



MPCS 51042 1 - Python Programming - Instructor(s) James Turk

Project Title: **Graduate Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **39**

Number of Responses: **22**

Report Comments

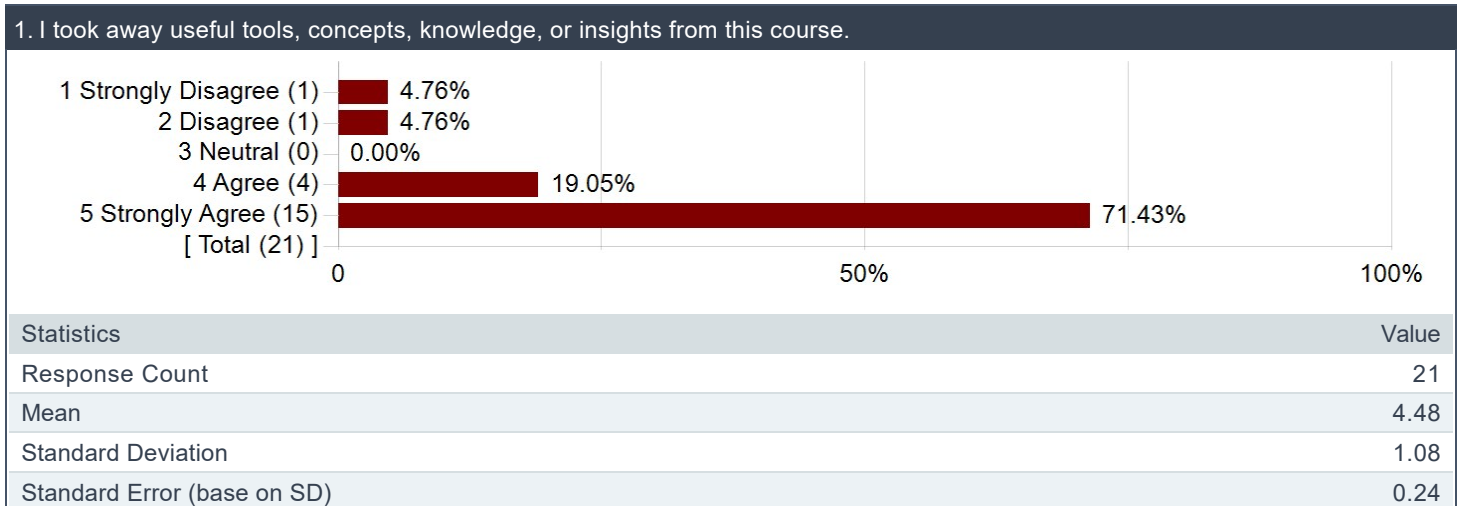
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, April 5, 2024**

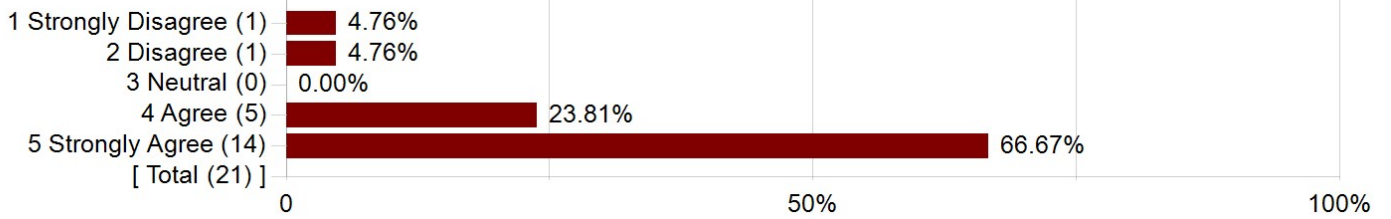
Please review and evaluate your work in this course overall.

