

I think the course is undoubtedly pivotal to anyone who wants to become a software engineer or interested in building large scale deployable systems. I think the scope of the content taught was pretty sufficient, and didn't become so wide that pertinent information got diluted with the sheer quantity of content covered. That being said however I definitely think there are areas of improvement for this course that will really help students be able to apply and use the information learned. For the quizzes (or however knowledge from the course seeks to be tested), I do not think making them simply a game of who can memorize and regurgitate all the definitions and terms is useful at all to an aspiring software engineer. While I understand the desire to ensure that students are well-versed in the field, I think it is way better to test students on their UNDERSTANDING (which is what counts in a real setting) of the content rather than their memorization (which nobody would need on the job, we have Google!). Taking a course in the business technology department that covers the same material has allowed me to get a good grasp on what works and what doesn't. In the BTech course, we spent a large amount of time focusing on specific case studies of companies and their failures and successes as well as the "culture" behind different paradigms. While we did do this in this course, I think a greater emphasis is extremely beneficial as it provides "wisdom". Furthermore, I think in general the quizzes should be geared towards applying the knowledge that was learned, such as presenting a scenario and asking the student for the strategy and comprehensive analysis on the pros and cons of their strategy. I think with a greater focus on the applied, this course can be something truly great.