*** PROVISIONAL REPORT ***

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN   COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY   Fall 2013   DEPARTMENT COPY
Downing, Glenn P   C S371P   54010   OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING   Enrollment = 59
B000 Basic   Surveys Returned = 24

	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree	NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
1 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	0	0	0	4	20	24	4.8
2 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	0	0	0	6	18	24	4.8
3 SHOWED INTEREST IN STUDENT PROGRESS	0	0	1	8	15	24	4.6
4 ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS RETURNED PROMPTLY	0	2	5	12	5	24	3.8
5 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	0	0	2	8	14	24	4.5
6 COURSE OF VALUE TO DATE	0	0	0	2	22	24	4.9

	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
7 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	0	0	1	2	21	24	4.8
8 OVERALL COURSE RATING	0	0	1	5	18	24	4.7

	Excessive	High	Average	Light	Insuffic		
9 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	0	18	6	0	0	24	

	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	0	6	4	14	24	

	__A__	__B__	__C__	__D__	__F__		
11 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	11	8	5	0	0	24	

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: 15

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1. Great professor, he is one of the few professor that actually teaches applicable stuff
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2. Dr. Downing is one of the best teachers I've ever had. I never expected to learn so much valuable information in a single class. The thing I like most about Dr. Downing is his depth of knowledge and his confidence in that knowledge. Even if you ask him an obscure question about c plus plus or java, he knows the answer straight away. He is definitely thoroughly prepared for each of his lectures. I would strongly recommend this course to everyone in CS. It should be a required course, it's that good.
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3. Excellent course. Thank you for the way you teach.
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4. I found the projects educational and well rounded. Constructively, it was frustrating when expectations changed like implementing an API, etc. days before the projects were due. I also think some skeletons were too extensive. In Allocator, I found templates and typedefs confusing and I think having to write those parts ourselves would have been beneficial. I liked GTest and found it simple to use. I prefer it over CppUnit. I really appreciated the time you took to have people come and talk to us as it was very educational and helpful. Its truly unique that you took the time for this and thanks.   You're a great professor and when I interned at uShip they asked me how many Downing classes I had taken. I plan to add one more next semester
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5. ----- Good -Articulation of the material -Fun projects -Gain much knowledge in testing and version control -Extra credit to make up for mistakes -Guest speakers from companies -Adequate preparation for projects ----- Bad -Answers to student questions in class seem harsh on average -Not enough instruction to Gtesting at the beginning -Time to program seems a bit short. Maybe at least 2 weekends, post and introduce on Friday? -No introduction to GitHub, caused much stress -Quizzes every class causes much stress
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6. This course has been one of the most useful classes I've taken here at UT. The best thing about this course was getting hands on experience on some industry practices such as testing and source control. The lecture style of this was very effective because of quizzes every lecture and anyone can be called on to answer questions so it really had the whole class engaged and made me give my undivided attention. Downing expressed concepts loudly and clearly almost a bit intimidating at times but never in a demeaning way. The projects were fair, not much else to say. The guest lecturers were very helpful in giving tips on how to get a job. However, the Bloomberg speaker felt more of an academic presentation than anything. Excellent course overall
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7. Downings class is very well structured, He really knows what he is talking about. However I felt like the first half of the course was more to do with learning about how c   works rather than how OOP works.
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8. The most practical and useful CS course I've taken
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9. Lectures were incredible learning experiences and left me wanting more. The projects were good. Life was especially useful, with multiple classes and files to build OOD skill. The textbook was a little dated but turned out to be pretty good. I really appreciate the emphasis on testing and version control. I also enjoyed the guest speakers! On the other hand, it seemed like we missed some material you meant to cover otherwise. Any chance you could produce some videos for any slides we missed? Your explanations are so much more effective than the alternatives! Thanks!
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10. One of the best lecturers I have ever had. Extremely knowledgeable. Focuses on the details and forces you to think about what is happening and why. Teaches design principles, and the INTUITION behind those principles. But what really sets Downing apart from the rest of the faculty is his enthusiasm for teaching. He doesn't stop at C   he gives solid advice for future career success mostly in industry . He regularly solicits feedback. Class participation is mandatory. I feel like he has a real investment in my success. Sometimes his style of questioning can come off as harsh, but it might just be a combination of his excitedness and his odd sense of humor.
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11. Great class, though I think maybe a little less emphasis on C   syntax and more on other OOP-y topics like design patterns would have been better.
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12. I'm graduating, took all ur courses. U r the best undergrad CS prof !positiv feeback! -TA grade projects and exams faster now -Class coverage matches expectations -I love the "So let's build this... tell me, John Doe, what's the first thing to write". !negative! -Material for last 1.5 weeks was critical but confusing, maybe try spreading out on 2.5 weeks, i.e. remove Bloomberg speaker? -Many important bits shared during lecture but not always shown in the slides, we'll forget a lot of it, e.g.'use cases', 'best practices' etc. so repeat general points again a few lectures later? -Get TA and proctors to at least endorse piazza posts, are they scared?? -Please teach CS314 with Java. Please. U and Mike Scott will give the best CS foundation.
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13. Nice having assignments explained in class, which ended up not being difficult. Professor seems very enthusiastic about the subject. The reading is mostly unrelated to what is covered in class, so it's like we're supposed to know twice as much material. Tests are hard, especially the last one. I doubt that anyone other than Downing himself would be able to take the test in 90 minutes and get everything right, even the TAs. It was covering things that appeared in the book in just one paragraph. It was definitely too long. Having pretty easy programming assignments and really difficult tests makes the class unbalanced. Why ruin students' grades with an impossible last test when they work hard all semester? No curve too, which is ridiculous
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14. I'm torn about how you like making us figure something out without having learned it, like the singleton questions on the test. I was very frustrated with the Life project because it took me a long time to figure out how we were supposed to structure it. I can see that you did it make us think. I liked that it was very clear what the expected behavior was for assignments. Copying students' tests for Darwin and Life especially Darwin was tedious--I liked the in out files much better. But it was very nice to be able to look at other students tests and find bugs in my program. Sometimes, you list something in lecture like how to turn off dynamic binding and I would've liked it to be clearer it was a list. Overall I really enjoyed the class.
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15. I truly enjoyed your class, and think you are a great professor, but I think that you might want to revisit the the penalty for turning in assignments late. Although I understand that you are probably trying to prepare us for the real world. The fact that every day late is 20 off the final grade can really destroy someone's grade if they are busy juggling multiple things.