# UVic CES Instructor Report 202205 - Celina Berg - FUNDAMENTAL PROGRAMING:II - CSC 115 - A01 (CRN 30183)

Project Title: **UVic Course Experience Survey - Summer 2022**

Courses Audience: **10**
Responses Received: **5**
Response Ratio: **50%**

| Subject Details | |
|---|---|
| CRN | 30183 |
| VNUMBER | V00129143 |

Creation Date: **Wednesday, January 25, 2023**

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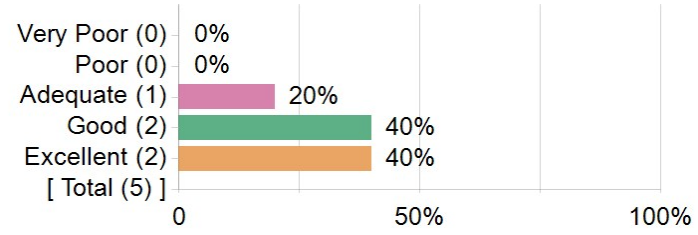
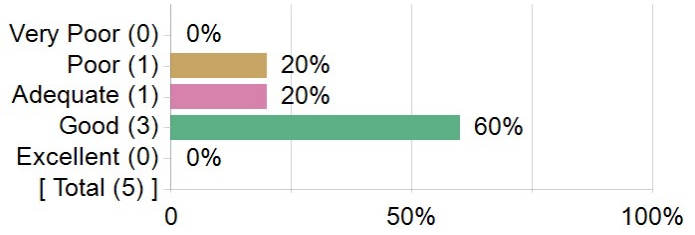
## I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

### 1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions



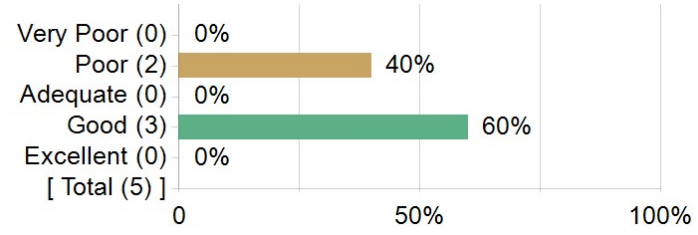

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear



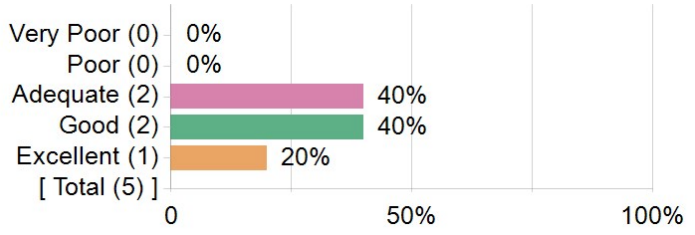

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course



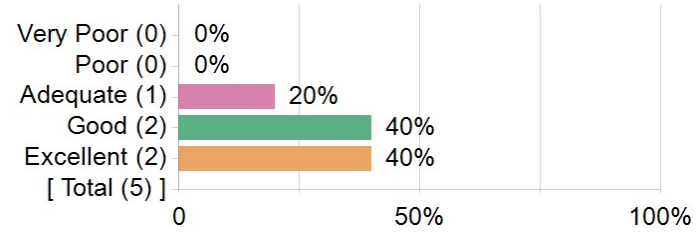

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 4. The instructor was available to answer your questions or provide extra assistance as required



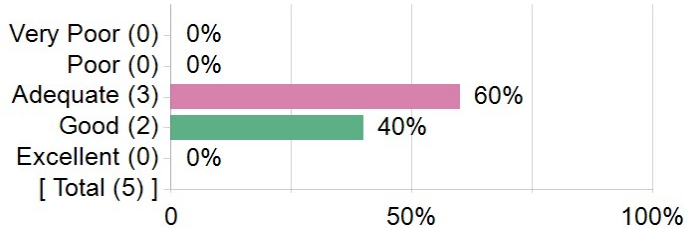

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 5. The instructor ensured that your assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time



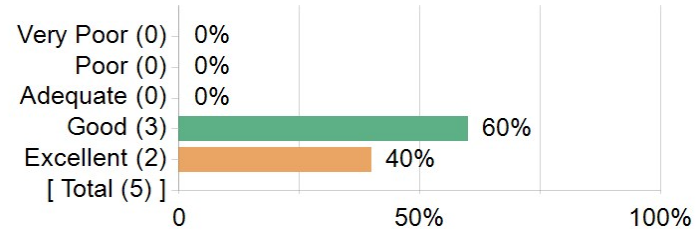

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 6. The instructor was helpful in providing feedback to you to improve your learning in this course



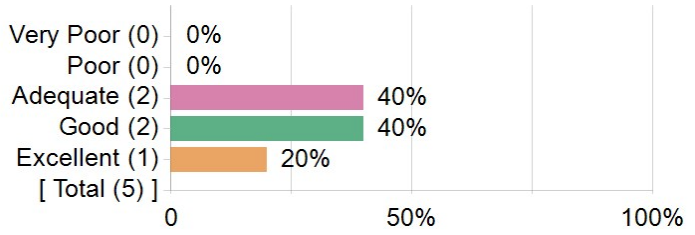

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 7. The instructor demonstrated respect for students and their ideas




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this course




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

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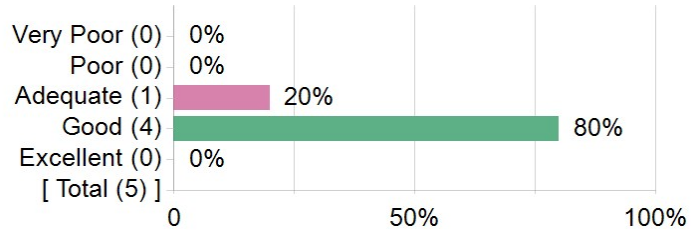
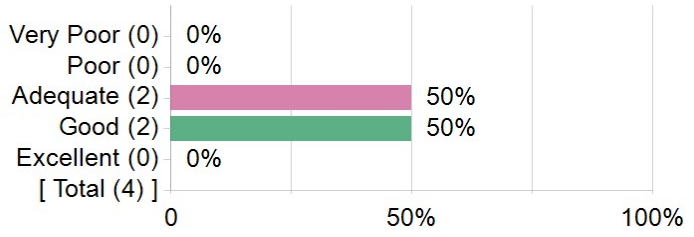
## II Course Design - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

### 1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear



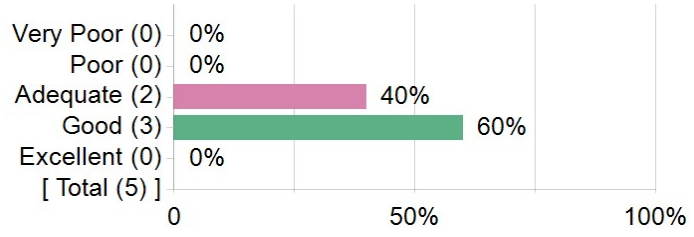

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 2. The materials provided for learning the course content (e.g. handouts, posted material, lab manuals) were clear



