

St. Lawrence University

Fall 2021 Course Evaluations with Comments

CS-256-02: Data Structures Kevin Angstadt

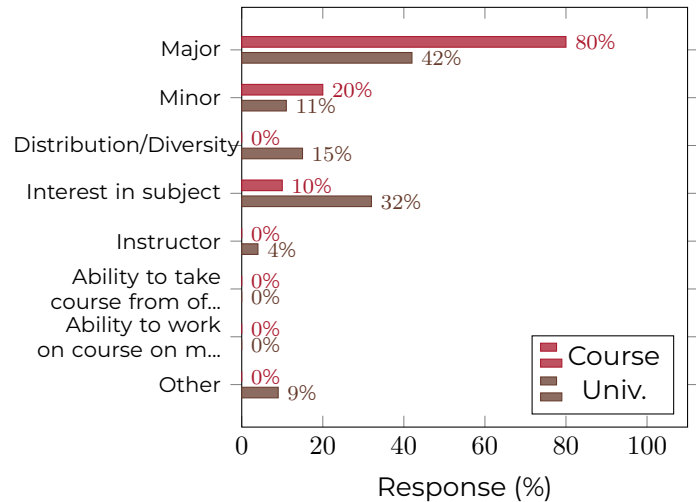
This report is compiled from official university evaluation data but is not itself an official document. Official information can be obtained from Institutional Research.

12 out of 16 students responded to this evaluation. University data consists of 6,923 evaluations from Fall 2021.

Student Backgrounds

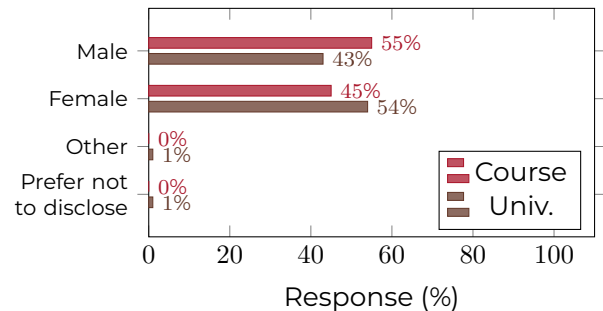
Your primary reason(s) for enrolling in this course

		Course	Univ.
Major	8	80%	42%
Minor	2	20%	11%
Distribution/Diversity	-	-	15%
Interest in subject	1	10%	32%
Instructor	-	-	4%
Ability to take course from off campus (hybrid/online)	-	-	-
Ability to work on course on my own schedule (hybrid/online)	-	-	-
Other	-	-	9%
Unduplicated Count	10	100%	100%



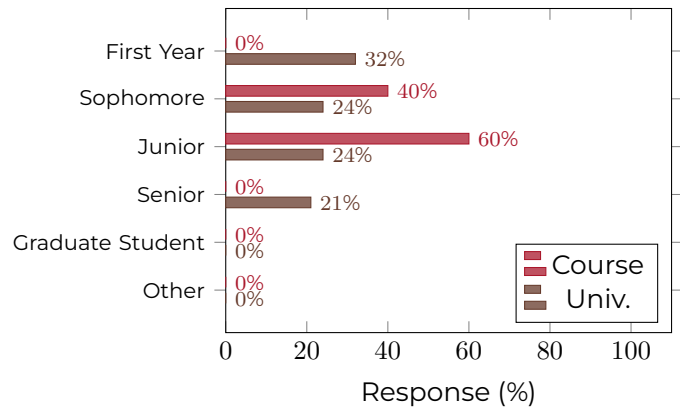
Gender

		Course	Univ.
Male	6	55%	43%
Female	5	45%	54%
Other	-	-	1%
Prefer not to disclose	-	-	1%
Total	11	100%	100%



Class Year

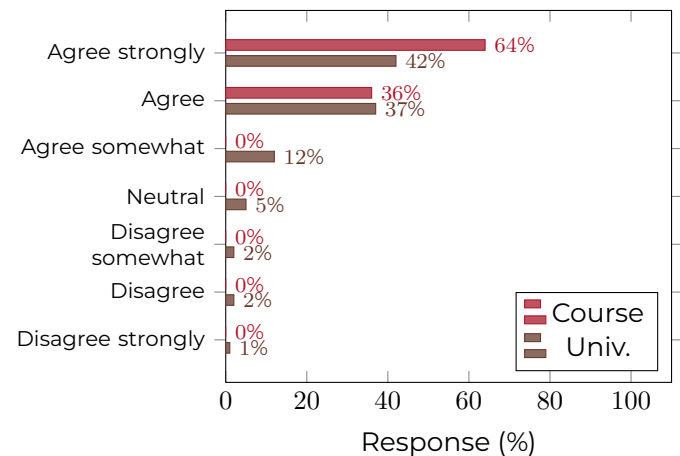
	Course	Univ.
First Year	-	32%
Sophomore	4	24%
Junior	6	24%
Senior	-	21%
Graduate Student	-	-
Other	-	-
Total	10	100%



