Science 2016 WT1 Teaching Evaluation Survey	University of British Columbia
2016W1	Science

Course:	CPSC 110 101 - Computation, Programs, and Programming	Department:	CPSC
Responsible Faculty:	Celina Berg	Responses / Expected:	181 / 277 (65.34%)

Category Instructions: Based on a 5-point scale, where 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree and 5 = Strongly Agree, please rate your instructor on the following:

					Berg, Celina											
Un	versity Module	Responses		Individual												
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	N/A	Med.	Mode	Std Dev				
Q1	The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	1	3	4	80	93	181	4.4	0	5	5	.68				
Q2	The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	3	4	8	76	90	181	4.4	0	4	5	.81				
Q3	The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	3	4	21	72	80	180	4.2	0	4	5	.86				
Q4	Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	5	7	23	76	66	177	4.1	3	4	4	.95				
Q5	The instructor showed concern for student learning.	2	3	8	67	101	181	4.4	0	5	5	.75				
Q6	Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	2	1	7	79	91	180	4.4	0	5	5	.70				

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5

07 - Enter comments below

Faculty: Berg, Celina

Response Rate: 64.09% (116 of 181)

- the clicker question is really useful to preview for the class, and the whole class is well organized. Berg is a really effective instructor, she leaves time to do problems by ourselves and compare the answer with hers. This is a course that you learning by doing it, so Berg did a really good job.
- 2 nice and helpful
- 3 hard to follow her lecture. Lecture tend to be monotone and lack spirit.
- 4 good, the pace is intense
- 5 good professor but the course is so extremely difficult. I regret not going to office hours.
- 6 found Berg's lecturing style to be overly patronizing, made class a hostile environment of student v instructor.
- Without any previous programming experience, CPSC 110 was a bit of a dice roll, but it has been an incredibly rewarding experience. Prof. Berg was very helpful throughout the course and communicated clearly what was expected of us. She led us through concepts efficiently and thoroughly in lectures and answered questions to the best of her ability. She was always quick to remind us that this was a course that required a lot of practice and hard work. She was even kind enough to announce new office hours along with other instructors in the days leading up to the final.
- 8 Went over material thoroughly, available for office hours
- 9 Was not engaging.

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10 Very thorough lectures, taught difficult conceptual aspects thoroughly and with good analogies (like playing cards). Office hours were helpful, and lectures were well prepared.

Very patience and knowledgeable; Dr Berg was always ready to help students understand the material being taught in class as it got increasingly harder. She had good analogies and used different ways of explaining abstract concepts in more concrete ways. She would take time off her schedule to book extra office hours, even on the weekends. She cares about her students success and helps them achieve it.

On the other hand, my suggestion for improvement is to make class a bit more interesting. Oftentimes I was falling asleep because the class was long and the content being taught was not as interesting.

- 12 Very expressive and passionate about her work. Able to move at a pace that was suitable for many students. Encouraged and offered extra help.
- 13 Very engaging. Your approach to teaching very clearly demonstrates your concern for our learning and you are one of the most empathetic profs I have seen. Sometimes the material is hard to follow but you make sure you repeat it and look at the room to see how many people are lost.
- 14 Very effective and concise teacher
- 15 Very clear instruction. Cleared up any questions I had with the pre-lecture videos. Went through examples clearly.
- 16 Unsure of what could be improved to help the course, I found it to be a very effective course and Celina was a very well-spoken and effective professor.

Together with Math 301 this is the worst course i have ever taken, and i'm a fourth year student working on my second degree. Learning through watching youtube videos is both dull and uninspiring. It is shame because i think Celina is actually quite a good teacher.

I'm currently taking STAT 406 which about Statistical Learning (i.e. Machine Learning for statisticians), and in that class we're also learning programming. It is a course that is miles better than this, so i would strongly suggest that the people responsible for this course consult Matias Salibian-Barrera on how to teach a programming class properly.