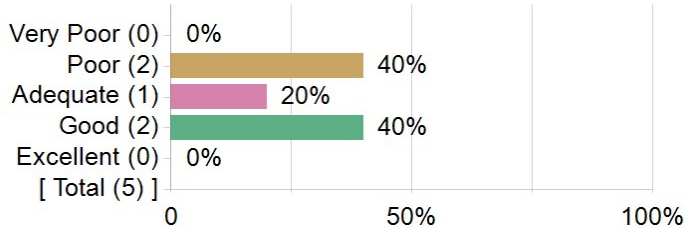

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 4 |

### 3. The assigned work helped your understanding of the course content



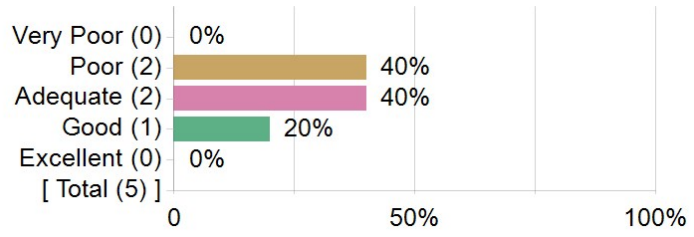

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 4. 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 experiential learning



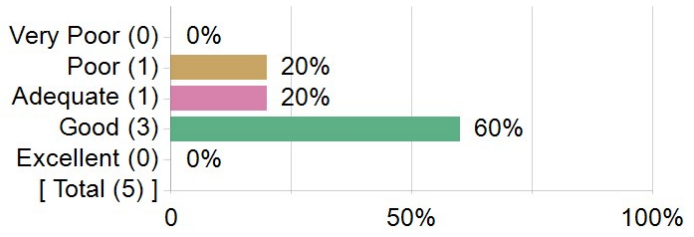

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 5. The methods of assessment used to evaluate your learning in the course were fair



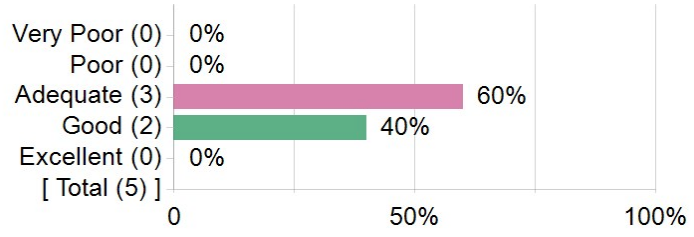

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 6. The course provided relevant skills and information (e.g. to other courses, your future career, or other contexts)




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### 7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

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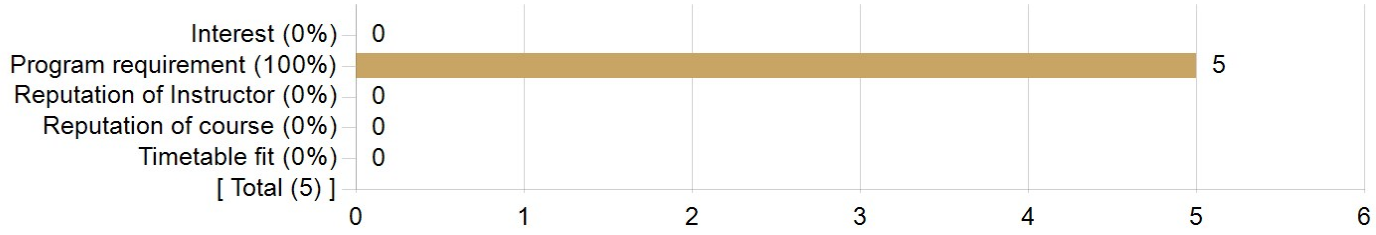
## III Statements About The Students:

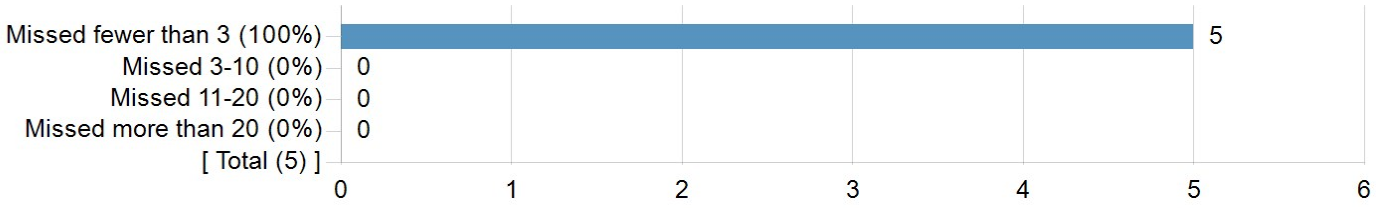
### My primary reason for taking the course.

My primary reason for taking the course.



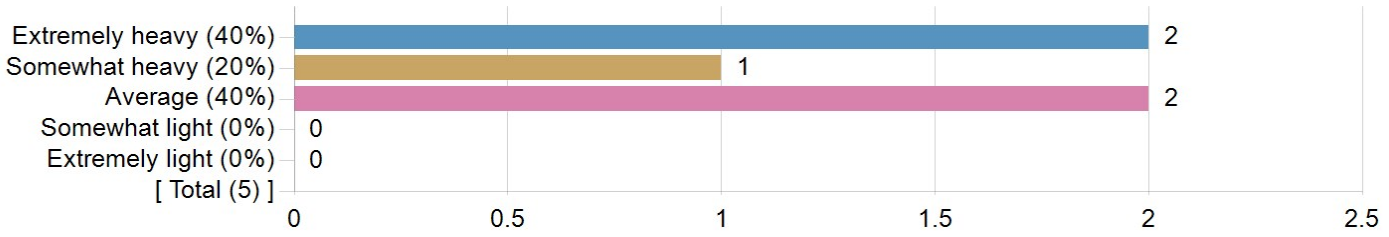

### The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend

The approximate number of classes or labs that I did **not** attend



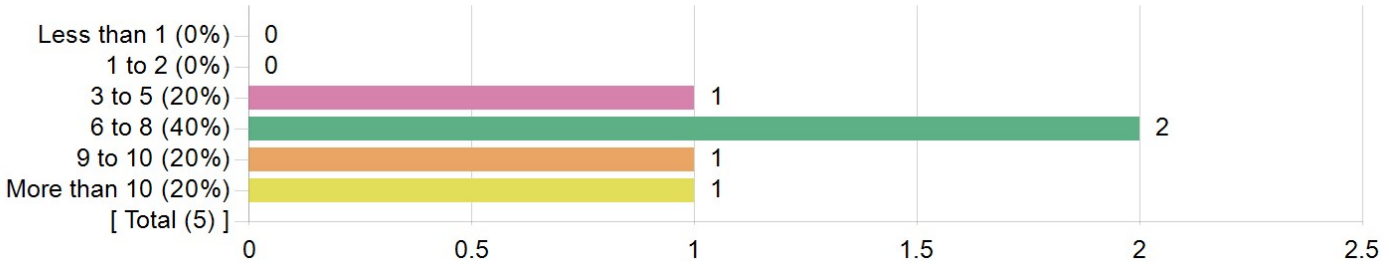

### Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was

Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was




### The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:

The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:

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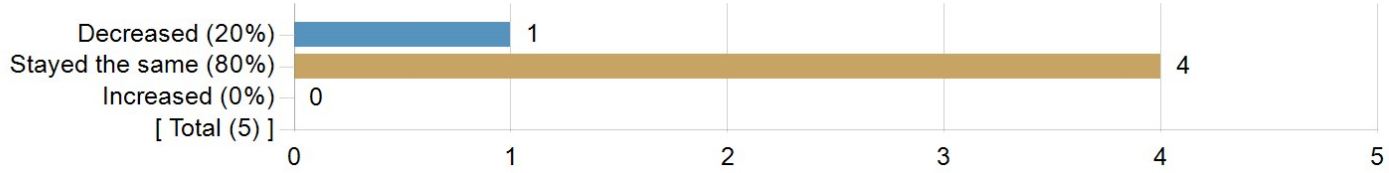
### As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:

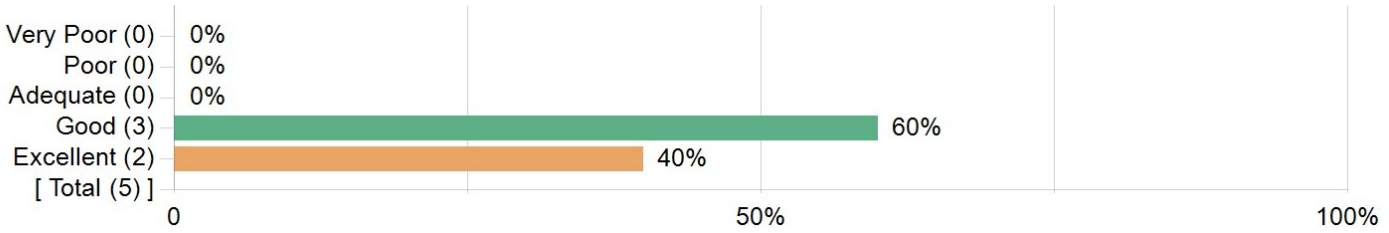
As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:




## IV Additional Statments:

### The instructor Celina Berg displays a good understanding of the material being presented

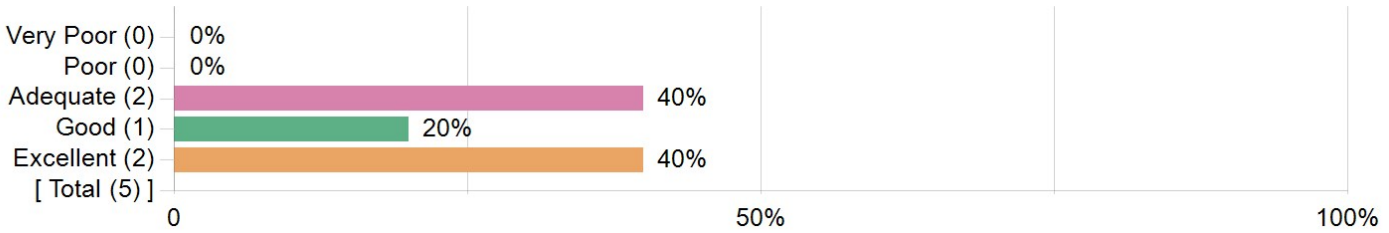
The instructor Celina Berg displays a good understanding of the material being presented




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### The instructor Celina Berg uses the blackboard/overhead and/or visual aids effectively

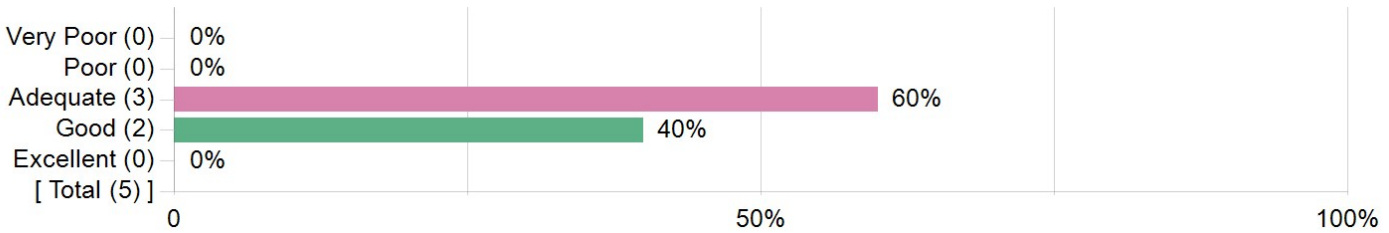
The instructor Celina Berg uses the blackboard/overhead and/or visual aids effectively




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

### (Courses with labs) The laboratories contributed to my understanding of the course material

(Courses with labs) The laboratories contributed to my understanding of the course material




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 5 |

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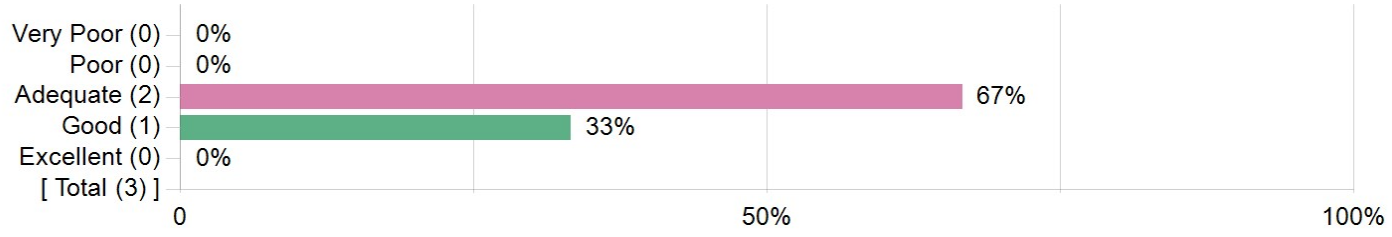
### (Courses with tutorials) The tutorials contributed to my understanding of the course material

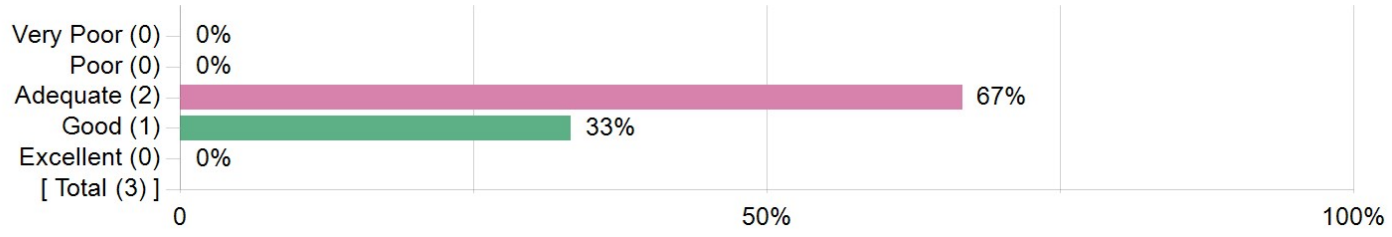
(Courses with tutorials) The tutorials contributed to my understanding of the course material




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 3 |

### (Courses with a major project, i.e. 20% or more of the final grade) The project contributed to my understanding of the course material

(Courses with a major project, i.e. 20% or more of the final grade) The project contributed to my understanding of the course material




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 3 |

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## IIV Student Comments:

### What strengths did your instructor (Celina Berg) demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?

| Comments |
| --- |
| the pre lecture videos were very helpful |
| She was clear at explaning things |
| Celina has a very caring personality, always so motivating and ready to help in any way possible. Amazing person overall, very respectful and engaging. |

### Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor (Celina Berg) could have helped you learn more effectively.