Course Evaluation

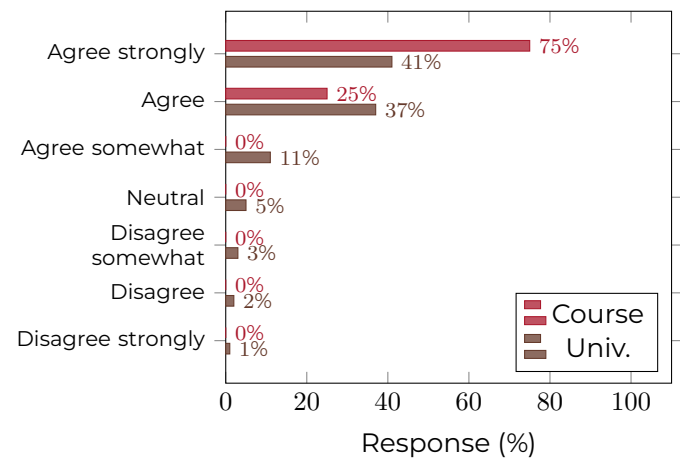
Q1: Taking this course has been a valuable educational experience

	Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	7	42%
Agree	4	37%
Agree somewhat	-	12%
Neutral	-	5%
Disagree somewhat	-	2%
Disagree	-	2%
Disagree strongly	-	1%
Total	11	100%



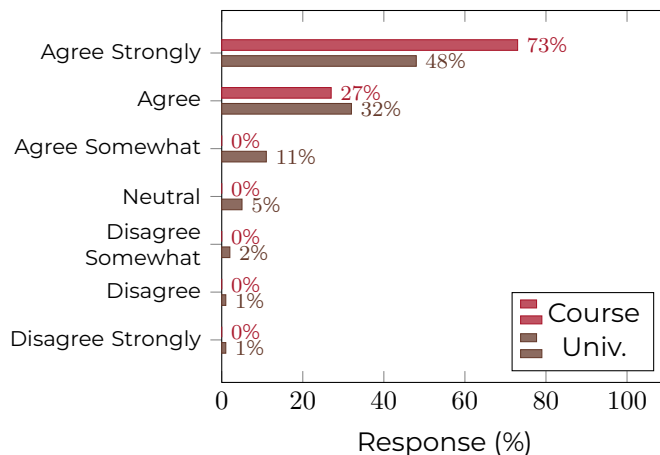
Q2: The course was effectively organized

	Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	9	41%
Agree	3	37%
Agree somewhat	-	11%
Neutral	-	5%
Disagree somewhat	-	3%
Disagree	-	2%
Disagree strongly	-	1%
Total	12	100%



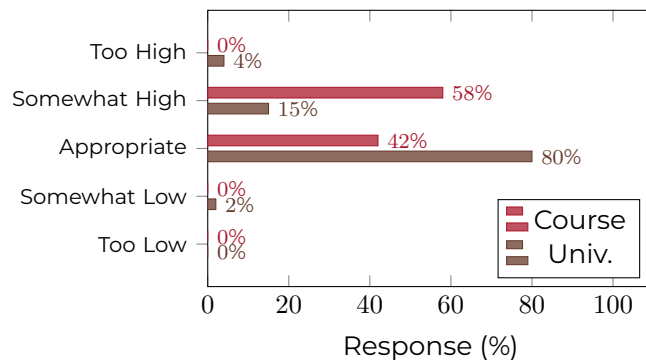
Q3: The instructor created an environment conducive to learning

		Course	Univ.
Agree Strongly	8	73%	48%
Agree	3	27%	32%
Agree Somewhat	-	-	11%
Neutral	-	-	5%
Disagree Somewhat	-	-	2%
Disagree	-	-	1%
Disagree Strongly	-	-	1%
Total	11	100%	100%



