Semester: 1410

Student comments for Arup Guha, dmarino@ucf.edu

In this report of student comments, each student's comments are presented together in order in response to the following questions. If a student left no comments then nothing appears in this report from them.

- 1) The thing(s) I like the MOST about this course
- 2) The thing(s) I like the LEAST about this course
- 3) 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.)
- 4) Additional comments and suggestions for improvement

Semester: 1410

Instructor Name: Arup Guha

Compute	er Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	COT39600001	CS FOUNDATION EXAM Course Name	
	Department/School	Course-Section Number		
	30	17	56.67	
	Number of Students Enrolled	Number Responding	% of Response	
Test				
Test				
Test				
Excellent pro	fessor, interesting material, just the rig	ht pace.		

3) Good.

1)

2)

3)

4)

1)

2)

4) Best CS professor ever!

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Instructor Name: Arup Guha

Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	COP3223H0201	HONORS INTRO PROG WITH C
Department/School	Course-Section Number	Course Name
22	14	63.64
Number of Students Enrolled	Number Responding	% of Response
Group projects were a lot of fun to create!		
est = insanely hard. When we code just one pro ave multiple programs to read, it gets overwheln lready been stated in the code.		
every lecture was interesting and I learned some	ething new.	
rup is a great teacher.		
othing to complain about.		
he grading is fair.		
one.		
Professor Guha is a very enjoyable instructor wh	o is very good at what he doe	es.
feel as though the pace of the course was at tin	nes biased towards the advar	nced students regardless of it being
his professor really knows how to talk to the stu	idents, and how to teach. Exc	cellent class.

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- 1) small class size
- 2) too fast paced, had trouble keeping up in the beginning
- 3) assignments were challenging

Student Perception of Instruction Comments

Instructor Name: Arup Guha

1)

Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci		COP32230003	INTRO TO PROGRAMMING WITH C
Department/School		Course-Section Number	Course Name
	225	126	56.00
	Number of Students Enrolled	Number Responding	% of Response
	Fantastic online resources including lectures, pra- resources are instrumental to succeeding in this		mental information. Utilizing those onli
	Really annoying TA girl who proctored some of t exceptional. Poor use of class time occasionally the majority of the time.		
	Was rather disappointed with the consistency of response question that other students with nearl especially since my grasp of the subject was lea	y identical responses being a	awarded 5+ points on was frustrating,
	How many students do you have? Duly noted.	Great job Mr. Guha, thank yo	ou.
	N/A		
	N/A N/A		
	N/A		
	N/A N/A	ents learning, and taught in a	a way that made programming easier t
	N/A N/A N/A The teacher was very passionate about the stud		
	N/A N/A N/A The teacher was very passionate about the stud understand for the students. The material was difficult at times, but that was j	ust a matter of studying the r	
	N/A N/A N/A The teacher was very passionate about the stud understand for the students. The material was difficult at times, but that was j practical use, just difficult at times.	ust a matter of studying the r	
	N/A N/A N/A The teacher was very passionate about the stud understand for the students. The material was difficult at times, but that was j practical use, just difficult at times.	ust a matter of studying the r	
	N/A N/A The teacher was very passionate about the stud understand for the students. The material was difficult at times, but that was j practical use, just difficult at times. The grading was very fair on the tests, quizzes, and the students are students.	ust a matter of studying the r	
	N/A N/A The teacher was very passionate about the studunderstand for the students. The material was difficult at times, but that was juractical use, just difficult at times. The grading was very fair on the tests, quizzes, and everything.	ust a matter of studying the r	

I liked that my professor gave us access to exams, quizzes, and homework assignments from past classes to help us

better understand the topics in which we were learning.

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)	For me, this class was just overall hard. It wasn't the professor or his teaching, it was just a really hard concept for me grasp and I wish I had more time with each topic.
	I felt like it was fair, but again I struggled simply because this class in no way came easy to me.
	Different way of thinking
	The difficulty of applying computer skills on exam paper.
	Fair assignment grading. Harsh Exam grading
	The teacher and his grading scale. One of the best teachers here!
	Nothing really. Course work is challenging but it should be. It was a very reasonible way to evaluate our mastery of the material.
	none
	Clear, concise explanations of what I needed to know for each test or quiz and what I needed to accomplish for each programming assignment.
	Nothing!
	It was very effective.
	Mr. Guha is a wonderful instructor. I am so glad that I had him for this course.
	Excellent professor, difficult but facilitated learning extraordinarily well.
	Very difficult tests and unfortunate class hours.
	Fair balance of work to demonstrate mastery. Tests were unnecessarily hard.
	Never ever assign the heart program again.
	The instructor is very knowledgeable, motivated, and approachable. He speaks loud and clear.