| Comments |
| --- |
| none, she was amazing |
| There are a few things that would have greatly helped me learn the material better during the course.<br><br>1. The explanations using pens and markers on the paper that is being projected on the screen are just extremely messy and hard to follow. I understand that the concepts are just tough and complicated like that but it would greatly help if you could prepare something that explains the steps more clearly. This would especially help students that aren't as comfortable with the material yet.<br>2. please please please, don't answer questions with another question. It makes everything more complicated and it's demotivating, especially if you don't know the answer to the second question that is being presented. now you not only have one but 2 questions. Please just open up the concept and explain the basics when a question is asked.<br>3. Please provide answers to all practice questions posted! Having the questions and no key just adds to the anxiety of a student who has 4 midterms coming up. It's just plain, well, mean! What's the point of me doing the questions if I don't have a key to compare my answers and for some reason, I can't attend office hours? Now I'm just sitting there stressing out because I feel like there are more practice questions out there that I NEED to do in order to do well in this course but I can't. Please either don't post the questions or post all of the keys. Sometimes it feels like the purpose of this course is not to help us learn and develop our skills but the instructor wants to go "aha, got you there". |

### Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.

| Comments |
| --- |
| Please offer new textbook recommendations, the ones on the outline are outdated. |
| lessen the number of assignments |
| none |
| 4.PLease at least put the textbook as "recommended" and not just "optional". And if possible use the explanations in the textbook to explain the basic concepts of the chapters. I didn't understand hash tables until I read the textbook examples. You can make a copy of the first page of the textbook in each chapter where it provides examples of the concepts and give them to students. It would greatly help those of us who don't yet have "computer brains" and need to still associate computer concepts with real–life events and more. tangible and day–to–day things. (like mirrors and walls)<br>5. just decoding the lab and the assignments and figuring out what it's asking of me take just as long as solving them. If at least they can be explained more clearly and the steps are broken down more so we can get to the problem–solving part quicker that would help.<br>Celina is a fantastic instructor, these are just suggestions that would help me personally have a better time learning and developing my skills. |
| The only issues I had with the course are the use of on paper exams for this specific course. The only time in this course where code is written on paper is during exams, which can be quite jarring and difficult to prepare for as none of the other assignments in this course are given this way.<br><br>The other issue I had is with the way assignments are graded. Singular small issues can mean receiving 0 grade on assignments. The best way to resolve this would be to provide testers and for assignments that ensure methods are named correctly in order to operate. I don't know if it's possible to make sure individual methods are tested independently to avoid errors in one method crashing entire programs but if possible this would help too. |

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# UVic CES Instructor Report 202205 - Celina Berg - FUNDAMENTAL PROGRAMING:II - CSC 115 - A02 (CRN 30184)

Project Title: **UVic Course Experience Survey - Summer 2022**

Courses Audience: **81**
Responses Received: **41**
Response Ratio: **51%**

| Subject Details | |
|---|---|
| CRN | 30184 |
| VNUMBER | V00129143 |

Creation Date: **Wednesday, January 25, 2023**

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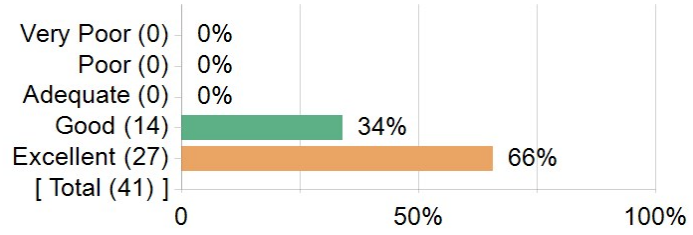
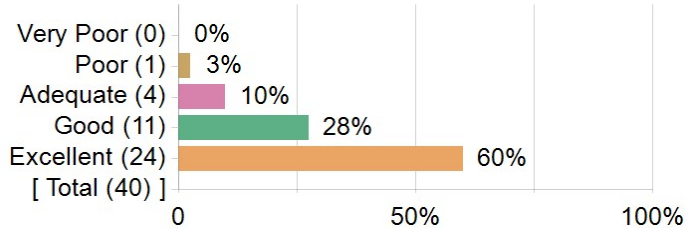
## I Instructor's Teaching - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

### 1. The instructor was prepared for course sessions



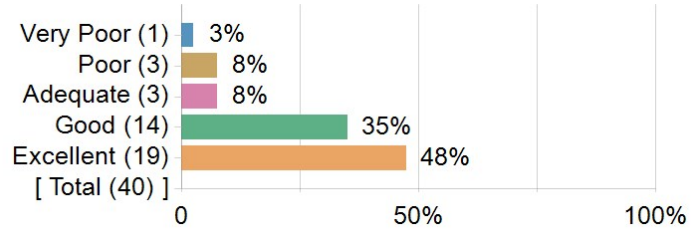

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 41 |

### 2. The instructor's explanations of concepts were clear



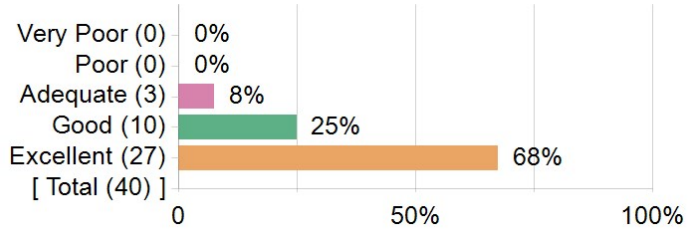

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 3. The instructor motivated you to learn in this course



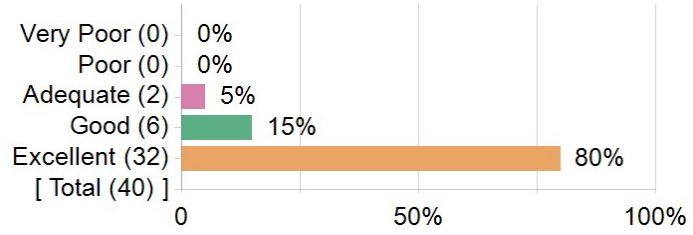

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 4. The instructor was available to answer your questions or provide extra assistance as required



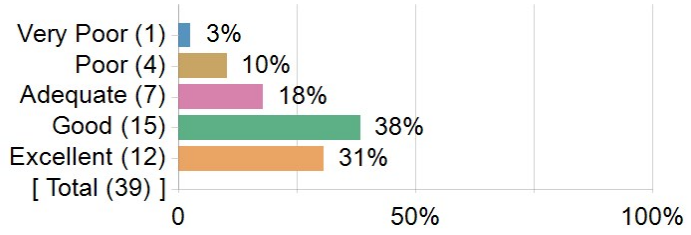

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 5. The instructor ensured that your assignments and tests were returned within a reasonable time



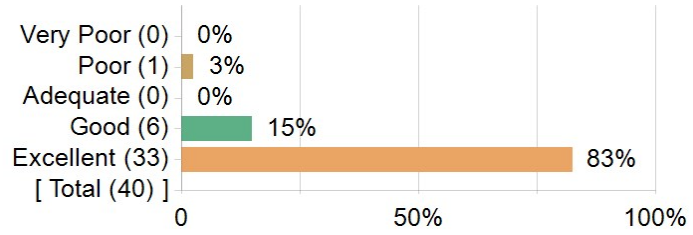

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 6. The instructor was helpful in providing feedback to you to improve your learning in this course