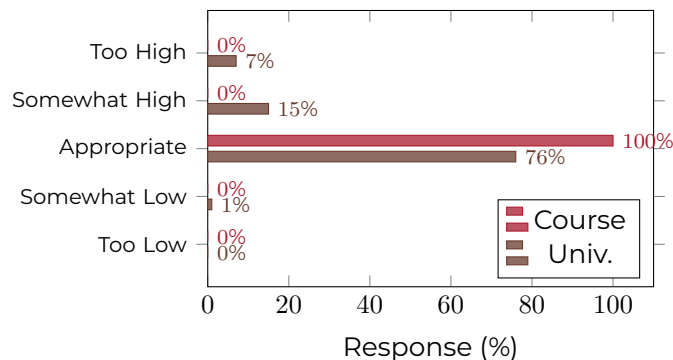
Q4a: In this course, the workload was

		Course	Univ.
Too High	-	-	4%
Somewhat High	7	58%	15%
Appropriate	5	42%	80%
Somewhat Low	-	-	2%
Too Low	-	-	-
Total	12	100%	100%



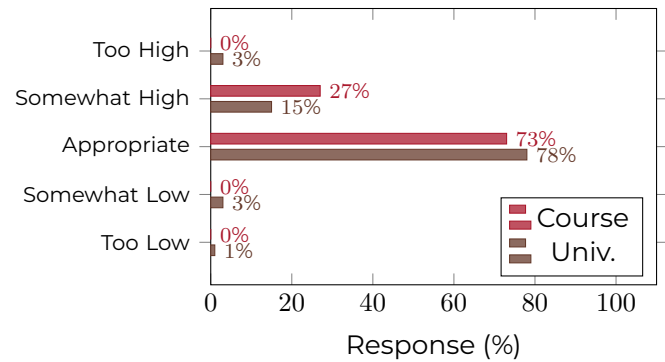
Q4b: In this course, the grading standards were

		Course	Univ.
Too High	-	-	7%
Somewhat High	-	-	15%
Appropriate	12	100%	76%
Somewhat Low	-	-	1%
Too Low	-	-	-
Total	12	100%	100%



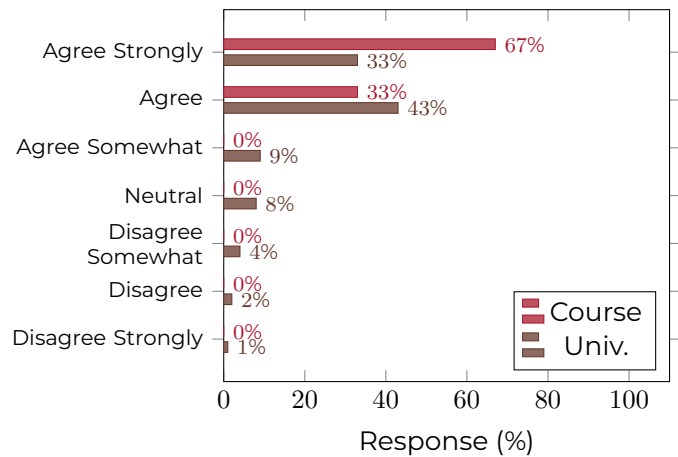
Q4c: In this course, the level of intellectual and/or creative sophistication required was

	Course	Univ.
Too High	-	3%
Somewhat High	3 27%	15%
Appropriate	8 73%	78%
Somewhat Low	-	3%
Too Low	-	1%
Total	11 100%	100%



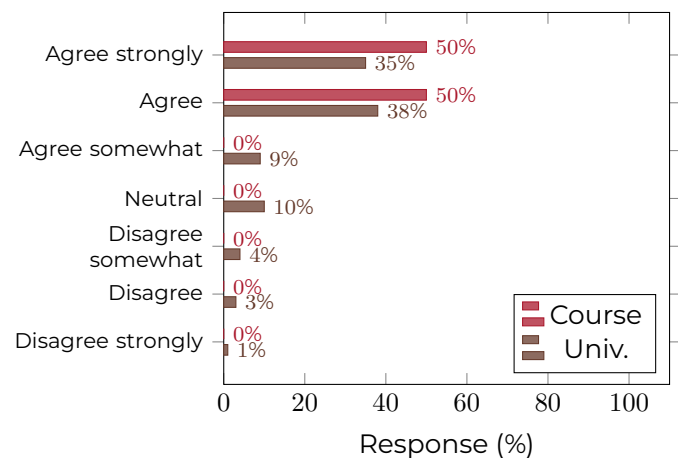
Q5a: The instructor's assessments of student work were fair

