



Student Report for COMP_SCI_110-0_20: Intro to Computer Programming (Sarah Van Wart)

Project Title: **Course and Teacher Evaluations CTEC
Winter 2021**

Courses Audience: **193**
Responses Received: **153**
Response Ratio: **79.3%**

Report Comments

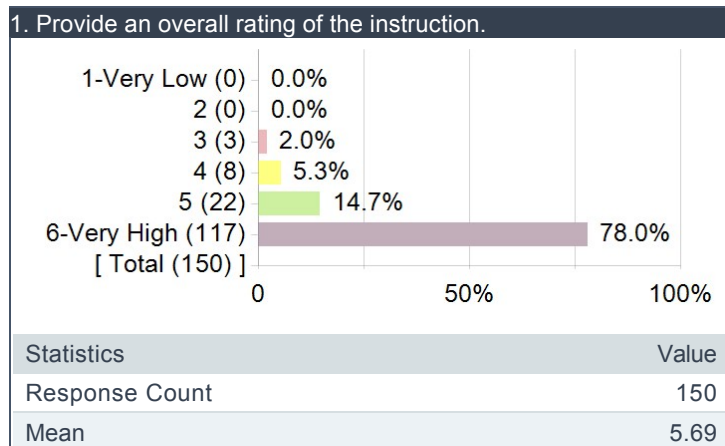
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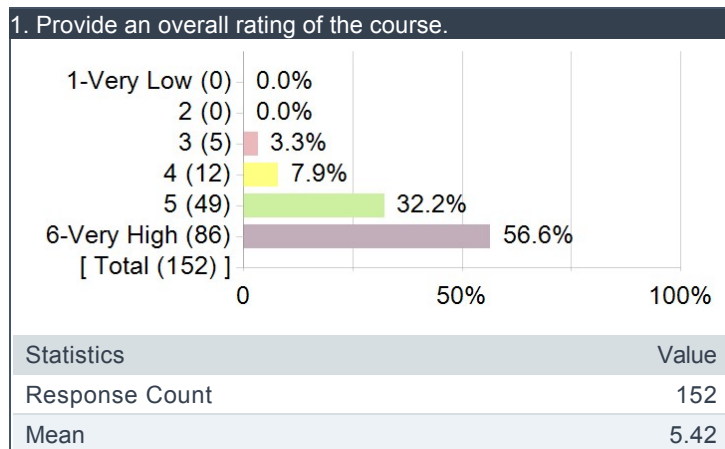
Creation Date: **Wednesday, June 09, 2021**

COURSE QUESTIONS

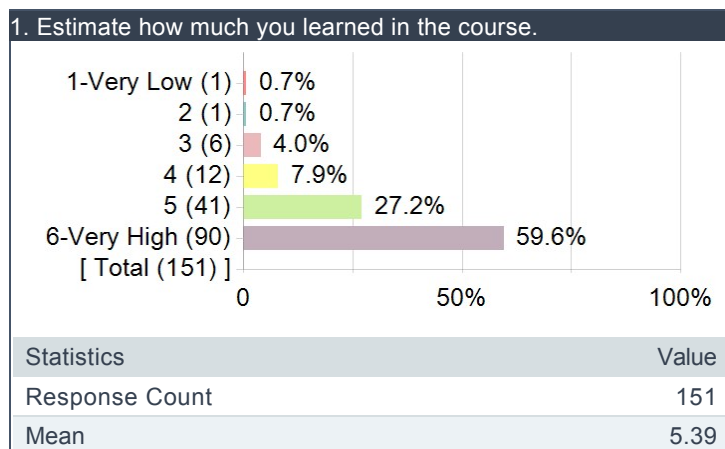
1. Provide an overall rating of the instruction.



