Shengquan Wang’s Teaching Evaluations
Comments

CIS 450
Shengquan Wang
Fall 2006

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:

1. Do not stand back and then repeat the slides over again. I don’t think the attendance is fair to students who are here early and on time because there are lots of students who show up late and class must wait.
2. Instructor good, concerned about students and if they understand. Sometimes challenges student answers a little too quickly and makes other students afraid to answer. But you can tell he is really trying to connect with the students. I think once he teaches a few semesters he will be an excellent teacher.
3. Use of the VLT was poor in comparison to other courses I’ve taken. I was frequently assigned 0’s or not given credit for assignments turned in via VLT and not in hard copy. Policy on grading and whether hard/soft copy was required was a bit unclear and handled differently throughout course.
4. Good instructor.
5. Very knowledgeable instructor about the subject.
6. First half of the semester he was very knowledgeable about all material. Second half I felt he was just reading from slides that were just clips of what the book already said. I felt students never replied to questions he asked because it was never the right answer. He always wanted more specific.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:

1. UNIX should not be the only O.S. used. VB has a thread class, too.
2. Course should probably be divided more between ECE and CIS. ECE students seem to be having a hard time with the programs.
3. Assignments are pretty difficult.
4. It’s a difficult course, and not adequate prerequisites/material.
5. Project 2 directions were difficult for me to understand.

CIS 450
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Winter 2007

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:

7. Good professor.
8. Good job of presentation overall. Some subject areas seemed to have plenty of example practice problems while others seemed to have not enough.
9. Very friendly personable professor with very strong understanding of course material.
10. Assignments need to be different for ECE vice CIS students. The level of difficulty is
greater due to ECE not going as in-depth in programming. Even though the assignments
and homework is identical, ECE students earn one less credit. Also, the level of
difficulty on exams do not match what is taught in class. Many math calculations are
required on exams where there was no similar examples given in class or on the
homework. The exams are not a good reflection of what is taught. General theory is
presented with no examples on how to perform the calculations required on exams.

11. He was really hard to understand.

12. The professor has good teaching skills and techniques. We learned a lot from in class
exercises. He also asks us questions to check our retention. Sometimes he did not
understand student questions in class.

13. Be more prepared for class. When explaining concepts try to explain more clear. Try to
connect one sentence to another otherwise it’s kind of hard to understand. Try to use
short, full sentences.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:

6. Good. Might have liked four credits for the amount of work ECE students are forced to
do to get up to par with the C/++ programming language.

7. Hard course!

8. The programming required for and ECE is difficult, the assignments given were not too
hard, but I felt ECE does not have a full background to program within the allotted time
for assignments, working with a CIS person certainly helped however.

9. Not very applicable to many real world situations.

10. This course needs to be separated where the engineering Prof. teach engineering students.
Considering that is the case during the summer, the way the course is taught between the
two disciplines is completely different when an ECE student takes the course as taught by
CIS. We are very unprepared and the level of programming expected exceeds our
training. When it is the other way around, the CIS students miss valuable lessons and
will be unprepared for further coursework. Considering ECE students only get three
credits, the projects should not be as in-depth as those students getting four credits. In
fact, we are penalized even further as we lose two attendance points for not attending the
last two classes that we are not supposed to attend!

11. It would be cool to learn more about the Linux kernel to get some hands on real world OS
experience.

12. The only thing I can say is I wish we did more lectures or projects on how this stuff
relates to how we use OS’s today i.e. Windows or Unix.