Comments
Though I struggled in the beginning, I learnt a lot during the course overall.
This is a wonderful course that provides the student with a great introductory understanding to Python. The instructor's clear explanations, practical exercises, and responsive support created a conducive learning environment. The course structure, relevant content, and hands-on approach significantly enhanced my coding skills. I highly recommend it for anyone looking to master Python.
great course, learn comprehensive python programming
Although I didn't study much for the course I believe that I put in a few hours every week to ensure my overall success. I worked hard.
The programming assignments were reasonable and not too difficult, though some required more time and reviewing lecture material. The quizzes were more difficult at first but helped me prepare for the final.
This has been a great learning.
I found the course to be highly informative and engaging. The material was well-presented, and I feel that I grasped the key concepts effectively. The assignments and assessments were challenging but contributed to my understanding. Overall, I'm satisfied with my performance in this course.
I majored in computer science as an undergrad, so this course has been relatively easy for me. However, as someone who has not used Python much, I have learn so much, from alternative syntax to best design conventions in Python. With the material and practice in this course, I feel confident for coding interviews and writing future large scale projects.
Good. Prof James is good.
Best class I have taken at UChicago thus far. Professor Turk explains challenging concepts in a way that is easy to understand. I felt my knowledge of Python and ability to implement the language have improved immensely over the semester.
Course is good
This was a great course through which has greatly increased my fluency in the python programming language. I learned a lot about the languages internal workings, and also many techniques to help write clear concise and performant python code.
I love this course! I understood Python is great detail and the assignments have been super helpful in honing my skills. I appreciate how Prof. Turk always answers all the questions in the class.
I feel like I did pretty well in this course as I did know about 90% of the topics taught in this course

Please review and evaluate the course on the following:

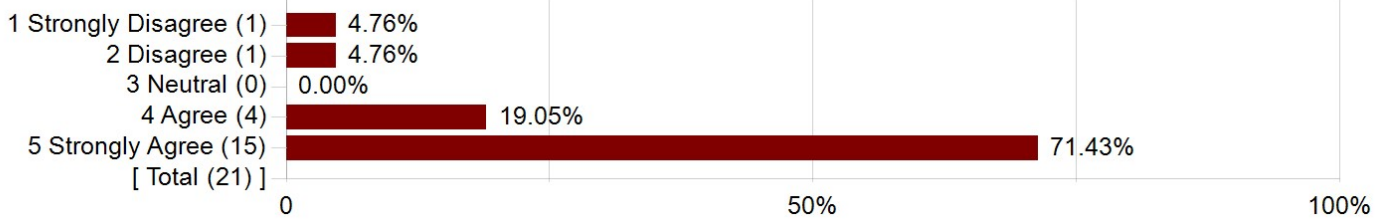


2. I received regular, effective feedback to help me understand where I was in the learning process.



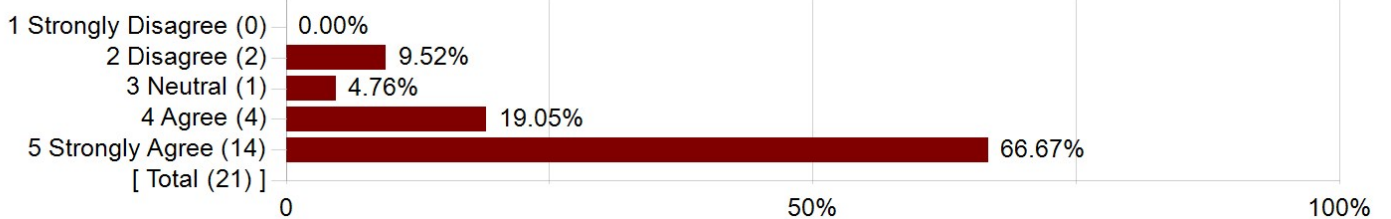
Statistics	Value
Response Count	21
Mean	4.43
Standard Deviation	1.08
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.23