The depth of this INTRODUCTORY course. The semester should have involved 2/3 as much information. Some

students here aren't planning on being programmers. The book, though inexpensive, is too brief and if it must be

monochrome, a better method of distinguishing between program elements is needed.

2)

Year/Term: 2011/Spring

3) The tests are incredibly, excessively rigorous. The homework is program writing. When you write a program, you are solving a large logic puzzle. We were assigned to write too many programs. Additionally, the instructor's personal love of mathematics becomes our problem; on tests and homework, we not only have to solve multiple logic problems, we have to incorporate mathematical functions such as fibonacci sequences and standard deviation in the programming language. We are just learning a new language, just as if we were learning spanish, german, etc. Future programmers naturally need to know how to represent these functions in the language, but perhaps they could be expected to do so in NON-INTRODUCTORY later courses...again, not all COP3223 students are future programmers. ROOM 260 IS ALMOST ALWAYS FREEZING! I don't care for the idea that some students can do one less homework 4) assignment, but only if they can and choose to do community service. 1) 2) 3) Try to slow down a bit. And make sure not to tell the students in important part of a program the day before. 4) the interesting to discover new thing and explore new knowledge 1) 2) the class is hard :(3) testing, programs, quizzes its fairly good enough 4) Great instructor. Knows his stuff very well. It's a hard course, but if you put in the time you will do well. He was very 1) helpful and always seemed concerned when I went to his office hours. The fact that UCF made an introductory course a 3000 level so people transferring from community college's 2000 level 2) programming class won't be accepted so UCF can make more money. 3) I did relatively well. Always was a good amount above the average grade. Don't make an introductory course so difficult, greedy UCF >:[4) 1) 2) Material is not suited to be an introduction course, too advanced. The large class size. 3) Exams didn't test the range of material taught. 4)

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1) I loved how Arup kept the attention of students with interesting examples. He taught many things to students that even those experienced in the C programming language were not fully familiar with. It helped me a lot and his lessons will definitely help me in the future.

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Very fair grading method. If the work is given the attention it deserves, it is not hard to receive an A in all assignments.
Great teacher. Hope to have him again in future classes.
The best thing about this course the textbook being written by the instructor. What was in the book exactly matched what we learned. Guha gives out candy for answering questions occasionallyI've never been so excited to participate in my whole college career. Compared to working all semester for a good grade on a final, candy is super-instant gratification. I wish all lecturers would do this.
I never had any problems with the exams or assignments, but I have also taken a Java programming class before and did well in it. Even yet, I'm not sure that I agree with the exams being as challenging as they were for a class that isn't taken as a prerequisite for many people. The same complaint is probably echoed with regard to something like a world history class. However, earning an A in this class cost me very little in time. I read the whole textbook at the beginning of the semesterit was very palatable compared to my other booksand only attended class for quizzes and tests. Even having previous programming experience, this is very little dedication. Putting 3 or 4 times as much time into some of my other 3000 level classes didn't get me an A for sure.
Guha should offer information on how to get into the high school programming competitions. I was definitely not the only high school student in the classwhen we were asked to meet 2 people I managed to meet another one in the 200 person class.
I enjoyed learning how to program. The class was an overall good experience.
The pace of the course was extremely fast for an intro class. At the begining of the semester it was at a good pace, then by the end you could tell that easily more than half of the class was lost and the programs he was trying to have the class complete were very difficult.
I don't unsterstand his grading philosphy he talks about. It is anoying not knowing what your officla grade is because he gets to decide his own grading scale.
good examples of how to use the code
Moves very fast, sometimes the assignments weren't clear
the ability of the professor to clearly bring across the aspects of subject which is has a high level of abstract thinking to it.
the pace was a little fast, and the descriptions of the problems weren't always stated in the clearest way
it is ok for this type of subject.
The instructor's enthusiam.

