

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3502H.0201 - HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE I

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 30

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Professor was energetic, motivated, genuinely seemed to care about students and their progress.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Idk.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The instructor explained things very clearly so that I didn't have any doubts about the material.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

NA

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Arup tested on topics not covered in class; he added a group work grading system that wasn't on the syllabus AFTER the drop deadline, basically locking students into a system not suited for them without the option to switch into the other CS1 class.

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Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 30

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The lectures are simple and straightforward. It's great that Dr. Guha puts his example code online for access to students for analysis. His homework assignments are extremely relevant and he always provides reasoning for almost everything that he does. His tests make me want to cry because they're so hard, but that's actually a good thing because it makes me try harder. I'm also enjoying preparing for the competition at the end of the year; what a way to get those competitive spirits running!

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I sense that there's a general outrage over the coerced study group installation that Dr. Guha put the class through in the middle of the course. This wasn't in the syllabus and he's making a part of everyone's grade contingent on the success of one's study group (it's a little complicated). I personally love study groups, but they should be voluntary in my opinion. I think next time, Dr. Guha should just ask which students want to be put in a study group and then put only those students in the study group. I'm not the one complaining since I got a good group, but I sympathize with those who didn't get good groups because I know how that's like. That's about it I guess (nothing else bad to say). I'm glad to be on the cutting edge of social experimentation, but next time I'd appreciate being able to put in my two cents before being dunked into something like this again. It would have gone much better (less student outrage) if student opinions had been sought out first.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Challenging material.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Make things clearer in syllabus from day one, more instruction to be better prepared throughout course.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Nothing

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

New teacher

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COP3502H.0201 - HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE I

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 30

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Grade socialism doesn't work. I'm not sure if you're aware, but over a third of your socialism-groups never even met (and several more only met once). The experienced programmers just did all the work themselves to ensure they got the good grade they deserved. Everyone else didn't really get to learn anything. There are several groups where the non-experienced coders never even saw the connect four code before it was submitted. And unlike your "insurance company" example in class, grading in your class is a zero-sum game. If others do worse, my grade gets better by comparison. I feel like better grading strategies that don't rely on flawed socialistic concepts could've been utilized.

(Side note: It's rather uncool to change fundamental grading strategies after add/drop.)

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I liked the attitude of the instructor AS he would actually instruct a lesson, not otherwise.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Help students with more specific problems, let them know rubrics ahead of time, be less haphazard with class-wide decisions, explain lessons in more depth/show more examples and actual coding in class, etc. Much to improve.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I really dislike group work.

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COP3502H.0201 - HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE I

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 30

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

group projects

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

nothing

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The lecture.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

nothing

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Arup is an awesome teacher. He explained everything thoroughly and tried to make the class as interesting as possible.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I have 3 areas that I think can be improved: 1) The TA's grading. I have several years of programming experience including 3 years of database architecture in c#. I use several algorithms to optimize the data coming in and out. I know my algorithms, trust me. There were 3 TAs for this class, Leah Fortier, Antoniya Petkova, and Lisa Soros. All programs I had graded by Antoniya, I received decent scores and everything that I was counted off for was thoroughly explained to me. All programs I had graded by Leah Fortier, I received bad scores (nothing over 40%) and very little was explained to me. 2 programs, no comments were given. Lisa did not grade any of my programs (I assume since she's the recitation teacher). 2) I have no problems with the second test. The 2nd test had exactly what Arup and his study guide said would be on it. It was very intuitive and I received an 84 (I believe). However, the first test was the opposite. There were several problems where arguments could be made for more than one solution. Next to nothing was intuitive in the first test. I received around a 50 and the class average I believe was a 45. This should not be a class average in a class of around 300 students. 3) I know Arup can't change this, but that auditorium is terrible for learning (the auditorium in Engineering 2 right when you walk in the main entrance to the left). It's very difficult to get teachers who can speak clearly to all sides of the classroom. The lighting makes me want to fall asleep every time I walk in. This is the 3rd class I've had in that auditorium and I've struggled in all 3.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He knows his stuff.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Difficulty is a bit high, but that's to be expected from such a fundamental course.

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Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Coding

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Explaining program assignments better

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

This class should be taught with more enthusiasm, and this instructor is oftentimes rude and condescending.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Lectures are easy to follow. Brilliant professor.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

the programs and labs did a good job of preparing test material

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

it was a little difficult at times to follow the instructor, and the notes provided were sometimes overcomplicated

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COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

If your going to make people use edge classes (on program 2), put that on webcourses along with the assignment next time. Also, ive heard horror stories of badgering students who come into your office; even if their asking dumb questions, you can make your point without indimidation and making students feel inferior; Besides people skills, still the best CS teacher around!

