

UVic Course Experience Survey Results

Celina Berg - FUNDAMENTAL PROGRAMING:II (CRN 10711)

| UVic Course Experience Survey - Fall 2014/Spring 2015 | |
|---|----------|
| Raters | Students |
| Responded | 38 |
| Invited | 110 |
| Response Ratio | 35% |

I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings:

| | Very Poor | Poor | Adequate | Good | Excellent | Count | Mean | SD | Median |
|---|-----------|------|----------|------|-----------|-------|------|------|--------|
| The instructor was prepared for course sessions | 0 % | 0 % | 8 % | 37 % | 55 % | 38 | 4.47 | 0.65 | 5.00 |
| The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear | 3 % | 5 % | 11 % | 24 % | 58 % | 38 | 4.29 | 1.04 | 5.00 |
| The instructor motivated you to learn in this course | 5 % | 3 % | 5 % | 24 % | 62 % | 37 | 4.35 | 1.09 | 5.00 |
| The instructor was available to answer your questions or provide extra assistance as required | 0 % | 3 % | 11 % | 24 % | 63 % | 38 | 4.47 | 0.80 | 5.00 |
| The instructor ensured that your assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time | 0 % | 3 % | 5 % | 38 % | 54 % | 37 | 4.43 | 0.73 | 5.00 |
| The instructor was helpful in providing feedback to you to improve your learning in this course | 0 % | 3 % | 18 % | 26 % | 53 % | 38 | 4.29 | 0.87 | 5.00 |
| The instructor demonstrated respect for students and their ideas | 0 % | 3 % | 5 % | 24 % | 68 % | 38 | 4.58 | 0.72 | 5.00 |
| Overall, the instructor was effective in this course | 5 % | 3 % | 11 % | 24 % | 58 % | 38 | 4.26 | 1.11 | 5.00 |

II Course Design - Students' Ratings:

| | Very Poor | Poor | Adequate | Good | Excellent | Count | Mean | SD | Median |
|--|-----------|------|----------|------|-----------|-------|------|------|--------|
| The course structure, goals and requirements were clear | 0 % | 0 % | 8 % | 50 % | 42 % | 38 | 4.34 | 0.63 | 4.00 |
| The materials provided for learning the course content (e.g. handouts, posted material, lab manuals) were clear | 0 % | 5 % | 13 % | 39 % | 42 % | 38 | 4.18 | 0.87 | 4.00 |
| The assigned work helped your understanding of the course content | 0 % | 8 % | 16 % | 30 % | 46 % | 37 | 4.14 | 0.98 | 4.00 |
| The course provided opportunities for you to become engaged with the course material, for example through class discussions, group work, student presentations, on-line chat, or | 0 % | 3 % | 26 % | 24 % | 47 % | 38 | 4.16 | 0.92 | 4.00 |

| | Very Poor | Poor | Adequate | Good | Excellent | Count | Mean | SD | Median |
|--|-----------|------|----------|------|-----------|-------|------|------|--------|
| experiential learning | | | | | | | | | |
| The methods of assessment used to evaluate your learning in the course were fair | 3 % | 3 % | 21 % | 32 % | 42 % | 38 | 4.08 | 1.00 | 4.00 |
| The course provided relevant skills and information (e.g. to other courses, your future career, or other contexts) | 3 % | 3 % | 14 % | 35 % | 46 % | 37 | 4.19 | 0.97 | 4.00 |
| Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience | 0 % | 8 % | 11 % | 37 % | 45 % | 38 | 4.18 | 0.93 | 4.00 |

III Statements About The Students:

| | Interest | Program requirement | Reputation of Instructor | Reputation of course | Timetable fit |
|--|----------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| My primary reason for taking the course. | 5 | 31 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

| | < 3 | 3 - 10 | 11 - 20 | >20 | n/a |
|--|-----|--------|---------|-----|-----|
| The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend | 20 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

| | Extremely heavy | Somewhat heavy | Average | Somewhat light | Extremely light |
|---|-----------------|----------------|---------|----------------|-----------------|
| Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was | 1 | 17 | 16 | 2 | 2 |

| | < 1 | 1 <= 2 | 2 <= 5 | 5 <= 8 | 8 <= 10 | > 10 |
|--|-----|--------|--------|--------|---------|------|
| The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time: | 3 | 6 | 14 | 12 | 1 | 2 |

| | Decreased | Stayed the same | Increased |
|---|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material: | 9 | 7 | 22 |