2)	The classroom
3)	
4)	
1)	loved his humor and he was able to teach us with everyday examples that helped us better understand the material being taught
2)	
3)	
4)	
1)	Teaching style of the professor
2)	Tests and assignments.
3)	Testing and assignments were very difficult.
4)	
1)	I felt that Mr Guha did an excellent job in the beginning to middle of the semester. He really helped me understand the material by typing out programs on the projector and answering questions effectively.
2)	After the middle of the semester lots of class time was devoted to tracing through weird complex programs. When he does this like a quarter of the class just walks out. I think building programs from scratch or looking at more simple examples would be more helpful to the beginner.
3)	His grading philosophy seems fair.
4)	
1)	Great class, well taught.
2)	Pacing is a little slow.
3)	Grading criteria for assignments is not always completely clear in the design spec. For instance, on one assignment I lost points for not using an array to complete a task where the spec never specified that an array was required (the word 'array' was only used once in the entire specification) specifically spring 2011 program 4 (Didn't use an array to score the judge averages) Luckily this was a rare and relatively minor problem, most of the assignments and tests were well done I felt.
4)	Please post testing dates on webcourses.
1)	The professor was helpful
2)	We moved so fast

It is good.

Very easy to understand and took the course at a good pace. I really liked the sample course on the website; lot.	it helped a
The class size is very large, but that's really something that can be changed.	
I liked it. I liked how the tests had both a coding and multiple choice part.	
not that much	
i just dont like programming	
Guha really knows what he is talking about and does a good job expressing and demonstrating the material. Gavorite teachers. Giving out candy!!	One of my
Tracing questions being multiple choice because if you get the first question wrong you can get the next 3 wro	ong.
Tests should be shorter so they can fit into time slot.	
More extra credit.	
Way of teaching.	
N/A	
N/A	
N/A	
The professor was very information and helpful throught, explaining each concept in depth.	
After spring break, pace was incredibly fast.	
Tests, grading, and feedback were all excellent.	
Take less time in the beginning and more time at the end explaining pointers, structures and strings.	

not enough information concerning mistakes on programs, not enough time to take tests concerning figuring out the

2)

solutions to the questions

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)	should have been given tests to try out programs for an entry level programming course, hit to hard and fast with new material
	Was fast paced to the point things stayed fresh and interesting, but didn't move too quickly.
	Were it not for my programming experience, a coulpe chapters may have gone by too quickly.
	I've never been in a class with a grading scale like this one before. I liked it, even after doing extremely poorly on a programming project, my grade wasn't crippled to the point an A wasn't at least a possibility, and at the same time, the tests and projects were put together to fit that scale, really making us earn the credit we got.
	He helped me, someone completely new to the field of programming, become a decent programmer.
	The grading on the programs that were submitted.
	It's alright. There was one assignment that I got points off for where in the actual assignment, it didn't directly tell me to do something and when it wasn't in my program, I lost points for it.
	There's nothing else you can really do to improve this class. Arup is a great teacher and I wish I could have him for all o my CS classes.
	Mr. Guha is an awesome teacher, despite the size of the class he still made the ideas presented easy to understand an took time to answer students questions. SI sessions were very helpful.
	Kind of strange, no definite way to track grade overall in the class which was a downside.
	Keep up the good work.
	Interesting
	Exams tested students completion speed more than what they knew. I lost points just because I wasn't given enough time to answer questions I could do
	Needs a bigger curve
	Programming in general, is very exciting, and Mr. Guha makes it enjoyable. The class is very relaxed but the teaching is still excellent. Also, the programming assignments were interesting and educational. Getting a program to run is always fun. I also like that Mr. Guha was friendly and approachable.

The class size was way too big. It was difficult to really connect with the professor in class.

2)

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I liked that the TA's made comments on the programs when they graded them, which helped me understand my mistakes. Also, Mr. Guha was always willing to help...I probably emailed him or visited his office more than most students, but he was always kind, welcoming, and easy to deal with. At first I thought it was harsh that he would take off 40 points for a seemingly small mistake like misdeclaring an array but once I got over my disappointment and anger, I realized that he does this for educational value. I will never make an array too small again!

