Student comments for Arup Guha, dmarino@cs.ucf.edu

Instructor Name: Arup Guha

Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	CIS33620001	CRYPTOGRAPHY AND INFO SECURITY
Department/School	**Course-Section Number**	**Course Name**

52	26	50.00
Number of Students Enrolled	**Number Responding**	**% of Response**

The thing(s) I like the MOST about this course:

Challenging but interesting

Code/cipher breaking!

Breaking the classical ciphers in the beginning of class was fun

group review

Arup Guha is awesome. And the class was interesting.

Interesting material, great method, effective projects.

doing the DES cracker

Arup is always interested in whatever he's lecturing about. I've had him for 3 courses so far, and while they have all been difficult, they've all been intensely rewarding because of his love for the topic and his love for teaching. His interest in the course definitely made the course enjoyable and knowledgeable.

Further towards the end we began to learn current crypto techniques.

Working in teams to do homework.

The thing(s) I like the LEAST about this course:

Programming - just simply not a good programmer

Nothing.

Group assignments.

Might want to get a little more material for next semester, Arup.

Seemed to be short on material too often

N/A. This course has been my favorite so far here at UCF

The review sessions in which questions were asked and we work as a team to find the answer. If we knew as a whole which subjects to review I believe review sessions would be more productive.

What is your reaction to the method of evaluating your mastery of the course (i.e., testing, grading, out of class assignments (term papers), instructor feedback, etc.):

i think its good although curious to see how final exam will be.

Fair.

Everything was fair

I like the evaluation method. I like how all of the final grades are distributed.

Exams stuck to the information we had learned thus far. Questions were not carbon copies of hw or quiz problems but were not so difficult that one couldn't solve it with a bit of critical thinking and good studying

Testing was always so ridiculously hard that a curve needed to be applied.

The tests are a good assessment except it is sometimes unclear what material will or will not make it on.

Additional comments and suggestions for improvement:

Classes are always a challenge with Arup but i always learn a lot. With that said i never get A's, but B's are okay with me.

Tests were possibly one question too long for allotted time.

The material towards the end of the course was a bit difficult but the pacing remained the same, making it a bit hard to keep up. Other than that the course was fantastic.

Go more in depth and spend more time on the current crypto techniques such as AES, public key, etc.

Instructor Name: Arup Guha

Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	COP3223H0201	HONORS INTRO PROG WITH C
Department/School	**Course-Section Number**	**Course Name**
21	13	61.90
Number of Students Enrolled	**Number Responding**	**% of Response**

The thing(s) I like the MOST about this course:

The homework programs

The topic itself and the ability of the professor

I had a whole bunch of stuff here but the bane of UCF's online presence: myUCF logged me out. Basically just about everything is good.

Lectures were good. I understood the information when explained.

Programming

The hands-on exercises that dealt with specific goals in programming. The Friday Programs assisted in directly involving the students in researching problems and solutions to common programming issues.

Prof. Guha is very down to earth, funny, and interesting. Enjoyed every class

Great professor, really knew the material and how to teach it.

How we actually were given the chance to apply what we learned in class

The thing(s) I like the LEAST about this course:

The tests

It wasn't difficult enough

Not enough cake =(

The math required to solve the problems was difficult for me, since it has been two to three years since taking a math course.

Tests

The uneven distribution of those with programming experience and those without. Although, it was a honors course, so it is expected that some students have foreknowledge of at least one language.

Little need for the book assigned for the course

What is your reaction to the method of evaluating your mastery of the course (i.e., testing, grading, out of class assignments (term papers), instructor feedback, etc.):

The teaching was excellent, but the tests were unfair in the amount of time given. They were certainly solvable tests, but there were simply too many questions on a test to have time to do well, regardless of how well a student knew the information.

Fast

THERE WAS A METHOD OF EVALUATING MY MASTERY?!?! I thought there was just cake - ??? - and profit! Seriously, I feel that the final grade curve is a really great way of balancing out grades and I liked the way grades are determined, no problems here!

The tests were extremely difficult for me, except the second one that was setup as a case study.

Final to highly weighted

Exams really decided who was and who was not learning the material properly. It was a perfect gauge that demonstrated student success and failure.

fair

Additional comments and suggestions for improvement:

Having two years of Java, I did not really need the course as C was easy to pick up within a week or two, however, part of that ease was due to his (your?) book. I think it has great explanations of the important concepts, and while I did look at other various books and online sources from time to time for help or for the sake of being thorough and not missing any concepts, his (your?) book helped tremendously in getting me up to speed. Overall I think the assignments were a great exercise, even with prior experience, and I like (though I'm still not done while writing this! =O) the group assignment. I mostly did my own work/activities/???/profit on my laptop but when I did listen I liked the explanations. Out of all the programming teachers I have known, Arup (you?!?!) is (are????) definitely the best at getting people to understand the concepts of programming.

