

# St. Lawrence University

## Spring 2022 Course Evaluations with Comments

### CS-364-01: Programming Languages

#### Kevin Angstadt

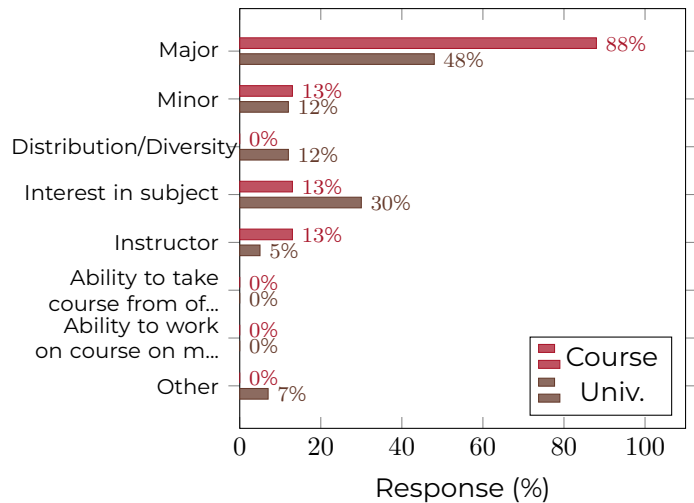
This report is compiled from official university evaluation data but is not itself an official document. Official information can be obtained from Institutional Research.

8 out of 11 students responded to this evaluation. University data consists of 6,335 evaluations from Spring 2022.

## Student Backgrounds

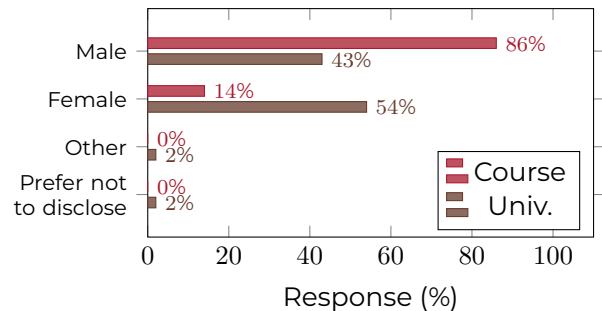
### Your primary reason(s) for enrolling in this course

		Course	Univ.
Major	7	88%	48%
Minor	1	13%	12%
Distribution/Diversity	-	-	12%
Interest in subject	1	13%	30%
Instructor	1	13%	5%
Ability to take course from off campus (hybrid/online)	-	-	-
Ability to work on course on my own schedule (hybrid/online)	-	-	-
Other	-	-	7%
<b>Unduplicated Count</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



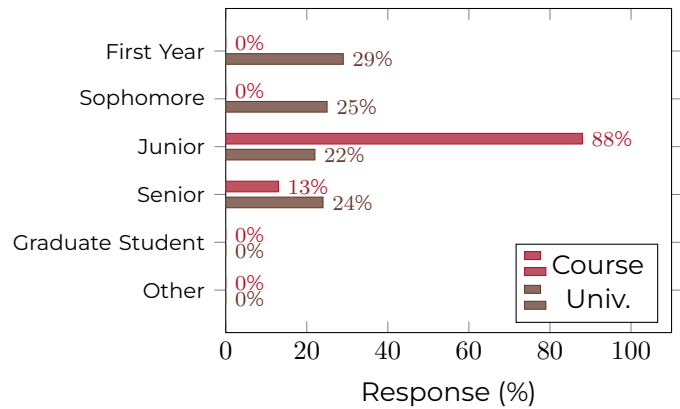
## Gender

		Course	Univ.
Male	6	86%	43%
Female	1	14%	54%
Other	-	-	2%
Prefer not to disclose	-	-	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Class Year