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4)	1. Turn off the email feature in webcourses. Getting bombarded with hundreds of emails of students asking for help with
	their programs or trying to get graduation tickets or asking stupid questions like when an assignment is due was beyond
	annoying. Also I was under the impression that working with other students on programs was considered cheating, so
	why did Mr. Guha let this go on all semester? 2. Develop some simpler examples for the lectures. I don't have a clue
	how poker works so sitting in class listening to that example go on for an hour was a huge waste of time for me.

	n lots of knowledge and available to answer any questi	knowledge	oic with lots	presented the to	v the instructor	The way	1)
--	--	-----------	---------------	------------------	------------------	---------	----

- 2) The size of the class, and the amount of information to process in a short period of time. As a beginner in programming the pace was too fast to me.
- 3) The evaluation were fair and the instructor was very good in preparing the class for what to expect on the exams and quizes.
- 4) The instructor was excellent. He made an extra effort to answer questions after class in a one to one basis. Always available in his office hours as well.
- 1) The beginning of the class was quite understandable. It was very basic stuff as he pointed out it's for anybody that hasn't programed before.
- 2) The class started to go fast and became harder and harder everyday. The test questions was deliberately tricky. It became frustrating to see students that actually have programmed before making it look okay for the course to be that intensive.
- 3) The programs are hard but there's plenty of help from the TA's on campus. The grading was fair to a certain extent.
- 4) It would have been better if part of the class was a lab where the teacher and TA's (since it's a huge class) would be teaching the techniques of every chapter, assisting students that are struggling, and have those who are breezing through the course help out those who are having a hard time.
- 1) The use of logic in writing a program. Helped see how programs are structured.
- 2) Work is tedious. Not interested in programming as a profession.
- 3) I thought everything was well established.
- 4) The class is fun and interesting. Difficult, but once you finish your program you understand how things run.
- I liked the professor's teaching style, as well as the setup of the assignments and tests. I enjoyed the weekly quizzes keeping my studying on track. I liked the subject, SI help, TA help, and professor's willingness to help in office hours. I enjoyed the grading system of programs being fair and helpful in such a difficult subject.
- 2) The size made it difficult to learn to the best of my ability.

Had fun. Would definitely take another of his classes.

The way that the exams are structured

3) The evaluation was great for a more difficult subject such as this one. With a breadth of sources for points, we were given the opportunity to proper show our ability. Testing was fair and programs were perfectly appropriate to our current place in the lectures. Difficult subject made easier through professor's teaching and other aids. 4) The teaching method 1) 2) The challenging exams satisfied 3) 4) made learning the basic C language very easy to understand. best teacher i have ever had. 1) 2) 3) 4) What i liked the most about the class is the fact that we had the opportunity to do community service for a grade 1) The test we extremely hard i feel that the teacher made the test for the students who had programming experience not 2) for students who are learning for the first time i say this because on both of his test on the multiply choice there is the option E which is none of the above and i feel there were to many of those as the correct answer i feel like i had to be professional programmer to pass his test. I also didn't like how hard the free response was i again felt it was too hard each time and to time consuming. The test were to hard and not giving enough time, i know he is being nice to have a "easier grading system" but i feel 3) that is a waste of time because i feel he uses that as a reason to give extremely, at this point i would rather he gave test that were easier and no "E" choices and have him grade normal. hard test the assignments were OK but i felt that some of them hard like assignments 3 and 4 hard were difficult to understand You are also teaching people who never had programming before i feel like you should give that more consideration 4) when making tests and assignments. Material and his interesting in the subject. 1) 2) The lecture examples left room for more confusion than I feel they should. It seems good, some of the testing questions felt as if they were there for the purpose of tricking us. 3)

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1)