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Notes are long ass boring word documents. Lectures are boring too.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The instructor is well articulated and informed, knows the subject very well.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I felt that exams over-complicated some problems in ways that seemed almost malicious. The raised difficulty of simple concepts caused too much wasted time that could have been spent on the more complicated concepts.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Instructor presented the material in an interesting and practical manner.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Good Class.

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Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The course was great because of the great instructor

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Instructor used many written notes in class that would be helpful if they were uploaded to his website

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

he teaches very well and is very clear about topics

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Make the tests more like puzzles

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Great. Knows his stuff.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Nothing. He's awesome.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The amount of effort Professor Guha put into learning the subject material for the course.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Being more clear on what is expected from the homework assignments.

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Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He was very clear explaining the material and he provides a lot of examples.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I wish the professor were less arrogant, I went to ask him couple of questions to his office, and he made feel stupid in some way. So I stoped going to his office to ask him questions

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Dynamic problems to be solved, and not just recycled problems from previous semesters. Same goes for the exams.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Talk to TAs about taking of silly points. If your program worked, lets not scrutinize and take of 2 or 3 points for something minor. Lets face it, unless the code is horrendous looking the person deserves full credit.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Great teaching style, very engaging, fun class.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The recitation seemed like a waste of times most weeks. Either you have a programming assignment assigned to you that week, or you spend 50 minutes working on the preliminaries of a programming assignment that you don't have to complete. The weeks we did worksheets/review were much better, and an effective use of time.

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COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Professor Arup Guha, as in all of the classes I have taken with him, does a great job of communicating the ideas and concepts of this course. He makes the class fun, by actively involving students in his lectures. Thanks for another great class!

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Candy!

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Provide tissues for crying after exam grades are posted.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I liked the way he explained the concepts of the course and was very helpful when it came to questions.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I thought the tests were a tad too long for the time we had to take them.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

It's not boring!

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

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COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He was passionate what he taught, and was able to convey his ideas in ways the students (me) could understand easily.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Instead of having archives of files (of powerpoint) from different semesters, update each powerpoint to the current semester so we know all the details are up to date and there is no deprecated information.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He had notes available online

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He teach material for the programming assignment before he assigns the assignment so we can have the full amount of time to complete it.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

It would be better and fair if he gives the specifics of the homework assignments. He expected the students to know what he wanted on the assignments. There are so many ways to do a programming assignment, but if he doesn't tell us how fast or how is he going to test the assignment, how can we create good code that does what is require.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Knew the content well and was very engaging when teaching.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Very difficult tests that could maybe be reviewed for a little more in depth in the future.

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COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He communicates concepts in a clear and concise manner using appropriate analogies when necessary. He is clearly enthusiastic about his discipline and teaching in general.

He is very helpful and approachable after classes and during office hours.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I've read and analyzed his grading philosophy. I agree with his core thesis that grading systems should be pass or fail. However, the grading system as implemented in this class has a major fault. The student has no ability to precisely track her progress in the course. The system clearly favors the instructor's desire to create test material of arbitrary complexity. In particular, some test questions are very difficult to be prepared for based solely on lectures, labs, and homework. In other words, the course material does not prepare the student for difficult problems encountered during testing. Finally, grades are seemingly arbitrarily decided at the end of a semester. Naturally, the instructor can be approached and he will give an ad hoc assessment of the students current progress. In my opinion, there are two problems with this approach. First, it constantly distracts the student from learning by creating an atmosphere of intense anxiety. Second, it unduly burdens the instructor with grade requests and regrading requests. I believe his grading system does not correct the faults present in the common grading systems. However, it does present the student with yet another problem that distracts from the learning experience. Tests are not necessarily the best predictor of competency in a discipline or science. Again, in my opinion, a better assessment of student progress can be achieved based solely on lab assignments and homework. The student has more time (i.e. than during a test) and access to materials similar to what is available in industry. Finally, the instructor emphasizes the importance of creating test data for homework assignments. This is a very good idea. However, the instructor does not teach students how to make good quality test data. It is left as an exercise to the student. If there is no instruction, no techniques, and no science to creating test data, students should not be heavily penalized for failing test cases. If there are techniques, then they should be taught.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

His overwhelming knowledge on the topic, he was extremely helpful in even areas outside of the scope of the course.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

