

FA20-EVAL01

CS 256 01 FA20

Survey results

Started: November 22, 2020

Ended: December 5, 2020

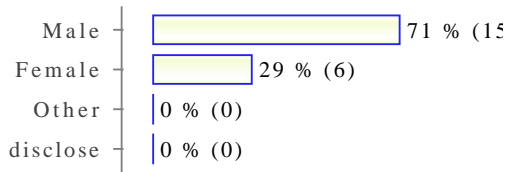
Reply rate: 95% (21 / 22)

FA20-EVAL01

The answers that you give here are used to evaluate instructors and to improve the quality of courses at St. Lawrence. The time that you spend on this evaluation is crucial to those processes and is appreciated.

All information submitted to the Evaluation System is confidential. Instructors cannot identify which submissions belong to which students. Students are required to log in to the system for the sole purpose of providing students access to the appropriate evaluations for their associated course(s). Instructors can only view general statistics as allowed by the university. Please send privacy concerns to: acadean@stlawu.edu.

3. Gender



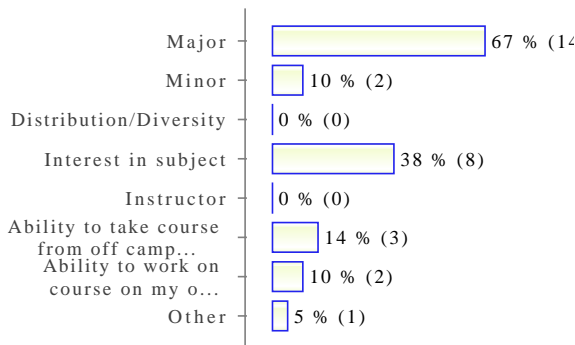
Number of answers: 21
Weighted mean: 1.29

COURSE EVALUATION

Course/Group Items:

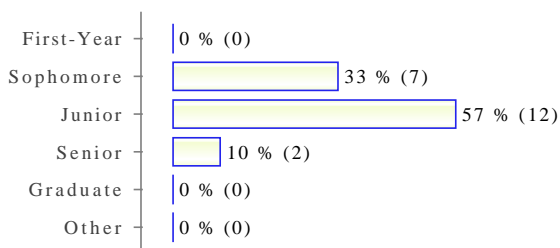
COURSE INFORMATION

1. Your primary reason(s) for enrolling in this course



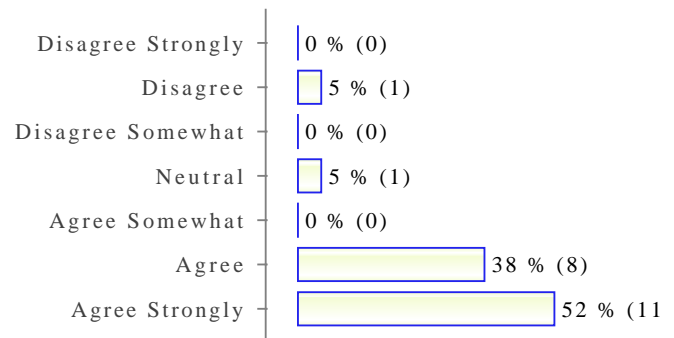
Number of answers: 30
Weighted mean: 3

2. Year



Number of answers: 21
Weighted mean: 2.76

4. Taking this course has been a valuable educational experience



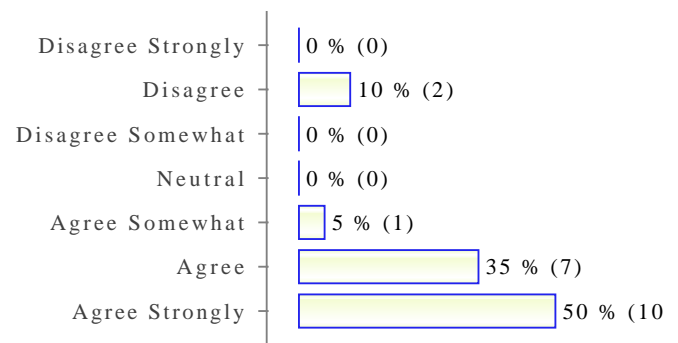
Number of answers: 21
Weighted mean: 6.24

