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Student Feedback Survey Summary Report, Academic Term 2148 (FA14)

Instructor: Thirumuruganathan, Saravan
Course: CSE-5311-002-DSGN & ANLY ALGORITHMS
Course ID: 2148-81563

Number of students enrolled: 49
Number of surveys submitted: 36
Response rate: 73.5%
(*cf. university-wide mean response rates: Fall 2014 = 44%; Spring 2014 = 44%*)

REPORT LAYOUT AND CONTENT

This report contains four sections:

Overall Indicators: An instructor index (a weighted average of the survey's five key items about the instructor) plus indices relevant to special courses (e.g., laboratory facilities), if applicable.

Survey Results: Summary data for each of the survey's multiple choice items.
To interpret the figures, refer to the legend near the top of the next page.

Profile: The average rating for each scaled item presented in an alternative format.

Comments Report: Responses to each open-ended item, unedited.

REPORT ARCHIVING

Faculty members must download their SFS summary reports a secure location so that they are readily accessible for future use, e.g., as part of one's annual review.

Within the next several weeks, each chair/dean will receive a departmental/school compilation for review and filing within the unit.

*Questions about this Student Feedback Survey summary report may be addressed to
David J. Silva, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs (djsilva@uta.edu).*

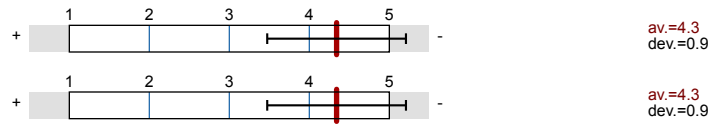
Saravan Thirumuruganathan
 CSE-5311-002-DSGN & ANLY ALGORITHMS (2148-81563) -- Semester: 2148 (FA14)
 No. of responses = 36



Overall indicators

Global Index

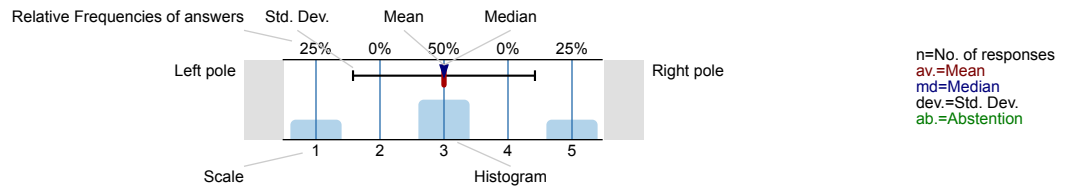
Instructor Index: Items 1.1 through 1.5 ($\alpha = 0.85$)