3. I would recommend this course to other students.



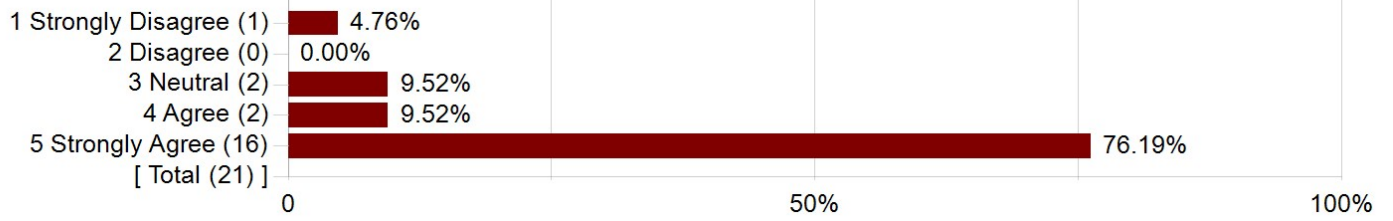
Statistics	Value
Response Count	21
Mean	4.48
Standard Deviation	1.08
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.24

4. The material in this course was constructively challenging.



Statistics	Value
Response Count	21
Mean	4.43
Standard Deviation	0.98
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.21

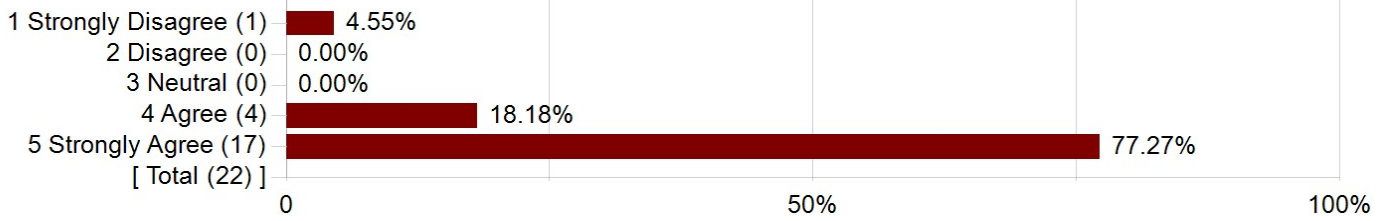
5. I felt that the classroom was an inclusive learning environment for me.



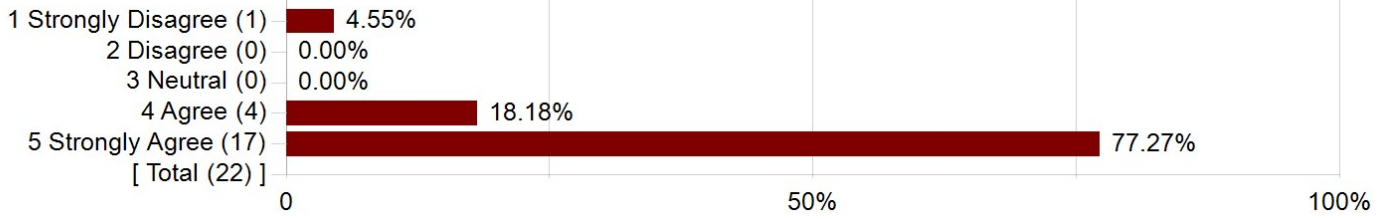
Statistics	Value
Response Count	21
Mean	4.52
Standard Deviation	1.03
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.22

Please review and evaluate the faculty on the following:

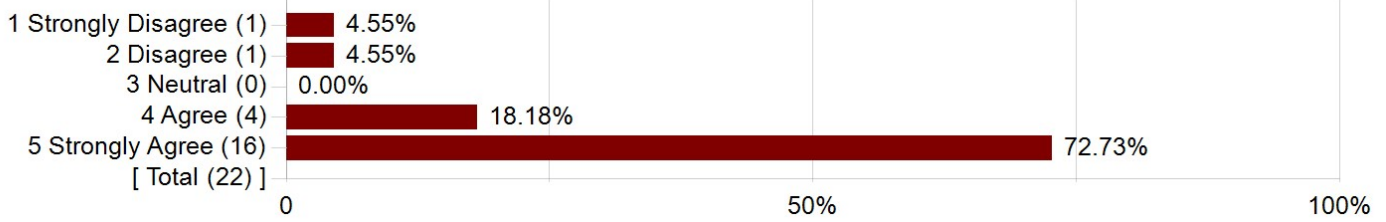
1. Conveyed the course material clearly and in an organized fashion.