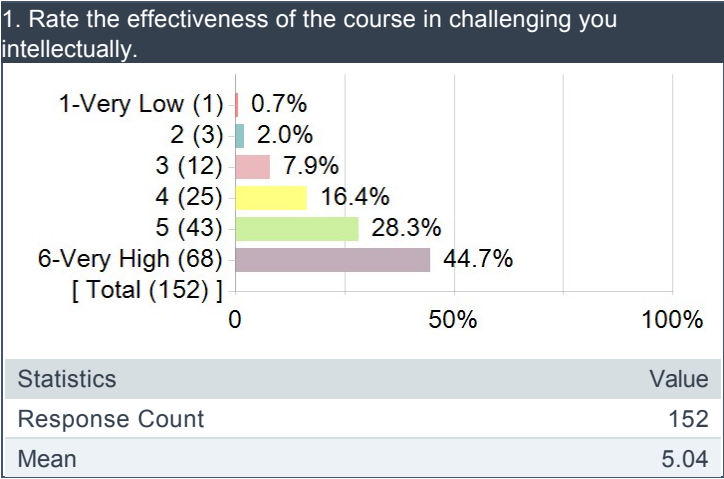
2. Provide an overall rating of the course.



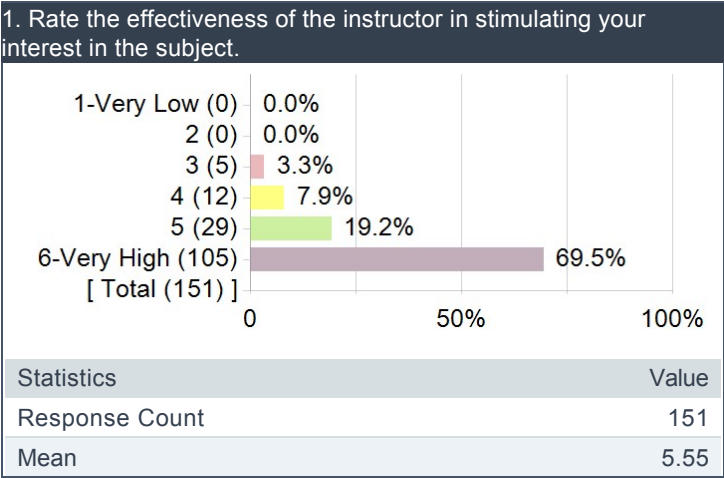
3. Estimate how much you learned in the course.



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



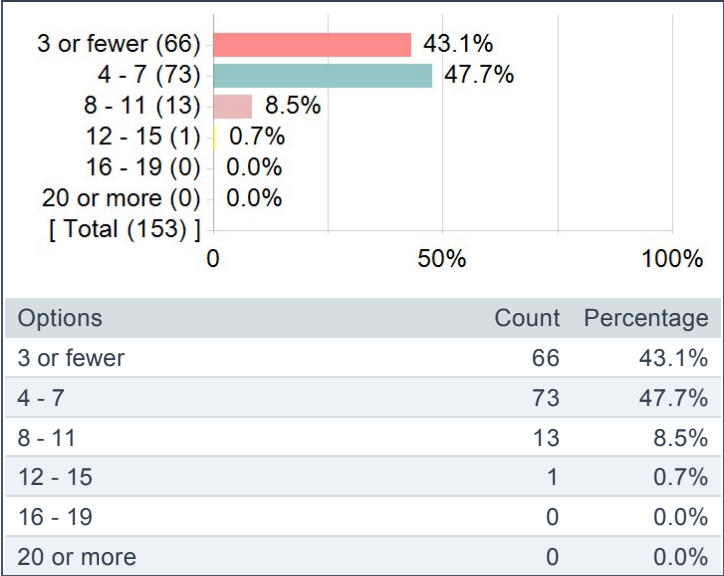
5. Rate the effectiveness of the instructor in stimulating your interest in the subject.



