Wentworth Institute of Technology

Spring 2017, COMP 1050 COMPUTER SCIENCE I I Section 5
Instructor: Derbinsky, Nate (Primary)

There were: 22 possible respondents.

	Question Text	N	Top Two	My Avg	COMP Avg	Div Avg	Div Lvl	Str Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Str Disagr	NA		
1	Course required me to use previously obtained knowledge	20	100%	5	4.0	4.0	4.0	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
2	Analyze a problem, idetifying inputs, outputs and processing req.	19	100%	4.8	4.1	4.1	4.1	79%	21%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
3	Better able to design, code and test a program	20	85%	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.9	30%	55%	15%	0%	0%	0%		
4	Course used current techniques, skills and tools	20	100%	4.8	4.1	4.1	4.1	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
5	Intend to further my study of material	20	100%	4.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
6	Better able to analyze user needs	20	90%	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.9	35%	55%	10%	0%	0%	0%		
7	Obtained enhanced understanding of best practices, standards and protocols	20	100%	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.0	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
8	Better assist in creation of effective project plan	20	80%	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.9	35%	45%	20%	0%	0%	0%		
9	Adequate lab facilities	20	84%	4.4	3.9	3.9	3.9	55%	25%	10%	5%	0%	5%		
10	Environment conducive to learning	20	95%	4.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	80%	15%	5%	0%	0%	0%		
11	Goals for learning achieved	20	100%	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.0	65%	35%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
12	Access of information	20	100%	4.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
13	Oral communication skills.	20	35%	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	15%	15%	50%	5%	0%	15%		
14	Written communication skills.	20	44%	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.7	10%	25%	40%	5%	0%	20%		
15	Graphic communication skills.	20	88%	4	3.6	3.6	3.6	15%	55%	5%	5%	0%	20%		
16	Improved problem solving.	20	100%	4.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
17	Understanding traits of leadership.	19	63%	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	16%	37%	26%	5%	0%	16%		
18	Improved team skills.	20	90%	4.3	3.7	3.7	3.7	40%	50%	10%	0%	0%	0%		
19	Exposed to ethical behavior.	20	76%	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.7	35%	30%	15%	5%	0%	15%		
20	Sustainable resources.	20	36%	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	15%	5%	35%	0%	0%	45%		
21	Societal and global issues.	19	27%	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	11%	5%	37%	5%	0%	42%		
24	Stimulated thought	20	100%	4.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
25	Knows subject matter	20	100%	5	4.3	4.3	4.3	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
								Str Agree	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Str Disagree**	**N/A**		
26	Communicated subject well	20	100%	4.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
								Midnight To 300A	**301A - 600A**	**601A - 900A**	**901A - Noon**	**1201P - 300P**	**301P - 600P**	**601P - 900P**	**901P - 1159P**
	What Time Of Day Are You Completing Evaluation	20	0%					10%	0%	10%	50%	10%	5%	15%	0%
								1-3	**4-6**	**7-9**	**10-12**	**13-15**	**16-18**	**19-21**	**22+**
	Classes this semester	20	0%					0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Text Responses
Improvement suggestions
Have more, smaller assignments instead of less big ones. Use a different IDE if possible.

The course is great. I had no issues with the material

Add assignments that test our knowledge of the theory behind the code, especially in consideration of how the written parts of the exams went.

N/A

I think that there should be more parity and fairness between classes. The difficulty level can very greatly depending on the professor. Perhaps that is a good thing, but maybe it would be a good idea to let the students know the different qualities of the professors ahead of time. Or perhaps there could be a higher level course for Computer Science II for students who want to be pushed more. Also, I think the schedule for the semester should be more evenly spaced out so the professors aren't spending too much time on previous topics and less time on newer topics. The review certainly helped though!

Perhaps expose us to questions like the ones on the 2nd part of the first exam prior to taking it. A study guide perhaps. Or even just a worksheet along with the programming assignments. That would have prepared me for those questions a lot better I think.

Rather than doing lab assignments I would spend lab to having them do certain exercises that help with the current material being learned.

Nothing

i would like to see more examples to do in class as practice. you had them, but you skipped over them.