5. Comment on ways in which this course has or has not helped your learning

- Content helped me better how to think about the efficiency of programs and develop intuitions about how to approach problems algorithmically. Student check ins and assessments also helped me develop communicative skills in computer science context. Projects and implementation of certain Data Structures allowed me to apply my knowledge and expand my arsenal of programming techniques.
- Really great course
- I learned much more about the various coding aspects that are involved in Java.
- Really exposed me to many different data structures in computer programming that I will need going forward with this major.
- I have learned many new data structures to use in my future programming adventures.
- After taking other Computer Science courses at SLU, this course really helped staple my understanding of certain topics under the subject.
- This course opened my mind to different ways of thinking, which has helped my learning.
- Very instructive, and I have definitely learned a lot about how and when to use different data structures.
- Data structures are a pretty integral part of understanding program.
- The topics we covered were clear and practical, and applications in real life were evident.
- It has helped me broaden my computer science skills by learning different data types.
- The way projects and assignments were implemented really helped to solidify my understanding of course material and availability of the professor was great for when there was something I didn't understand or if I were stuck on a project or assignment
- I needed this course for my major, and I believe what I learned will certainly benefit me in the future.

Number of answers : 13

6. This course was effectively organized



Number of answers: 20

Weighted mean: 6.05

7. List positive and/or negative aspects of the structure and format of the course

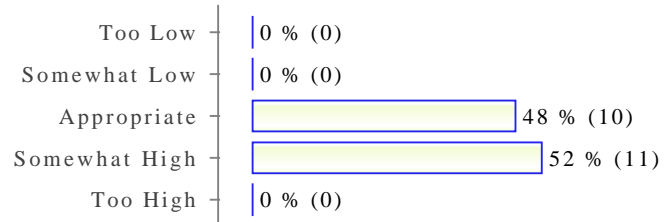
- Good balance of Synchronous and Asynchronous content, video lectures were engaging and well paced and in class lab did a good job in combining theory and application. Multiple sessions helped me look back at content in a way that did not seem repetitive. Lab assignments made me be constantly engaged with content, although better feedback for these could have made them more effective.
- good format for the situation. Really enjoyed the one zoom class a week and lecture videos on top of that. Out of all of the online class organizes I had this was the best
- I enjoyed how the structure of the course was consistent on a weekly-basis, and there were no surprises in terms of the material.
- The class was very organized and consistent and as a student knowing what to expect on a weekly basis is very good
- The structure was very nice. Since lab was twice a week but we only needed to attend one of the labs, and it allowed me to pick the time slot that best suited my schedule.
- Everything in this course felt very organized and planned out.
- I like that the class had students meet once a week with 2 days as optional. I appreciated that we had assignments due before class as well. However, the asynchronous video lessons outside of class did become very time consuming as the course continued.
- Course expectations were always clear, and there was never any confusion as to when anything was due, or how/when to submit anything.
- Classes were intuitive and straightforward.
- Very well organized.
- The professor had a well planned out semester from the start.
- The course was split into half asynchronous and half synchronous. I enjoyed this as I could get the benefits of working in class as well as the ability to learn the content when I was able to.
- Structure of the course follows the syllabus and labs always complemented lectures
- I loved the video lessons; the pace is not fast; the materials are easy to understand.

Number of answers : 14

In this course,

Block's weighted mean: 3.32

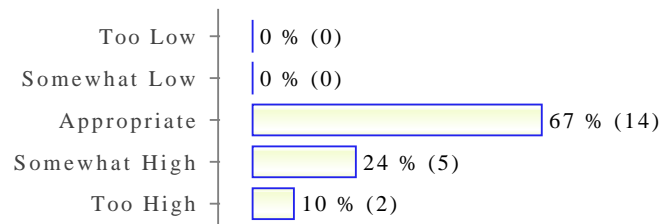
8. the workload was ...



Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 3.52

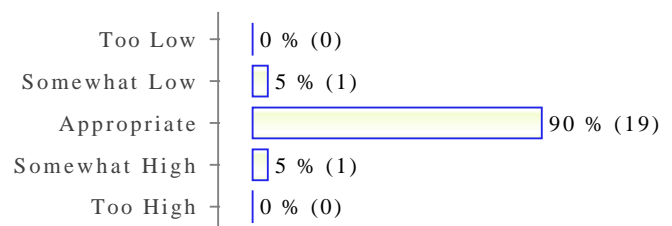
9. the level of intellectual and/or creative sophistication required was ...



Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 3.43

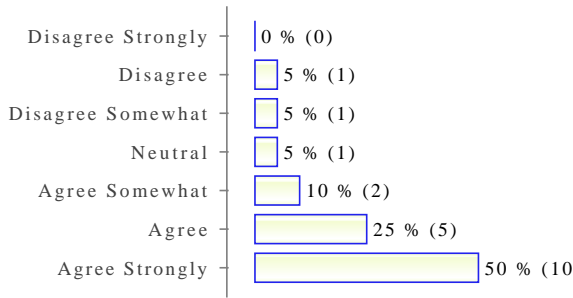
10. the grading standards were ...



Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 3

11. I would recommend this course to another student

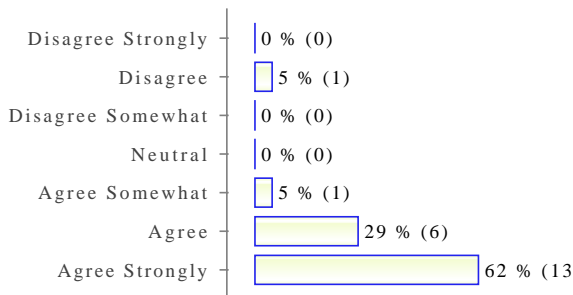


Number of answers: 20

Weighted mean: 5.95

Instructor/Evaluatee: Kevin Angstadt

12. The instructor created an atmosphere conducive to learning



Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 6.38

13. Discuss ways the instructor did or did not create an environment in which all students felt engaged, challenged, and comfortable participating and asking questions

- Instructor encouraged class participation with questions and course engagement via office ours and the Piazza, the course's forum. Instructor genuinely seems to care about the development of students and not only academic performance, they made sure to check in on our general wellbeing on certain assignments and with individual check ins. Also willing to discuss important issues about our identity and resilience within the context of STEM and computer science specifically. Instructor was also very available outside of class and was willing to explain concepts that were also relevant to other classes. Instructor's assignments were designed with useful timelines to help students better manage the resource distribution of more complex projects.
- Engaging and crazy welcoming on zoom. Tough to get people to talk in CS classes, and he did a good job but didn't try to hard which was really nice. Welcomed us everyday and gave us small time to engage.
- Kevin was always available and willing to answer our questions, which helped progress much farther in this course.
- He was very engaging and was willing to help the students in many ways.
- Despite having to be on Zoom the entire semester, Professor Angstadt did a great job at leading discussions and giving students a comfortable environment to ask questions no matter what.
- The instructor created a great environment because he was very understanding whenever a student was confused of required help. The instructor was accessible outside of class which helped students during the course.
- Was quite responsive to questions, and very easy to talk to. Having the synchronous sessions once a week provided a good opportunity to ask questions or get clarifications, along with office hours.
- He always made it clear that he was available for help and clarification.
- Always happy to answer questions and emails (one of the few professors who tells jokes and uses exclamation points in emails) which helps students engage and care about doing well in the class. With one eye on the chat and not requiring cameras to be on, he took into consideration everyone's very different learning environments in this covid time.
- Made sure to be available often for questions or concerns. The online learning was tricky but he made it fun and engaging.
- Synchronous work times allowed for us the learn the content by coding it together, but also allowed us to ask question and get answers in real time.
- I loved the instructor's sense of humor. He is always available to help us; he encourages us to ask questions because "no question is too trivial."

Number of answers : 12

14. Discuss the instructor's expectations for your work in this course

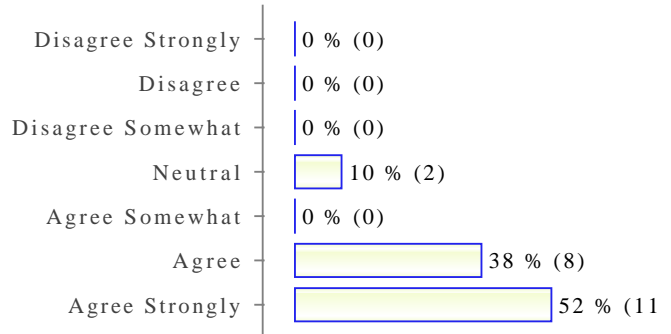
- Expectations were clear and while certain projects were hard to think about or conceptualize, SLUGs and the ability to submit multiple uploads to test files made the grades feel fair even for rigorous projects.
- Perfect workload. Not too much and not too little. Weekly labs, watch videos, and 3 projects a year. The questions in the videos were an amazing addition as it gave me a reason to watch the videos which I didn't have in lots of my other classes.
- I feel like some of the assignments were much harder to do, even though we had quite a bit of time.
- They were fair and completely correct.
- The Instructor expected our work to be of a high standard, and he helped us get there.
- Professor Angstadt's expectations were always very reasonable. He's always quite understanding and makes his expectations clear.

