UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval) Spring 2013

Course: CS 141 Section: 001 - INTERMED DATA STRUCS & ALGORITHM
Instructor: Neal E. Young
Home Dept.: Computer Science & Engineering

	Enrollment	Respondents	Response Rate
	63	51	81%
	2585	2039	79%
	61175	47978	78%

Questions	5 High	4	3	2	1 Low	N/A	Mean	Med	SD	%tile	Mean	Med	SD	%tile	Mean	Med	SD
	Course									Department				Campus			
1 I had a strong desire to take this course	17	12	12	4	2	-	3.8	4.0	1.2	29	3.9	4.0	1.1	56	4.0	4.0	1.0
2 I attended class regularly	29	15	2	-	1	-	4.5	5.0	0.8	62	4.3	5.0	1.0	72	4.4	5.0	0.9
3 I put considerable effort into this course	26	19	1	1	-	-	4.5	5.0	0.7	73	4.2	4.0	0.8	78	4.3	4.0	0.8
4 I gained a good understanding of the course content	16	24	7	-	-	-	4.2	4.0	0.7	55	4.1	4.0	0.8	67	4.2	4.0	0.9
5 I normally spent at least two hours preparing for each hour of class	25	13	8	1	-	-	4.3	5.0	0.8	81	3.8	4.0	1.1	76	3.9	4.0	1.1
6 Instructor was prepared and organized	27	16	4	-	-	-	4.5	5.0	0.7	75	4.4	4.0	0.8	78	4.3	5.0	0.8
7 Instructor used class time effectively	26	18	3	-	-	-	4.5	5.0	0.6	82	4.3	4.0	0.9	77	4.3	5.0	0.9
8 Instructor was clear and understandable	25	13	4	4	1	-	4.2	5.0	1.1	53	4.3	5.0	0.8	70	4.3	5.0	0.9
9 Instructor exhibited enthusiasm for subject and teaching	24	20	2	1	-	-	4.4	5.0	0.7	55	4.3	5.0	0.8	71	4.4	5.0	0.8
10 Instructor respected students; sensitive to and concerned with their progress	28	16	3	-	-	-	4.5	5.0	0.6	79	4.3	4.0	0.9	75	4.3	5.0	0.9
11 Instructor was available and helpful	24	18	4	1	-	-	4.4	5.0	0.7	69	4.3	4.0	0.8	73	4.3	5.0	0.9
12 Instructor was fair in evaluating students	24	13	6	1	1	-	4.3	5.0	0.9	58	4.3	4.0	0.8	67	4.3	4.0	0.9
13 Instructor was effective as a teacher overall	24	16	5	-	1	-	4.3	5.0	0.8	62	4.3	4.0	0.8	72	4.3	4.0	0.9
14 The syllabus clearly explained the structure of the courses	23	21	2	-	-	-	4.5	4.5	0.6	82	4.3	4.0	0.8	80	4.4	5.0	0.8
15 The examinations reflected the materials covered during the course	21	20	4	-	-	-	4.4	4.0	0.6	77	4.3	4.0	0.8	73	4.3	4.0	0.9
16 The required readings contributed to my learning	19	21	5	1	-	-	4.3	4.0	0.7	73	4.1	4.0	0.9	68	4.2	4.0	0.9
17 The assignments contributed to my learning	28	16	2	-	-	-	4.6	5.0	0.6	83	4.2	4.0	0.9	81	4.3	4.0	0.9
18 Supplementary materials (e.g. films, slides, videos, demonstrations, guest lectures, iLearn, web pages, etc) were informative	18	15	13	-	-	-	4.1	4.0	0.8	38	4.2	4.0	0.9	59	4.3	4.0	0.9
19 The course overall as a learning experience was excellent	19	19	4	3	-	-	4.2	4.0	0.9	57	4.2	4.0	0.9	67	4.2	4.0	0.9
20 Q1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4.0	4.0	0.0	50	4.1	4.0	1.0	60	4.2	4.0	0.9
21 Q2	-	1	-	-	-	-	4.0	4.0	0.0	42	4.1	4.0	0.9	60	4.2	4.0	0.9
22 Q3	-	1	-	-	-	-	4.0	4.0	0.0	40	4.1	4.0	0.9	60	4.2	4.0	0.9
23 Q4	-	1	-	-	-	-	4.0	4.0	0.0	42	4.1	4.0	0.9	60	4.2	4.0	0.9
24 Q5	-	1	-	-	-	-	4.0	4.0	0.0	46	4.1	4.0	0.9	60	4.2	4.0	0.9

* The number of N/A is not included in the Mean, Median, and S.D. calculation.

Question # 25: Please comment on how the instructor's teaching helped your learning of the material in this course. Please give serious thought to your comments. Your comments will be studied by the professor after the grade and performance evaluation of your work have been submitted and may be used in changing future offerings of the course. In addition, these comments are placed in the instructor's file and may be used for purposes of evaluating the instructor's teaching. The information collected will remain anonymous.