TIME-SURVEY QUESTION

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

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ESSAY QUESTIONS

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

Comments
Great foundation for learning the Python language at a great pace with some challenging elements
This class is super easy. Highly recommend!
Sarah is a wonderful human. She is a great introductory comp sci professor and the class is balanced really well in terms of learning information and assignments.
This course is so fun and you learn so much! Definitely one of those things where you get out of it what you put into it, but there's so much support (literally like office hours are available for hours every day) that it is doable!
I was terrified going into this class because I had zero CS experience, but I ended up loving it. Sarah is such a great professor, and made the course very beginner-friendly. I feel like I have a very solid foundation of CS skills now. The assignments are reasonable and can be interesting if you are engaged in them. All of the TAs are also super helpful – go to office hours with any questions and they'll help you fix your code/answer any questions. I would highly recommend this class for anyone who needs a distro, or just wants to learn about CS.
This is one of the best classes I've ever taken—and I couldn't be more surprised given its content. I was so nervous coming into the class having never programmed before. I not only left the class with a solid intro to python, but an actual desire to continue learning about computer science and possibly even taking more classes. Sarah and the peer mentors actually made the learning fun and it always felt extremely rewarding. If you put in the effort, it's not hard at all to do well in the class. But more than that, if you put in the effort, you'll leave the class a better programmer, student, and (honestly) person.
The tutorials and office hours were very helpful, and there was a wide variety of office hour times. The instruction was very effective and everyone wanted to make sure you understood anything you were confused about.
it was cool
Ideal for programming beginners! Sarah is really nice, nothing super challenging unless you personally want to go the extra mile, so many opportunities for bonus points that it seems like you're basically guaranteed an A.
I appreciated the flexibility of the course attendance and grading system. I liked that help was readily available throughout the quarter.
For an intro class, 110 will give you all the tools you need in order to begin fully learning coding. You gain a solid grasp of python.
My goal in taking this course was to simply grow in my knowledge and abilities. I had some background in coding prior to this class,

Comments
and with this course's focus on gradual learning and implementation using fun and engaging exercises, I was able to develop my skills and reach this important goal, while being challenged intellectually!
I had to take this course for my Linguistics major, and I wasn't super happy about it because I am not a STEM person. But Sarah was truly amazing. She is so enthusiastic and ready to help everyone. I just recommend taking advantage of office hours and the helpful TAs. This is a challenging class if you've never done programming before, but it's possible if you keep up with the pre-recorded lectures and tutorials!
Fun intro comp sci course, and you will learn a lot about beginning with Python. Lots of office hour times available so there were always people to help if you got stuck with your code.
this course was so much better than i anticipated, especially since i had no prior coding experience. you get what you put into it, but sarah is so passionate she really makes you want to try. i really enjoyed this course and it very much is possible to get an A in this class as long as you stay on top of lectures and hw assignments/tutorials.
This class is really nice. Prof van Wart is really awesome and the class is set up to maximize student's learning and success. The only "negative" is that it can sometimes seem a little too slow-moving, but that's just because its the most intro class into computer science
I knew nothing about coding going in, but Sarah and her team really break everything down for you and help every step of the way. Lots of available office hours and opportunities for help. Weekly homeworks, tutorials (in-class work), a few quizzes, and two projects. If you keep up with the work, it's totally manageable.
An A is definitely attainable in this course even if you have 0 coding/tech experience. There are just a lot of assignments that you'll need to keep track of. But Sarah is an amazing professor who really cares about her students learning.
Professor and TAs were super accessible at all times, assignments were tough but not unfair, and hard work was rewarded.
meh
Before this course, I did not have any experience with computer programming. However, the way this class was set up made it very easy to learn basic coding in python. I really enjoyed the homework assignments and projects because each one allowed us to put our own creative spin to it. Additionally, the tutorials were very helpful for understanding the concepts each week. The professor is very enthusiastic and willing to answer any questions or help with confusing aspects of the course. Overall, I highly recommend this class if it is your first time taking computer science.
fun and easy intro to Python, Prof Van Wart is clear and super positive and there are tons of opportunities to do more and lots of office hours times, the projects and homeworks are easy and fun. It's a class that won't take up too much of your time and can still learn a lot in!
This was a really great class! I was nervous at first because I was coming in with no programming background, but this class helped me get a great start. And Sarah is so sweet and a great professor!
I'm a big fan of this course. As someone who wanted to learn python for social science research, this course taught me the basics and I feel like I have a good grasp of python because of it. While not an easy A in the sense that you'll have to work, if you put in the work you will get an A, with how much tutorials/hw/projects are worth there's little opportunity to choke on exams and hurt your grade.
solid.
I really enjoyed this course! I mostly study humanities subjects so this was a nice change of pace. Sarah was super informative and the lectures were helpful, but tutorial and the homework/project exercises really helped me learn. And office hours were super accessible and the TAs were really helpful with any coding bugs or issues!
The concepts in this course were interesting and fun once you understood them. However, the homework and tutorials were ahead of the actual lessons, which made this course challenging. Sarah was an okay professor, but she felt a little unprepared a lot of the time. I learned a lot in tutorial (which I didn't know about prior to signing up for this class). The coursework felt manageable, but the additional lectures beyond live lectures was a lot of time and it felt excessive.
This course is great! I honestly enjoyed how dynamic it is because it makes you keep up with all the content. After you get over the learning curve, it feels awesome to make things work yourself! There are weekly tutorial tasks due (and you can drop 2 out of 7) and the tutorial is led by undergrad TAs that are surprisingly SUPER helpful. Weekly homework assignments and the last one was optional. 2 projects and 3 quizzes (first two mandatory; third is optional) that are pretty much midterms in terms of the format BUT they weigh a little when it comes to the overall grade. Also plenty of office hours, so you can work through anything that's confusing to you. Sarah is super nice and always answers any questions in class, so the lecture is also quite engaging (even though the lecture would often run behind what we do in tutorials and what the homework is on). It's also very useful to have that basic knowledge in a coding language because you get how a lot of things are done virtually. I took it as a Neuro requirement but would recommend it even as a class to take for fun!
The professor is so nice and helpful and understanding. she made the material so fun to learn and was so attentive to my questions and concerns. I learned so much in a fun and hands on way.
Great class – Professor van Wart teaches the basics of Python really well.
This course was super fast-paced, but I feel like I have a good grasp of the basics of Python. Sarah was such a kind professor and