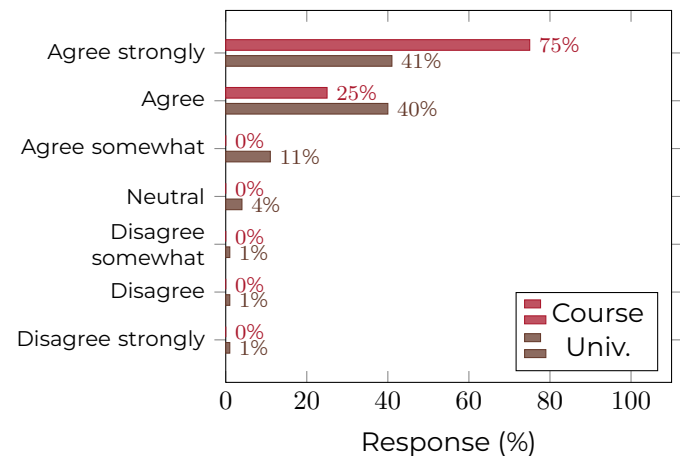
	Course	Univ.
First Year	-	29%
Sophomore	-	25%
Junior	7 88%	22%
Senior	1 13%	24%
Graduate Student	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Course Evaluation

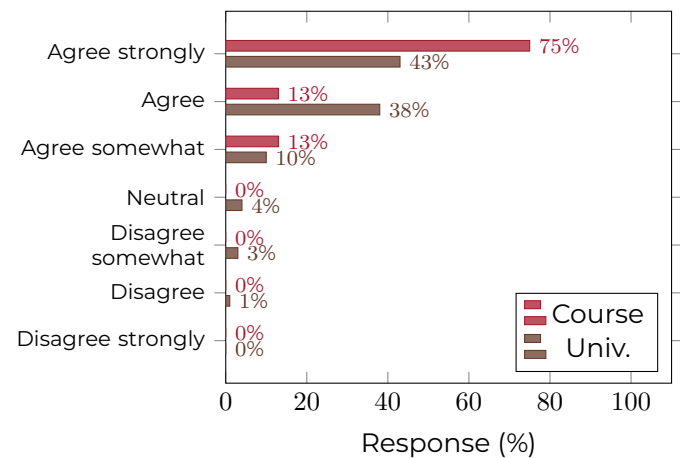
### Q1: Taking this course has been a valuable educational experience

	Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	6 75%	41%
Agree	2 25%	40%
Agree somewhat	-	11%
Neutral	-	4%
Disagree somewhat	-	1%
Disagree	-	1%
Disagree strongly	-	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>



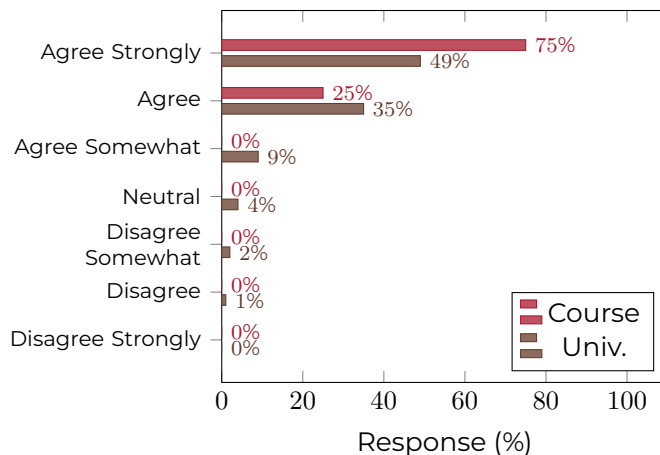
### Q2: The course was effectively organized

	Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	6 75%	43%
Agree	1 13%	38%
Agree somewhat	1 13%	10%
Neutral	-	4%
Disagree somewhat	-	3%
Disagree	-	1%
Disagree strongly	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>



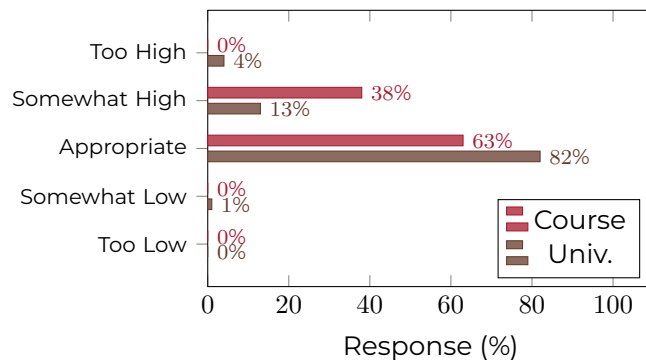
### Q3: The instructor created an environment conducive to learning