Include small homework assignments that reinforce lecture notes from class. For example, short blackboard quizzes that count for ~5% of grade that ask questions about static v non-static and other such simple questions that reinforce lessons.

Not much needs to be improved on in this course. Ideally there would be more time to go deeper into JavaFX, but I understand that that isn't very possible given only a semester.

Other comments

N/A

Awesome course. Definitely hard, but Professor Derbinsky knows what he's talking about and would never assign anything he doesn't understand himself. :)

Great teacher, would take again.

This was a great course, he did a great job at getting everyone involved and made sure we had a little bit of fun along the way so we would remember certain bits of information.

More than two tests or the implementation of quizzes would be a welcome addition to help reinforce material and not hurt grades too badly.

Comments for professor

Have more, smaller assignments instead of less big ones. Use a different IDE if possible.

I think you need to reevaluate how you give partial credit on jUnit tests. I have had more than one occasion where I was able to pass 14 out of the 15 subtests within a jUnit test and received zero points for it. This is incredibly frustrating and disheartening when I have spent more than an hour trying to pass that jUnit test alone. It makes me feel like I wasted that time and that the breakthroughs and realizations I had that got me through some of the subtests in that jUnit test mean nothing.

Great prof, tough but fair.

The class was great. Very difficult but you have to put in the effort and you learn a lot. It's not all in vain. Professor does a great job of getting back to students via email or office hours for any help.

I came into this class following a first semester where none of our code had to pass tests all while, in-class we had to hand write our code. Within the first month of this class, I was scared and battered. My hopes: like the wind done scattered. I left a better programmer and wish all the CS teachers were like Derbinsky

He was a great professor, I plan on taking more classes from him in the future if possible.

Derbinsky is a great professor and most likely the best professor in the department. He is great at helping students understand the material and is only an email away when you need him. A fair grader and only gives students what they worked for. The only issue is the difficulty of the assignments can be an over kill especially for someone with only knowledge in the course being from previous courses (e.g comp 1000). I personally recommend he keep the due dates the way they are but have a maximum of two parts to each assignment to recognize that not all students have time for such a heavy work load because of other classes or out of school priorities, as well as ease students into assignments by talking over them the day they are assigned to clarify the needs of each assignment. Other than that a great all around person, professor, and helper, and I will definitely recommend anyone to take his course if they actually want to learn. It was a rough semester but I don't regret joining his class late!

Great teacher, difficult course but I feel that i got far more out of it for that reason.

Keep doing you

Thanks for being tough on us. I know there are tons of CS students, and I'd rather learn to thrive in a less forgiving environment than a cushy one.

I really enjoyed the class! It was a lot of fun and I learned so much! Thanks for being such an awesome professor! :)

DFTBA :)

I think it would help to emphasize the main point of assignments, labs, final project, and tests. I think students can sometimes get very lost in the explanations. Specifics are outlined, but it is not always helpful without seeing the big picture of what the student is meant to learn. I feel that this is quite relevant in programming assignments. Students can be so focused on minute details and passing the JUnit tests that they aren't grasping the new concepts. Sometimes I think that an assignment could be less complex and stressful while still conveying the topic to understand to the student. Overall, the class is certainly challenging (in a good way), but the students should be more aware of the difficulty level ahead of time. Showing them an example of a weekly programming assignment would help students to decide if the class is the right fit for them. I know in college students are supposed to make the effort to come see you, but I think it would be helpful to appear more open to the students. Emphasizing that you are always available for students to come during your office hours and at other times for extra help would make it much more inviting for students (especially freshmen)! Even though the course was very challenging, it certainly forced me to have a deeper understanding of Java. It's also helped me to become more confident in my abilities to program. Also, I think the students appreciate that you are quick to respond to emails and finding time to meet outside of office hours.

Your jokes aren't bad. Mostly.

Professor Derbinsky is the reason that this class was actually pretty fun. While many teachers will just read off of slides, he was able to incorporate slides into a larger display of coding practice and provide real examples to understand material. Professor Derbinsky has a phenomenal grasp on the material being taught, which makes asking questions during class or 1 on 1 very beneficial. In the future, I will try to take any class he teaches because he's just that good at what he does.