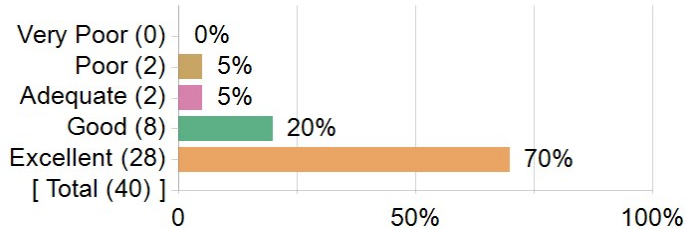

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 39 |

### 7. The instructor demonstrated respect for students and their ideas




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 8. Overall, the instructor was effective in this course




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

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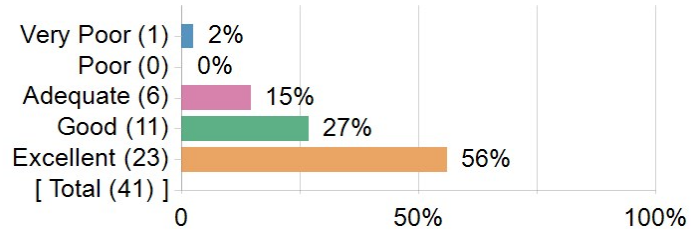
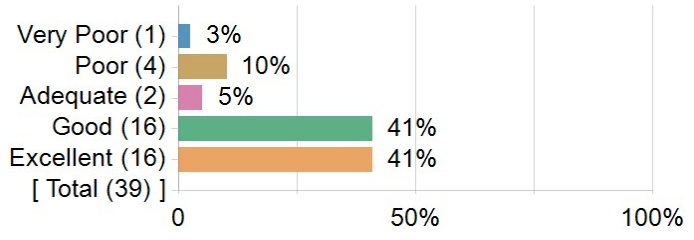
## II Course Design - Students' Ratings on the Following Statements:

### 1. The course structure, goals and requirements were clear




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 41 |

### 2. The materials provided for learning the course content (e.g. handouts, posted material, lab manuals) were clear

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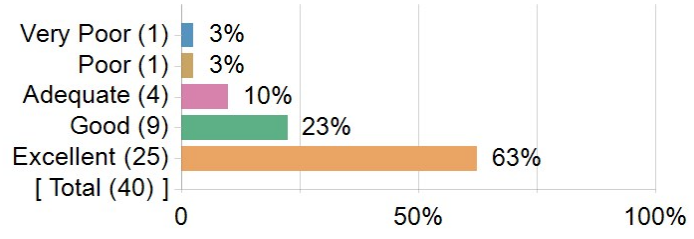
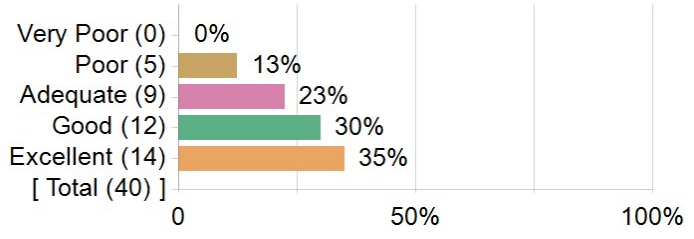
|---|---|
| Response Count | 39 |

### 3. The assigned work helped your understanding of the course content



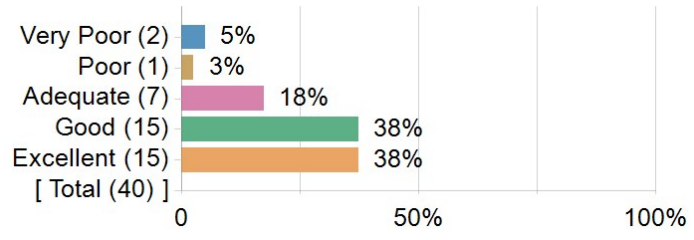

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 4. 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 experiential learning



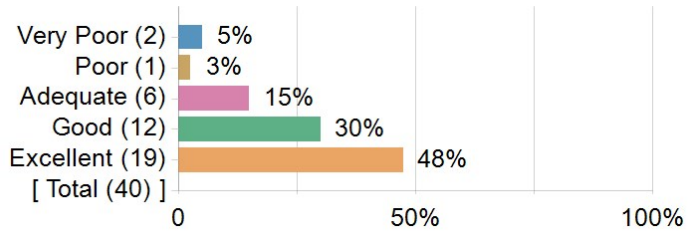

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 5. The methods of assessment used to evaluate your learning in the course were fair



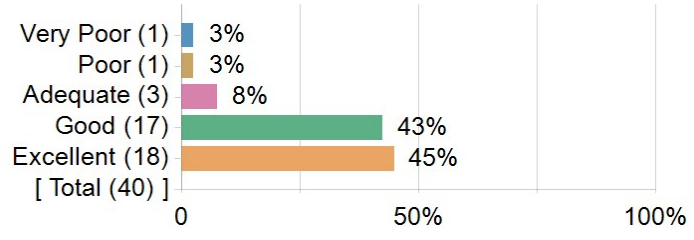

| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 6. The course provided relevant skills and information (e.g. to other courses, your future career, or other contexts)




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

### 7. Overall, the course offered an effective learning experience




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 40 |

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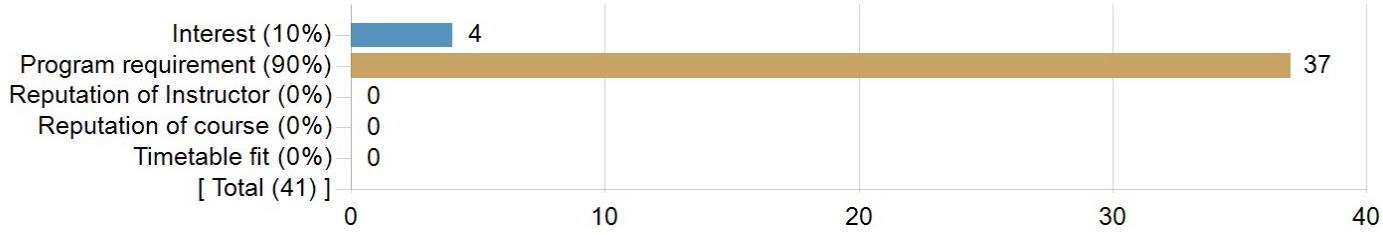
## III Statements About The Students:

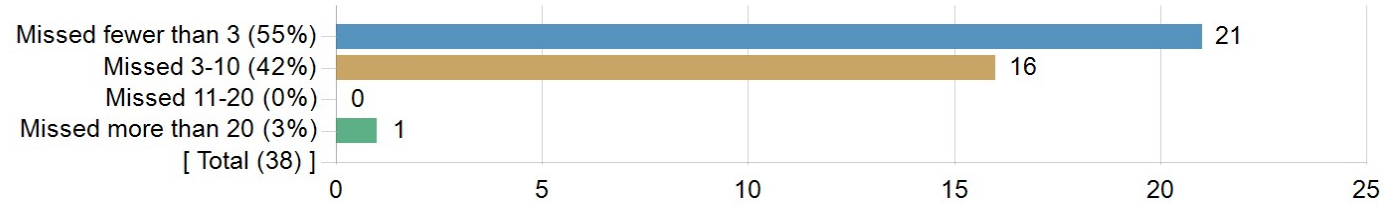
### My primary reason for taking the course.

My primary reason for taking the course.