		Course	Univ.
Agree Strongly	6	75%	49%
Agree	2	25%	35%
Agree Somewhat	-	-	9%
Neutral	-	-	4%
Disagree Somewhat	-	-	2%
Disagree	-	-	1%
Disagree Strongly	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



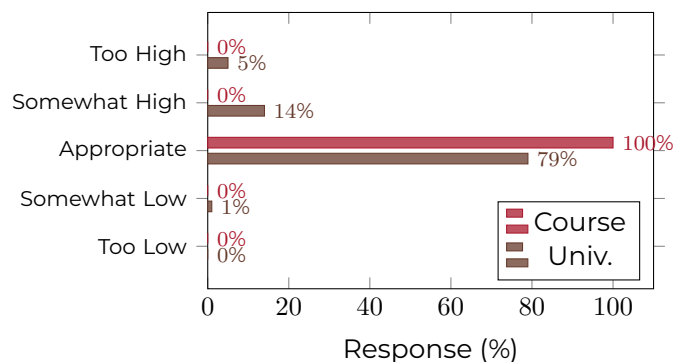
### Q4a: In this course, the workload was

		Course	Univ.
Too High	-	-	4%
Somewhat High	3	38%	13%
Appropriate	5	63%	82%
Somewhat Low	-	-	1%
Too Low	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



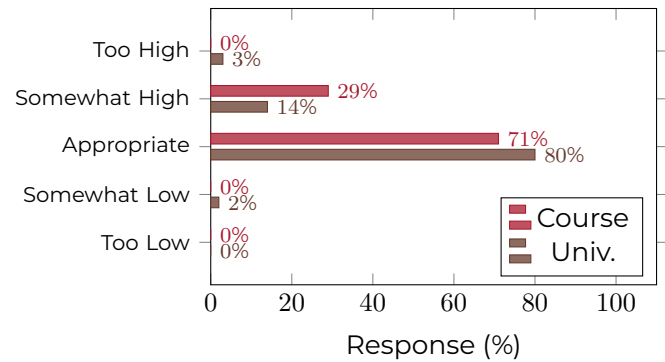
### Q4b: In this course, the grading standards were

		Course	Univ.
Too High	-	-	5%
Somewhat High	-	-	14%
Appropriate	8	100%	79%
Somewhat Low	-	-	1%
Too Low	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



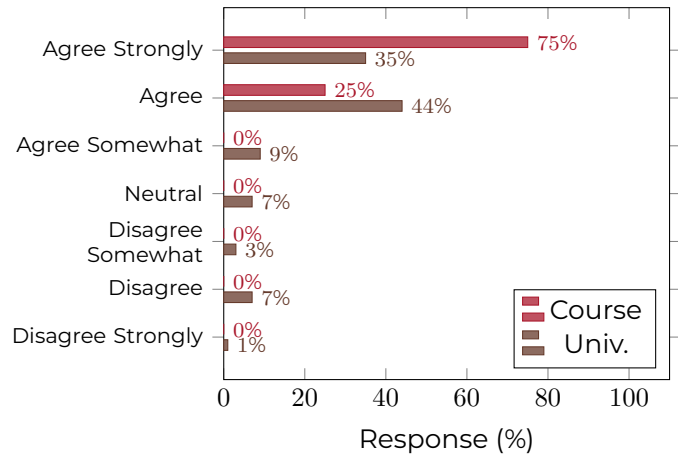
**Q4c: In this course, the level of intellectual and/or creative sophistication required was**

	Course	Univ.
Too High	-	3%
Somewhat High	2	14%
Appropriate	5	80%
Somewhat Low	-	2%
Too Low	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>