13. Excellent course, however, the textbook could’ve been little more interesting to read. It
seemed to me that the author was an English composition teacher who wanted to try
himself/herself out in essay writing. More color and code to support the text would be
nice.
Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:

1. First professor I had that got me to re-do program error to help understand it more.
2. Very fair. He is well organized three tests on what is really covered in class. I like that he puts extra effort for his PowerPoint slides that helps a lot. Sometimes he assumes students know things and doesn’t explain. For example using the Linux machines. Other than that he usually explains well.
3. Great teacher will take for others class, sometimes hard to understand.
4. The lectures were mostly useless. The professor was bad answering questions. He obviously hasn’t tried writing the programs he assigned because he couldn’t help and didn’t even remember/understand the directions. He took too long to grade the homework. Also, the ten page case study was ridiculous. It was unnecessarily long.
5. If programming assignment is not perfect, he will not immediately assign a grade. Instead students must make an appointment/visit during office hours to demo the assignments before a grade is given (allows resubmitting of assignment in this case sometimes).
6. Always available for help and questions outside of class. Explanations of projects not always clear.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:

1. Case study helps in seeing more into an OS than you initially would have thought of looking though.
2. Never had a course that I learned so much. It really matters to the professor. A <word unintelligible> up-to-date professor will make this course shine. I enjoyed it a lot.
3. One of my favorite courses.
4. Does not seem applicable in a software engineering context. Focus is on hardware concepts with little discussion on design.
5. There should not be so much programming for an ECE course.
6. Interesting and challenging course.
7. More hours spent outside class doing labs, reading, homework, programs than any other CIS class that I’ve taken.

CIS 450
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Winter 2008

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:
1. Everything came together to give you a good overall idea of how operating systems were organized however the amount of work assigned was a little extreme. The homework assignments took up a large portion of time and in combination with the workload of being a full time student rarely left more than a week to do each of the projects which to me wasn’t enough time to do the quality of job I would have liked to do.
2. I felt the exam preparation materials didn’t adequately reflect the exam scope; preparation material too vague, exam too specific. Presents the material well in a very logical, easy to grasp manner.
3. Wish he would answer questions more often rather than asking if someone in class knows the answer to it.
4. Grading scale is a little weird. A fifteen page paper (single spaced) was worth less than the programming assignments, despite taking about four times as long to complete. No other real complaints.
5. Good overall. A few pronunciations caused a little bit of confusion (i.e. synchronization sounded like simulization sometimes).
6. This class has been terrible. There were far too many assignments and none of them helped me to learn the material. A fifteen page single spaced case study in nine point font? That was unreal. This class is the worst that I have ever taken at this University.
7. Always provides lecture notes and homework answers on time.
8. Weighting of assignments unfairly balanced to work done on them. Most notably, overly strenuous case study (only 10% of grade presentation included).
9. I liked Prof. Wang. He was professional and very knowledgeable. I appreciated that he structured the course lectures by outlining what was the daily topic, teaching the topic and reviewing the topic. However, I felt the assignments were too hard and the case study too long. If the case study were to be left its current length it should be broken up into three mini-papers which could then be transformed into a single report.
10. Answers questions with questions, not really answers because students give their view which may mislead other students.
11. Good professor that knows the material well. Always available to help with assignments.
12. Excellent feeling between him and the students.
13. Very good.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:
1. CIS gets four credits for doing one extra part to ONE homework. Meanwhile, ECE has to stay longer for a three credit class. Homework and programs graded by TA which UMD always says won’t be done. Prior programming pre-reqs for ECE are not sufficient. Why are ECE, CIS and IMSE taught in the same class with different credits!?
2. I still don’t know why there is a picture of cartoonish dinosaurs on the cover of the textbook. Is it that old?
3. Case study was too long. Good but way too long.
4. The case study could be a few pages shorter. Preferably 10-12 pages. Nice overall coverage of operating systems concepts.
5. Since ECE is required to take course programming requirements should be unreadable. ECE does not have a strong programming background. Assignments for programs relied too much on “assumed knowledge”.
6. Not enough credits for ECE majors.
7. Interesting course with helpful topics to learn for other classes such as semaphores and threads.
8. Programming part is very challenging for ECE students.
10. I am an ECE major so this class is only three credit hours for me. I felt that the workload was worth way more than three credits. Please change this for future semesters.

