

*** PROVISIONAL REPORT ***

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
Downing, Glenn P C S373 54020
B000 Basic

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Fall 2013 DEPARTMENT COPY
Enrollment = 40
Surveys Returned = 18

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE					NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	0	0	0	5	13	18	4.7
2 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	0	0	0	3	15	18	4.8
3 SHOWED INTEREST IN STUDENT PROGRESS	0	1	1	4	12	18	4.5
4 ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS RETURNED PROMPTLY	0	0	1	10	7	18	4.3
5 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	0	0	0	3	15	18	4.8
6 COURSE OF VALUE TO DATE	0	0	2	1	14	17	4.7
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
7 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	0	0	1	2	15	18	4.8
8 OVERALL COURSE RATING	0	1	2	4	11	18	4.4
	Excessive	High	Average	Light	Insuffic		
9 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	3	12	1	1	1	18	
	Less 2.00	2.00-2.49	2.50-2.99	3.00-3.49	3.50-4.00		
10 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE	0	1	1	6	10	18	
	<u> A </u>	<u> B </u>	<u> C </u>	<u> D </u>	<u> F </u>		
11 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	8	6	4	0	0	18	

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 12

-
1. He is the teacher that can hold your attention for the whole semester. He is really good at teaching, and at leading you to teach yourself. The guest talks are really beneficial. I learned a lot!
-
2. The CS department has probably heard this multiple times, but let me say it again, Glenn Downing is a valuable asset to the UT CS department. He is one of the few CS teachers who have the passion to teach and because he has passion he makes me want to learn and work harder. His teaching methodologies are also great, not a lot of teachers are so well organized and so well prepared for class like he is. Please give Glenn Downing a raise.
-
3. Most of the work was busy work for me. Most topics in lecture I learned over the summer at an internship. Dedicate lectures to Git basic and advanced, we didn't learn any advanced git It would be nice if we were graded on the quality of our code, not just the functionality. Dedicate lectures to Using SQL in an Application. The pros cons of certain designs, etc. NoSQL data stores MongoDB, etc . Loved the speakers, but sadly they had no affect on me since I already have accepted a job offer. Make the last three projects individual. I felt like I could've accomplished a lot more had I had the freedom to work on the entire site by myself on my own time. The Netflix project was awesome, give us more time on it.
-
4. Just like last semester in OOP, this course was fantastic. I was exited to learn python and this class didn't disappoint. I'm sure you will receive complaints from other students, but don't ever dumb down the WCDB project. Yes, it was a lot of work and I spent a lot of time working on it, mostly part 2, but it was so worth it. So many of us are going to do webdev after we graduate and this project was amazingly applicable. I've interned at Google and Facebook and I can't tell you how much I wish I had taken this class before doing webdev at these companies. My only complaint is that I think we spent too much time on SQL and not enough on python itself. Basic SQL would have been enough for this course - I feel python is more valuable.
-
5. For the website projects, the required software was not installed on the UT lab machines and was not able to be installed by student unable to access PIP command . Gunicorn, which is required by Heroku, does not support Windows operating systems and cannot be installed on them. This means anyone who uses a laptop computer with Windows is unable to locally deploy the website using Heroku. If anything, just letting the class know about that would be a great addition. Otherwise, the class was an excellent learning experience and along with CS371P one of the most beneficial classes to me in regards to learning real world applications. Thank you.
-
6. First of all, this was a great class and I learned a LOT. Definitely in the top 5 most useful classes I have taken at UT. That said, I feel that there are some improvements that could be made. The last 3 projects started too late in the semester. Ifelt like there was a period where we didn't work on anything in the class except for the test, then we had way too much to do in a short amount of time. The projects weren't evenly distributed, project 2 was a lot more work than 1 and 3. The grading was more lenient on it, but it would be nice to have more time for it. The lectures were useful, but going over django in the lectures is almost necessary. It caused by far the most stress in my group since nobody had used it before.
-
7. The class balance was light on refactoring since we only had one day of it - the rest were fine. The first 2 projects were fine. The grading was much more finicky than it was in 371p, but the projects themselves were easy. The last 3 projects I didn't like as much as I don't think they flowed with the class as well as the first two - or any of the ones from cs371p. Of the tools we used, Bootstrap was easy to use, but Heroku and Django were complex and needed to be referenced more in class. I felt like my group had to go to Alex in order to get started on almost anything for those two as online resources were scarce, out-of-date, or required access to sudo. The speakers were useful, but they repeated each other a lot.
-
8. I seriously cannot thank this professor enough for his understanding and the chances he gave my group and I.
-
9. I've really enjoyed your course. I just wish I had been able to take it earlier in college since I already had completed an internship and was done with full-time job interviews by the time we had all the company visits and career advice which I feel were all extremely valuable . On another note, I also like your style of teaching the Python, SQL, etc. slides. I think that getting the students involved and talking through the code is helpful and makes it stick a bit better. Overall, I've really enjoyed the class and learned a lot. Thanks for a great semester!
-
10. Python was a great language to learn. I specifically liked using Django, although it was a little hard at first to get started with it. Django is a tool I wish I had learned earlier because I now see how I could have used Django to solve a lot of problems in the past. I think Heroku was all a good thing to experience because a lot of students had no experience with back end storage systems. I really enjoyed how there are also multiple presentations from companies. My favorite one this semester was Bloomberg. Some feedback on the speaker presentations would be that the speakers who moved faster tended to cover more and held more of my interest. A lot of presenters moved rather slowly and didn't really end up explaining much.
-
11. Great class! You're a fantastic lecturer and really good at explaining hard concepts clearly without dumbing them down. I learned a lot of stuff in this class that I'm sure will come in handy in the real world, which is not something I've been able to say about many if not most of the other CS classes I've taken. A couple of suggestions 1 WCDB was a great learning experience technically speaking, but as a project it's hard to get excited about. It was a little boring to build the same website as every other group and basically copy Wikipedia into it. Maybe allow for people to create --DB websites about topics of their choosing? 2 Try to better integrate the readings, especially the books XP, RF, DD, more closely into the lectures.
-
12. I really enjoyed creating the WCDB from scratch. I was not fond of the fact that only one TA knew everything about the project, though. TA hours without Alex were useless when we needed help with the WCDB. It also didn't help that he wouldn't always follow up on emails. I emailed him a week in advance and he didn't respond until the day Project 5 was due. I really enjoyed this class, however, it would've been nice had other TA's knew how to help us with the WCDB.
-