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                                                   *** PROVISIONAL REPORT ***

       UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN                       COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY           Spring 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY
       Downing, Glenn P          C S373      52000     SOFTWARE ENGINEERING               Enrollment = 37
       B100 BASIC                                                                         Surveys Returned = 36

                                                                                                    NO. REPLIES
                                                                NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE        THIS ITEM     AVG.

                                                 Str Disag  Disagree    Neutral     Agree    Str Agree
       1 COURSE OBJECTIVES DEFINED-EXPLAINED          1         0          0          3         32           36        4.8
       2 INSTRUCTOR PREPARED                          1         0          0          0         35           36        4.9
       3 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY         1         0          0          4         31           36        4.8
       4 STUDENTS ENCOURAGED-ACTIVE ROLE              1         0          0          3         32           36        4.8
       5 INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY                      1         0          0          4         31           36        4.8
       6 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED                        1         0          1          6         28           36        4.7
       7 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION                1         0          1          6         28           36        4.7
       8 HELPFUL COURSE MATERIALS                     1         0          4         12         19           36        4.3
       9 STUDENT PERCEPTION OF AMOUNT LEARNED         1         0          2          5         28           36        4.6

                                                 Vry Unsat    Unsat    Satisfact  Very Good  Excellent
      10 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING                    0         0          0          5         31           36        4.9
      11 OVERALL COURSE RATING                        0         1          0          8         27           36        4.7

                                                 Excessive  High       Right      Light      Insuff
      12 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD            1        19         16          0          0           36

                                                 Less 2.00  2.00-2.49  2.50-2.99  3.00-3.49  3.50-4.00
      13 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE               0         4          3         11         18           36

                                                   __A__      __B__      __C__      __D__      __F
      14 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE                       10        15         10          1          0           36
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                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.


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COMMENTS:
Total Number of Comments: 18

1. Excellent class. You're a great teacher Dr. Downing. The course was organized very clearly, the grades were fair. The projects strongly complimented what we learned in class technical details in class, development skills through projects . Your method of calling on students is a great way to get us involved. You respond well to questions and confusion, and you speak very clearly. This class alone has led me to practice so many skills, yet the workload felt totally reasonable in my opinion. I feel that I will graduate as a much more well-rounded CS major than if I hadn't taken this class. I'd recommend this class to every CS major. If I were you, I wouldn't change a thing you're doing with the class!

2. One thing I think would make the course a bit better would be to change the way groups work. Maybe having a self-assess survey and then organizing groups to have a good mix of skills. Something I noticed was some teams were really front-end heavy with no skills in the back-end or vis-versa.

3. Great course, bit wished there was less of sql in this course and more object oriented python. But, overall great learning experience.

4. Software Engineering is definitely one of the best courses I've taken at UT. Downing goes to great lengths to instill good industry practices and skills in his students. He has had a great impact on my personal level of preparedness to enter the workforce and succeed.

5. I think this class is very fair. My only suggestion is to dedicate lecture time to discuss the technologies we will be using. For example, we never went over flask, or jinga.

6. Glenn Downing is likely the best professor I have had in the UTCS program. I have learned more in his class about professionalism and real world applicable skills than any other. It is my belief that any student that graduates without taking a class taught by Dr. Downing is doing themselves a serious disservice.

7. Good course. The only problem is the size of each group is too large. It's really hard to engage in the team.

8. The lectures were very helpful and I feel like I learned a lot by just showing up to class. My only problem with the course is the exam reviews seem pretty broad, but the exams themselves focus on aspects that seem pretty specific. Maybe if there were some hints on what to focus more attention on in the reviews, the exams would not be so difficult. Definitely one of the best professors at UT.

9. Excellent professor, great projects. My only complaint is with the Exams, I feel like there was not enough time for me to think about the answer to the questions, either you know it or you have it wrong. I believe exams should give me an opportunity to think and learn while I am taking the exam and due to the time constraint I don't feel his exams gave me an opportunity to do this. I also think the test cases in the exam should be more specific as to what he is looking for. Form what the TA's told me most of the class got 15 points of for not adding the empty test case. If most of the class has something wrong then the mistake is probably not on the students side, This is hurtful given that he dose not curve.

10. I would prefer Django over Flask.

11. The tools I really enjoyed using Github because it helped illustrate the actual development process that takes place in most software development companies. The nongroup Both the collatz and netflix projects were very helpful in establishing a foundation of the procedure involved with developing software. The requirements of each project helped make sure that at each step, the software is tested for functionality and reduced the number of potential bugs. The group I feel this is the high point of the course because it required collaboration between students that I did not previously know. Since we all had different schedules, we had to find effective ways to get work done and meet up to work on the project. BEST COURSE EVER!

12. Didn't have enough time to finish exams. Other than that, the class and projects were very insightful. Maybe spend more time on design patterns since they're the most applicable thing for the real world.

13. Grade weights for the IDB projects are unexpectedly low considering the time required to finish them. Each phase of the project took about 30 hours on average at least for our group. Projects themselves are great and useful in learning new tools. Overall a great class with enjoyable projects but grade-wise places a greater emphasis on exams and quizzes.

14. Instead of using another team's api, it might also be helpful to have students pick up development of another team api. This could serve as experience since in the industry you sometimes have to develop other people's code further.

15. Sometimes when something wasn't especially clear, it is difficult to speak up or ask questions about it because the kind of 'cadence' of the class doesn't really feel like it allows for questions

16. The only somewhat constructive thing I have to say is that I felt the restrictions on the final project in terms of which technologies we could use might have been too stringent. Otherwise, great course!

17. While I agree that students should take initiative in their own learning, I think there should be emphasis for students to review and make sure they understand how to do the implementations of what we cover in class. I wonder how this class would look if instead of quizzes being given every class if homeworks with the exact same questions as the quizzes were given every class instead.

18. I wish there were a course at UT that went deeper into the topic of testing specifically unit testing, but integration and functional testing would be welcome too . We were required to write tests for our projects, but little direction was given regarding how to actually write the tests. Testing seems to be very important in real software engineering jobs as well as a deeper topic than it was let on to be in this course.