Title: **Fall 2013 COMS Final Evaluation**

Course: **COMSW4130_001_2013_3**

Instructors: **Andrea Lottarini, Joaquin Antonio Ruales, Martha Allen Kim, Vijay Saraswat**

Dates: **12/02/2013 - 12/09/2013**

Responses**: 21/32 - 65.63%**

Enrollment of Registered students: **32**

Enrollment of All Students: **32**

Graph Course Questions

1 **Course: Amount Learned** **N=21**

1	Poor	**3** (14%)
2	Fair	**1** (5%)
3	Good	**7** (33%)
4	Very Good	**5** (24%)
5	Excellent	**5** (24%)

Median **3** Interpolated Median **3.43** Mean **3.38** Std Dev **1.32**

2 **Course: Appropriateness of Workload** **N=21**

1	Poor	**2** (10%)
2	Fair	**3** (14%)
3	Good	**4** (19%)
4	Very Good	**5** (24%)
5	Excellent	**7** (33%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **3.80** Mean **3.57** Std Dev **1.36**

3 **Course: Fairness of Grading Process** **N=21**

1	Poor	**3** (14%)
2	Fair	**4** (19%)
3	Good	**6** (29%)
4	Very Good	**3** (14%)
5	Excellent	**5** (24%)

Median **3** Interpolated Median **3.08** Mean **3.14** Std Dev **1.39**

4 **Course: Overall Quality** **N=21**

1	Poor	**2** (10%)
2	Fair	**4** (19%)
3	Good	**5** (24%)
4	Very Good	**4** (19%)
5	Excellent	**6** (29%)

Median **3** Interpolated Median **3.40** Mean **3.38** Std Dev **1.36**

5 **Do you feel that the pre-requisites for this course adequately prepared you for the course?** **N=21**

1	Not at all	**3** (14%)
2	Not enough	**1** (5%)
3	Yes, just right	**15** (71%)
4	Yes, I even felt a little over prepared	**0** (0%)
5	I feel like I already took this course	**2** (10%)

Median **3** Interpolated Median **2.93** Mean **2.86** Std Dev **1.01**

6 **How did the workload of this course compare to that of other courses you've taken n Computer Science?** **N=21**

1	Much heavier	**4** (19%)
2	Slightly heavier	**3** (14%)
3	About the same	**12** (57%)
4	A bit easier	**2** (10%)
5	Much easier	**0** (0%)

Median **3** Interpolated Median **2.79** Mean **2.57** Std Dev **0.93**

7 **How did the workload of this course compare to that of other courses you've taken in other departments?** **N=21**

1	Much heavier	**5** (24%)
2	Slightly heavier	**6** (29%)
3	About the same	**9** (43%)
4	A bit easier	**1** (5%)
5	Much easier	**0** (0%)

Median **2** Interpolated Median **2.42** Mean **2.29** Std Dev **0.90**

8 **Do you feel that the workload of this course helped you learn the material well?** **N=21**

1	I was too busy working to learn	**2** (10%)
2	Yes, I'm glad I was pushed	**4** (19%)
3	Yes, it was perfect	**12** (57%)
4	Yes, but I wasn't challenged enough	**2** (10%)
5	The work seemed extraneous	**1** (5%)

Median **3** Interpolated Median **2.88** Mean **2.81** Std Dev **0.93**

9 **Of all the CS courses you have taken, how does this course rank?** **N=21**

1	Very high	**1** (5%)
2	Better than average	**7** (33%)
3	Average	**6** (29%)
4	Worse than average	**5** (24%)
5	Very low	**2** (10%)

Median **3** Interpolated Median **2.92** Mean **3.00** Std Dev **1.10**

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Responses: **21/32 - 65.63%**

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Enrollment of All Students:**32**

Comments Course Questions

Q1 **Enter any additional comments here**

- There was no clear grading methodology given for mini-projects. The instructors were confused as to whether the class is an algorithms class or a parallel programming class. Most students ended up never using parallel programming but still gaining higher marks than those who implemented parallel algorithms. For project 1, although we were told that performance/speed of the program will not count towards grade, the final scores included 30 points for 'performance' without any clear explanation on what it meant.
- The test cases for grading can be designed in a more reasonable way.
- The mini-challenge 3, was poorly prepared. Provided the instruction, a challenge more suitable to distributed computing should have be given.
  I wish we could have talked more about alternatives to x10, especially hardware such as GPU.
- Grading was very harsh, heavily penalized for design requirements that were not made clear. Also, issues in code were often double penalized, as significant amount of points would be taken off both for making a poor design choice and also for the resulting poor performance from that choice. Overall, performance played too heavily into the process, as at times large performance gains came from making optimizations that have nothing to do with parallel programming. Additionally, there was a serious lack of course materials. A text book would be nice, but at the least materials covered should be posted in some way. Between the first and second midterms materials were only posted for two lectures.