- 18 Thought process for certain high difficulty problems could be a bit more in depth.
- 19 This course is far too beginner oriented for a mandatory initial cpsc course with no faster alternatives.
- 20 The teacher is very good.
- 21 The last three problem sets were unreasonably hard...
- The instructor was very caring, even though she doens't have much time to explain all the little details during the lecture (which is perfectly normal) during her office hours she is very patient and explain the material really well. The only problem with this course (not instructor) is that it goes way too fast
- 23 The energy level she displays is inspiring for students.
- The best instructor ever! Celina really cares about every student's learning process, and always able to explain the course materials clearly and precisely. Love the online videos, they helped a lot with my learning.
- 25 Thanks for the great term!

Started out great and relatively easy to follow along when attending lecture. However, it's very difficult to expect students with a full course load to complete the amount of work required later in the year. At times during the year tutorials/lectures/labs/assignments were extremely out of sync and this was a cause for poor performance in my opinion. Lectures were carried out with enthusiasm but most of the time it was non-stop for the whole 1:30 and I found myself constantly losing focus during the last 30min. A 5min break implemented into the lecture will in no doubt increase the attentiveness and overall learning for the students.

Sometimes, it felt like too little time was spent on the harder topics (template blending, accumulators) and too much time was spent on the simpler ones. It might just be me 27 though 28 Showed care. 29 She went out of her way to make sure students fully understood the material. 30 She was very kind and considerate. She showed great interest in students' progress, learning, and well-being She was very patient and tried her best to explain concept to us. I found that going to TA hours really helped. The way classes are structured worked well. Maybe the videos can be 31 explained in textual form as well. I really appreciated the fast hardback times for problems sets and especially the midterms. 32 She was very helpful in understanding the course. She was very engaging, I enjoyed learning from her and she really inspired me to pursue this subject further. 33 34 She was awesome, made the hardest course material seem so easy. 35 She was a very passionate instructor that I've ever met. She was a very nice teacher, and wanted students to learn, but seemed to expect us to know a lot of content and keep up with the videos that we really don't have time to watch, 36 which made following along in class a little difficult. Other than that if you reviewed material before class you could follow along and she made it clear! She shows well prepared for every lecture. It can be better if she add in some fun games relevant to the lecture to make hard concepts easier to understand. 37 38 She just kind or redid what we saw in the videos sometimes She is very clear in describing complex concepts and clearly understands how certain topics maybe be difficult for students to grasp, so she takes the time during class to ensure 39 that students have at least some sort of idea what is going on. Overall, very effective instructor! 40 She is very good at explaining the course materials and very clear in whats on the midterms and what we are expected to know. 41 She is very active instructor with charisma and knows how to give an interesting lecture. 42 She is really patient and during the class time she is full of passion. She focussed her lectures on what the students were struggling with. However, I found the lecture pace was too fast. This might not be avoidable but possibly look into a slightly 43 different teaching style then. She brought forth her enthusiasm for the course material to motivate student learning 44 45 Professor Berg was really helpful during office hours and in class, explaining concepts in clear manner with diagrams and the deck of cards she brought to class. Prof. Celina was clear in her approach however some of her methods were not effective for me. It was an enjoyable class overall. 46 Prof Berg is passionate about comp sci and explains well using diagrams and demonstrations. Midterms were graded extremely quickly which is really great. 