Comments
the whole tutorial/peer mentor system supplemented what we did in class. Some downsides are that the projects are pretty time-consuming and stressful, and the homework is often much more challenging than what we do in class. Other than that, good class and good professor!
This class is so hard if this subject doesn't come easily but you will be okay if you either a) have time to go to office hours every week or b) take it with a friend/friends. Collaboration will save you in this class. There are a lot of office hours you can go to, but you have to be realistic with yourself about whether or not you have the time/energy to go.
This class is so great for people that are new to coding. Sarah moves slowly enough for everyone to understand, but I never felt like topics were dragging on. In this class, you learn a lot by doing, and there are so many opportunities to practice what is introduced in lectures. Everyone—Sarah and the peer mentors—are so patient, kind, and always willing to help.
I had a lot of fun. There's very clear guidelines on assignments which makes it easy to complete assignments, but there's also a lot of room to customize and get creative with the code you wrote. I will say that how much time I would have to spend on a given assignment was really all over the place because if you know how to do it right away it can go really quickly but if you don't know it, or your code isn't working for some reason you can't discern, you can end up banging your head against the wall for hours trying to figure it out. But I guess that's just the nature of coding.
This course is a really wonderful and gentle introduction to computer science. I will admit I found out pretty quickly that I'm not a person who enjoys coding so I didn't put in as much as other people and therefore learned less than perhaps I could've, but even so it's so reasonable and well-paced I'd still recommend it to anyone curious about coding but intimidated by the other CS courses. Far better than CS 111 for beginners and so many opportunities for extra credit and a fair amount of leniency (can drop 1/3 quizzes, 1 homework, 2 tutorials) so if you put in some work you should be able to achieve an A. Prof is wonderfully supportive and stresses how approachable coding can be/that the course is for beginners.
Great introduction to python in an easy, low-pressure class environment. Highly recommend for an easy formal studies distro or just to take for fun, like I did!
This class is a great introductory class. I had no background coming in, but still managed to do well in this class.
This class was fun and pretty easy. Professor van wart is the sweetest person ever and is very forgiving in grading. There are plenty of assignments so unless you fall behind getting a good grade wont be too hard.
If you were intimidated by CS before, TAKE THIS COURSE!! Sarah and all the TAs were so helpful and they always make sure we understand the content. The perfect introductory course.
I liked this course as my first exposure to computer science, the pacing was good/not too fast and explanations were thorough.
This course was great and a lot of fun, speaking as someone who never had an interest in programming and had 0 experience going into this class. You learn a lot of the basics and get a sense of the key ideas in programming and overall it's just really a great, straightforward class.
This class is awesome! Take it
I really liked this class. It was a great introduction to computer science, and it definitely has sparked my interest in taking more computer science courses in the future. The workload is pretty light and if you pay attention to lectures for the first two quizzes, you're basically guaranteed an A as they drop your lowest quiz score, tutorial, and homework grade.
This course was so great. I knew nothing about coding before taking this course and now feel confident with basic python skills. Sarah is also an awesome professor. She is so clear in her lectures and is super forgiving with homework, exams, etc. allowing many extra credit opportunities. There's also office hours everyday which is super helpful. I would highly recommend this course with Sarah if you're new to coding because she was such a great prof, and I love coding because of this course and her.
Friendly to students to CS, challenging, lots of help available, I will likely need it in the future
This class is good! I think it teaches some basic, really valuable skills just so you kind of understand how very basic coding works. I am really not a stem person at ALL but Sarah made this class a whole lot easier and I think the TA's saved me for real. You will end with an A.
This course is excellent. Sarah Obviously cares a lot about students and is very understanding. Grading is very generous too which I appreciate given the difficult subject matter
Phenomenal class, didn't even take for any credit just for learning and it was perfect
Teacher was very enthusiastic and clear and concise.
This is an awesome introductory course to computer programming. As someone who has no prior programming experience, I thought the course was perfect for my lack of programming background with its pace and its focus on a very versatile/useful language (Python). What I loved most was this course's focus on actually teaching you the material rather than trying to make the class as hard as possible — that being said, while it wasn't super difficult, I would still definitely recommend going to office hours. Quizzes were fair and the projects are worth a lot of your grade but they are fun and you can get extra credit on them which can help your grade a lot.
This course was well structured, well taught, and well organized. However, I came into this course having had prior Python knowledge, and since I am not pursuing a CS major I did not want to take CS 150. Thus, it was a tad too easy for me and I found

