are a lot of leniency built in however.

This course offered a great intro into computer science and coding. We focused a lot on animating drawings and manipulating data.

i really liked that the professor was very accessible. the course materials included a website, which laid out every assignment, linked to the class recording, and resources that would be helpful. the prof was incredibly good about communication, and making sure everything we need is in one place. super organized, which made me learn in a very smooth process

I was very nervous going into this course because I have no coding experience and everything at Northwestern is difficult. Although

this class way confusing at times, I'm so glad I took it. It's definitely doable given the resources available to us though, especially the countless office hours. Professor Bain is so amazing too! Very energetic at 9 in the morning, cracking jokes, and handing out candy on the last day. I didn't attend class in person on most days... I did rewatch the lectures though and enjoyed watching Professor Bain teach.

I went into this course so nervous – it was a prerequisite, and I am not a STEM student. I was pleasantly surprised. The course is laid out so well, with countless TA office hours and a website to submit questions. Prof. Bain answered questions late at night before projs/homeworks were due. He is very accommodating and fair. He made the content accessible to non–STEM students. I enjoyed this class a lot. It was one of my favorite classes so far at NU, and I'm planning to take more computer science to fulfill my science requirements. GREAT CLASS!

I loved this course! It was such a good introductory course and offered a ton of resources for absolute beginners to programming in python. It is very manageable as I took this course with bio and orgo plus labs. It was honestly a breather from my other classes.

Absolutely fascinating class—I LOVED it. I came into it with absolutely no programming experience whatsoever and had no idea what to expect, but I found it really interesting and enjoyable! It made me want to take more CS classes even though I don't need to for my major. I liked how straightforward it was, either your code works or it doesn't, so you pretty much always know if you're gonna get 100%. With the exception of the 3 quizzes (lowest gets dropped), there's really no reason to not get 100% on every assignment as long as you give yourself enough time to complete it and go to Office Hours if something isn't working right. Prof. Bain and the TAs and Peer Mentors are super helpful in Office Hours and will always be able to fix your errors if your code is messed up. Prof. Bain is one of my favorite instructors I've had at NU so far. He's funny and uses really fair and accommodating policies in his class. He lets you drop your lowest or 2 lowest scores for each type of assignment and will almost always grant extensions whenever you need them for any or no reason. Lectures are a good mix of notes and examples so they're not boring, and they're all recorded so you can always skip class and watch them later (I did this frequently for my 9am section IoI). Anyway overall amazing class. I honestly think everyone should take it even if it has nothing to do with your major. It's super easy and honestly really enjoyable. Being able to figure out how to code something correctly when you've never coded anything before is just a really rewarding feeling, and it's definitely a GPA booster even if you do the absolute bare minimum. They grade really easily and there are a lot of extra credit opportunities on the projects. I'm ending with above 100% and I had never coded before this class.

This course is a good intro to learning Python. Make sure you go to office hours/tutorial section otherwise this course becomes very difficult (coming from someone who didn't have any previous programming experience). Prof Bain is a very enthusiastic and fair professor.

The course was great. It was a great introduction to coding.

GREAT DISTRO! lectures were always recorded so didn't have to worry about attending lectures. Professor is great and super nice, he makes lectures bearable and super simple to understand. Theres like s discussion section but its only mandatory the first week, the rest u can just submit the tutorial for (usually super simple and the discussion section is meant to go through it completely so I suggest always attending) theres always Office hours which is super nice of them because all the TAs are happy to help. homework assignments are also simple and easy to navigate through. best 2/3 quizzes so I recommend rocking the first 2 (super easy if u understand the topics and are keeping up to date) 2 40 point projects but are very similar to homework. Def recommend!

This is a really good intro class and made me discover an interest in comp sci.

This is a very good introductory course to computer science. They help you out a lot in this class and there are lots of resources to

This course can be very frustrating and time consuming at times but it is problem—solving. If you like trial and error, debugging, and feeling proud of your creations it is the class for you.

This class will be fun if and only if you connect with the teacher, your TAs and your classmates. DO NOT do what I did and try coding on an island away from everyone else; Something will go wrong, and Python is ruthless in its specificity.

Prof. Bain is an amazing teacher and the class is an easy A if you put in the work for the quizzes and projects!