47 I just think it was confusing accessing edx for the first time and many people missed problem sets or labs because they werent sure when they were due or where to find them. One of the best teachers I have had. She is excited about the material she is teaching and that definitely rubs off other students. Very good at explaining tough concepts and understanding where her students are in the learning process. One of the best instructors I've had! Clear, patient with her students, and passionate in the course material. Confusing concepts were always explained carefully and always made sense at the end. 49 Never discouraged students when they couldn't grasp a certain concept right away, and always prioritized students' understanding over getting through a lecture. 50 More integration of videos into lecture Making yourself available for office hour appointments for extra help was important in getting me back on track. 51 Giving honest feedback and suggestions on coursework (and not sugar coating anything) gave me a realistic understanding of what I needed to work on. 52 Loved her explanation for complex (at the time or even now) coding and her advice and suggestions It's been a great year of working with you Celina! Thank you for making lectures valuable and worthwhile to me - I know that last year some of the lectures weren't as engaging as they should've been, and my friends just skipped them entirely and relied only on the videos - but your way of teaching allowed me to rely on lectures first, rather than the videos (which I for the most part prefer). Some suggestions for improving the course for next year: 53 - Use less paper! Oh my god, seeing the TAs walk around with the stacks of paper in class is absolutely horrifying, and I don't really appreciate my lecture dollars feeding this unecologically friendly obsession with printing in class. I believe a better method for accommodating students without laptops would be to set up some sort of laptop loaning program, especially since you can't really learn coding on paper. Try to eliminate inconsistencies between the videos and the comment structures shown in class. This gets very confusing at times. It would be great to receive some help even if its just from the teaching staff about the problem sets. Sometimes I found myself stuck and it was very complicated to get out of that situation. Sometimes I didn't even complete an assignment because I was stuck even when I went through the material again. Other than that, the course was great, the videos were very helpful. However, many times I got confused or lost in class with what Celina had to say, still she's a good instructor. It was obvious that the course became significantly more difficult after midterm 2. The problem sets (ex. 9, 10, 11) were difficult. Overall, I think the problem sets would have been a better indication of our learning progress if we were able to attend the lab before it was due. This is possible depending on which lab days you were registered in and when the problem set was due. In particular, it would have been nice if compound worklist was covered in lecture before the problem set due. We encountered compound worklist accumulators in the lab but the problem set was already due before then. 56 Instructor worked at a pace that made it really easy for the students to follow along. She did a good job, explaining the different parts of the codes. 57 Instructor taught the course very well. 58 Incredibly passionate. Could work on being more approachable, the way she answers questions can be occasionally discouraging, but she is generally helpful. 59 If i could suggest one thing it would be to do the problems in class in a more step by step manner so students can visually see how the teacher is going from step to step I'm going to miss having Celina as a prof. She is so nice and teaches the material so well. I struggled with the course a lot and I found it extremely helpful that she had very convenient office hour times. I learned so much from her during office hours! She honestly wants for us to understand the material. One thing I can suggest to improve is the speed 60 of the course. There is so much material to cover in the course and we go through it so fast. I think that's the reason I fell behind pretty quickly. Overall, I would 100 percent want to I thought Celina was a fantastic professor. She clearly explains course materials in a fun and engaging way. I especially enjoyed having a female professor. It made connecting with her reasoning mch easier and she was very friendly in conversation. I'm glad to have had Celina as my prof!