	Course	Univ.
Agree Strongly	8 67%	33%
Agree	4 33%	43%
Agree Somewhat	-	9%
Neutral	-	8%
Disagree Somewhat	-	4%
Disagree	-	2%
Disagree Strongly	-	1%
Total	12 100%	100%



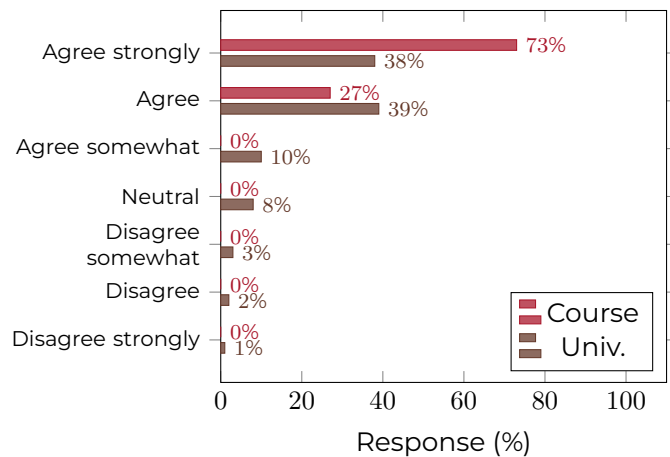
Q5b: The instructor's assessments of student work were timely

	Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	6 50%	35%
Agree	6 50%	38%
Agree somewhat	-	9%
Neutral	-	10%
Disagree somewhat	-	4%
Disagree	-	3%
Disagree strongly	-	1%
Total	12 100%	100%



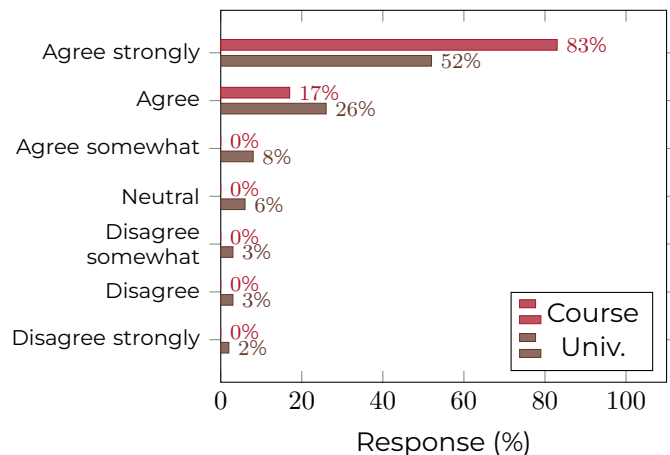
Q5c: The instructor's assessments of student work were constructive

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	8	73%	38%
Agree	3	27%	39%
Agree somewhat	-	-	10%
Neutral	-	-	8%
Disagree somewhat	-	-	3%
Disagree	-	-	2%
Disagree strongly	-	-	1%
Total	11	100%	100%



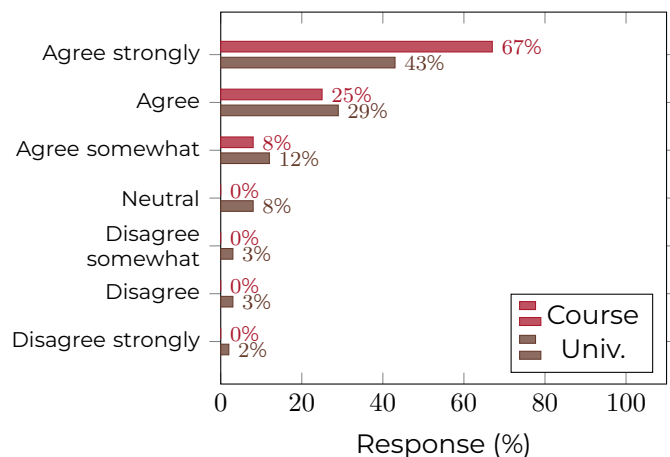
Q6a: I would recommend this instructor to another student