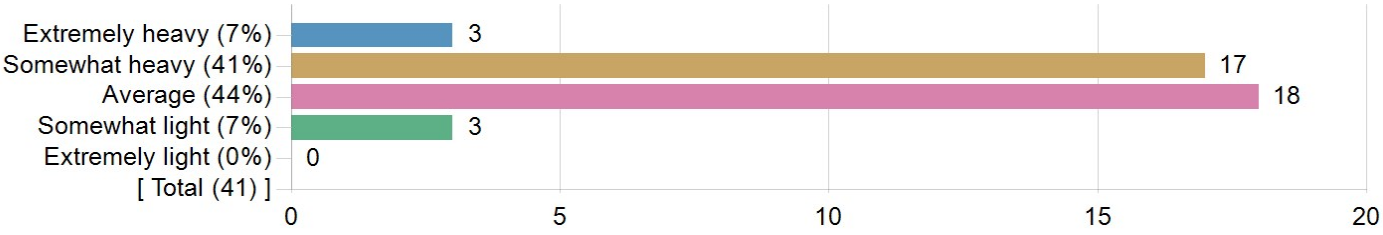

### The approximate number of classes or labs that I did not attend

The approximate number of classes or labs that I did **not** attend



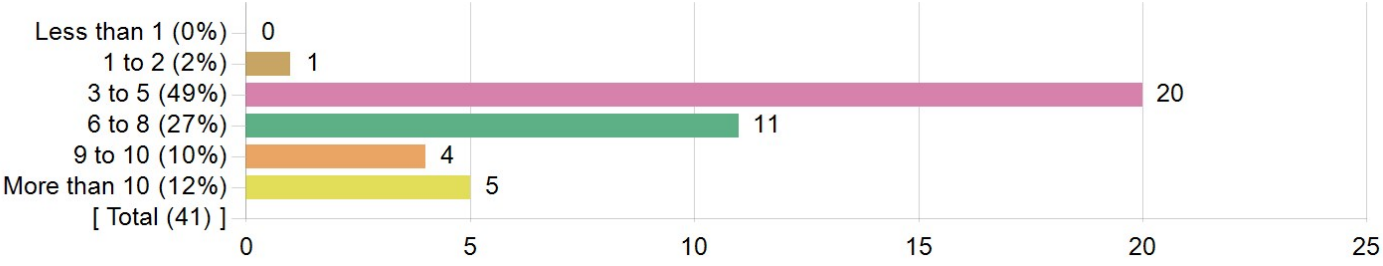

### Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was

Relative to other courses I have taken at UVic, the workload in this course was




### The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:

The approximate number of hours per week I spent studying for this course outside of class time:

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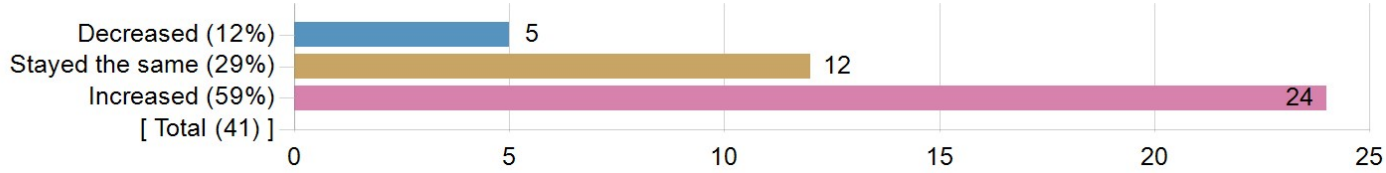
### As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:

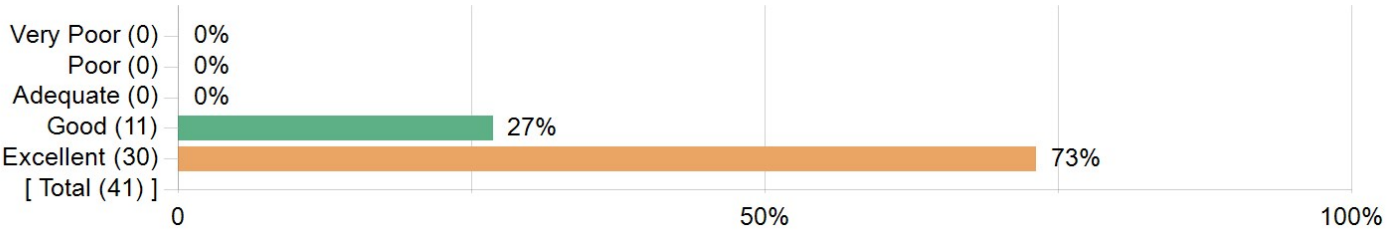
As a result of my experience in this course, my interest in the material:




## IV Additional Statments:

### The instructor Celina Berg displays a good understanding of the material being presented

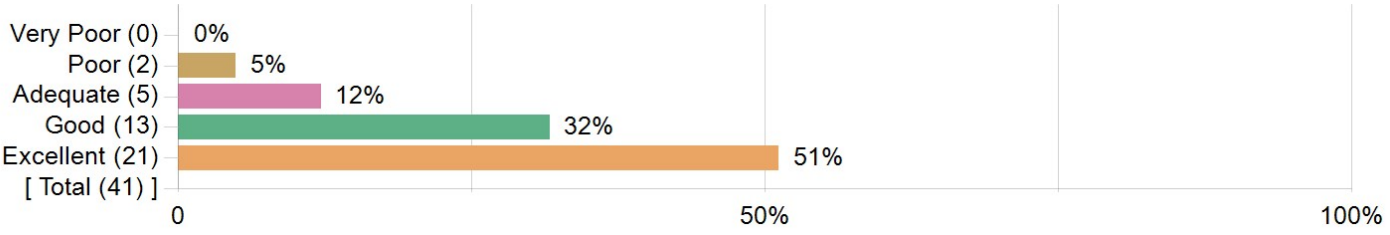
The instructor Celina Berg displays a good understanding of the material being presented




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 41 |

### The instructor Celina Berg uses the blackboard/overhead and/or visual aids effectively

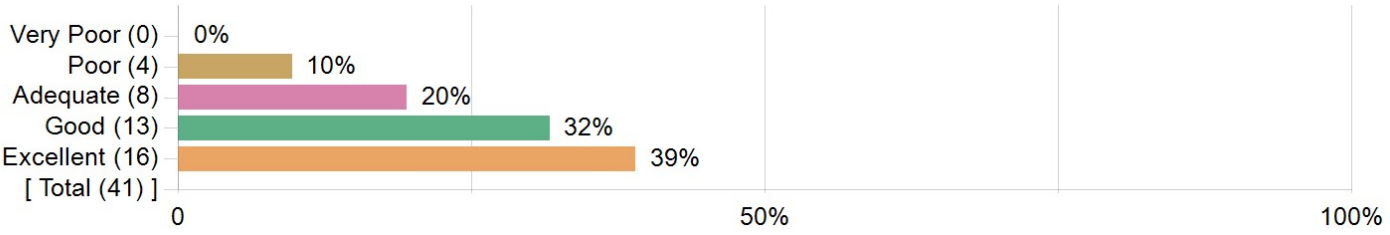
The instructor Celina Berg uses the blackboard/overhead and/or visual aids effectively




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 41 |

### (Courses with labs) The laboratories contributed to my understanding of the course material

(Courses with labs) The laboratories contributed to my understanding of the course material