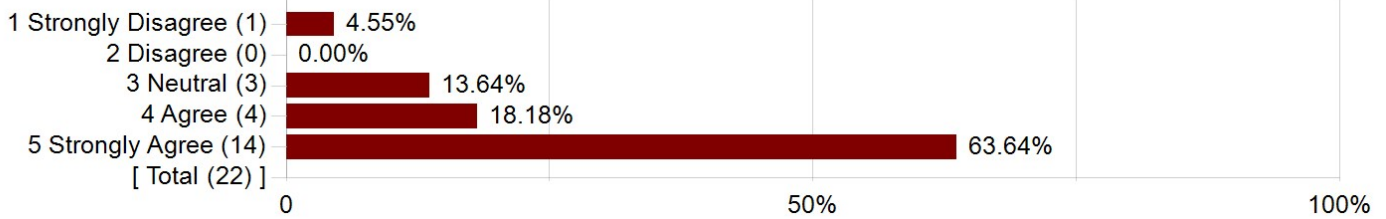
2. Communicated learning objectives effectively, including on the syllabus.



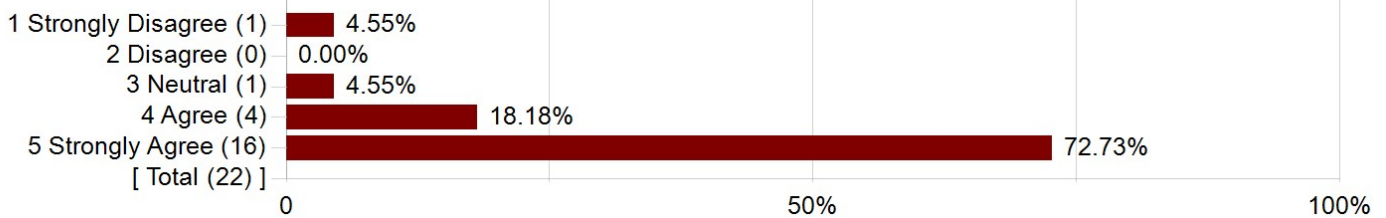
3. Made effective use of class time, remote learning resources, and/or supplemental materials that enhanced learning.



4. Successfully generated and sustained productive participation as appropriate.



5. Responsive and available via office hours, email, discussion boards, and other tools.



Please elaborate on any of your responses above.

Comments
Professor Turk was a wonderful instructor for this course. He taught the material in a structured manner and consistently encouraged class participation. He is very patient in answering any questions. Also, the homework assignments were directly applicable to the lecture material and sought to reinforce key concepts.
The instructor effectively conveyed the course material by presenting it in a clear and organized manner. The delivery of information was structured, making it easier for students to follow and comprehend the concepts. The organization of the course content likely contributed to a smoother learning experience, as students could progress logically from one topic to the next without confusion.
Professor James Turk is an amazing instructor. He is very knowledgeable in Python, and good at delivering complex concepts to beginners. Additionally, he is willing to discuss topics in Python that are beyond the course material. As a previous CS major, I have taken many CS courses, and James is the most thorough and hands-on professor that I have ever had.
Course is good
The system of ESNU grading and mastery quiz was very weird. Please remove it. It did more harm than good. Especially for those on the fringes of a grade's boundary

What aspects of the instructor's teaching contributed most and least to your learning?