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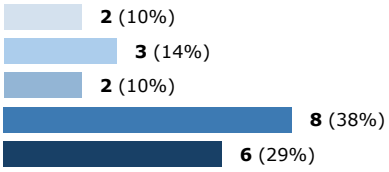
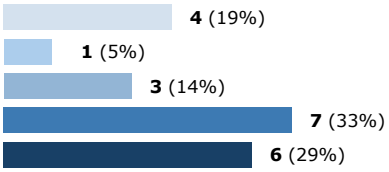
Instructor Graph Report for: **Martha Allen Kim**

1 **Instructor: Organization and Preparation** **N=21**



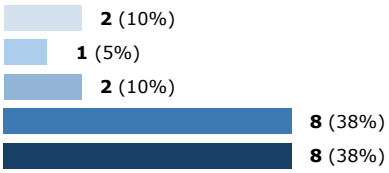
Median **4** Interpolated Median **3.94** Mean **3.62** Std Dev **1.32**

2 **Instructor: Classroom Delivery** **N=21**



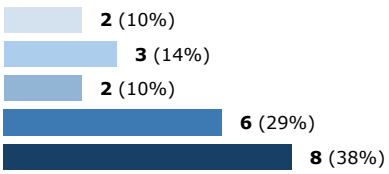
Median **4** Interpolated Median **3.86** Mean **3.48** Std Dev **1.47**

3 **Instructor: Approachability** **N=21**



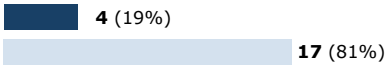
Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.19** Mean **3.90** Std Dev **1.26**

4 **Instructor: Overall Quality** **N=21**



Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.08** Mean **3.71** Std Dev **1.38**

5 **Would you nominate this professor for the SEAS Distinguished Faculty Award?** **N=21**



Median **2** Interpolated Median **1.88**

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Enrollment of All Students:**32**

Instructor Comments Report for: **Martha Allen Kim**

Q1

-

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Dates: **12/02/2013 - 12/09/2013**

Responses**: 21/32 - 65.63%**

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Enrollment of All Students: **32**

TA Graph Report for: **Andrea Lottarini**

1 **Overall Quality** **N=18**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**5** (28%)
4	Very Good	**5** (28%)
5	Excellent	**7** (39%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.10** Mean **4.00** Std Dev **0.97**

2 **Knowledgeability** **N=18**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**5** (28%)
4	Very Good	**6** (33%)
5	Excellent	**6** (33%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.00** Mean **3.94** Std Dev **0.94**

3 **Approachability** **N=18**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**5** (28%)
4	Very Good	**5** (28%)
5	Excellent	**7** (39%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.10** Mean **4.00** Std Dev **0.97**

4 **Availability** **N=18**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**5** (28%)
4	Very Good	**5** (28%)
5	Excellent	**7** (39%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.10** Mean **4.00** Std Dev **0.97**

5 **Communication** **N=18**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**6** (33%)
4	Very Good	**2** (11%)
5	Excellent	**9** (50%)

Median **4.5** Interpolated Median **4.50** Mean **4.06** Std Dev **1.06**

6 **Does this TA communicate effectively in english?** **N=18**

1	Yes	**17** (94%)
2	No	**1** (6%)

Median **1** Interpolated Median **1.03**

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Dates: **12/02/2013 - 12/09/2013**

Responses**: 21/32 - 65.63%**

Enrollment of Registered students: **32**

Enrollment of All Students: **32**

TA Graph Report for: **Joaquin Antonio Ruales**

1 **Overall Quality** **N=17**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**6** (35%)
4	Very Good	**5** (29%)
5	Excellent	**5** (29%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **3.80** Mean **3.82** Std Dev **0.95**

2 **Knowledgeability** **N=17**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**2** (12%)
3	Good	**3** (18%)
4	Very Good	**7** (41%)
5	Excellent	**5** (29%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.00** Mean **3.88** Std Dev **0.99**

3 **Approachability** **N=17**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**5** (29%)
4	Very Good	**4** (24%)
5	Excellent	**7** (41%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.13** Mean **4.00** Std Dev **1.00**

4 **Availability** **N=17**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**3** (18%)
3	Good	**3** (18%)
4	Very Good	**5** (29%)
5	Excellent	**6** (35%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.00** Mean **3.82** Std Dev **1.13**

5 **Communication** **N=17**

1	Poor	**0** (0%)
2	Fair	**1** (6%)
3	Good	**5** (29%)
4	Very Good	**5** (29%)
5	Excellent	**6** (35%)

Median **4** Interpolated Median **4.00** Mean **3.94** Std Dev **0.97**

6 **Does this TA communicate effectively in english?** **N=17**

1	Yes	**16** (94%)
2	No	**1** (6%)

Median **1** Interpolated Median **1.03**