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COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Things were explained very well and grading was fast.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Don't always expect students to just know exactly what your expectations are for an assignment. Be very clear because in real-life, if an employer asks you to write a program that meets a certain set of expectations but does not specify exactly how to do it, then you have to pick the method that works best and gets the job done. Also I never had enough time to finish the tests.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The concepts were very interesting to understand.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

To actually show coding examples or explain in terms of coding. Was very difficult to come from something in text or actually applying the concept in code correctly and efficiently.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Excellent teacher who challenges students to understand the material.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

None. Great class

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Challenging problems yet very helpful and great to improve learning.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Improve the lecture notes, maybe try Microsoft Power Point. Also, the trees and diagrams would look a lot nicer if they are made like a picture and not made by characters.

Cazalas Power Points are a great example.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I'm legitimately being challenged and my effectiveness as a programmer is being increases as a result of it.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Things in here are a bit unorganized. that's my only complaint.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He challenges the students enough for them to learn. Although I probably could have put more effort into the class, I enjoyed it.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

None really.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Mr. Guha is an excellent teacher.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Make the jump from Word documents to powerpoint slides with graphics!

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Lectures

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

More 1 to 1

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

N/A

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

N/A

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

How interesting the different algorithms we learned were.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Possibly making the tests less difficult as the whole class had an average for both tests that were less than a 70

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Arup makes the course very challenging, and I end up learning a lot from it.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

None.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Very cool guy, I would take him again. Sometimes would code difficult things up from scratch with minutes left in class making me want to clap at the end of class.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Does not explain things as well as his ego wants to believe. Badly needs to update the antiquated word documents with colorful Power-points and pictures to make things more clear.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Arup is a wonderful lecturer; consistently best I've had in the CS department

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

TAs were inconsistent between each other, also the room that the lecture was held in (several people mentioned this to me as well throughout the semester) was too dim, and promoted sleepiness

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Very Good Interactive lecturer.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

It is impossible to tell how you are doing in the class. This type of class almost always has a medium-large curve, but he bases his curve off of how well everyone did at the very end of the semester, not individual tests or assignments. Here we are in finals week and I have no idea if i will pass or fail. There is no way to tell if you should withdraw from the course by the withdraw deadline because no one knows what the curve will be until after the final exams are all turned in and graded.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3503C.0001 - COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 168

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I've had this professor before and he's just awesome.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I hate his tests though. Especially because of the problems where he creates a situation and confuses the heck out of me. I learned DFS and BFS, not how to handle teleport tiles! And there was a question he said to "answer vaguely", so I did and I got 0/20. Although, I'd like to think if we had more time to take those exams I would've done better. I really like the guy but stuff like that makes me so stressed because of him.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COP3930H.0201 - HON SPECIAL TOPIC

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 9

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Fun topics

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

clearer criteria for tests, projects, assignments

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The only thing that I liked about this course was that we had a project at the end. The even better part is that the project had nothing to do with what we learned all semester.. because, well.. no one really learned much in this class.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

You need to make this class more structured Arup. No one ever knew what was going on, as far as tests go. We had no book to reference, or anything to refer back to, besides our notes. You were not too bad Arup, aside from organization, but KV.. that is a whole other story. KV failed to realize that most of the class never even went past Calc 2. When he taught.. he never looked back at us to see if we were lost. He went from 12 to 1:15 without stopping.. and went extremely fast. Also, his homeworks and tests were exactly the same from Summer 2009. For the last exam I actually studied the test that was given in 2009, since I figured out already that he was too lazy to make new questions. Like really, did KV spend anytime preparing for each lesson? In all, I regret taking this course. I walked out learning nothing new.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

There was little to enjoy about this course as there was little content. I do, however, enjoy each of the professors and wish they had taken the course more seriously, or at least raised it a few notches from the bottom of their list of priorities.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Obtain actual material, organize this material, be realistic about what material should make it onto a test, make clear the expectations, be available for help, arrive on time.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT3960.0001 - CS FOUNDATION EXAM

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 66

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I love this course, I feel as if I never had to show up to class. Oh wait.....

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Best grader and teacher. If you're reading this, don't stop teaching Arup!