Comments
myself wanting more. For those looking to get into CS however, this is a great intro course.
I was really surprised at how much I liked this course. Not only was it fun to learn, there was also so much help provided to the class from Sarah and the TAs.
Sarah is a great teacher. I had no interest in computer science before this class, but I was pleasantly surprised.
Loved Dr. Van Wart's lectures. Loved this course. Loved doing homeworks. Very stress-free, and Dr. Van Wart is an excellent Python teacher.
This course helped me learn so many things that I wasn't aware of prior to taking the class. I learned so many concepts and hope to take another CS course sometime in the future!
I love working with computers, so this course helped me learn how a computer processes things. There were so many things that I learned that I did not expect to. The workload wasn't as bad as I thought it would be and it was just enough so that I was able to enjoy it to its full extent.
This is an excellent class! Workload is very manageable and everything is made really easy to understand. Assignments are fun, but prepare to do a lot of work on projects!
the content was still relatively easy to understand despite being a first time coder; professor is very very nice and makes you want to learn
This was my first CS class and I found it a perfect class for a complete beginner, I learned so much, the instructor is so kind and really made the class accessible especially during a time of remote learning so that if you worked hard it was very easy to get an A! Made coding super fun, challenging but extremely doable if you keep up with lectures.
We learned python in this class which is very useful. It was a fun class and Sarah was a great professor. As long as you listened in lecture, you should be able to understand stuff. The peer mentors helps a lot too.
Wonderful teacher. She is open to all questions and is so kind and cares about all her students. Class material can be fast at times so going to OH can be really helpful if you needed more time to comprehend the ideas that week.
The easiest class I've ever taken. So many opportunities for extra credit and the only place you can really get points off is in the quizzes, which aren't even that bad. There's also a lot of leeway with dropping low scores, at least for this quarter. All the course staff for this are always super helpful and ready to provide any guidance you may need. I learned a lot in this course and was also never stressed out by any assignments so definitely a win-win situation.
This course teaches the basics of python, which I found useful. The TAs were especially helpful in answering questions. Sometimes the professor spent a lot of time explaining a basic concept like variables (anyone who's taken algebra knows what a variable is) and less time explaining something more complicated, but for the most part the instruction was clear and helpful. The one thing that annoyed me was the required tutorials because it wasn't clear from the course description that I would have to attend an extra hour of class per week.
the combination of weekly homework AND tutorial assignments and the two projects near the end and quizzes throughout the quarter were far too much work. each thing requires hours of work. would never take this class if i didnt have to
This course surprised me because I genuinely enjoyed it! The assignments were honestly fun, and they let me be creative. The assignments were also definitely manageable!
I enjoyed this course because the assignments were like puzzles. As long as you watch the uploaded videos from the class website and attend tutorial sessions, the assignments are pretty straightforward. It is very easy to find help through office hours and the Piazza discussion boards.
Loved the net-services stuff, but really just dives into python grammar not much too complicated stuff
the prerecorded lectures were short and easy to follow along, as well as the actual 3-day a week lectures. there is flexibility built into the course with the dropping of a quiz and the course website is so beautifully organized it's very easy to know what you need to do to complete it.
I gained a new interest in computer science
I had very little programming experience when I signed up for the class, but the class does a very good job of easing you into Python. The homework is sometimes challenging, but it's not infuriating to work out. The projects were also a lot of fun and satisfying to make.
The class was pretty easy even for someone like me who had never seen a line of code before. Sarah is an awesome professor and really easy to ask for help
This is a great course! I came in knowing nothing about computer programming (aside from middle school Scratch coding) and I did fine. Professor Van Wart is an excellent instructor who genuinely wishes for the success of her students, and both she and the TAs are often available for help outside of class. As long as you pay attention in lecture and get your work done, you will be fine—besides, a lot of the work is really fun!
This was a great class as an introduction to cs. It was as interesting and engaging as an online class can be, taught me a ton about computer science, and Sarah is absolutely amazing. Super super great teacher and very nice.