The learning of new material that would be useful in future classes
The organization of the class material was poor and hard to follow. The book was not used much making it more frustrating when trying to better understand a concept. Clearity of what we were supposed to accomplish with each program was poor thus leading to incomplete or non-working assignments. The pace of the class was faster then expected and the difficulty level of the class was harder then the words 'introductory" set in ones mind.
The test are insaine as if you do not understand the material you basically fail the class regardless if you seek assistance or not. Grading of programs is more harsh then what was expected, thus the assistance I recieved with a tutor was mostly useless as even with assistance the grades seem to always be low. Out of class assignments are h to understand and gaining clearification sometimes lead to more confusion and frustration.
This class should be classified as a level 1 programming class not an introductory class as it is anything but introduc Students should be made aware that the text book is never used in class and thus have the option if they so wish to purchase the book prior class starting. Students should also be made aware that they would greatly benifit from havi working laptop that they can bring to class as it is difficult to take notes on the programming language without it.
Hard material
How much we learned and how we applied it.
The programs near the end are started to get really hard.
Test are hard, but really test your knowledge. Grading wise the class is great because you know your test are hard a you curve appropriately.
Keep up the good work but try to have a little bit more wider range of office hours with you. TA's are cool and all but are the programming guru. Katie was nice.
Interesting and challenging programming assignments, I really had to understand and apply what I learned

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2) Lack of evening SI sessions. This was an evening course, I'm sure I'm not the only one who couldn't make it to daytime sessions. I am not a Computer Science major and sometimes the material was tough for me to understand, I would have liked the option for SI.

3)	At first, the quizzes and tests were horrifying, but I understand the purpose of their structure now. C programming is very
3)	detail-oriented and the test reflected that, as they should. The assignments were tough, but it helped a lot when I gave myself adequate time to work on them. Overall I think the tests and assignments were not excessively difficult or easy, just really fair.
4)	There isn't much I would change. Professor Guha seems to have a good formula. The only other thing I could ask for would be a small assignment or tracing practice before the quizzes start.
1)	
2)	
3)	Exams and assignments may be challenging, but I like the fact that you're not a lazy professor. You don't recycle the same old test bank and expect students to learn from basic memorization.
4)	My favorite lectures were the ones where you would build a program from scratch, but without a laptop it's difficult to keep up with note-taking. It would be nice if the examples we covered in class were also posted on-line. Even though there are similar examples already on-line; sometimes a certain part of a specific program in class will really make things click, and it's nice to be able to reference it. Other than that, this class was just about perfect. Keep up the good work!
1)	Not having to go to class the second half.
2)	The teacher.
3)	Tests are not the way to go about it, more programs should be assigned.
4)	Guha is late, unprepared, unorganized, and unhelpful to students, he thinks by asking you a question instead of explaining something to you he is helping you learn, I'm not sure where he began to think that that was a good teaching style.
1)	I liked the teacher and enjoyed how he taught the subject I found it to be a lot easier to understand with his method of teaching.
2)	I find that the material is very difficult especially towards the later part when the concepts and ideas in C programming become more and more involved and I found it to get overwhelming from the much simpler beginning of the semester. I also found that the classroom was a horrible place to put a programming class in which many students will create the programs with the teacher while in class on laptops. This is a problem because there were few power sources for students and to get supplement material online was troublesome due to poor internet in the building.
3)	All grades were available online which was very nice and the TA's did not take long to return grades for assignments. I also enjoyed that the overall grade was available in which we did not have to calculate the grade ourselves.
4)	I believe that the class is done well but the later part of the semester needs to be taken slower because the work is much harder. I also find that more time should be given for the tutoring sessions because the current times were not good at least for me, but there was a lot of time offered for students who could make it.

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3) Confusion

The notes online

The due dates of programs

1)

3)

4)

It was very challenging, but fair.

4)	More clarification on when programs are due
1)	Guha is very well spoken and good with communication and the book is great because it's written by him and covers everything taught and nothing more.
2)	The programs are pretty hard, way harder than the tests. The test review classes are kind of a waste of time and should probably be more geared to telling us what will be on the test than competition for candy.
3)	Good tests, got 15 points off of program 5 for using his code, knowing that I made a mistake on one of the previous programs that this program built on. I thought that was what we were supposed to do but overall a good system.
4)	Make a test review like was done for the first one or two quizzes.
1)	Everything, Arup is a great teacher.
2)	Nothing, everything was awesome.
3)	The tests and grading were very fair.
4)	
1)	Easy to communicate with Arup, and he made resources to succeed very accessible.
2)	
3)	In-class evaluations (announced/pop quizzes, and tests) should be done the entire semester with greater emphasis. The out-of-class assignments should be fewer yet more difficult, but students should form groups (either fixed for the semester or rotated on a tri-week basis) so that they are ENCOURAGED TO WORK TOGETHER so that they may learn by troubleshooting and discussion versus individual assignments that they end up getting an SI instructor or private tutor to essentially tell them what to do.
4)	This class makes me understand how Comp Science & Comp Eng. are stealing students from my major.
1)	Arup seems like a nice guy.
2)	Pace was way too fast and there wasn't enough hands on teaching / learning.
3)	On par.
4)	
1)	He was a great teacher. He explained everything thouroughly.
2)	It moved a little fast.