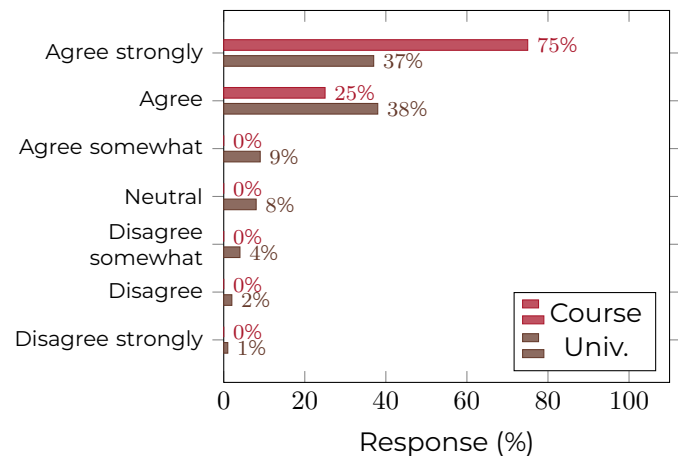
**Q5a: The instructor's assessments of student work were fair**

	Course	Univ.
Agree Strongly	6	35%
Agree	2	44%
Agree Somewhat	-	9%
Neutral	-	7%
Disagree Somewhat	-	3%
Disagree	-	7%
Disagree Strongly	-	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>



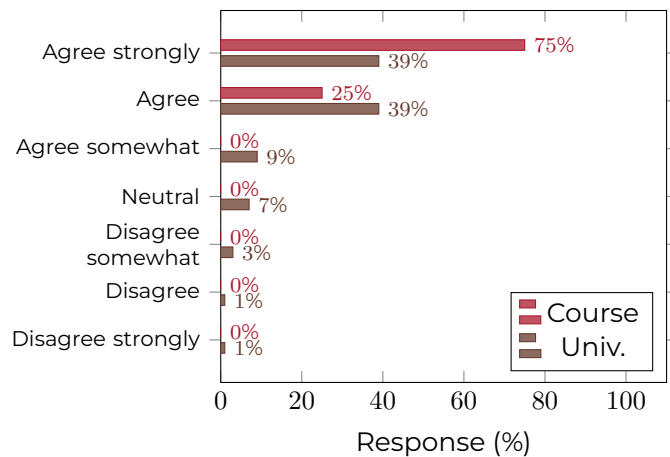
**Q5b: The instructor's assessments of student work were timely**

	Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	6	37%
Agree	2	38%
Agree somewhat	-	9%
Neutral	-	8%
Disagree somewhat	-	4%
Disagree	-	2%
Disagree strongly	-	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>



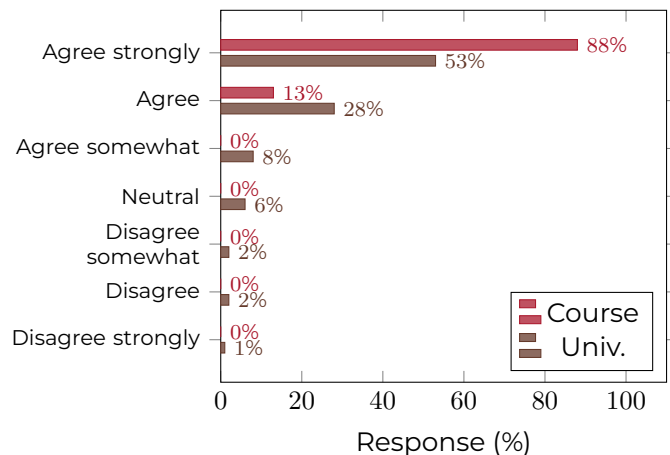
### Q5c: The instructor's assessments of student work were constructive

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	6	75%	39%
Agree	2	25%	39%
Agree somewhat	-	-	9%
Neutral	-	-	7%
Disagree somewhat	-	-	3%
Disagree	-	-	1%
Disagree strongly	-	-	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



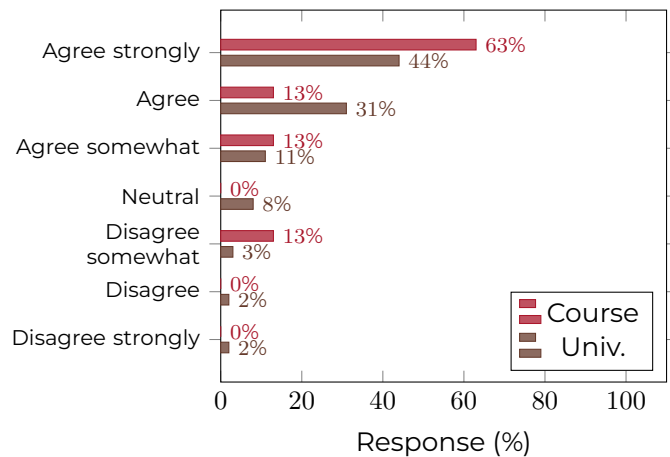
### Q6a: I would recommend this instructor to another student

