

Engineering TA Evaluations

Course: COM S 100

Semester: Fall 2005

Number of Responses: 27

Faculty Name: Fan

TA Name: Yison Yue

1="Never or Poor", 2="Rarely or Fair", 3="Sometimes or Satisfactory", 4="Frequently or Good", 5="Always or Excellent"

Statement	Mean	Count	1	2	3	4	5
1. My TA demonstrates command of the subject matter.	4.70	27	0	0	1	6	20
2. My TA is fully prepared for class, laboratory or review section.	4.78	27	0	0	0	6	21
3. My TA provides clear and comprehensive explanations and instructions.	4.63	27	0	0	1	8	18
4. My TA emphasizes the conceptual basis of the problem set or the lab experiment.	4.15	27	0	1	5	10	11
5. My TA encourages students to think in class by asking questions.	3.96	27	0	2	7	8	10
6. My TA makes me feel free to ask questions and express my opinions.	4.44	27	0	0	2	11	14
7. My TA provides clear, relevant and understandable responses to my questions.	4.44	27	0	0	2	11	14
8. My TA seems genuinely concerned about students' learning.	4.33	27	0	1	2	11	13
9. My TA is actively helpful when students need assistance.	4.70	27	0	0	1	6	20
10. My TA seems enthusiastic about teaching the material.	4.11	27	1	0	4	12	10
11. My TA listens carefully to student questions and comments.	4.59	27	0	0	0	11	16
12. My TA periodically checks to make sure students understand what was covered.	4.00	26	0	2	5	10	9
13. My TA provides periodic summaries of what has been covered or discussed.	3.63	27	1	3	10	4	9
14. My TA is effective at relating lecture material to what is covered in section or lab.	4.19	27	0	0	7	8	12
15. My TA makes effective use of illustrations and examples.	4.04	27	0	1	7	9	10
16. My TA is fair in grading.	4.38	26	0	0	4	8	14
17. My TA provides helpful comments on my assignments.	4.20	25	0	0	6	8	11
18. My TA makes effective use of visual aides (blackboards, overhead, slides etc).	4.08	26	0	1	8	5	12
19. My TA divides his/her time equitably among laboratory groups.	4.19	26	0	1	4	10	11
20. Overall, how would you rate the quality of your TA's teaching?	4.56	27	0	0	0	12	15

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1. What about the course has been helpful for your learning thus far this semester?

The examples are very helpful.

I think the programs and the material in lectures have been the most helpful.

the labs done in the computer lab provide hand's on learning and opportunity to learn from mistakes

The recitations where we're in the lab.

Office hours have been very helpful, much more than the CS100 consulting hours.
Review sessions for the prelim have also been really helpful.

Accessibility. My TA is always available when I need him, and I feel comfortable to ask as many questions as necessary. When I don't finish a question during lab and I have to get to another class, he makes sure I understand the concepts and suggests that I send him a copy of the work when I finish it so he can make sure I'm on the right track.

Practice problems in the readings and practice problems from AEWs.

the projects and examples

I've learned a lot about computer programming, as this is the first class I've taken in the subject.

projects are a good way to apply the material learned in a not so stressful environment.

Yisong has been great--he knows the material very well and explains it just as well!

Our TA keeps explaining and re-explaining concepts clearly.

Class powerpoint presentations & section problems

The hands-on exercise in the CIT Labs.

The in-class lab activities for making small programs as well as the long term projects. The small labs were good for reinforcing new programming techniques while the projects helped prepare for prelim questions.

The lab session have aided in understanding what was covered in the lecture in particular. If possible, more lab sessions would enhance this learning.

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2. What about the course has caused you the most difficulty in terms of learning thus far?

very good so far!

Projects

none

The initial thought process behind programming

The course covers a large span of material with which I am not familiar. It is difficult to adjust to think in "computer" terms such as the nested while/for loops.

For some reason, it is hard to get copies of the lecture code snippets because they are not posted on the same day of the lecture. This makes it harder to self-correct lecture notes.

Syntax errors.

This is my first time programming, so it is hard to think how the computer thinks.

I just have a lot of trouble with the element of time. Nothing has been too difficult, but finishing the prelims have been a challenge simply because I don't have enough time to carefully go over each problem. Projects I enjoy because I can take my time with it.

The lecture examples are hard to follow at times.

The fact that I had no background in programming, which made it hard to understand since it was a whole new subject.

It's a little difficult learning computer science lecture style.

learning specific 'grammar' of the programs

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3. What suggestions can you make that might alleviate the problems identified in the above question?

Post copies of the programs on the same day, even if before the lecture, as most students won't read them until after the class.

More recitation times, less lecture.

Take the syllabus slower and have more lab/hands-on sessions.

Maybe if the lecture examples were reviews in the sections, it would be more helpful for my learning.

More practice problems to do in the lecture material.

open book exams! ;-)

Posting class powerpoints online.

none

Nothing that I can think of.