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Instructor Name: Arun Guha

Maybe doing more coding in class?

-	Computer Science/College of Engr & Comp Sci	COP3502H0201	HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE I
	Department/School	Course-Section Number	Course Name
	23	15	65.22
	Number of Students Enrolled	Number Responding	% of Response
	Everything. Awesome sauce class is awesome.		
	This box being here is an insult, nothing was wro	ng with this class, A+++ Epic	course.
	Very comprehensive and fair exams.		
	I enjoy your website and fully utilized it to suppler were done and how things were explained.	nent whatever was discusse	d in lecture. I also enjoyed how lectures
	I didn't like how some topics were covered rather I also didn't like how long it takes for my assignm		
	how I'm doing in the class throughout the semest		and that the teacher is busy but reedback
	how I'm doing in the class throughout the semest I found grading to be extremely fair. Though the attests.	er is helpful to the student.	
	I found grading to be extremely fair. Though the a	er is helpful to the student. assignments were tough, the t I would've done better with	grading for them was fair as were the more practice type problems like the
	I found grading to be extremely fair. Though the attests. Even though this was an honors section, I felt that algorithm analysis problems. Those practice problems.	er is helpful to the student. assignments were tough, the t I would've done better with	grading for them was fair as were the more practice type problems like the
	I found grading to be extremely fair. Though the attests. Even though this was an honors section, I felt that algorithm analysis problems. Those practice problems a wonderful instructor.	er is helpful to the student. assignments were tough, the t I would've done better with	grading for them was fair as were the more practice type problems like the
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	I found grading to be extremely fair. Though the attests. Even though this was an honors section, I felt that algorithm analysis problems. Those practice problems a wonderful instructor. The programming assignments. n/a The tests are hard, but fair. n/a I love this Professor! He has a passion for teaching tests.	er is helpful to the student. assignments were tough, the at I would've done better with blems helped me alot for the again and genuinely wants to he at the concepts function in co	grading for them was fair as were the more practice type problems like the second exam. Other than that, Arup Guh elp his students understand the concepts de, but I could go to his office hours and

4)

1)	The professor, the application of algorithms, the supplemental files on professors website
2)	
3)	Tests were fair and on what was taught in class. Looking at past tests was a great way of studying and doing practice. Programs were challenging, much more difficult than Intro to C, but I felt they were a good way of testing concepts/algorithms learned.
1)	Program 6 could be replaced with a 100% if you preformed 5 hours of community service. This was a good way for students to get a sure grade booster, however it seemed like it was the only reasonable choice. The actual program was said to be difficult and take over 5 hours. This made the community service seem as though it was a part of a computer science course.
1)	The teaching. Explained concepts extremely well and related it back to real life. :)
2)	Nothing really. I love this teacher. Only thing that happened that could be called "bad" possibly is that we got off track for a week but we caught up later on in the semester so all is well. :)
3)	Very fair method of grading. Explains where every point goes. :)
4)	Nothing really that I can think of. Oh! Except you can accept your title of "Master" Guha.
1)	The connect four project at the end of the course.
2)	
3)	I feel like there should be more assignments throughout the course so we can practice more coding. The additional assignments should be easier, just sort of practice code to really grasp the major concepts.
4)	
1)	A teacher who not only cared and put emphasis on learning instead of the grade, but also acknowledged the real-world and how class topics would and would not relate to it.
2)	The lack of a formal textbook curriculum even though online notes more than made up for it.
3)	Grading was very fair and every attempt was made to help the students' grades when possible, such as through partial credit on test questions.

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