This class made me switch to CS.

I came in uninterested in CS, but Bain makes it so interesting that I've taken a liking to it.

The projects are fun, but start them early and take advantage of the insane amount of office hours they offer. You'll learn more in five minutes there than two hours that two hours trying to figure stuff out on your own.

It's an excellent introduction to coding and it's very well structured.

People say this course is easy but it was not for me, as a beginner in programming.

I really enjoyed this course! The projects and homeworks, although they definitely took time and effort to complete, were always rewarding. There are a bunch of different office hours, so you can always get the help you need. If you're thinking about CS as a major/minor, I think this course lays a great foundation for the type of work you'll be doing in the future since the class focuses on math, logic, quizzes, and projects.

It's an okay class. Not too difficult to get an A as long as you do all the work (Hw, Tutorials, Projects, quizzes). The quizzes weren't too

Student Report for Connor Bain (COMP_SCI_110-0_1: Intro to Computer Programming)

Comments

bad if you looked at the reviews/practice quizzes. It is fairly easy to get full credit for Hw and tutorials. Projects give a lot of extra credit.

This was a pretty solid intro to CS! If you're on the fence about CS and haven't done any programming before, you should definitely take this class. It's super chill and really eases you into working with Python. I really didn't know that much about coding before, but I didn't think this course was terribly difficult at all.

would not recommend for a distro! I spent 10-15 hours a week on this class alone.

I loved this course, it was a 9 am class though. But I loved it. The professor is so sweet and organized. He was always prepared and the way everything was organized for students is something I loved about the course. There are a lot of office hours too which is so nice.

It's relatively easy to get a good grade in this class because of extra credit, but I really struggled to understand a lot of the key concepts and found this class very hard. Professor Bain is great, but the class overall is tough. Homework every week is difficult

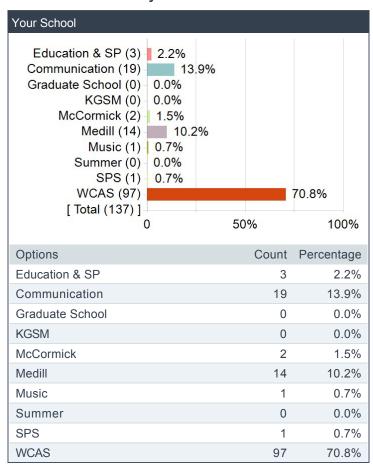
I thought Professor Bain did a great job with this course. I think everything was taught in a very easy—to—understand way and he provided enough office hours, examples, practice exams, etc. that I think with a little bit of effort anyone can get an A and walk away more interested in CS than before.

I loved this class bc of the professor. I think it could be improved by covering some of the tutorial work in class bc the tutorials are optional. Some TAs could be more helpful too. Generally an outstanding class altogether. Prof Connor is the best!

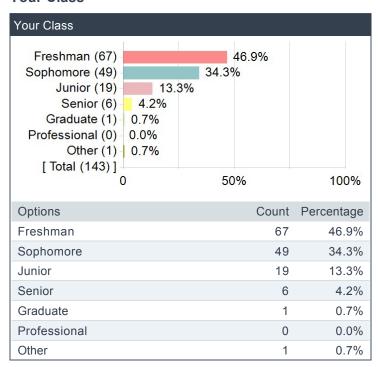
This is a great course for people who have never coded or done anything programming related before. There are a lot of weekly assignments which can be a bit time consuming, but the Professor builds a lot of flexibility into the course schedule. If you stay caught up with the lectures and assignments an A is super attainable. Professor Bain is a great professor and whatever you learn in this course will definitely stay with you.

DEMOGRAPHICS

What is the name of your school?



Your Class



What is your reason for taking the course? (mark all that apply)

Distribution requirement (34) Major/Minor requirement (59) Elective requirement (8) Non-Degree requirement (9) No requirement (33) Other requirement (8) [Respondent(s) (142)]	% 21.9%	100%
Options	Count	Percentage
Distribution requirement	34	22.5%
Major/Minor requirement	59	39.1%
Elective requirement	8	5.3%
Non-Degree requirement	9	6.0%
No requirement	33	21.9%
Other requirement	8	5.3%
Respondent(s)	142	

What was your Interest in this subject before taking the course?