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	10	83%	52%
Agree	2	17%	26%
Agree somewhat	-	-	8%
Neutral	-	-	6%
Disagree somewhat	-	-	3%
Disagree	-	-	3%
Disagree strongly	-	-	2%
Total	12	100%	100%



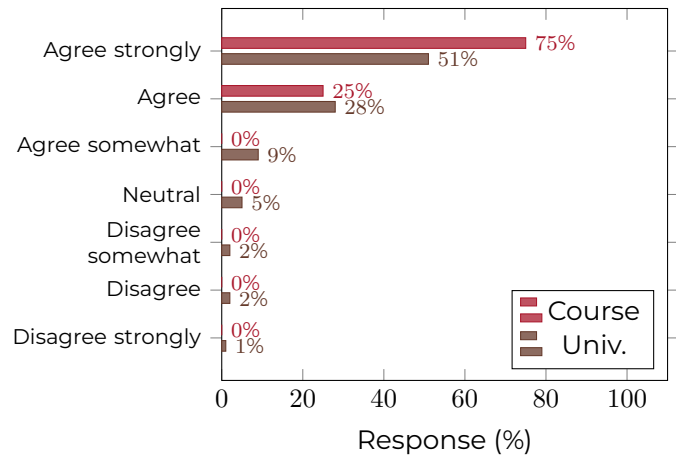
Q6b: I would recommend this course to another student

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	8	67%	43%
Agree	3	25%	29%
Agree somewhat	1	8%	12%
Neutral	-	-	8%
Disagree somewhat	-	-	3%
Disagree	-	-	3%
Disagree strongly	-	-	2%
Total	12	100%	100%



Q6c: The instructor was an effective teacher

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	9	75%	51%
Agree	3	25%	28%
Agree somewhat	-	-	9%
Neutral	-	-	5%
Disagree somewhat	-	-	2%
Disagree	-	-	2%
Disagree strongly	-	-	1%
Total	12	100%	100%



Summary of Means

	Course	Univ.
Q1: Taking this course has been a valuable educational experience	6.6	6
Q2: The course was effectively organized	6.8	6
Q3: The instructor created an environment conducive to learning	6.7	6.1
Q5a: The instructor's assessments of student work were fair	6.7	5.9
Q5b: The instructor's assessments of student work were timely	6.5	5.8
Q5c: The instructor's assessments of student work were constructive	6.7	5.9
Q6a: I would recommend this instructor to another student	6.8	6
Q6b: I would recommend this course to another student	6.6	5.8
Q6c: The instructor was an effective teacher	6.8	6.1

Scale:

7 = Agree Strongly, 6 = Agree, 5 = Agree Somewhat, 4 = Neutral, 3 = Disagree Somewhat, 2 = Disagree, 1 = Disagree Strongly

Written Comments

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

Comments
Helped me increase my computer science skills, and become more aware of coding
I mean this course is one of the most fundamental courses for a computer science major so I really tried hard to make sure I understood it well. Angststadt thankfully had notes. Some CS professor don't which is really unhelpful so I really appreciated the notes.
The teaching style was effective and helped me learn a lot.
This class has provided me with numerous new skills such as thinking about program efficiency, debugging, and a better understanding of how data structures perform.
Taught me about higher level CS concepts & importing skills when working with code/through logic
This course is application based, after learning some theory we put it into practice. I think also coding up our own data structures really enhanced my ability to grasp the content.
I have a better grasp on file organization, and how to write better and more effective code utilizing concepts we learned and practiced
It has helped me improve vastly in my overall study in computer science while helping me organize for higher work loads more efficiently
I have a much better understanding of CS after taking this class.
My knowledge of computer science and the data structures we use to hold information has greatly increased learned how to plan and work on projects when given a long time to work on time management
This course has helped me become better at overcoming challenges of workload

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

Comments
All projects and assignments were very clear on when they were due. Always was up to see due dates well in advanced.
Everything was neat + because it was recorded, easy to reference again
The pattern of learning, then practicing with a lab, then applying in a project really helped the concepts stick.
The class started with arrays and lists which was nice since those were familiar topics, and the harder content was saved for later.
Each unit built off previous units. Labs were relevant & helpful with conceptualization of topics. Readings were relevant & helpful.
Positives: * I always knew what to expect * Lectures and Homework section helped me keep on track
it was pretty good. What we were learning in class tended to line up with project assignments really well
Nothing was a surprise. I never didn't know what we had due or what was going to be due
I liked structured weekly labs
Everything on Sakai was very clearly organized
the course structure has a good balance of workload and new material content.