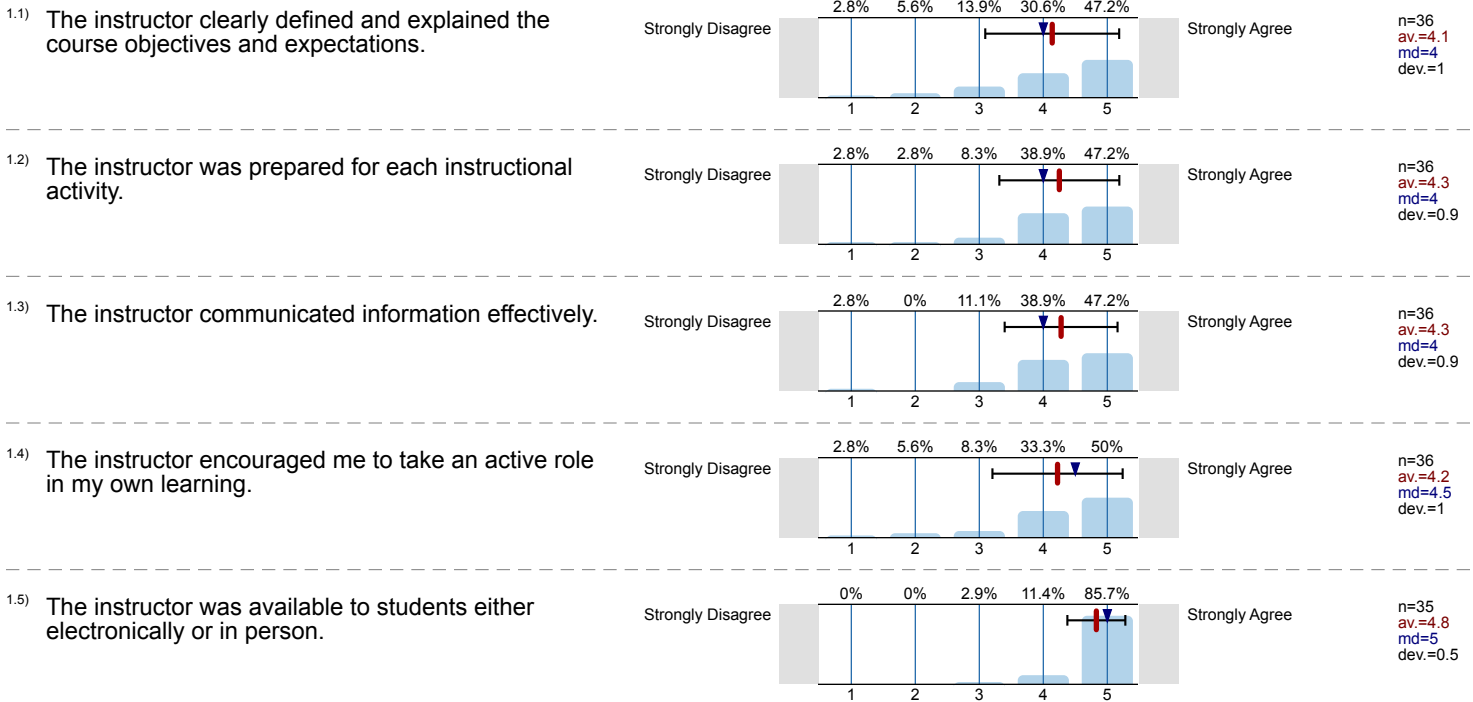
Survey Results

Legend

Question text

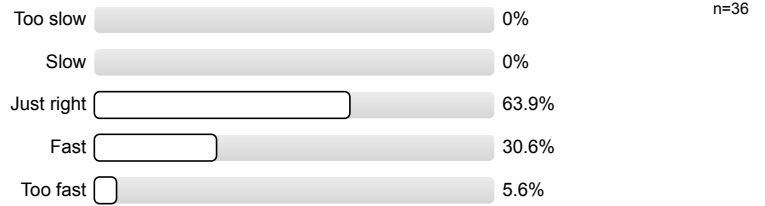


1. Core Survey Items. For each of the following five items, mandated by The University of Texas System, indicate your level of agreement. (Please note the relative placement of the options on the response scale.)

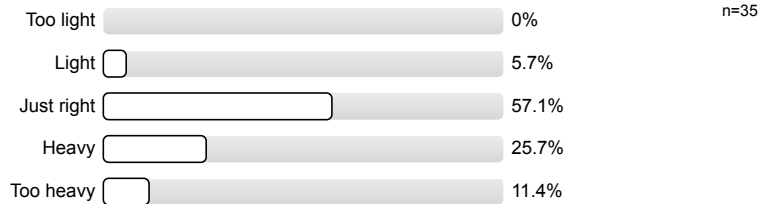


3. Pace and workload.

3.1) Rate the pace of the course.

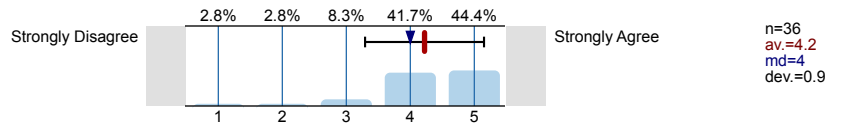


3.2) Rate the workload required for the course.

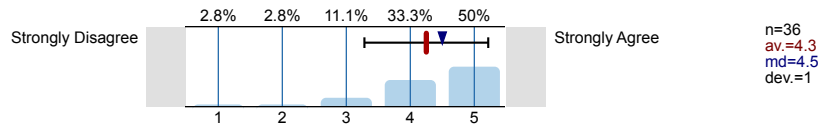


4. Reflecting on what you learned in this course. Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. Again, note the relative position of each option on the response scale.

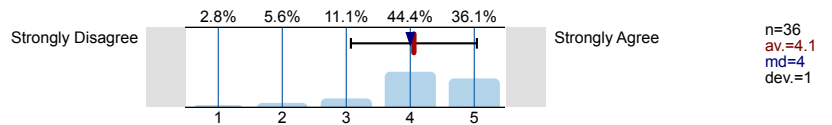
4.1) I acquired **knowledge** that will be useful in my future.



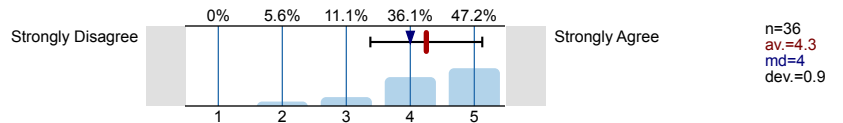
4.2) I acquired **skills** that will be useful in my future.



4.3) I can apply course concepts in new contexts.



4.4) I have become a better thinker / problem solver.



Profile

Subunit: CSE
 Name of the instructor: Saravan Thirumuruganathan
 Name of the course: CSE-5311-002-DSGN & ANLY ALGORITHMS
 (Name of the survey)

Values used in the profile line: Mean

1. Core Survey Items. For each of the following five items, mandated by The University of Texas System, indicate your level of agreement. (Please note the relative placement of the options on the response scale.)