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	7	88%	53%
Agree	1	13%	28%
Agree somewhat	-	-	8%
Neutral	-	-	6%
Disagree somewhat	-	-	2%
Disagree	-	-	2%
Disagree strongly	-	-	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



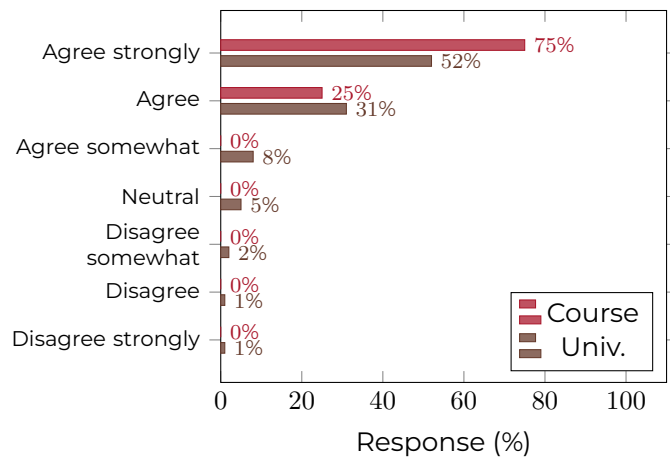
### Q6b: I would recommend this course to another student

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	5	63%	44%
Agree	1	13%	31%
Agree somewhat	1	13%	11%
Neutral	-	-	8%
Disagree somewhat	1	13%	3%
Disagree	-	-	2%
Disagree strongly	-	-	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Q6c: The instructor was an effective teacher

		Course	Univ.
Agree strongly	6	75%	52%
Agree	2	25%	31%
Agree somewhat	-	-	8%
Neutral	-	-	5%
Disagree somewhat	-	-	2%
Disagree	-	-	1%
Disagree strongly	-	-	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Summary of Means

	Course	Univ.
Q1: Taking this course has been a valuable educational experience	6.8	6.1
Q2: The course was effectively organized	6.6	6.1
Q3: The instructor created an environment conducive to learning	6.8	6.2
Q5a: The instructor's assessments of student work were fair	6.8	6
Q5b: The instructor's assessments of student work were timely	6.8	5.9
Q5c: The instructor's assessments of student work were constructive	6.8	6
Q6a: I would recommend this instructor to another student	6.9	6.1
Q6b: I would recommend this course to another student	6.1	5.9
Q6c: The instructor was an effective teacher	6.8	6.2

### 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
This course has educated me on an area of programming I have been long curious about, and now I feel I have a good grasp on some of the complexities of how PLs work
This course has helped me to comprehend the ideas and concepts related to the way computers interpret and execute instructions.
This course has taught me the process in which a coding language is read/understood by the computer, which is vital for understanding when creating a Programming Language
This course has allowed me to understand how a programming language is created and how each individual aspect of a code works and is created. This course also gave me a basic understanding of how ReasonML works as a programming language
- Project/Software Dev experience has built my programming confidence, as well as practical googling/doc-hunting skills.
This course has helped me better understand the workings of programming languages and computer science in general. It has thoroughly challenged me as it is probably the hardest CS course I've taken.

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

Comments
The structure made sense but moving onto the next project after starting materials for the next one was hard to keep up with because I would focus on the project and get behind on new material causing a self-perpetuating loop.
Everything to know about the course is listed on Kevin's website.
I really enjoyed the 1 1/2 hour class 2 days a week structure, since it allowed enough time for the topics to be clearly demonstrated and left time for us to clarify any misunderstandings regarding said topic
All due dates were posted on Sakai along with class format.
I always knew what was due and or when I had an exam or a project coming up. This was due to Kevin's website and his emails whenever something is posted or updated.
+ Road map at the beginning of semester was awesome + helpful (stages of an interpreter). - Include (more concretely) "we will be covering CGEN + multilanguage projects + Debugging and it will be on the final exam". Instead of "If we have time..."
Each unit and project followed the same path that program follow during their interpretation so it made sense to learn/practice these ideas in the same order.