CIS 125
ShengQian Wang
Winter 2008

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:
1. The instructor was very helpful and always knew what he was doing.
2. The instructor was good. Very knowledgeable of the subject. Seems like class was at too low of a level for this instructor.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:
1. The course was challenging and fun.
2. Course was well designed sometimes material was covered too quickly before exams.

CIS 450
ShenQian Wang
Fall 2008

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:
1. Plan to take him next semester.
2. 2 major complaints – any question in class that is not directly answered on the slides was either not understood correctly or not answered clearly or both. Hours and hours of my time were wasted because of what seemed like negligence – oh I didn’t tell you that logging on to esuns have changed. Oh, I gave two different problem sets for some homework – oh threads work differently on esuns then was explained in class, etc. I did end up learning quite a bit but sometimes seemed “in spite of” professor.
3. Good instructor, friendly, knowledgeable however, the workload assigned in on par with a graduate level course for a hard class.
4. Good job.
5. Great professor, very knowledgeable of the material!
6. Needs to remember his laptop to projector plus, but other than that very interesting and knowledgeable.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:
1. Great class!
2. The text is bad – the ten page tiny font report is a little long, but I did end up learning a lot from it.
3. The case study is still too long. The amount of work required to complete it doesn’t leave room for coursework from other classes. The programs assigned need a little more direction since they are completely new concepts. Programs are interesting and good experience, but a little opaque.
4. For the case study I would have preferred if the format were given earlier. It was not released until the first week of October.
5. Case study was lots of work for only 10% of the total grade, could reduce work or the worth more. Same for the HW, hours of effort for little grade – not much learned from HW.
6. Difficult but interesting class.
7. Not enough differentiation between CIS/ECE. The only things that were different: 1 problem on programming assignment and 1 final exam question. ECE students should be either given four credits, or have fewer requirements for three credits. The case study should have revised guidelines. Who types in 9 pt font?

CIS 578
ShenQian Wang
Fall 2008

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:
7. Initially had a problem in understanding accent.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:
8. Class is good.

CIS 450
ShengQian Wang
Winter 2009

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:
1. Very well prepared. Makes sure each student irrespective of their department fully understands the material.
2. Had a very difficult time understanding him. Also realized that he really didn’t do a whole lot of work, since the HW, project, and test all came from the text book. His TA graded all of our work, so who knows if he even saw our HW or projects. The lectures slides came from the text book’s publisher’s website so it’s not like he put those together.
3. Wonderful slides, difficulty to understand at times.
4. The PowerPoint slides for the class are really good. Complicated algorithms are done in PP so students can look back at them. This is better than trying to copy from the board because mistakes can occur.
5. Excellent Instructor. He has a very good knowledge of the subject so far the best knowledge, a bit too math oriented so it was hard to grasp the concept.
7. His enthusiasm is without question but there was too much to be covered to be effective. There probably should have been one less assignment. His knowledge of the subject is quite good but he was much too difficult to understand with the thick accent.
8. I was very sick and then had a death in the family immediately after. Prof was very willing to grant extensions and was very fair.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:
1. Very necessary course. A few areas need to be explained properly. More resources needed for the course should be available in the library.
2. I still have no idea how I would even start programming an OS.
3. Programs can be a bit much for ECE students with no working UNIX/Solaris experience.
4. In past years, the case study was very long the length this semester was reasonable.
5. Mutex and locking should have been introduced to us in CIS 200.
6. Too much material for one semester.
7. Interesting.
8. The amount of material should likely be reduced.

CIS 437/537
ShengQian Wang
Winter 2009

Comments Regarding CIS Instructor:
9. Great class!
10. I liked the course. The articles were interesting but sometimes a little too advanced (mostly the math).
11. Speech unclear sometimes. Don’t like rude behavior during student presentations.
12. I think it would be better if he made the assignments shorter.
13. Always prepared, punctual, helpful and always returned homeworks and exams on time.

Comments Regarding CIS Course:
9. Should be mandatory.
10. Too much math in review assignments-these were too difficult. Too many student interruptions during lectures-we did not make it through all the material.
11. The materials were up-to-date and this made the class interesting.