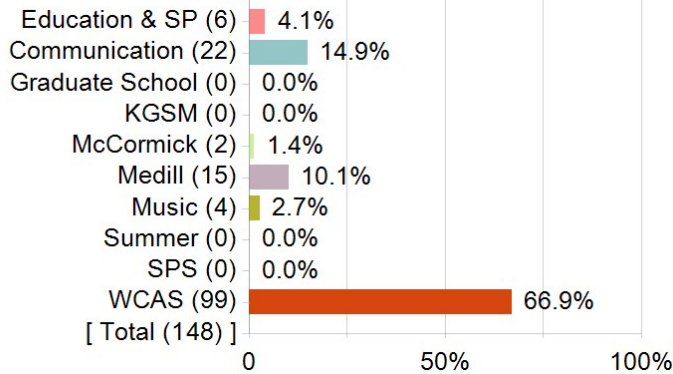
Comments
This course is a challenge, but Sarah made CS really engaging and interesting to learn. Regularly attending tutorial sessions and office hours really helped me succeed in the course. I knew nothing about CS when I started, but now recommend this course to anyone that is interested in CS but is not sure if it's something that they want to pursue as a major/minor. This course has encouraged me to continue learning CS.
If you think you might be interested in CS, even a little bit and not even as a minor/major, take this class. Prof. Van Wart is great at explaining class principles in a way that is easy to pick up, and the homeworks and projects were interesting and fun to complete. There's a ton of opportunities to get help with stuff you don't understand, and the grading is flexible. This class also gives you a lot of knowledge in Python and web APIs, which I think would be super helpful for a lot of careers that aren't in CS. Great course overall and highly recommended.
I liked how we learned from pre-recorded lectures. The practice quizzes were super helpful for the actual quizzes, which were very straightforward. 2 projects, which weren't too bad either. Overall, an easy distro.
It opened up computing and coding to me in ways I wasn't necessarily expecting, and supplied the resources to get help and better understand the material when I needed it.
I feel like this is one of the few classes you can take that benefitted from remote learning.
I loved this course. I learned so much and I really enjoyed how the professor taught the class.
Sarah is an amazing teacher who seems really invested in making sure students learn; this was especially invaluable during remote classes. This course strikes a great balance between ensuring students know key concepts and sparking their interest and creativity through projects. I didn't think I would take any other computer science after this but ended up liking it so much that I'm taking 111 and considering a minor, I highly recommend taking this even if you don't know anything about comp sci or think it won't be up your alley.
As someone who knew nothing about CS coming in, this course was very useful to give me a general idea of what it's about. The course can be very challenging at times, but it all pays off when you finish your projects and hard work that makes you feel good.
There's a lot of opportunity for help. Take advantage of office hours.
The class was structured so that I did not have to attend most lectures and I could still do well in the class. There were a lot of extra opportunities for you to get a good grade. However, the basics that are covered in this class are extremely good to learn especially for learning how to code efficiently.
Fun class! Very flexible in terms of grading and not too hard to do well in if you go to office hours. At least one of each assignment is dropped except the projects. Lots of extra cred opportunities.
Great class! Recommend.
Having no background in computer science, I was nervous for this course. However, Sarah and the peer mentors are amazing people who genuinely care for each student and their learning. They were always available and willing to work with me if I needed help or didn't understand something. I learned a ton and felt supported throughout the course. Highly recommend.
Take this class with Sarah Van Wart! She is an incredible professor. I took comp sci in high school and absolutely hated the course, so when I found out I had to take it again at a college level I was super nervous. Sarah made this class not only enjoyable and bareable, but if presented the opportunity I would happily take more courses in the future. The class is such a fair amount of work and she really emphasizes demonstrating your knowledge through homeworks and projects. The quizzes are not a big deal and the endless office hours makes getting help very accessible!
Great class for computer science beginners! The projects are a little difficult though so make sure to start them early.
This class was challenging but always interesting.
This course is a stellar introduction course to comp sci. The course is super manageable, very interesting, and will teach you a lot about coding. If you know that you are going to major in computer science and have some background, take 111. But if you're not sure or have all the credits in the world, take 110 because it might just convince you to major in CS. This class also functions as a fantastic distro.
This course is amazing! I came in with no cs knowledge and will very easily get an A. low-stress environment focused completely on learning. This course is a must take and it really inspired me to take future cs classes for non-majors!
This was my first cs class, and it made me realize that I don't really like programming. The class material can be challenging for beginners, and you should be prepared to spend a lot of time on it. Sarah really wanted every to succeed, and she won't let you fail as long as you don't give up yourself. However, I still don't think that I really learned many things that I could apply to my daily life. But it's really a good course to take if you want to find out whether you like programming or not.
As someone with no experience in computer science Sarah and the peer mentors made the class so fun and accessible! There are weekly tutorials and homework due but the grading rubric is lenient because the purpose is to learn. There are 2 projects (1 landscape animation + recommendation app). If you want any support there are many student peer mentors who can help! Sarah is an amazing prof and super helpful in office hours. Take this class if you need it for a major/minor requirement!
The most important aspect of this course to me was the availability of the professor and the Peer Mentors throughout the quarter. There were a lot of times when I was stuck with a homework or a project and going to office hours for a few minutes cleared up