**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
The class room atmosphere felt welcoming, friendly, and low stakes making it conducive to learning.
Kevin is extremely personable and routinely asks the class for questions/clarification
Always available during office hours and willing to stop lecture to ensure everyone understood the material
Kevin's enthusiasm about the subject definitely made the class more engaging, as he would frequently elaborate on material and then stop to make sure everyone understood
Kevin always comes to class happy and excited to teach us about Programming languages. Every Question I ask gets clearly answered and Kevin is very easy to find If I need help outside of the classroom.
+ Welcome to questions, willing to explain them slowly even when it is a question that was just asked
Kevin encouraged asking questions & participation. He also was very accommodating for students if you missed class or had to attend remotely.

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

Comments
While the workload was a lot it was also a lot less than I was expecting after hearing from students who took this class before me.
I think this class met my target expectations. Oddly enough, in many ways I overestimated the course rigor, but only b/c I was very intimidated. But w/ Kevin's direction I was more than capable
Expected only the amount of work he knew we were capable of completing
The grading standards and level of intellectual effort were appropriate and fair. For workload, the reading quizzes were okay, but the beginning back to back projects, while not as intensive as the later projects, definitely led to some personal burnout.
Most of the work is for projects and exams but if you stay on top of your work and don't fall behind you can do very well.
- workload was as expected (based on noteriety). Was also ABSOLUTELY worth it. -> PL is the pinnacle/core "oh shit this is hard" CS class, but that is bc college isn't easy and you learn a lot in PL.
Definitely a lot of work, but that is what I expected and it felt necessary & justified considering the subject matter and its complexity. During some projects I felt very lost on where to begin or what to do, but I utilized the video guides and office hours which were extremely helpful during these times.



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

Comments
Instructor leaves detailed comments about tests/projects on sakai.
Assessments/feedback was returned in a timely manner with descriptive comments
Kevin's assessments were always fair, constructive, and delivered in a timely manner
Every exam was given back within a week and every project the same.
+ specific feedback on project or exam mistakes
You get out of this what you put in, all of the resources to do well are given to us and from there it's just how much work we put in to do well & understand the material. Kevin is a very fair professor, his feedback is always helpful.

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

Comments
Personability, knowledge of the field, makes the material fun, explains the importance of the material in real-life terms
Very good at listening/also a CS God.
Kevin is an extremely good professor, and he is always willing to help and explain a topic or problem in a manner that will make it easier to understand.
He is funny and very knowledgeable in this subject so every Question will be answered and explained well and in a way the whole class will understand.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- open-ness to office hours</li> <li>- being present on Sundays b4 projects due (not expected, but greatly appreciated)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reading quizzes are great way to encourage doing the readings</li> <li>- Student hours and video guides are extremely helpful</li> <li>- Accessibility of attending class or watching/rewatching recorded class is great especially for reviewing topics</li> </ul>

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

Comments
Certain theoretical topics like DFAs and NFAs could be slowed down a bit.
Spend a bit more time regarding the topics covered in P5
None, Kevin's teaching style of lecture and practice is highly effective and engaging
Sometimes you move to quickly through information but besides that everything was perfect.
- My only concern: Kevin is a young + new professor and clearly devotes A LOT of time to his teaching outside of "work day" hours. While I may want to exploit that while I am a student here, I don't want Kevin to burn out early as so so so many SLU CS kids can benefit so much by having Kevin around for a long time. 85% Kevin for 20yrs > 110% Kevin for 5 years
Sometimes I would forget to take the gradescope reading quizzes on time, an email reminder would be nice if possible. However, I could have also just set my own reminder.

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

Comments
Maybe explain more aspects of the intelectual level for the projects in videos along with the video guides
Thanks for a great semester. Eloquent JavaScript is a terrible textbook.