I think spending time reviewing problem sets are very effective, because she explains it with her thought process rather than telling us to use these templates (which only helps us learn how to use templates, not coding). 63 I love her enthusiasm. When it came to the well being of the students regarding grades she seemed to be very caring, and sympathetic. I hope the lecture can be more interactive 64 I have never had more mental breakdowns than I have due to this course. The amount of work is completely unreasonable. I am currently taking Math 200 and Math 221 and CPSC 110 takes more effort and time than both of those courses combined. And for what?? 50% at best. I do not agree with the teaching style, I do not agree with the amount of content, and I do not agree with learning a language which is irrelevant to the computer science world. This course was the single most discouraging experience of my life, and I am very 65 upset with the fact that it is REQUIRED for a Mathematics degree. Newton did not need computer science, therefor, why should any math major. Please take this message into consideration I found Celina's teaching techniques really effective, the way she sets up the objectives for each class forces students to revise previous material and go over new ones which 66 leads to a higher effectiveness of learning. This class has by far been my favorite, and this is heavily impacted by Celina's teaching. I felt like this course was too rigid. What I mean by that is, it seemed like we weren't encouraged to explore higher level ideas and applications of the material, and instead meant to 67 focus only on applying what we had been taught. 68 I enjoyed learning the content in this course. Thank you! I enjoyed the pace of her lectures and the way she explains she concepts. I found the course to be really easy until after the 2nd midterm where it suddenly got really hard. I wish we were able to clear through the easier material faster so we could spend more time on the hard material. I think the labs should be more challenging and the problem sets 69 easier, because there are TAs to help in labs and i can understand the information better when asking the TA questions instead of pondering on it alone at home. I enjoyed 110 a lot. I would have enjoyed more challenging problems in lecture for those who finished early. I was often bored and left early a few times, because there was nothing 70 challenging left to get through. I don't think the class was easy, some people needed all the extra explanation. But having opportunities for those that don't to further enrich their understand would have been very welcome. I appreciate how Celina always made sure that the interested students are always able to hear and learn what she is teaching by making sure that other students aren't distracting 71 them by talking or playing games on their computers during class. I am concerned if I can proceed to common language because I only learnt BSL. 72 I know we are using BSL because it's simpler and convenient, but it would be better to have some parallel introduction to other language such as python. (it can be an optional lab or something) I am a second degree CS student who did his first degree at UBC-Vancouver as well. I can safely say Celina is one of the best professors I have encountered at UBC. She made my experience in the course much more enjoyable than I expected it to be, and every lecture was engaging, interesting, and well-planned. There was a great learning environment, specifically one that made me feel that it was ok to get problems wrong on the first attempt. This encouraged me to approach material with an open mind and be less afraid to learn from my mistakes in a timely manner. The extra practice problems provided outside of lecture (separate from the problem bank) were especially useful to do in between classes. I look forward to taking any other classes she may teach in the future. Thank you for the term! Hard to see in the classroom and she didn't always communicate efficiently Hands down, one of the best instructors I have ever had the pleasure to have. Her way of teaching is not only effective, but her enthusiasm in teaching the course can be clearly 75 seen through her teaching. She is also very patient, and cares about her students to a great extent. 76 Great teaching style, consistent, showed care for student learning, and generally not boring Great class! Really enjoyed your lectures. Teaching style was great overall. I have no real suggestions for improvement in terms of teaching. However, I do really want to stress 77 that, especially in the weeks following the second midterm, things get really hard, and a lot more time needs to be put on that material. Also, I felt like there was a lack of visual material; it was hard to sort of visualize the trees and how the accumulators are going to change despite going through each video carefully. All-in-all, great class. Great at going through starters and explaining templates well. 79 Good course layout, but I think less time on examples and more time on explanations of the concepts would be good. 80 Gave us the appropriate tools to solve problems and succeed in this course Fantastic instructor!! I had never previously taken any computer science course and I couldn't have asked for a a better intro course instructor. She is energetic, optimistic, helpful, readily available, humourous, easily approachable and everything else you look for in an effective instructor. Most of all she is encouraging which is very important with such new and hard subject matter. With the help of the TAs, she managed to make a several hundred person class seem much smaller and more manageable. Enthusiastic and clear lectures 83 Enthusiastic and well-paced lectures Enjoyed this course. Maybe having edx and connect and handin for the course could be reduced to one or two. I think the problem sets and starters should not be in the discussion 84 but maybe they should have their own tab in the course. It was kind of difficult to find them in the beginning. Energetic instructor, with passion for teaching, made the lectures engaging and fun. Easygoing instructor. But just cut off some unimportant part Each class has the same structure (which is effective). The instructor goes through examples in the course and everything is pretty straightforward considering that the edxedge website allows students to learn everything needed on their own. She breaks down the problems into parts and shows how to tackle each subsection, which is helpful as sometimes the videos don't emphasize a certain strategy as much as needed (this is where the class is really useful). The only improvement I can think of is to reference parts of the class with videos from the edxedge website (as in referencing which modules/videos a certain topic is talked about) so students can clarify confusions/get extra practice on Celina's enthusiastic attitude in lectures was very infectious so it helped in preventing the class from being dry and boring. I would just suggest encouraging questions more 88 because most students seem too afraid to ask any questions save for a few people. Celina was really supportive and encouraging in her teaching style and interactions with students. Her enthusiasm for the subject was evident. Because the course material was taught in-class and online, sometimes details were inconsistent or unclear. It would be helpful to have a specific outline of what each class will be covering rather than going right 89 into clicker questions and then the material. Celina was a very effective professor, who inspired me to work through all the modules. She explained things very well. Celina was one of my favourite professors this semester, despite her class being a very difficult one to to teach Celina was a fantastic professor! She made it very clear what we needed to know and made conceptually understanding CPSC much easier with explicit examples and walk 92 throughs. As someone who had never programmed before she was a wonderful first experience into coding and CPSC. Celina was my favourite instructor this term. She is very funny and passionate about the course. She doesn't make the class boring, and her explaination of the material is top She also took time to explain problem sets that were challenging to most people, which was very helpful. 93 I attended a lot of her office hours. She was very helpful during office hours as she would come and check on how I am doing with the problem I am trying to solve, if I am stuck she would give me hints, if I am approaching the problem wrong, she asks me a series of question until I realise what went wrong. I am very grateful to have her as my teacher. Celina spent all lectures thoroughly explaining concepts in order to ensure that they were understood by all students. She took into consideration how students were feeling regarding the content of the course and altered her lecture content accordingly, spending more time on what students were hung up on. She was an absolutely amazing professor.