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

It's already perfect. I wish there were more resources for the foundation exams because I think that some students were given the proper education in specific classes taught by specific teachers like Discrete in Spring 2012 and CS-1 in Spring 2013

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

This was not a course, it was the previous Foundation Exam that I have already taken. I do believe that both Discrete Structures and Computer Science I prepared me thoroughly for the content on this exam.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Perhaps more attention could be paid to proofs and ensuring that all students understand the proper formulation of a proof.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Not a course, just a test.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Not a course, just a test.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Make it optional. Labs.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Explain the concepts more into detail and why they work; and present more examples.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I enjoyed Arup's sarcastic albeit funny humor and set of examples. I feel like there is no one that can teach Discrete Structures better than Arup. Above all I really liked how organized and straightforward Arup was; he created an environment that had absolutely no ambiguity. The rules were set, the assignments were set since the beginning of the class (so no excuses), so it definitely felt like it was all up to you from there. It really sounds like Arup is telling you how it is, and it feels like he commits a lot toward the class.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I would advise on providing more resources. I know that students should be encouraged to discover answers to problems on their own, but sometimes an answer to a problem might be something straightforward that just wasn't there as a resource; in better words a problem might not need creativity so having the resources definitely helps.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I like the theory of computation in general.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Please, test based on how you teach and what you teach. Creativity is hard to find when taking a timed test, please ease on that for future generations.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Arup is very detailed with his lectures. As long as you pay attention you learn a lot. He expects a lot, which is good.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Arup can sometimes be condescending with his answers to questions asked in class. If the question is not up to par with his level of understanding about the material he is likely to give a short, semi-sarcastic answer. This can lead to two things: 1) Students are less likely to ask questions when they do not understand the material. 2) Students are more likely to try to understand the material before class so they can avoid asking questions that are not up to par with his standards. This leads to good students being more likely to do well and bad students to be more likely to fail.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Great instructor, and great lecturer. He really knows his stuff.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Can sometimes be difficult to see in his office. The grading of the TA's was not the best either. There was multiple times where I had to get something corrected with the TA or instructor.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

As difficult as the material is, professor Guha does nothing to make sure each student understands the material. The exam averages are around 50% and reflect his poor teaching. He makes the class discouraging and belittles those who ask questions.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I would suggest that he never be allowed to teach the course ever again.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I think the only positive I can take away from the teaching style is that it is "better" than the other teachers at UCF. Still an ineffective way of teaching the class (maybe forced upon Arup?). The class feels very rushed. Other universities teach this class in 2 parts (2 separate classes on same material) and poor Arup shoves it down our throats in 2 hour long classes a week. Almost forces the students to teach themselves all of the material.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Make the class times longer (2 and a half hours maybe?). Great material - just wish I didn't feel like I was sprinting through valuable information.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I'd say that this was the first course I've taken that resembles "real math." That is, what I imagine professional mathematicians sit around doing all day. So that's pretty exciting. Also, it's a tough class and Arup's teaching style really pushes you to try your hardest!

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Probably a minor point, but I personally thought the non instructor graded materials were very inconsistent.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Professor Arup Guha is one of the best teachers I have taken at UCF. He showed everything on the board, with multiple examples. He provided us with resources, and was always there for us.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

1. Sometimes, when asking a question, Professor Arup Guha would make the student feel like an idiot. Either he would say something like "seriously?" or he would give the student a stupid look. This discourages the student from asking questions after the fact. 2. Some assignments weren't posted on the webcourses page, but were posted/announced on Prof. Guha's website. This was inefficient, and due to it I missed many assignments.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I personally disliked the subject so the course will not be high in my regards

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Perhaps not being so harsh on the grading. There is a significant difference in grade depending on who did the grading. Typically the professor was much harsher.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The teacher obviously knows the subject, and knows exactly how he wishes to teach that, and sticks to that plan. The professor was always prepared and stayed on point with everything he said he wanted to cover. The method used in class (whiteboard notes with lectures) makes class attendance mandatory and requires the student listen, and I feel this is very effective.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

maybe improve on getting students to want to learn. the teacher is effective at scaring the students into learning, as if any little bit they do not take in might hurt them, but that doesnt make them want to know and understand the subject. also, there is an element to this class that can not be taught, it would probably be best if the tests had less harsh penalties for not being successful at the creative parts to solutions. only other improvement would be fewer belittling responses from the professor. if someone asks a question in class, please do not take it as an insult to your teaching method. not everyone gets everything you say all of the time. i stopped asking questions because you gave backhanded responses and never actually answered my questions. If this is your method of minimizing the number of questions asked, well then disregard this last paragraph.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

very interesting topic, clear explanations

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

none

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I liked how we graded our peers work and how quickly we received our grades.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Sometimes it seemed like he was purposefully trying to humiliate students.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Although I didn't enjoy them at the time, I'm glad that we had the daily proofs. They helped me to stay on track and understand the material gradually. (Otherwise I might have been tempted to procrastinate on understanding some of the topics.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The course material was difficult, but taught well. I don't have any suggestions for improvement.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The course was challenging and provided several methods for evaluation (written proofs, programs, daily (weekly?) assignments). The instructor was very good about answering questions when students had them.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