IV Additional Statments:

Department of Computer Science, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Software Engineering Questions

| | Very Poor | Poor | Adequate | Good | Excellent | Count | Mean | SD | Median |
|---|-----------|------|----------|------|-----------|-------|------|------|--------|
| The instructor Celina Berg displays a good understanding of the material being presented | 0 % | 0 % | 11 % | 24 % | 66 % | 38 | 4.55 | 0.69 | 5.00 |
| The instructor Celina Berg uses the blackboard/overhead and/or visual aids effectively | 0 % | 0 % | 11 % | 18 % | 71 % | 38 | 4.61 | 0.68 | 5.00 |

| | Very Poor | Poor | Adequate | Good | Excellent | Count | Mean | SD | Median |
|--|-----------|------|----------|------|-----------|-------|------|------|--------|
| (Courses with labs) The laboratories contributed to my understanding of the course material | 8 % | 13 % | 16 % | 29 % | 34 % | 38 | 3.68 | 1.30 | 4.00 |
| (Courses with tutorials) The tutorials contributed to my understanding of the course material | 5 % | 24 % | 10 % | 33 % | 29 % | 21 | 3.57 | 1.29 | 4.00 |
| (Courses with a major project, i.e. 20% or more of the final grade) The project contributed to my understanding of the course material | 6 % | 0 % | 12 % | 47 % | 35 % | 17 | 4.06 | 1.03 | 4.00 |

IIV Student Comments:

Which aspects of **Celina Berg** teaching have you found to be the most useful to you so far this term? Please give examples.

| Comment |
|--|
| She's really passionate and really cares if you understand. She's really helpful to students in her office hours and she really puts in an effort to make kids in her class engaged even when the topic is dull she is always excited about it. |
| She is very clear when explaining concepts. |
| She was super enthusiastic and answered emails and questions so quickly! I really enjoyed being in her class :) |
| The algorithm traces she does in class. |
| Very patient and helpful. Love the interaction with "the math guy" |
| very friendly and provides lots of examples |
| None. The TA was much better at helping me and many of my fellow classmates than Berg. Hopefully they will write in as well because this is not a "only-one-person" problem. At least 30+ students that I have spoken to are finding this class much harder than expected. |
| Office hours :) |
| Really seems to want her students to learn. Doesn't just profess information, but makes sure everyone understands |
| Very enthusiastic about course. Lots of in class discussion and exercises. |
| quiz |
| You can tell she sincerely cares about her students learning. She offers various examples and explanations when explaining concepts. |
| Very available for help. |
| Working on questions as a class within almost every lecture was so great. Celina gave us a chance to problem solve on our own or in small groups which is exactly what you do in the real world of programming. Celina's office hours were also always helpful as we worked through things in groups as well. Celina never gave an exact or straight answer to any question but instead encouraged us to coming to a conclusion on our own with helpful tips when needed. Also the assignments were exactly what we needed to do in order to be prepared for this midterms. Everything we needed to succeed was given to us while still keeping the content challenging and interesting. SHE'S SO GREAT! |
| Celina is the MOST amazing professor i have ever had at Uvic. She really cares about her students and makes the material interesting. The assignments were challenging but really helped you study for the exams and also helped me understand the material. Her examples in class were incredible and related completely to what we were learning. She is an amazing professor and if i could take every class with her i would. |
| Lots of patience and usage of visuals. Also, a methodical approach of breaking down concepts (eg. step-by-step design and implementation of data structures). |
| I love the way that she maps everything out and uses diagrams to help the understanding of the concepts. She is very good at explaining tricky concepts and has never made me confused. |
| Her enthusiasm for the material is infectious. She teaches with such vigour that the course continues to interest me. She is also amazing when it comes to extracurricular help. She is often available for questions and her answers help you both think about the material more in depth, and answers the questions fully. She is truly a fantastic professor. |
| Prof Berg was great for this class. She always brought a positive attitude to lectures and really cared about our learning. She was very knowledgeable and approachable. |
| A very good teacher with passion. |
| She is incredibly enthusiastic about the material and she keeps your interest using humour and fun examples. She is extremely friendly and approachable in and out of class and she is very helpful when answering questions. |
| Her overhead examples |
| Celina explained concepts really well and made the lectures interesting. |