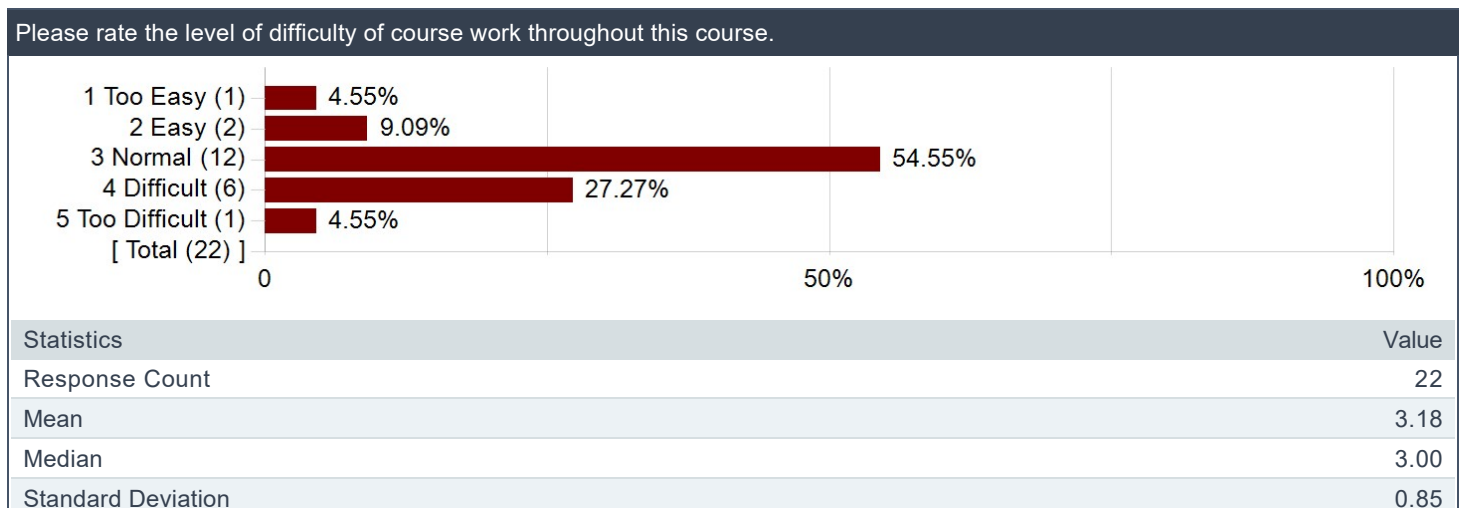
Comments
Assignments contributed most to my learning Fast paced teaching contributed the least to my learning
The instructor was extremely patient in answering questions and was very welcoming and positive.
clear instruction, answered class questions well
the lecture notes, pretty useful
The handwritten quizzes were painful and took some getting used to, but I do think that they force you to learn the programming language on a deeper level than just by writing code. Style point grading seemed really tough, and at times the comments and point deductions were not in line with the specifications set forth in the assignment README.
The breadth of the content and the discussions during lectures about more advanced topics.
One aspect of James' style of teaching which did not go unnoticed was his remarkable patience. I found he would take his time answering each and every question in class, and would not rush through lecture material if anyone was struggling.
Prof. James has a lot of knowledge on how Python internally works. This has really helped my understanding.
Clear communication, engaging teaching methods, and a supportive environment enhance learning.
James is very thorough when explaining concepts. He is also reachable by email and on Ed.
Course is good
Lectures were fantastic. Extremely well organized, and containing the right amount of material to be digestible.
nothing to mention here

Please suggest any changes that could improve this course (e.g., class material, class structure, assignments, inclusive pedagogy).