Instructor Name: Arup Guha

Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	COT39600001	CS FOUNDATION EXAM
Department/School	**Course-Section Number**	**Course Name**
51	25	49.02
Number of Students Enrolled	**Number Responding**	**% of Response**

The thing(s) I like the MOST about this course:

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This isn't actually a class. I liked that aspect of it.

n/a

I like Arup. Problem is, this is just a dummy course.

N/A

The thing(s) I like the LEAST about this course:

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n/a

N/A

N/A

What is your reaction to the method of evaluating your mastery of the course (i.e., testing, grading, out of class assignments (term papers), instructor feedback, etc.):

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n/a

N/A

N/A

Additional comments and suggestions for improvement:

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This should really not be a course evaluation

We probably shouldn't have to evaluate this class, since it doesn't exist.

n/a

N/A

N/A

How was i supposed to evaluate this "class"? Foundation Exam was fun though =P

Instructor Name: Arup Guha

Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	COT42100001	DISCRETE STRUCTURES II
Department/School	**Course-Section Number**	**Course Name**
64	25	39.06
Number of Students Enrolled	**Number Responding**	**% of Response**

The thing(s) I like the MOST about this course:

Interesting concepts about problem solving techniques

I like that it's nearly over

I liked that the homework was graded. It gave me the incentive to do it. I liked the curve too.

Very engaged in teaching, so it made the material easier.

The course material was complicated, but the professor presented it in a way that was able to be understood. Arup was flexible to class needs and pace, encouraged active participation, and generated interest in the material. He created an environment that students wanted to be a part of. There was never a moment where I thought to myself that I'd rather not attend today's lecture, which was probably the most crucial factor to my (hopefully') impending success in this class.

Ease of understanding, really cares about students. Nice and prompt grade feedback

Interesting topics, challenging questions

I liked learning about the limitations of computing machinery.

a

Coding problems: It allowed for us to apply what we were learning, allowing for us to make sure we understood the concepts.

The thing(s) I like the LEAST about this course:

Use of class time was not always the best. Tests were made at a graduate level instead of undergrad.

Proofs

I didn't like the tests. They were hard. Should have studied more.

The class is really hard

I suppose some of the homework assignments were assigned only a week in advance, but that wasn't really a big problem'

Maybe more programming based assignments

Classes were sometimes long and boring.

na

The pace was a bit too quick.

What is your reaction to the method of evaluating your mastery of the course (i.e., testing, grading, out of class assignments (term papers), instructor feedback, etc.):

Tests were extremely difficult and unfairly graded. A quote from the professor, "I only spent 3 minutes on one problem from you guys. If I could understand your logic you got full credit. If it was difficult to understand I took a few points off. If it was very difficult to understand you lost more points."

Tests were a challenge but he was lenient on grading and curving.

It was good.

Tests were sometimes too hard, but at least the grading was fair and understood it was hard

The out of class assignments were appropriately challenging and relative. The Tests were thorough but fair. No term long assignments were assigned, which is great because they more effectively gauge time management skills than actual class learning. The grading of this class very accurately portrays the student's level of mastery of the course material.

it was fine

I thought it was challenging but fair. It rewarded students who were well prepared

Items used to evaluate performance are difficult in this course and can sometimes be discouraging.

na

Testing was very hard, but understandably fair. The professor allowed for us to make our own notes for the latter two exams, which helped a lot.

Additional comments and suggestions for improvement:

Simulate what should be done on tests instead of just teaching course material. Also, explain harder concepts more instead of just assuming everyone "get's it"

Probably suggest more supplemental material because the subject is hard.

The professor directly encouraged students to learn about more than just the course material, which I think is a creative way to mold more well-rounded individuals out of students, which is the real purpose of college. This professor is among the best this University has to offer.

Arup is the best professor I've ever had!

Give hints. It won't affect our ability to learn.

na

Instructor Name: Arup Guha

Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	COP32230003	INTRO TO PROGRAMMING WITH C
Department/School	**Course-Section Number**	**Course Name**

232	99	42.67
Number of Students Enrolled	**Number Responding**	**% of Response**

The thing(s) I like the MOST about this course:

What I liked most about the class was that the teacher genuinely cared about the quality of his teaching. He was transparent about his grading criteria and teaching policy. I felt nervous coming into the class as someone with no programming experience, but Mr. Guha's teaching was so clear that I left each lecture ready to apply what had been taught.