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everything.
It is a very interesting course that is not too much work, but I still felt like I learned a lot.
This class gave me such a positive introduction to coding and has led me to consider a computer science major. The pace was comfortable and allowed us to really solidify our knowledge of Python basics while also giving extra (and enjoyable) challenges to those who could master the topics more quickly. The tasks we worked on were also interesting and enjoyable and made me more enthusiastic/interested in learning computer programming.
Great class that served as a foundation in teaching the basics of a highly sought after skill.
Loved this class. As a non-CS person, I didn't know anything going into the course, but the professor is very patient and the grading scale is set up to support learning through hw, quizzes, and projects. Not stressful at all.
I really enjoyed this class. It was very relaxed but still presented important coding concepts through fun homework and projects.
Really enjoyed this class. The lectures did a good job explaining things, and the tutorials and homework were helpful in practicing the programming skills.
AMAZING CLASS! Sarah is INCREDIBLE — best prof ive had — and is so so amazing to work with! The TAs have like 4 or 5 office hours per day so they make it SUPER accessible to get help and the class is really easy to follow! take this class!!!!
Great course – Prof. Van Wart helps explain everything very well and I never felt like I couldn't go to her for help.
This course was great! I went into the class with zero interest in computer science and am now thinking about taking more classes in it! Sarah was a great lecturer and if you do not understand something from class, there are so many office hour slots you can attend with the TAs. It's a great way to fulfill a distro if you are not super into STEM.
It was cool to learn the basics of python and coding.
The class was very interesting and was easy to follow. One thing I noticed is that I needed to put time into the class but overall this class is great.
Great course. Sarah is a great teacher and very approachable. Often times the homework will be extensions of what is covered in class, so going to office hours is a must. It would also help to start homework early as it will often take a couple of hours to complete. I am a non major but this class peaked my interest in programming so I will definitely use these skills in the future. Highly recommend for those who are interested in dipping their toes into CS!
It's a pretty basic intro to Python. There are essentially unlimited extra credit points. If you have prior coding experience, take another computer science course. Projects are pretty fun.
I loved this course! Professor Van Wart is one of the kindest, most approachable professors I've had at this school. The format of the course was really conducive to success and the material you learn is so useful. The workload is manageable as long as you attend lectures and tutorials. Highly recommend.
This class was amazing overall, and I would highly recommend as a distro or just to start the CS track. It's a very light work-load, interesting content, and plenty of opportunities for extra-credit.