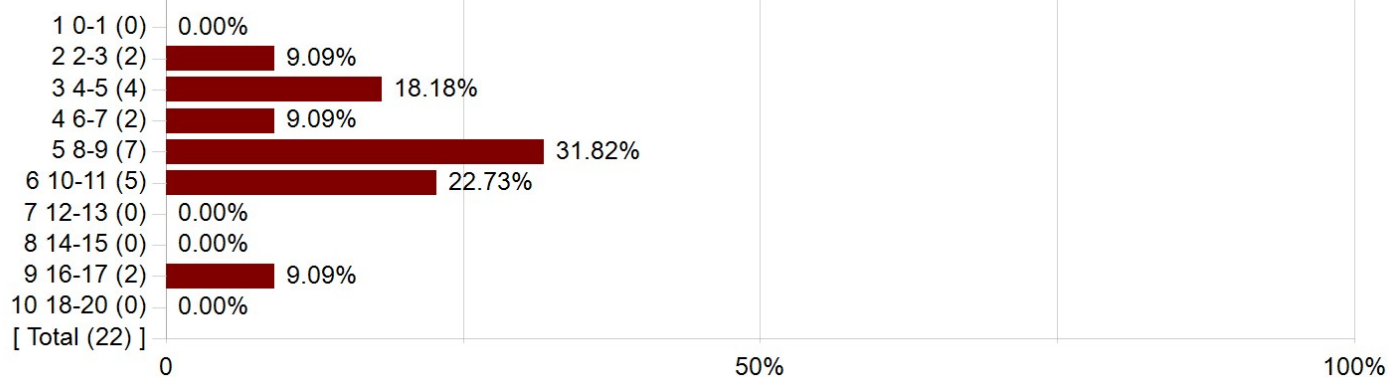
Comments
I wish we spent more time on topics explaining them in brief rather than it being this fast paced. I would also like if you could introduce late tokens to the assignments in case if anyone wasn't able to finish the assignment on time so that they could use it instead instead of resubmission. Practice questions before quizzes would also be helpful.
N/A
grading system seems fair but a little complex
If style points are penalized so heavily, then it could be a nice change to allow resubmissions to get back some points from style deductions.
I think the course would benefit if there was more focus on data structures. Maybe two weeks instead of just one week.
Possibly introducing some in class exercises or live coding sessions in class.
nothing
NA. This course is great.
Course is good
I think a little more availability of office hours would be great!
the material could be a bit more explanatory. Just giving a jupyter notebook as the lecture notes doesn't help in recapping what was taught in class. the assignments could be a bit more challenging as it would take only about a couple of hours to solve it

Please comment on how respected, valued, and included you felt as a participant in the course.

Comments
Decent.
The professor and teaching staff were friendly and always available to assist the students.
three quizzes give a lot preparation for the exam
Inclusivity was great
I felt respected, valued and included.
I felt respected, valued, and included as a participant in the course. The instructor and my peers created an inclusive environment where diverse perspectives were acknowledged and appreciated
I feel respected, and I feel my questions were valued. As a female, I feel included although most of my peers were males.
Course is good
This course was an extremely inclusive environment open to ideas fro both beginners and more experienced programmers.
nothing to mention here

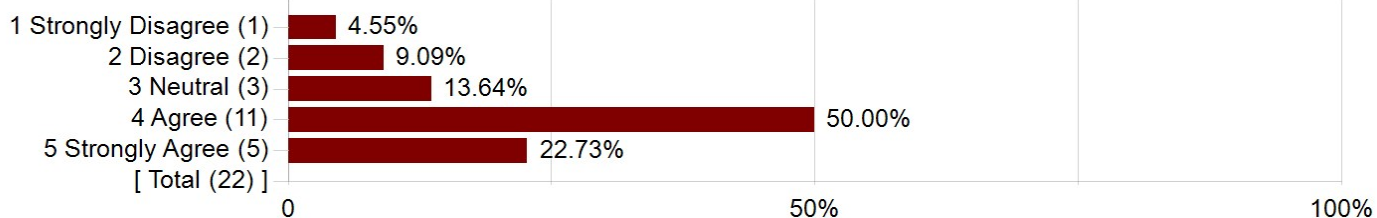


On average, how many hours per week were spent on this course outside of class?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	22
Mean	4.86
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.86

The overall workload of the course was appropriate.



Statistics	Value
Response Count	22
Mean	3.77
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.07

Please include the name of the TA(s) you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's or TAs' teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA(s) modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA(s).

Comments

Willie Hung was very helpful and kind. As was Megan Moore.

Course is good

Office hours, and perhaps some summary sessions before the quizzes might be helpful. It could be nice to have structured time for an overview of concepts before the classes where we have quizzes. Robert Alef was particularly helpful, always happy to answer different types of questions.