Celina really cares about her students and emphasises the importance of being engaged in lecture, labs, and practice in order to succeed in this course. She was an engaging and 95 caring professor who explained and demonstrated seemingly abstract concepts in a way that was easy to understand, even for someone with little to no background and experience in programming/computer science. Motivating lecturer who clearly cares about her students, the subject, and learning! 96 Celina provided lots of help to her students throughout the semester and communicated concepts really clearly Celina obviously cares so much about students learning the material and achieving the best they can-she communicated the information in a way that simplified yery hard concepts and skills, to the point that I would suddenly realize that I could do something I never thought I'd be able to at the start of the course. She went over problems that would not only help us learn new skills, but brush up on some that we may have forgotten from earlier in the course. I do think some of the problem sets were too difficult for the level of the course, sometimes the wording could easily confuse what we were supposed to be doing. Celina is very enthusiastic about teaching computer science. She uses interactive teaching methods to make complicated topics like mutual recursions and abstract functions 98 very easy to comprehend. Celina is awesome!!! Celina is an extremely positive and encouraging instructor. I find her approachable, understanding, and very energetic. In class she works really hard from start to the very last minute and communicates the material effectively. Regarding the course, this was my first CPSC course so I have nothing to compare the course with, therefore my statements about the course might be invalid, but here is what I think might make this course easier for students: Videos which basically contain the majority of the course work and details are fantastically made and are extremely clear. However, it would have been nice if they were taught along with a color coded hand out or textbook (like "How to design programs"). It is easy to browse and focus on a specific part of a handout or a textbook or to read it over and over again, but I found it extremely hard to go back and fort between many many videos trying to extract a needed piece of information, definition, etc. At least in my case, this complete reliance on videos for learning made the material harder to sum up and consolidate, which ultimately forced me to transcribe all the videos into a single word document (still in progress!). I spent more time on this course than any other course that I've ever taken. In fact, last fall I worked well into November and had five courses and I was able to successfully complete all of them. This fall, I stopped working completely at the 100 beginning of October, withdrew from other classes and directed all my effort to 110 (wrestling with videos) without making much progress. I know that in most courses in other departments the majority of the course grade is obtained through the final exam (e. g., in math 100 the final is worth 60%). This gives students who fall behind the course due to work (like me) or other reasons a chance to catch up and pass the course, but unfortunately in 110 the final exam only accounts for 25% of the course grade. On the same note, labs and assignments comprise 30% of the course grade, which again works against someone who is behind the course work, both in terms of lost marks, and time spent trying to do what you are not ready to do (labour-in-vain effect). Also exams are only comprise of few problems, some of which are weighted much more than the others, in a way that missing couple of questions could lead to failing the exam. Nevertheless, 110 is a great and challenging course which requires a lot of work and some hard thinking (perhaps even mind-bending!) and I dare to say, I enjoyed it even though I am on the verge of failing a course for the first time after being in school for five years and completing more than 40 courses successfully! (Ouch) Thank you. 101 Celina is excellent in explaining the course materials. Her voice is clear and loud, which is great. Celina is an excellent prof! Her lectures are clear and concise, she makes the class engaging, and she is consistently pushing us to succeed. I can tell she really wants all her students to do well. Although I found this course challenging at times, Celina made sure to break down harder topics into smaller more manageable problems. She encourages us 102 to try our best and to not give up when questions get difficult. I really enjoyed her lectures and her teaching was easy to follow. The TAs were extremely helpful in the lab portion. However, I do think that there was too much material to cover in this course though. I found myself having difficulty balancing this course with all my other courses and staying on top of coursework. It was definitely a course that needed more time. 103 Celina is really amazing and inspirational! very kind and attentive to the needs of students. 