

## \*\*\* PROVISIONAL REPORT \*\*\*

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
Downing, Glenn P      C S373      90171  
B000 Basic

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY  
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Summer 2014 DEPARTMENT COPY  
Enrollment = 67  
Surveys Returned = 19

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	0		0	2	6	11	19	4.5
2 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	0		0	4	3	12	19	4.4
3 SHOWED INTEREST IN STUDENT PROGRESS	0		0	2	6	10	18	4.4
4 ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS RETURNED PROMPTLY	0		1	3	10	5	19	4.0
5 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	0		2	1	5	11	19	4.3
6 COURSE OF VALUE TO DATE	0		0	2	3	14	19	4.6
	Vry	Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
7 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	1		1	1	4	12	19	4.3
8 OVERALL COURSE RATING	1		1	3	5	9	19	4.1
	Excessive		High	Average	Light	Insuffic		
9 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	0		15	4	0	0	19	
	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		3	6	3	7	19	
	<u>  A  </u>		<u>  B  </u>	<u>  C  </u>	<u>  D  </u>	<u>  F  </u>		
11 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	7		10	1	1	0	19	

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: 10

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1. I was very disappointed in this course. There was a real disconnect between the lectures and the projects. I learned a lot doing the projects, but the lectures were just going over the Python language for most of the term. It was more of a 1-credit Python class than a Software Engineering course. It would have been very helpful if we actually went over web frameworks, MVCs, overview of front-end, back-end, instead of just ignoring the projects in class entirely bc, as Prof Downing readily admits, he doesn't know how to do it himself. I get how in the real world, we should be self-learners, but we are also paying to attend lectures by an expert in the field. I think we could have learned a lot more if the starting point was the lecture.
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2. Excellent course. I learned so much.
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3. I enjoyed software engineering, especially using Python. I took this with generic, so switching between languages was a bit difficult. Professor Downing was a good instructor, and I enjoyed the web development aspect, and the team project worked well. Normally, I don't like group projects, but being able to pick a team was helpful. I appreciated the SQL as well, but Django really did a great job. I'd say this class will be quite valuable, and I am glad I took it over the summer.
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4. I would have preferred if we could create our portfolio site on any account, not just Seelio. I already have a portfolio website on my own domain, so that requirement forced me to create a duplicate portfolio site at Seelio which I plan to delete next week to avoid any confusion as to which is my true portfolio . I think a little more flexibility would not detract from the portfolio site exercise or make it harder to evaluate and grade.
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5. Great class. Always enjoy you as a teacher.
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6. Tyler was a good TA, he was always at his TA sessions. The other two would often miss their TA sessions.
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7. This course was excellent. Although there were some slight hiccups with the technologies being used in the course, specifically PythonAnywhere which would sporadically crash.
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8. What I do not understand is why this course is not a core requirement for ANY CS degree... Clearly it should be. After having gone through numerous job interviews, I must say this course was by far the MOST helpful in preparing me for the real world. MAKE THIS CLASS REQUIRED FOR EVERYONE!!!
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9. I thought Downing was a fantastic instructor. He was very enthusiastic about the material and used code examples to make the concepts very obvious. I also enjoyed him calling us out in class - it helped each student to be engaged in the lecture and encouraged us to fully understand the material. My only qualm was with the course itself. 'Software Engineering' is a rather vague title and while I did learn a great deal about many programming concepts I feel that this might have been more of a survey course. The concepts we covered ranged from Python to SQL to web technologies to programming paradigms. Don't get me wrong I love the course. But if someone asked me what the class was about I wouldn't be able to answer.
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10. This professor is good I suppose if you can get used to how he tests and quizzes you. He Loves python WAY too much so this lead to the tests being centered on python rather than all the material we went over between the tests. He taught things one way, told us to study that, then tested us on it in a way contrary to the way he taught us. Anyway, it felt more like a python course than a software engineering course so I wasn't very pleased about it
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