Number of answers : 12

The instructor's assessments of student work were ...

Block's weighted mean: 5.78

15. fair

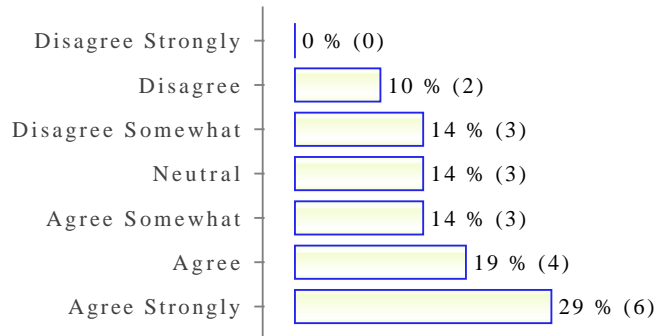


Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 6.33

16. timely

- The instructors expectations were appropriate and allowed for students to feel more confident throughout the course.
- Work was expected to be of good quality, and to have been thought through. Overall, the expectations were quite fair, as the correctness and efficiency of the implementation was weighted more heavily than the actual implementation, which somewhat reflects how code will be evaluated in the real world.
- The work was very valuable to do, including writing code that exposes bugs, but the projects were really hefty and took much, much more time than I've had to spend on any other class in my entire life. A lot of that time was reading the fifteen page assignment outlines and trying to process what they all meant when put together. Maybe a clear and concise (and non-vague) summary of the assignments would help this process speed up a bit?

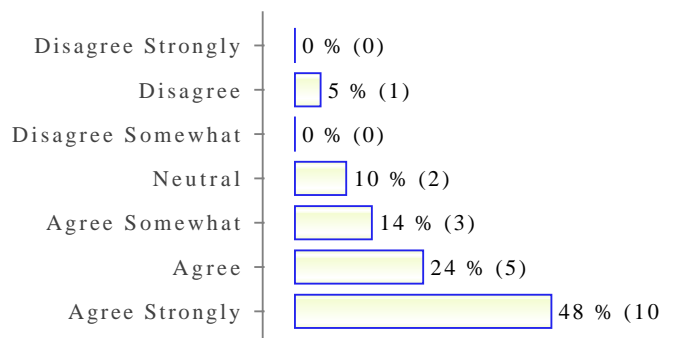


Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 5.05

17. constructive

- Attend labs and do work in them. Watch video lessons and complete different projects.
- The professor expected us to watch video lectures, read any but all Java documents associated with the video lectures, then attend one of two labs a week so that we can work on a lab assignment.
- We need to put in effort to understand the materials.



Number of answers: 21

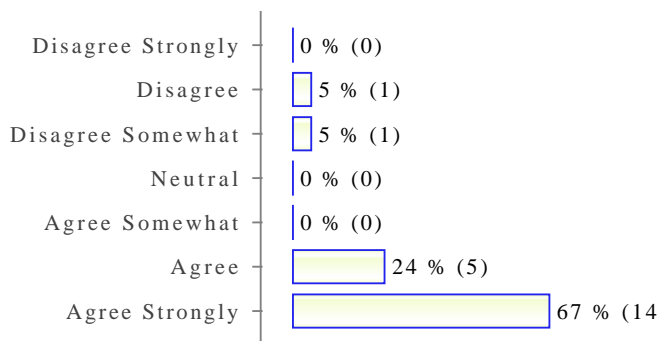
Weighted mean: 5.95

18. Discuss ways that the instructor's assessments and feedback did or didnot improve your learning

- Instructor's feedback during office hours and on questions was very effective and useful, however feedback on labs in particular was more lacking.
- Extremely helpful with assignments, but grading could have been faster.
- I think that Kevin was very helpful in assisting me throughout the semester with great guidance in the meetings that we had.
- We had a lot of assignments in this class, so most of the time I couldn't see previous grades before submitting the next assignment. This bothers me because then I could do poorly on multiple assignments for one misunderstanding. I'm fine with having a higher workload, but students still need feedback between every assignment to succeed.
- His feedback was all very good and we would try to give feedback throughout the course in everything that we were working on.
- The instructor's feedback was always helpful. He pointed me in the right direction and helped me find errors in my code that I could not find by myself.
- Professor Angstadt's feedback on work was always very constructive. As someone who struggled in this course, I can say that he's great about checking in and clarifying anything that needs to be cleared up, which I loved.
- The instructor helped explain in cases of confusion and he also helped recommend method of dealing with assignments and the course work in general which did come to good use.
- More feedback on the large projects would be very useful. Even getting a bit more information on where the autograder went wrong (for example, showing the entire line that went wrong instead of just truncating to 3 or 4 characters) would have been very useful for debugging purposes.
- Grades were not returned in a very timely manner.
- The instructor always gives helpful feedback/advice at office hours.