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

Comments
Always was open to help you when struggling. Walked through challenges with students.
* Funny jokes @ 9:00 AM * Office hours >> -> Always helped me reinforce ideas.
Always looking to teach and not criticize when mistakes happened.
The instructor was always happy to answer questions, and would periodically prompt for students to answer.
Always asked for participation to keep us engaged. Challenged us on labs and projects but was always available for extra help during student hours or outside times.
* Always nice and always refers to us by our names and gave lots of positive reinforcement
Promoted group discussion and group participation
Always very engaging + asking us questions rather than just lecturing which helped understanding. Very comfortable asking questions.
The classroom atmosphere made me feel comfortable to ask questions/contribute
accepting of critic and always asking for ways in which he can improve his teaching style and class. Also makes it welcoming for questions and help on projects and homework assignments.

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

Comments
It was a lot of work and time. But the information learned was well worth it.
Honestly, I was really nervous after P1, I thought I could have done better. But Angstadt made me feel way better because he saw my struggle + effort + made that a part of the grade. I'm really glad to have a professor who isn't making me afraid to ask for help but rather encourages it.
All good, except the first project was significantly beyond more difficult than everything else in the course
The instructor expected work to be completed with accuracy and there were some very difficult assignments, but that is all part of the expected nature of the course.
All work was fair based on what we were learning. Workload was expected and beneficial for concepts learned/practice needed in this class.
* 4 Projects for the semester, taking up to 3 weeks for each * two weekly readings * 1 Lab assignment every week * 2 checkins * Reading quizzes
Perfectly right for this type of course.
A lot of material was difficult but it was spaced out well and always could ask for help on harder things which helped a lot.
Sometimes I felt slightly overwhelmed when we had labs and projects on top of each other.
the professor expects to complete 4 projects through the year while also including lab projects. At times the two conflicted making things more challenging but they were also appropriate if they were completed on time.

Discuss ways that the instructor's assessments and feedback did or did not improve your learning.

Comments
Always had comments on work and explained material if kids were struggling.
Positive feedback is great.
For the constructive ones I almost wish we went over the "correct" code in class.
Whenever I was struggling, he would walk me through how to fix my problem and make sure I understood it.
If points were ever deducted the instructor would address why for every issue in the students code.
Erroneous code was given comments on labs & projects. Great communication for extra help on Piazza
The assessments encouraged independence in figuring out where theres gaps in my learning. The feedback was always encouraging which helped with my confidence in taking the class.
Feedback was good, generally I could trace back, see what was wrong with my code and think about how to improve it
Pushed me to think around problems and made me realize that I did in fact know the material.
Always knew what was wrong
The feedback on all assignments was good
Always included reasons for points off and included what you should implement instead of what you had.

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

Comments
Student hours were great and how he set up the assignments and projects were fine.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > communications > understanding > fairness <p>Angstadt is so encouraging he's probably one of the reasons I'll stick w/ the major.</p>
Project videos
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - good use of diagrams - use of labs for data structures
Very helpful at expanding explanations to help students understand. Always available for extra help.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Always tried to be relatable * Always encouraged questions * Always available to help
being avilibe with quick responses to emails and posting video guides for more complicated tasks were really helpfull
He is very good about being patient with students questions and often doesn't give direct answers so they get to where they need to be themselves.
Very good at making sure to check understanding + practice concepts. Made course manageable. Wouldnt have wanted to take this course w/ any other professor.
Help at office hors was very helpful towards making this class more manageable and helped me understand the material much better
the instructor was very effective in teaching new material through code practice and providing insight in how the code worked, providing a better understanding for how to complete the project.

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

Comments
Some weeks, maybe not have a big lab and a project due (or parts of one). That was sometimes a lot of hours/work devoted just to This One Class.
If its possibly - less projects? They're so time consuming and we don't really get breaks between them. Also more images to see how things work i.e. hash tables.
Make the first project more in line with the rest of the work
- I felt the projects were a bit much sometimes. I almost feel like the class could just be on labs and similar assignments since those taught me the most about data structures.
It's a great class
Could code more in class. Sometimes felt I understood concept until given assignment then realized couldnt code it.

Use this space for any additional comments about this instructor or course.

Comments
Thank you it really was so appreciative of how hard you tried to get me through so hard concepts.
I really enjoyed this class