What I like most about this course, the professor willingness to help at all times before or even after class. That means a lot for the students. Assignments were helpful in understanding the subject a little better.

The Homework was fun

The professor was very enthusiastic about the subject and the outputs created by various examples and programming assignments served a very practical use.

The Professor was very lively and showed that he loved to instruct. Made the course highly enjoyable.

He remembered my name from one meeting and he helps out anyone who needs it, no matter how stupid you

The teacher did not suck. He was actually very good at explaining the material.

The professor kept the difficulty level as an introductory class. Even thought many students have programming before.

How well it was taught

He made the material really easy to understand, coming from an inexperienced programmer's point of view.

The material learned.

Online notes that supplement lessons are very good. If there was something from class I did not understand, I could usually figure it out by viewing your online notes.

the content! learning programming was fun

good examples and information resources, the book wasn't even needed

How clear the assignments were

The way the professor instructed made me very interested in the subject material. He made it very easy to understand difficult concepts and made class entertaining.

Interesting, learning about programming. I like the amount of information on his website, that he posts lectures online.

MY.UCF.EDU SIGNS YOU OUT BEFORE YOU CAN GIVE ANY MEANINGFUL FEEDBACK.

I learned a lot!

It was interesting, and professor Guha teaches a subject I've never dealt with before in a very graspable manner.

The knowledge and enthusiasm of the instructor towards the course material.

Pretty funny professor. He made the material interesting and exciting.

Well paced, a lot of outside help available through supplemental instruction

I really did not like any part of the course.

I liked that the professor made the course material relative to a beginning level for someone who does not know how to program. I have learn a lot and throughly enjoyed this course.

The teacher would always take the time to answer questions, no matter how stupid, in which always found to be helpful.

I liked that the Instructor could be heard clearly though the entire classroom.

How casual it was. The atmosphere in the classroom was laid back.

I enjoyed how effectively Mr. Guha was able to convey and teach ideas especially to people of no programming experience. I also liked how organized and how helpful his website was.

Incredibly easy

Everything, he is great.

Free response questions and Homework

very easy to understand

Nothing.

The thing(s) I like the LEAST about this course:

What I liked least about the course was that the multiple choice section of the first test was all about one large, unformatted block of code, and we had to flip from that code sheet to the scantron to the test questions sheet. I'm grateful that the professor took the time to address the criticisms of that test, but I feel like he did not fully understand them. He made it out like all the complaints boiled down to the content being too difficult, and he missed the legitimate criticism that the test was difficult to read.

I have no complains about this course.

The multiple choice questions on the exam

Taking this course as a student who has no programming experience, this was a very challenging course as opposed to others in the class that already knew everything they were being retaught.

This class was not for beginning level class! From day one we were approached as if we had done this type of work before. We did not start from square one but instead just took off into the difficult work while never knowing the basics.

The class room desk situation was rough for exams.

Tests did not go with lectures.

i cannot pay attention in the class

While it isn't fair to say this, I'd have to say the tests were rather challenging--but not impossible.

Every unconfortable classroom. It was like fish in a can. Chair too small

Nothing

Select lectures.

Test environment is rather uncomfortable.

some exam questions are a bit too hard compared to the rest of the course and questions.

confusing exams. especially the multiple choice

Not getting more feedback about mistakes on tests and assignments although that was probably available if I went to SI

The assignment descriptions sometimes had incorrect information in them which made working on them confusing. They also did not ask for all the things that were being graded on according to the corresponding grading criteria.

Picks up very quickly. Should have a lab.

It's a hard course! Not because of him, it's just the nature of the subject.

Exams are all trick questions. It's an absurd way to evaluate my competency as a software developer. Toss the exams, you won't need the weird grading scale after that, either.

Its hard and the communications program does not give students the practice they need for the given tests

It is unclear that the grading scales for the projects can be found on Arup's website, had I known this it would have save me points on a couple earlier programs.

The class size was too large.

Not my major so half way through I was severely questioning why I took it

The thing I liked least was the fact that we were taught and expected to already have an extensive background in computer programming, even though this is an introductory course.

I found the teacher to be perfect, although he had a habit to being late to class.