104 Celina is a fairly interesting and patient instructor. Her lectures just won't let me feel boring at all, and she is always there for our question. Celina is one of the best lecturers I've ever had. My favourite subject and mostly because of her lecturing style! Loved her enthusiasm!! Celina is an excellent professor. Her ability to describe some of the more complicated cpsc ideas in a very clear manner by using metaphors and hand drawn pictures was very helpful. Her ability to make complicated ideas so clear is hugely appreciated by the students. You can also tell that Celina genuinely cares about about the education of her students just by the way she answered questions, hung around after lecture, and really gave it her all in every lecture. Each time, she brought her enthusiasm to her well prepared The course itself on the other hand is a different story mainly due to the extreme workload. I don't think it's justifiable the amount of work this course gives to the students. Here are some ways to improve the course: 1) create a course pack: the videos are a decent source of information but almost everything was covered in the lecture. Using the videos as a primary source of information take TOO LONG to watch. It would be much faster to read a course pack that was built for the class. 2) fewer problem sets: there were too many. Maybe have more of them as optional or less long. 3) If other these methods of reducing the course load don't work just spread the course over two terms Students having to spend 17 hours a week on one course (3hrs lecture + 3hrs lab + 3hrs homework + 8hrs module) is not reasonable. I am now in my fourth year at UBC in Stats program and have never had a course with this high of a workload. The frustrating part is that the material isn't that hard. You just need to spend 15+ hours a week trying to 107 Celina is just the best instructor ever! So happy to have her Celina Berg is an extremely helpful and engaging teacher. She makes the class as informative as is possible and provides enough guidance and thought stimulation to enhance 108 Celina Berg is an absolutely amazing instructor! Her lecture style is very engaging and she does a fantastic job of explaining the course material. She adds in a bit of humour here and there, which really helps keep the lecture interesting and engaging. She is very enthusiastic about computer science and does a great job of inspiring interest in the subject matter. I became much more passionate about the course due to her way of teaching. I never wanted to miss a lecture just because she did such a great job of always keeping it 109 fresh and interesting! I'll admit that I sat in on a couple of the other instructors' lectures, and in comparison, Celina's were by far more interesting and effective for me. She does a great job of teaching and helping us understand the course material. I found the course to be very challenging, so it really helped to have such a good instructor. If it weren't for Celina, I'm not sure if I would have even liked the course. She definitely kept me motivated and interested throughout the entire term! 110 CPSC is a hard course to teach, but Celina did well to teach the class. Examples with physical objects helped explained many of the CPSC abstractions. 111 An amazing prof :) Amazing professor! She shows genuine concern for the students she teaches and is completely selfless when it comes to the time she devotes for office hours. GIVE HER A 112 PROMOTION!!! And please tell me she teaches more courses other than CPSC 110. A little more focus on how to go about finding an effective solution after the design recipes would be an icing on the cake for this course A great professor! 114

-As a fundemential course for computer science, CPSC 110 is a crutial course for every computer science student.

-She demonstated how to design program systematically in the process of teaching.

-Celina conveyed the materials effectively and explained the concepts with suitable methods, which helped us a lot as new programmers.

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		CPSC 110 - 101											
Fac	Faculty of Science Module		Re	spons	ses		Course						
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev		
Q8	My academic background provided sufficient preparation for this course.	12	27	46	61	33	179	3.4	4	4	1.15		
Q9	This course promoted conceptual understanding.	5	5	16	68	84	178	4.2	4	5	.93		
Q10	The learning activities helped me to succeed in this course.	3	4	31	72	67	177	4.1	4	4	.89		
Q11	The workload for this course was appropriate.	21	30	45	55	28	179	3.2	3	4	1.23		
Q12	I received sufficient feedback on my progress during this course.	2	13	33	87	44	179	3.9	4	4	.90		

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5