If it's at all possible, this course needs to be paced a little slower. I felt like I was playing catch-up the entire semester.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Challenging, and fast-paced.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

There was way too much work. It interfered with my other obligations constantly. The daily's really should have been weekly's (i.e. the subject should have been taught a week in advance) to give time to think about the assignment, instead of having to cram the night before to get it done. Even if the problems are more difficult, I believe it would have done more to help everyone. The first test was too algorithmic, and didn't do as much as it could have to test understanding of the concepts (tracing algorithms does not test understanding, it tests that you practiced), unlike the second.

University of Central Florida's Student Perception of Instruction, Spring 2013 (1470)

Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I like the material a lot and thought it was very interesting. However, I was not happy with the speed of the course. This makes the material considerably harder to learn. I believe that if the instructor slowed down and focused on less examples every course and emphasized how we should think about different problems it would be easier to learn the material required to do well on the tests. In addition, the tests were unreasonable / too difficult and problems on the tests were often chosen and weighted unfairly.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Be more approachable and nicer to students that ask questions. Be less arrogant. Acknowledge that some students find the material harder to learn than others, and you should not degrade them for that like you often do, without noticing. Avoid comments like "You should answer your own question" or "You should know this, your in college, someone else answer it for me" when students ask you a question. Frankly its a stupid response, and you come off as arrogant, and it discourages other students from asking you for help. A pattern I have noticed: Bright students that ask questions get a respectful in depth response. Less bright students that ask fundamental questions get arrogant responses, that are short, disrespectful, and discouraging. This is very bad. Other than these few areas needing improvement, you could be one of the best professors I have ever had, you are bright, knowledgeable, communicate clearly, and overall a great guy. Remember, communicating ideas more simply would make the course easier for students to learn. If you want everyone to learn and not just the brightest students in the class to understand the lectures, explain material using simple examples and simple mathematical terminology, and don't take for granted that everyone knows all the material from the prerequisite courses, even though you believe they should. This will enhance learning ability of the students across the board, and make you a better teacher in my opinion. Make exams more fair so not only the top 10% of students in the class do well on it. Avoid putting questions on the exam that were not mentioned in class or on the study guide (mathematical induction). You should have a rule, if less than 20% of students get a problem wrong, you should drop it should not be reflected in the test grade. To be fair to the 20% that got the question correct or partially, award the higher grade of the two. Overall you're a great professor, and I wanted to thank you for the challenging but rewarding semester!

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

He taught everything well and moved at a much quicker pace than other instructors. Kept things new and interesting.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

Arup is a genius, but he also likes to rub it in that he went to MIT and that he is smarter than us. Ego Check and all is right in the world.

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Computer Science, College of Engineering Computer Science

COT4210.0001 - DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

Arup Guha

Number of Students Enrolled: 90

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I liked that the course was taken seriously and that it was difficult.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I encourage Arup Guha to spend a bit more time investing in his students on a more personal level, encouraging office visits and contact outside of class.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

(No response.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The class was very hard and grades were lower than average but he curves the grades to meet the class average so this was not a problem.

1. What did you like best about the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

The instructor knew the course material very well, and could explain topics well. Daily homework helped keep me up to date on course material rather than falling behind. The review for the second test helped me because we outlined the specific sections in the book that will be on the test. The essay was an interesting assignment. I feel I learned from it, but it was graded harder than I expected.

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the course and/or how the instructor taught it?

I think students sometimes felt intimidated to ask questions because some of the more simple or basic questions were answered with a condescending tone. This is the first time students are seeing this material and it can be very confusing and complicated at first. I understand class time is limited and topics need to be covered rather than spent on basic questions, but I think some students became intimidated. I personally never felt intimidated, but other students have told me they were. I know this is a college course and students should read on their own, but often times in CS courses we don't need to read the text. I would recommend really stressing the book on the syllabus upfront. Reading the textbook helped me understand everything tremendously. Also, stress that rereading will be necessary. These proofs are complicated, and reading several times is the only way it will make sense. I believe the essay should be worth a smaller percentage also.