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 41 |

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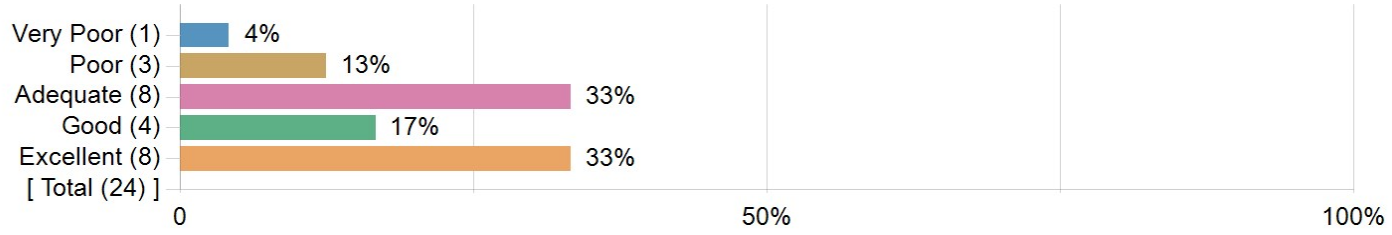
### (Courses with tutorials) The tutorials contributed to my understanding of the course material

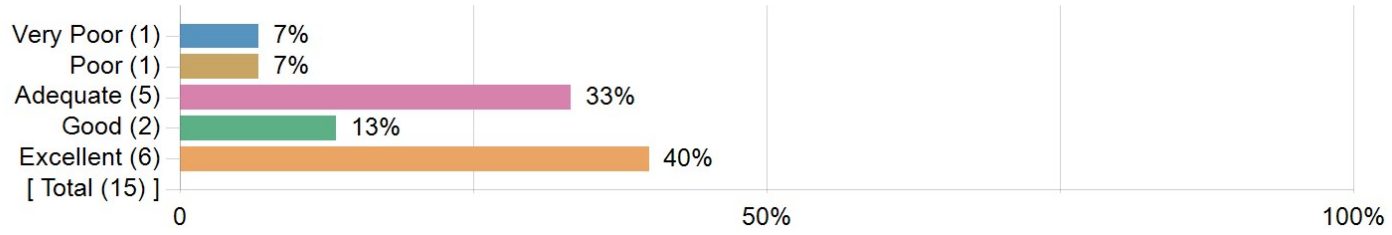
(Courses with tutorials) The tutorials contributed to my understanding of the course material




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 24 |

### (Courses with a major project, i.e. 20% or more of the final grade) The project contributed to my understanding of the course material

(Courses with a major project, i.e. 20% or more of the final grade) The project contributed to my understanding of the course material




| Statistics | Value |
|---|---|
| Response Count | 15 |

## IIV Student Comments:

### What strengths did your instructor (Celina Berg) demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?

| Comments |
|---|
| Always ready to help and enthusiastic |
| Classes were fun and engaging, the lecture recordings were very useful when I was sick for a week. Some other classes have stopped doing lecture recordings! They are important as a backup, please keep them! |
| Provided students with different ways to contact her for questions.<br><br>Recorded lectures and posted on bright space which was a major help |
| Celina was very good at teaching in lectures and used lots of real – life examples to make concepts more clear. |
| Dr. Berg is consistent with the way she presents new material. The lectures have similar structure so it is pretty easy to follow. I liked the Socrative questions; they helped me apply the ideas immediately and stay engaged with the lecture. |
| Instead of lecturing on material she often gave everyone time to work through problems that related directly to weekly assignments and labs. |
| explains well and is available to answer questions |
| She was clear in her explanations and had good examples. I liked how there were specific examples for all cases, including the cases that cause errors. |
| Very engaging and energetic. Made an effort to memorize as many students' names as possible. The explanation of the material was clear and easy to understand. |
| She is always very prepared and knows the content inside and out |
| Celina was an excellent instructor. She was very prepared for lecture and worked us through step by step many complicated algorithms and challenged us to think bigger than the code she was presenting; we had to reason why things worked and why some things did not when it came to our code with assistance as needed. Overall I am very impressed with my experience with the computer science department as a whole. As a fourth year chemistry student in my opinion my own department could learn some lessons in class preparation and organization from Celina! If given the chance to take another course with her in the future, I absolutely would, no questions asked. |
| I thought the pre–lecture videos and quizzes were excellent. They made classes a lot smoother with respect to understanding. |
| She is very good at explaining concepts. She provided help very quickly through Brightspace. |
| Celina's lectures were well–planned and she clearly demonstrated respect for student's ideas. The Java boot–camp at the beginning of the course was very helpful. |
| Always willing to answer students' questions via online forums or after class. Her energy and enthusiasm makes the lectures enjoyable. While some may find pre–lecture videos redundant, I find them (in conjunction with lectures) to be an incredibly effective way to learn. |
| First of all, she can host office hours like nobody else. So welcoming, delightful environment, I learned so much there. She will take the time to sit down and explain any question, and will never make me feel stupid for asking. She is so encouraging and kind.<br>In lectures, she is excited about the material and her enthusiasm is contagious. Lectures are interactive, engaging, and fun. They lift my spirits every time. Even when the material gets hard, it's not scary. The way she has structured the class (videos to watch on our own time, and then lectures more like a seminar) is extremely affective. As someone with major processing speed challenges, this structure made it possible for me to actually keep up in Celina's lectures and keep up with the material. I am an A student, but in nearly every other class I have taken in my degree, I have never understood what was going on in a lecture because I can't process it in real time. Additionally, the structure of the videos and quizzes made it really easy to structure my studying.<br>The assignments and labs have very clear step–by–step instructions, making complex material accessible and possible to follow. I am Autistic and getting started with an assignment is often what I struggle with the most, so this has been a lifeline and has allowed me to be far more successful. Assignments and labs are extremely relevant to the course material, and good preparation for the tests. |
| Going through examples of concepts in class helped to solidify my understanding of new concepts after being introduced to them through pre–lecture videos. |
| Celina was 100x better than Bill Bird. The assignments and labs were fair, and she really knew how to explain the concepts in this course. |
| Engaging lectures. |
| very good at explaining the content of the lecture and make it more interesting where the lectures are not boring. |
| A lot of the problems presented required solutions that expanded on the basic knowledge of what was taught. |
| Good communicator, usage of many examples and practice problems to explain concepts was especially helpful. |

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| Comments |
| --- |
| demonstrated and delivered abstract concepts in easy to understand way |
| She was very interactive with the students in the live lecutres |
| Used good visuals to explain concepts |
| Socrative questions in the beginning of the classes engage students and prepare the student to think about coding for the rest of the class. Posted lecture content was very helpful for reviewing even if the lecture was attended |
| Encouraged dialogue between students and professor.<br>Her explanations were simple and were understood by a large majority of the class.<br>Celina Berg made online quizzes to gauge the class's understanding of the material. |
| Office hours were immensely helpful for working through the problems presented in the weekly assignments. |
| Interactive aspect of the course was good. Very helpful during office hours. Breaks down algorithms at every level. |
| Don't have anything to say here |
| very good and relative examples. |
| I loved Dr.Bergs lectures, they were very engaging and I liked her goal of active learning. I found that I understood concepts well after a lecture and then was able to solidify that understanding through the lab and assignment. I liked having the pre–lecture videos to introduce me to the concepts. |

**Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor (Celina Berg) could have helped you learn more effectively.**

| Comments |
| --- |
| She did a great job |
| Labs could have been a bit different from assignment<br><br>Midterms contained a lot of reading, I felt that they needed to be structured slightly differently |
| I wish some of the assignments were in a different format. Instead of having files and code given, the assignment would require us to write all of our own classes, aiming towards some goal. Sometimes I feel like I wasn't really programming, I was just solving one little part of a program, instead of having to solve the entire program. |
| Although Dr. Berg did great explaining the concepts, I wish the lectures involved demos and activities that would have reflected more on how our exams looked rather than help with assignments and labs. Mixing it up with some worksheets (paper copies) would have really helped. |
| Sometimes assignments arent super clear in what's being asked but I wouldn't say that it's an issue as it just ends up taking slightly longer than usual to work through a problem. |
| Sometimes she answers without really looking deeply into the question. That can be frustrating. (I am thinking of a specific incident on the forum, but it also happens sometimes in lecture.) |
| Some of the assignments could have had a bit more problem–solving involved. Not necessarily to make them harder, but to get students to implement skills and information they've learned in a more engaging manner. |
| I found at times the class could be a bit rushed just due to the amount of content needed to be taught. I think that if she gave additional posted video lectures on specific difficult concepts or a reference to specific text in the optional textbook to read for each topic this could be an asset to some students. I personally did not find it too hard to keep up, but some of my peers found the later material more challenging. |
| If the supplied code at the beginning of class were to be a bit more filled out, it would make learning more effective. Sometimes it felt hard to keep up with typing the code, and writing comments to look back on while trying to understand the material presented. |
| N/A<br><br>I really liked her teaching style! |
| Nothing really to say. |
| I've had some fantastic instructors, but none of them have ever helped me learn more effectively than she has. I think it's important to note that she did this without even knowing about my unusual learning needs, she's just naturally that good. |
| Virtually no feedback on assignments from anyone on the teaching team. |
| Occasionally the documentation in work was vague. |
| She could've gone into more depth about a few concepts such as "extends". |
| Doing more hand written assignments, possibly replace the quiz with hand written quiz |
| May be out of control of the instructor, but when rewatching certain lecture videos posted, missing the overhead screen of the paper |

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| Comments |
| --- |
| causes the videos to be hard to follow when trying to review certain sections of the lecture |
| More visual aides (diagrams, flow charts, etc) to enhance student learning. Bill Bird does a really good job of this in most of his classes. |
| the course materials were not at all very well organized. Although the general topics were clearly listed, which topics were covered during the lecture and to how much detail is left unclear, and it was never clear post–lecture how to review post–lecture. The fact that the lecture was not very well organized for note–taking further contributed to this problem.<br><br>Perhaps a glossary of the topics covered (eg. powerpoint slides) during the lecture would be helpful for reviewing. |
| Could offer suggestions to the class wrt learning how best to approach the course material |
| Don't have anything to say here |
| I found that a lot of time was spent on the basic concepts at the beginning of the course, but near the end there were a lot of concepts covered in a short time period. I also found it frustrating that the quizzes were due at 10am instead of by the start of class since, I had another class at 10 so it would have been nice to be able to watch the videos and do the quiz in the break between classes.<br>I found the second and third midterm exams unfair. I did the practice midterms, and re did assignments and labs but the midterm questions were more difficult than anything provided for practice. I came away from the midterms feeling dejected and disappointed. I felt like no matter what I did to study it was impossible to get a good great because some the test questions were beyond what we were shown before. The short answer questions on the midterm were often written in such a confusing way, or there was so much text, that I would not understand the question, and even if assumptions were stated, I was given 0 marks.<br>The assignments and practice tests need to be harder, or the tests need to be easier. |

### Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.

| Comments |
| --- |
| Open book tests like Bill bird, no one codes with no resources around |
| Could you make the pre class quizzes due at class time instead of 10:30? It seems arbitrary, and meant I had to get up earlier. |
| I believe that making the quizzes and videos as a post lecture assignment would have increased my performance and my understanding of the material. The result of the pre lecture work was decrease my abilities to remain focused during the lecture. Dr. Berg is a wonderful instructor that conveys the concepts in an effective way, but watching the videos prior to her lectures really affected the amount of patience and interest I had in her explanations.<br>By making the work due after the class it would have helped me get the most out of her lectures. |
| It's pretty good as is. It would be nice if we were shown fun libraries and project ideas for fun. |
| Please do not change a thing! The lab, assignment, quiz, midterm structure is incredible effective for learning and I went from knowing absolutely zero java at the beginning of this course to feeling very capable of writing and debugging my own algorithms without assistance. I wish there was more of this kind of structure for some of my other courses! This is one of those rare courses where I came away with a strong understanding, competence, and enjoyment of the material and not just memorizing a myriad of facts to pass a test which I will ultimately forget about a few months later. |
| Same as above, sometimes it felt like the class was going too quickly to type out all the code being written while writing comments and comprehending the content. Having the code more filled in to begin with would be helpful. |
| Not a huge fan of the midterm layout. The first two midterms there were a lot of documentation to read and familiarize with and it was hard to flip between all the pages while trying to write a method. |
| The latter half of the course (material after stacks/queues) was more fast paced and I felt that I would have benefited from more time being spent on ADTs other than arrays/lists. |
| It would be nice if lab criteria was more specific. Often times I submit a "correct" solution that passes all tests, but get marks deducted because of various code quality criteria I wasn't aware of. |
| Not to be dramatic, but I literally cannot imagine this course being any better. |
| I find testing code on paper a little unfair. If the assignments and labs are coded on a computer, why are we tested on paper? We should be tested on the way we have practiced. |
| The workload of this class was way too heavy –– 10 labs, 10 assignments, 3 midterms, 1 final, 20+ pre–lecture quizes.<br><br>Receiving 0 on anything (quiz, assignment, lab) is EXTREMELY de–motivating. Surely there is a better way to deal with compiler errors then an automatic 0. The pre–lecture quizzes could be given weekly instead of making a cut–off of 11am (class isn't until 1pm?!?!).<br><br>There is virtually no feedback on the pre–lecture quizzes (correct answers are never posted).<br>Virtually no feedback / solutions given to assignments and labs. |

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| Comments |
| --- |
| Not much more is needed. |
| Better practice midterms. For example the practice midterms for 2nd midterm didn't focus on abstraction which would have helped my performance on the 2nd midterm. |
| Some of the midterm content seemed very difficult in comparison to the assignments, which I generally found to be very easy. I personally prefer, and perform better in courses which take the approach of assigning challenging assignments alongside midterms which are relatively simpler and take into consideration the factor of time constraint on a student's performance. |
| provide a way to make labs more interactive. I am one of 4 people that show up to lab, from a starting group of about 20 |
| The grading is a lot harsher in the test considering all the assignments and labs were all computed in the computer. |
| . More in–depth assignments that have scenarios ( triage, train cars )<br>. More merciful marking on tests. Especially when writing code. Marking on tracing questions is fine.<br>A way you could make marking more merciful:<br>Make everything worth more points so more half–points can be deducted from code–writing questions |
| Testing and the way tests are laid out should be maid more consistent between instructors that offer this course. For example, the practice midterm provided are not a good indication of Dr. Berg's tests as I found her tests to be significantly harder. |
| For video–recording, I found that the second screen should be showing the second screen of the projector, and not the camera of the lecturer. For example, this problem is very clearly demonstrated in the second lecture of Week 11, where half of the time the instructor was using the second screen and the recorded lecture was completely unhelpful. |
| I would appreciate answer keys to the practice tests posted. |
| The course was very good. I can't think of any specific recommendations |
| To be honest, the rubric marking for midterms is rather inflexible. |
| the language in the assignments description could be less unfamiliar. especially during the midterms, under the pressure, when stress causes cognitive decline, the description of the questions were almost incomprehensible for me. I barely could handle myself not to burst into tears because I could not make sense on that language. |

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