The communication part of the communication group's assignments.

nothing

I did not really like how class would sometimes be taken up by people asking questions that did not directly pertain to the topic at hand. This would eat up class time, while drawing away attention, making the lessons learned not so effective. An example would be people asking extraneous questions such as what would happen if they were to add miscellaneous things to a program. I also did not like how long it took for assignments to be graded. Sometimes I would not learn of the mistakes I made and would continue to apply them to the next assignment because of such delay.

Classes were ridiculously slow, I didn't stay the full time in one single class and I got an A.

Nothing.

The class moved very fast. It was alot of material to comperhend in such a short period of time.

Multiple choice test questions

hard to see the screen sometimes

Tests, the fact I had to take it.

What is your reaction to the method of evaluating your mastery of the course (i.e., testing, grading, out of class assignments (term papers), instructor feedback, etc.):

Grading was perfect. I always knew where I stood in the course. I always knew what was expected for getting the grade that I wanted. There were plenty of discussions about the teacher's grading policy and about how well the class was doing as a whole.

Excellent!

It was average

The test and programming assignments administered accurately challenged me and gave a good idea of the level of mastery of the course.

the home works are ok but the level of tests are extremely above what we have learned.

I like the grading system set in place.

You give way too much extra credit. I consider it a bad idea to draw the lines for A's B's and C's after you factor in the extra credit.

i like that it is online but sometimes getting the grades for the programs take a while

This class is graded more fairly based on your mastery than any class I've been in.

I liked the way it is done and the difficulty of the evaluations

Very efficient.

Good assignments. Not to many assignments, but also not too few. Overall satisfied. However grades are pretty slow to come back.

A+

good

I think it was a fair method of assessment

Very fair grading, no complaints.

I am currently doing a medical withdrawal so anything beyond when I stopped attending I cant evaluate, but up to that, excellent.

Exams are all trick questions. It's an absurd way to evaluate my competency as a software developer. Toss the exams, you won't need the weird grading scale after that, either.

Test are hard for the time given. The professor is awesome though!

Very fair.

While the testing of the material was quite challenging, the grading scale compensated for its difficulty.

all good

The professor's method of grading and evaluation is fair and modest.

I wish there was more homework assigned, which would provide more practice.

The test where slightly hard, but otherwise it was great.

I thought it was fair. Not only did we have tests but we had assignments as well.

I found the evaluation of my mastery of the course to be fair. I only wish that certain programming assignments would be discussed a little in class so as to clear up any confusion or misunderstandings.

Excellent

The tests were a joke in this course. No one learning a language should be subjected to a multiple choice test. We should be tested on the code we write because that's actually important. Don't try and trick me with stupid multiple choice questions, especially when you wrote the test THAT DAY, because chances are that mistake I found wasn't actually part of the question. Also, the assignments for this course did absolutely nothing for learning how to code. One of them was printing out a tire. I'll be sure to keep that info handy next time I need to print out something using +'s and asterisks. Thanks.

Additional comments and suggestions for improvement:

No teacher I've had before has been as naturally intelligent as Mr. Guha. No teacher I've had before has cared so much about teaching well. Very few of my previous teachers have been able to present the material as well as he does. Mr. Guha should be cloned, and his clones should be the only people allowed to teach.

I would have like more free response questions on the test

None.

i think this class needs to be taken back to a beginning level in stead of never going over the basics and always assuming that we knew about what we were being taught!

i like this class

This was a great class. i loved the class

N/A

Great class, great professor.

stop the communications portion!

Class was very enjoyable and I learned alot. Suggestion for improvement is to make sure the assinment description and grading criteria match and to make sure the assignment descriptions are free of errors.

Great teacher, the extra credit assignments he gives are meaningful and help open your eyes to new things around you.

Exams are all trick questions. It's an absurd way to evaluate my competency as a software developer. Toss the exams, you won't need the weird grading scale after that, either.

The exam styles were a bit erratic, I feel like a consistent exam form makes it much easier to prepare.

No additional comments

The professor should teach the course more as a class for beginners in the field of computer programming and not expect so much so soon.

Nothing

Please for the love of God go faster

Perhaps, UCF, you should actually speak to the schools you have partnerships with. I should not have needed to take this course because I already took it. Sure the language I learned was different, but this class wasn't about the language. It was about the basics of programming, which I ALREADY KNOW. Also, here's a suggestion: don't let your awful website timeout when a student is writing an evaluation. Anyway, as far as the course goes, the professor should consider changing the way he handles tests. Maybe consider the material you're teaching your students and how they'll be evaluated in the real world. Just because you're a teacher doesn't mean you need to give tests the standard way. Think outside the box for once. Nobody writes code by choosing an answer A through D.