Number of answers : 11

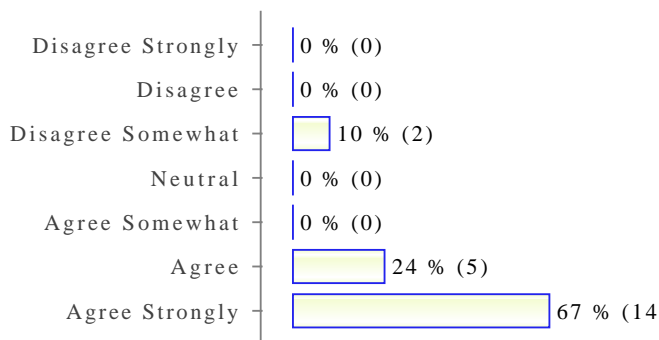
19. I would recommend this instructor to another student



Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 6.33

20. The instructor was an effective teacher



Number of answers: 21

Weighted mean: 6.38

21. List any characteristics or teaching techniques that have enhanced the instructor's effectiveness as a teacher

- Expertise on content.
Willingness to help students and emphasis on students' well being.
Very effective course organization and a good support network of resources.
Engaging and professional videos.
- crazy nice and understanding and helpful
- Kevin made himself available as much as he could which was very helpful in this course as I had a much more difficult time understanding the material.
- Very available for office hours.
- The video lessons were very good and it seems that he did leverage the remote structure of this class the best one could.
- The instructor was always available to help.
- His lectures were very lengthy, but that may feel that way due to them being remote, which is something I'm not used to. He is great at explaining concepts in detail and provides everything needed for a good understanding of the topics.
- The instructors reliableness helped enhance his effectiveness because he was able to understand students especially during these times of pandemic.
- Using the whiteboards instead of slides was very helpful, as it provided time for people to write down the notes as you went. (Sometimes, professors will rush through pre-prepared slides, and it will be hard to write down the content fast enough). Also, walking through some code in lab/video lessons helped, as it provided a good example of how to write good code for future projects.
- Writing things on white boards in videos is super useful for visualizing what we're coding. A sea of text is sometimes daunting so that was nice.
- Whenever we had projects, he would always set aside time from lab to give us work time and give us the opportunity to ask questions about projects or even about labs.
- Friendliness, passion, sense of humor

Number of answers : 12

22. List any suggestions for how the instructor's effectiveness as a teacher might be improved

- Timelier feedback on labs.
- no, loved the class and the teacher, keep it up! I even did recommend teacher to others.
- I believe that the videos he uploaded with assistance on the projects were very useful in helping me get started on our difficult projects.
- I don't have many. I think he will be a great in-person professor, as he showed a lot of great qualities even remotely.
- N/A
- This mainly applies to what happened near the beginning of the semester, but there were a couple of times where we would be expected to follow along with coding in lab, and sometimes it felt that I was just copying the code, and not fully understanding it. This didn't happen as much as the semester went on, though, so that issue's been mostly resolved already!
- Please use Piazza and Sakai for announcements and all other class things.
- He is great

Number of answers : 8

23. Use this space for any additional comments about this instructor or course (if this was an online or hybrid course, please specifically address any impacts -- positive or negative -- stemming from that delivery format)

- Great online class implementation.
- perfect
- Kevin is great, and I would love to take more of his classes based on the way he teaches.
- N/A
- I really liked how there was only one lab a week, with the time balanced between the lab and the videos. I felt that having the videos was a good opportunity to learn when most convenient, but having the lab still provided some structure to the course.
- This course was perfectly suited to being taught online this way. I would take it again in the same format.
- One of the best professors I have had at slU. Made sure you were doing alright with the different learning styles as well as being good at answering questions.
- The delivery of the class was great! The only issue I had was that all announcements and class related things were pushed onto Piazza and instead of kept on Sakai like my other classes and that sort of threw me off since I am so use to having to refer to just Sakai for all class announcements and what not.
- I absolutely loved taking this course. Though the programming projects were challenging, Kevin is always there to help us. I enjoyed going to his office hours.

Number of answers : 9