

*** PROVISIONAL REPORT ***

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
Downing, Glenn P C S373 50540
E100 EXPANDED

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Fall 2019 DEPARTMENT COPY
Grade-eligible enrollment = 55
Surveys Returned = 49

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE					NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 COURSE OBJECTIVES DEFINED-EXPLAINED	0	1	3	22	23	49	4.4
2 INSTRUCTOR PREPARED	0	0	0	11	38	49	4.8
3 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	0	1	0	16	32	49	4.6
4 STUDENTS ENCOURAGED-ACTIVE ROLE	0	0	6	12	31	49	4.5
5 INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY	0	1	0	19	29	49	4.6
6 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	1	2	3	19	24	49	4.3
7 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	0	1	4	18	26	49	4.4
8 CLASS PARTICIPATION ENCOURAGED	0	0	1	10	37	48	4.8
9 ENGAGING INSTRUCTION	1	2	6	17	23	49	4.2
10 INST. HAD THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT	1	0	1	15	32	49	4.6
11 INSTRUCTOR EXPLANATIONS CLEAR	0	0	0	23	26	49	4.5
12 GENUINELY INTERESTED IN TEACHING COURSE	0	0	2	16	30	48	4.6
13 HELPFUL COURSE MATERIALS	1	4	10	13	21	49	4.0
14 ADEQUATE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENTS	2	4	14	19	9	48	3.6
15 ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS RETURNED PROMPTLY	0	0	4	26	19	49	4.3
16 ASSIGNMENTS USUALLY WORTHWHILE	0	0	4	17	28	49	4.5
17 STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATED FAIRLY	0	1	7	23	17	48	4.2
18 STUDENT PERCEPTION OF AMOUNT LEARNED	0	1	3	22	23	49	4.4
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
19 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	1	0	5	16	27	49	4.4
20 OVERALL COURSE RATING	1	0	12	21	15	49	4.0
	Excessive	High	Right	Light	Insuff		
21 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	6	30	13	0	0	49	
	Less 2.00	2.00-2.49	2.50-2.99	3.00-3.49	3.50-4.00		
22 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE	0	0	2	25	21	48	
	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>		
23 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	6	32	10	0	0	48	

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: 18

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1. Dr. Downing is fantastic. His lectures are invariably elucidating and he genuinely takes joy in teaching. A friend who took OOP almost twenty years ago demanded I take Downing's class, and she was right.
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2. This course was excellent and I could genuinely see that Prof. Downing cares about the class and the students. My only complaint is that the project requirements were not clearly stated and many groups have gotten points off for something that wasn't clearly defined on the project requirements page. If not having the requirements well defined is intentional, then that needs to be stated to the students. Also, I know that this is not a problem with just this semester because looking back at previous evaluations, almost every time the lowest score is "adequate instructions for assignments." That said, I do also believe that this was a very challenging class and has taught me about so many tools that I can use in my future career.
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3. I wish there were some extra hacker rank practice exam type material. I felt a bit shell shocked by the speed in which we were required to code during the midterm; the group portion of the exam was a nice way to even out grades, but I felt as if I was in a frenzy to just get done. Overall though I learned a great deal from this course and felt as if it was highly beneficial for me to take.
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4. Lecture-wise, the content was delivered in an engaging manner. I liked the cold-calling process as it allowed me to stay engaged and encouraged me to think, even when I'm not called on. The materials presented gave me additional insight into some software engineer techniques and were truly applicable in industry. However, I did not like how the projects were organized this semester, especially with using CATME to choose groups. It doesn't account for how much effort others are willing to put into the project, and puts people who were fine with a lower-effort grade with those who expected to do well in the course, leading to an uneven split of workload. I would've preferred working with those who I knew were willing to give their best.
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5. Very helpful course and provided a lot of hands on experience. Only things i would say to make it better is some demonstration of the tools we used for the projects. I couldn't work on every part, so a crash course in some of the other tools would be fun. Much like we did with the SQL stuff! Also the midterm (as I havnt taken the final at this point). I loved doing it individually then in a group, but only having 45 min by myself was hard, and didnt need the full 45 min in a group. I know if i had an extra 10-15 min by myself, I definitely would have gotten almost a full letter grade higher. Otherwise loved the structure of the class and had a lot of fun figuring stuff out on my own!
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6. I do wish he actually would have gone over Flask and JavaScript, since the majority of his projects depend so much on those two. Also, SQL should've been taught far earlier. I think it should've been taught during phase I of the website since we needed it extensively for phase II.
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7. I have never learned so much in my life full stop
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8. This was a good class overall. However, I did not appreciate the surprise collaborative format for the midterm. It would have been better if Downing had conveyed this information beforehand.
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9. Downing prepares students well for what it's like in a software engineering position. In class he goes over and teaches Python, refactoring, SQL, and many other techniques and tools to aid in software development. Following the guidelines and being an active participant will guarantee success in his class.
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10. Even though the project was a good learning experience, I found myself getting bored working on it as the semester progressed.
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11. My only complaint is sometimes his tone during lecture is a little aggressive.
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12. Overall, we learn a great deal in this class. During lectures, we go over programming concepts which can be helpful especially for people new to Python and how it differs/relates to Java. Then for class projects, we have to create a dynamic website from scratch. I would've liked more in class "tutorials" on how to get started on class projects because so much was left for us to figure out on our own and personally, no one in my group had any prior experience with web development (thanks, CATME...). The TAs, however, were extremely helpful (especially Hannah) and helped fill in some gaps where the project spec was lacking. A minor complaint I had in class was not allowing the person being cold called to speak without being interrupted
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13. Thank you for the wonderful semester!
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14. I get that self learning is a thing but I feel like some basic introduction to the tools necessary for the projects would be nice. My group felt really lost for a large part of the projects.
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15. I enjoyed this course, but one suggestion I would have is to spend more time preparing students for the project.
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16. As always Dr. Downing's classes are fun yet challenging experiences that push us to grow and nurture our skills.
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17. Honestly wasn't a fan of the way the SQL HackerRanks were done. Made it hard to see which query was failing.
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18. Randomized groups were bad. Not teaching the tools for the project was bad.
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