Offer more optional lab sections.

The reading materials have been extremely helpful in clarifying the above concepts, and I would continue to provide the readings to students.

I would appreciate more practice prelims so I can work with one or 2 slowly and take my time with it, and another set or 2 of exam questions so I can practice my speed.

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4. Do you have any additional comments?

No.

no

Yisong is great! Very friendly and helpful, though his teaching might be even more wonderful if he could actually cover all of the problems for that particular section and try to go over time less (I have a class relatively far away right after and cannot stay longer than the assigned time).

This TA is really awesome. He has a certain aura that makes you optimistic about coding errors. Yisong is so nice that you would feel bad blaming a poor prelim grade on him just for the hell of it.

no

In the computer lab, it seems like a lot of people have the same questions. It'd be helpful if those questions were answered for the entire class sooner, rather than later.

Nil.

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Statement	Mean	Count	1	2	3	4	5
1. My TA demonstrates command of the subject matter.	4.59	17	0	0	1	5	11
2. My TA is fully prepared for class, laboratory or review section.	4.59	17	0	0	2	3	12
3. My TA provides clear and comprehensive explanations and instructions.	4.29	17	0	0	4	4	9
4. My TA emphasizes the conceptual basis of the problem set or the lab experiment.	4.35	17	0	0	2	7	8
5. My TA encourages students to think in class by asking questions.	4.00	16	0	0	5	6	5
6. My TA makes me feel free to ask questions and express my opinions.	4.47	17	0	0	0	9	8
7. My TA provides clear, relevant and understandable responses to my questions.	4.24	17	0	0	3	7	7
8. My TA seems genuinely concerned about students' learning.	4.24	17	0	0	3	7	7
9. My TA is actively helpful when students need assistance.	4.47	17	0	0	2	5	10
10. My TA seems enthusiastic about teaching the material.	4.29	17	0	0	2	8	7
11. My TA listens carefully to student questions and comments.	4.41	17	0	0	1	8	8
12. My TA periodically checks to make sure students understand what was covered.	3.88	17	0	2	4	5	6
13. My TA provides periodic summaries of what has been covered or discussed.	3.71	17	0	2	5	6	4
14. My TA is effective at relating lecture material to what is covered in section or lab.	3.76	17	0	0	8	5	4
15. My TA makes effective use of illustrations and examples.	3.88	17	0	0	6	7	4
16. My TA is fair in grading.	4.18	17	0	0	2	10	5
17. My TA provides helpful comments on my assignments.	3.82	17	0	1	4	9	3
18. My TA makes effective use of visual aides (blackboards, overhead, slides etc).	3.88	17	0	0	5	9	3
19. My TA divides his/her time equitably among laboratory groups.	4.07	15	0	1	2	7	5
20. Overall, how would you rate the quality of your TA's teaching?	4.12	17	0	0	3	9	5

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1. What about the course has been helpful for your learning thus far this semester?

Lab exercises are very helpful.

The TA sections and labs have been really helpful to understand and practice the lecture materials.

The practice prelims helped me prepare for our first test. Also, the labs we do have been challenging.

The review sessions with the TAs and with Daisy Fan before the first prelim were very helpful. Also, the posted answers to section problems, projects, and practice exams with detailed comments are very useful so that I can go over them slowly on my own.

thinking like a programmer

consulting

I have learned a lot of interesting information about computers that I never knew before.

N/A

having labs is helpful, but I feel that there isn't much instruction during lab, rather it is just a time where students try to figure things out on their own. I often feel I would rather just be given the worksheet and do it on my own time.

sections

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2. What about the course has caused you the most difficulty in terms of learning thus far?

I can't think of anything. It's a great course.

I had trouble understanding, following, and reading my previous TA's handwriting before I switched sections.

It's a large course. It gets noisy sometimes.

N/A

Figuring out how to solve each problem out on paper. (without computer aid)

projects done without much practice

I have trouble conceptualizing a lot of computer science. Also, during the lectures, it is difficult to absorb a lot of information.

nothing

the speed is quick for people who have never had a compsci class before

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3. What suggestions can you make that might alleviate the problems identified in the above question?

work on projects in section, and not do the section stuff

or

do smaller, easier problems in section that give firm foundation for simple things so that when it comes time for project, it is a matter of adding up all the simple pieces of the puzzle

...

Computer science is a hard subject to teach, but maybe it would be possible to try to teach the way of thinking more than just the rules of programming.

go over code slowly

Stressing use of paper and pencil BEFORE we can use the computer.

N/A

well as in regard to my response to the first question, I think the labs should allow time to go over how to do the problems. This way students will feel freer to ask questions.

It'd be better if the size of the class is smaller, but I understand as an introductory course, it's not really feasible.

I just switched sections. Some students don't seem to have a problem or "get used to it."

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4. Do you have any additional comments?

No additional comments.

My TA is great. He knows what he is doing.

N/A

none