Has anything hindered your learning in this course? If yes, please explain and suggest what might be done differently.

| Comment |
|---|
| My CSC110 course seemed to have a lot more in depth notes as far as the lecture slides go and I feel as though there were not enough solutions to the in class exercises posted. |
| Midterms are very very punishing when small mistakes are made, perhaps more part marks are needed. |
| I'm doing really well in the course and tend to be able to get through the problems on my own, but the lab instructor was not effective at helping solve coding problems or explaining algorithms during lab. For student struggling, I feel that they would have found the lab useless. I would suggest having problems worked on in lab for a set piece of time and then having the lab instructor present their solution for the problem or give concrete hints. |
| The assignments were terribly complicated. I asked 3 different friends who took this course last semester and got an A+ A- and B+ to help me with an assignment and they could not help me AT ALL. One would think that at least one person out of three different people achieving 2 very high grades and 1 pretty high grade would be able to help me with an assignment but that was definitely not the case. They could not help me with any part of it. On all of the other assignments I asked for help as well just to make sure I had completed it properly. They told me that they had a similar assignment however, my assignment was much harder and had at least 25% more to do if not 33% more to do. In addition to the extra work, the 25-33% was not reasonable either. They were always much more difficult and required a much higher understanding of the course than my friends had. Each assignment took hours upon hours of working hard together to solve. There is no way that having such a large disparity between only one semester is fair. Had I taken CSC115 one semester earlier my marks would be easily much higher. UVic needs to review Celina Berg and how she runs her classes as well as the assignments she hands out. |
| The rate at which material piled on after the second midterm was a bit too fast-paced. We spent so much time going over arrays, linked lists, stacks, and queues, and then the last three weeks were just like boom! Sorts, trees, binary trees, binary search trees, heaps, hash tables! |
| The course was organized well. The assignments sometimes took a very long time (one took me ~15 hours!), but were instrumental in gaining understanding of course material. |
| I found the lectures sometimes tailored to individual questions which weren't applicable to everyone and were sometimes more advanced. Some individuals who were not doing great in the class found this to be less effective. I also found the labs to be useless in comparison to other labs I have taken in the past. The instructor did not help me learn in the lab, and the set up was not helpful. I know many individuals would have liked it to have some more interaction with the lab instructor instead of sitting in the lab for 2 hours quiet. |
| The lab was awful. Terrible TA who really didn't care about the course. Every time we would come in she never knew what the lab assignment really was and would use the excuse "I didn't write the lab" or "i didn't do it so i don't know" it was incredibly frustrating when i would get stuck on a concept and she would just say "keep trying" without giving any help at all. |
| Assignment and lab requirements were sometimes a little vague. |
| The only thing that hindered my learning in the course was an illness I experienced near the end of term. Celina handled my absence perfectly and has given me all the extra help that I need to excel in the course. I honestly cannot fault this course in the slightest. |
| If the teacher can provide samples after the assignments, that would be more helpful to learn from mistakes. |
| No |

Do you have any other specific suggestions to help future students in this course?

| Comment |
|---|
| Going to class really makes a big difference in how quickly you grasp a concept. It's really beneficial to have someone explain it to you vs. trying to learn on your own. |
| Be careful on the midterms as you are very time pressured. |
| As I said before, I'm doing really well, A+ range with no prior programming experience (except csc110). I have not used the text book. I understand that a lot of the time it is the students responsibility to make use of the text, but as this is not generally an interest course, many people take it as a program requirement, and the text book is very expensive I would suggest making the text optional or providing supplementary material for free. |
| Do not take any courses with Celina Berg or you will regret it. The difference in difficulty between her and any other |

professor is much MUCH too massive. Save yourself and your GPA the trouble. If you like stress and long nights then go for it.

Yes. Code, code, code!

great success

need more suggestion problems to practice

The pass the final to pass the course is a real struggle for some individuals who are not in the computer science program and just need the course for their degree. Would be nice if students could pass the course without passing the final.

Don't fall behind, or fatality will occur.

If you have any help go to Celina's office hours. The TA is useless so don't bother asking her because she won't know.

My biggest help for this course was attending the labs. The labs illuminate concepts in practical applications and have given me an in depth understanding of the material.

Code more.