DEMOGRAPHICS

What is the name of your school?

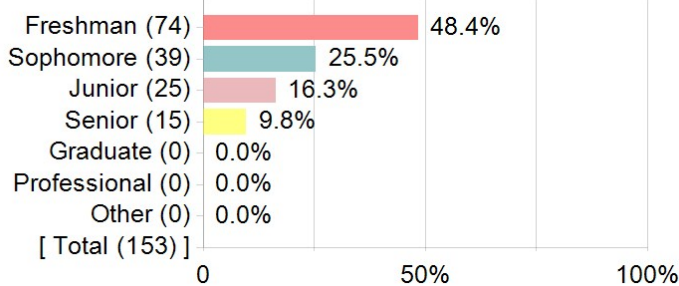
1. Your School



Options	Count	Percentage
Education & SP	6	4.1%
Communication	22	14.9%
Graduate School	0	0.0%
KGSM	0	0.0%
McCormick	2	1.4%
Medill	15	10.1%
Music	4	2.7%
Summer	0	0.0%
SPS	0	0.0%
WCAS	99	66.9%

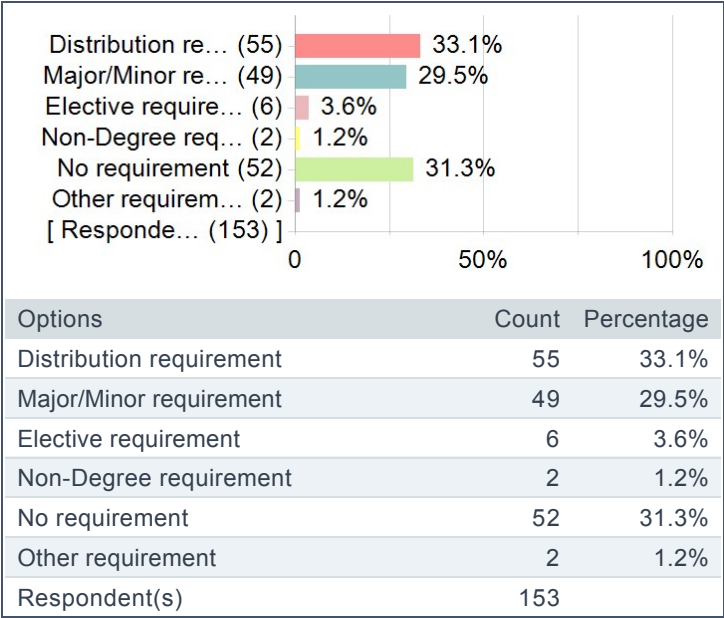
Your Class

1. Your Class



Options	Count	Percentage
Freshman	74	48.4%
Sophomore	39	25.5%
Junior	25	16.3%
Senior	15	9.8%
Graduate	0	0.0%
Professional	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%

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



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