- Thanks for all the examples you gave, they were really helpful. I am so glad I waited until spring to take CS141.

- Neal young still does not know the line at which normal people no longer understand what he is saying. I would love to be able to go to his class and learn something instead of feeling like my head was banged against a wall for an hour and a half.

- I enjoyed having Professor Young and Professor Lonardi teach this class for different sections. I felt that it provided a different learning structure that kept the class active and engaging. Both Professors had their different methods and I felt that I learned successfully from both. I would like to see more classes taught this way.

- Great professor. Every class was new material. Teacher did not waste any time. Lonardi > Neal. Really wished I could attend both lectures. But cs161 is in the way.

- I really enjoyed this class. The topics were very interesting and challenged me while keeping me enthused.

- One of the best professors I have had.

- Professor Young is helpful in study sessions. His pace during lectures is a little too fast for me.

- I learned a lot from this course

- Professor Young taught me the most his lectures and made the material clear and intuitive. However, I wish that we were able to cover more material including the material promised in the syllabus, this being the final undergraduate algorithms class.

- This cours has caused me a considerable amount of stress this quarter. No matter how hard I try I've been in a hole since the beginning and can't seem to escape it. The homework was meant to be graded harshly, I understand that, but the points you liberally take from us you don't provide opportunity to replace easily. A solution would be to have a quiz on every chapter. Quiz 2 dealt with more theory than execution so maybe make half of each quiz about theory. In order to marry programming with algorithm theory maybe have homeworks be half written and half programming. Take the labs and make them the homework problems. Since labs aren't worth anything have them be like a discussion or supplemental python classes. If the labs are worth substantial extra credit make that known so people show up. I really have no idea how much the labs are going to be worth so I haven't been going. I'll be very angry to find out they are worth a whole letter grade after being told all the labs togethet would only be worth half a point. The class is interesting enough to take again to master but if I end up passing it will mark my GPA. The class is important but it hasn't been fun.

- Richard Feynman, the late Nobel Laureate in physics, was once asked by a Caltech faculty member to explain why spin one-half particles obey Fermi Dirac statistics. Rising to the challenge, he said, "I'll prepare a freshman lecture on it." But a few days later he told the faculty member, "You know, I couldn't do it. I couldn't reduce it to the freshman level. That means we really don't understand it." Neal Young taught CS141 at the... sophomore level.

- I liked the fact that the professors alternated in lectures because they both had unique teaching styles that were helpful.

- I thought the way Dr. Young approached the examples was pretty interesting and that it helped me understand the material better. I liked how he was fair to all the students when grading the quiz despite it being very hard.

- The instructor provided useful and ample materials to work with in understanding the information in class.

- i wouldnt mind taking another class with you but i need you to really explain stuff more in detail because your pseudo code may help but the underlying details seem to be harder to understand compared to Lonardi's

- Professor Young is very good at teaching the materials in a manner that is easy to comprehend. I am glad I took this class because I learned a great deal from both Professor Young and Professor Lonardi.

- Did not like how you taught this class while having another professor teach it. Interweaving the course with two professors who have 2 totally different teaching styles made this class a living nightmare for me. You (Neil) did not use slides in any matter, but the other professor did. The test questions that you wrote were extremely difficult and some times down right confusing. I ask that the CS department never teaches this class in the same style that was taught in this past quarter. You guys should know that people do not react well to changes in the way information is presented to them in such drastic ways.

- Prof Young really wants his students to well in the class and understanding the material. Will explain as in depth and as many times needed until everyone understands it. Great professor :)

- While CS141 is often dreaded as one of the hardest classes an engineer will take, I believe that is due to the nature of the material. The instructors in this course both put in considerable effort to make things understandable for their students, and Dr. Young is no exception. He made incredibly difficult material easier to understand in his lectures, and was understanding and patient whenever a student had concerns related to the course. Overall, I believe that Dr. Young is an effective instructor for this class, and works very well with Dr. Lonardi in educating their students in this difficult course.

- Professor took time to host extra learning sessions for students, very helpful.

- Professor Young is approachable and seems enthusiastic about the topic, but unfortunately is very disorganized when it comes to teaching. He is not organized when writing on the board; it starts in one spot and then moves across the board in a drunken haze. Also, he could really work on his handwriting. He is also not very thorough at explaining concepts, and thinks we all have the same level of comprehension he has after teaching it for so many years. I mean no disrespect but his style of teaching just does not suit my style of learning. In stark contrast, Professor Lonardi was very organized and really got the class involved by encouraging questions and really explaining the material. Also, our lab TA Jon did an excellent job when it came to explaining the concepts by giving many examples.

- Powerpoints would be nice, I found Dr. Lonardi's lectures to be more understandable because I was not trying to frantically write down everything. It allowed me to focus more on the ideas as he lectured which led to a better understanding of the material.

- Although I rarely attended class, he seemed like an excellent professor when I was there.

- The material taught in this class was extremely difficult to understand. The professor knew this and tried his best to teach the class.