1.1) The instructor clearly defined and explained the course objectives and expectations.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.1	md=4.0	dev.=1.0
1.2) The instructor was prepared for each instructional activity.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.3	md=4.0	dev.=0.9
1.3) The instructor communicated information effectively.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.3	md=4.0	dev.=0.9
1.4) The instructor encouraged me to take an active role in my own learning.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.2	md=4.5	dev.=1.0
1.5) The instructor was available to students either electronically or in person.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=35	av.=4.8	md=5.0	dev.=0.5

4. Reflecting on what you learned in this course. Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. Again, note the relative position of each option on the response scale.

4.1) I acquired knowledge that will be useful in my future.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.2	md=4.0	dev.=0.9
4.2) I acquired skills that will be useful in my future.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.3	md=4.5	dev.=1.0
4.3) I can apply course concepts in new contexts.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.1	md=4.0	dev.=1.0
4.4) I have become a better thinker / problem solver.	Strongly Disagree									Strongly Agree	n=36	av.=4.3	md=4.0	dev.=0.9

Comments Report

2. Narrative Feedback.

2.1) Which attributes of the course and/or the professor **helped** you learn the material?
(When the course is next taught, what should be done in the same way?)

- A good explanation and deep understanding about subject.
- All the slides, lectures in classroom was well presented. The material provided was very useful. The Professor provided practical knowledge of use of algorithm in real world and industries.
- Being a core course and concepts that are needed for a programmer made me learn the material
- Blended Learning
- Explaining the concepts with a lot of examples is useful.
- He is the most amazing Professor I have seen here! His enthusiasm, his way of teaching, his involvement with us and so on is just that so good!! I would take any course handled by him!! He has been a good advisor too! Initially I did not like this subject at all but no one can hate it if he teaches it!! I'm so happy that I had taken this class. I wish he handles CSE6311 too! Thank you very much Sir!
- Piazza posts and study materials
- Quizzes.
- Resource materials provided by instructor
- Socarates was good but was never continued.
- The course curriculum was effective and the pace according to students was great.
- The course material and the practice quiz questions.
- The graph question and sort problem
- The instructor has been very active throughout the semester in the terms of helping student with the doubts faced.
- The professor did not help much.
- The professor's availability helped a lot. He is very friendly and walks us through the material without talking over our heads. Each topic is introduced in a way that provides a great example.
- The syllabus was really very well organized and taught
- The way the professor motivates students.
- The way the subject was taught.
Anticipated interview questions were discussed often which was useful.
- This course is more about how much a student is capable of applying his knowledge to develop and analyze a course, which was not the case in this section. He could give home works to get more from the students.
- Very amicable professor, course structure is very well optimized towards a better understanding of the subject
- extensive study of the topics
- focus on advanced stuff in algorithms and teaching was based on practical usage and applications.
- the topics covered were good and challenging

2.2) Which attributes of the course and/or the professor **did not help** you learn the material?
(When the course is next taught, what might be revised?)

- Apart from class lectures and slides, visualization of each algorithms especially of hard topics of NP completeness and dynamic programming would be very helpful. More focus and material can be provided on tough topics that could help student understand more about this topics.

- I do not take notes on paper anymore, so the switch from slides to board-based examples was a bit of a bummer for me. This is really the result of student feedback though.
- NA (2 Counts)
- Needed slides
- Nil
- None!
- Not any.
- Nothing
- Programming project.
- Questions papers were set to a very high level and often it was difficult to understand even the question
- Quizzes were bit tricky
- Some NP-complete and some abstract topic. Professor does not give us enough example. Although student should study by himself, it is difficult to prepare the test.
- The instructor was very hard in terms of the syllabus. The syllabus was relatively easy as compared to the indepth the instructor used to go. But personally I think which is a good thing to do as it has helped me open my mind to a larger extent. A big thank to Mr. Sarvanan. :)
- The material covered is broad, shallow, and unfocused. The entire course would have to be significantly narrowed in scope to provide any depth. The course consists of a review of undergraduate algorithms with little more than a nod to more advanced concepts.

In my opinion CSE 5311 needs to be completely restructured in order give any real value to graduate students.

In regard to the instructor, Mr. Thirumuruganathan did little to help the disastrous lack of focus inherent in the material. He repeatedly gave quizzes and exams which were too long for most students to finish. He rarely provided sufficient guidance about which topics to study and graded on a curve. This set a very low standard for class performance and learning.
- The number of topics were too much. It should be trimmed down
- The professor does not know how to teach Masters Students, he seems to be teaching master students for the first time. The class has given his feedback constantly, though he has not improved. He does not help the students in understanding the topic. He does not use the whiteboard at all for teaching, he just teaches in Mid Air.
- Though it was great to have interesting questions in quizzes, it was a bit higher than level of majority of students. Programming project seems to be too long and extensive for ten points.
- maybe explain the topic slowly
- the electronic material should be provided for all the topics covered in class