

From: **Student Rating of Instruction System** sri@uvu.edu
 Subject: Course Evaluation Results for: CS 2300 001 - Charles D. Allison
 Date: December 23, 2012 at 5:01 AM
 To: <10005194@uvu.edu> 10005194@uvu.edu

Course Evaluation Report

Dear Faculty Member,

The Student Rating of Instruction system is now closed for the courses listed and your grades should all be submitted. If they are not, please work with the registrar's office immediately to submit your grades. Your detailed survey results are shown below.

Term	Division	Department	Course ID	Course	Description	Professor	Evaluations Taken	Total Enrollment	% Complete
201240	TC	CSE	CS 2300 001	16122	Discrete Structures I	Charles D. Allison	35	44	79.5

Demographics

Total
0

Description	Response Total	Response Percent
Class Standing		
Sophomore	13	
Junior	12	
Senior	8	
Freshman	2	
☐		
Crse req'd for program?		
Required	30	
Both	3	
Elective	2	
☐		
Crse Requirement		
My Major	34	
Both	1	
☐		

Instructor

Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
280	61	29	9	2	0	4.48	0.76

Description	Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
Organized	35	69	29	3			4.66	0.53
Respectful	35	66	23	11			4.54	0.69
Fair	35	69	29	3			4.66	0.53
Clarity	35	43	31	17	9		4.09	0.97
Knowledgeable	35	86	11	3			4.83	0.45
Timely Feedback	35	40	34	20	3	3	4.06	0.98
Achievement Standards	35	60	37	3			4.57	0.55
Recommend	35	54	34	9	3		4.40	0.76

Comments

Total
0

Description
Helpful
Allison was a good teacher. He knows the material very well. I was often amused by his enthusiasm while working out problems with the class. He would get a satisfactory smile when we got to the conclusion of the question. I know that it isn't important to his teaching ability, but I always enjoyed it. Chuck was also very available to any student when they needed extra help. There were times when I went to meet with him, and he helped me out with more than just the subject material. He was a great mentor to any student who sought him out. He helped

me as an adviser for where I should go in the semester to come, and how to manage life as a full time worker, a family man, as well as a full time student. He even helped me on occasion with my other classes when the other professor wasn't available. Chuck is a great teacher.

Available for and took time to answer questions before and after class.

Excellent at breaking down complicated topics into easy to understand terms. Took the hard mathematical equations and broke them down into terms I could follow.

Exceptionally knowledgeable. Always answers questions and has a sense of humor. This instructor treats everyone fairly and respectfully.

He is extremely knowledgeable about the subject, but solves the problems for the first time in front of us. Meaning he didn't solve the problem before class and is simply copying his work. Although this takes more time than other instructors, it demonstrates the thought process behind solving the problem and reveals some potential problems we might come across.

He is very helpful and fun during lecture. Coursework is reasonable but still requires knowledge of subject matter.

He knows his stuff and he explains it very well at a fast pace, but makes sure it's understood.

He responded to e-mails quickly and gave precise answers to any question I had.

He was always trying to help the students he was teaching.

He was always willing to sit down outside of class and explain how to do the problems. He had convenient office hours that allowed everybody the chance to meet with him. He was always willing to help with anything he can.

He was very knowledgeable.

He would adjust to the class to how they were doing and how to approach the subject and Questions. Always willing to help you understand what is going on. He is good at what he does and is a fit for the job.

I am excited to take future classes from this Professor.

I found that the examples that he would show in class really helped us understand the concept. Also Prof. Allison was always willing to meet with us if we had questions out of class.

I really like your passion for teaching. It's nice to have a teacher that obviously enjoys what he is doing. You are also always friendly and willing to help. Thanks for trying

I really liked this teacher, he was very good at answering questions in class to the students that had struggles. I did not go to class very often because the subject was super easy, but when I did go to class I found that he answered questions in a way most students would understand and he would make sure they understood it before he moved on. He also made his assignments around how the class was going that way everyone could keep up with him. He did great.

I thought that this course was very well taught. You used very helpful examples in class that provided clarification on how to work the problems.

Instructor provides great examples and great presentations.

Professor Allison was a great instructor and very knowledgeable of the topic taught. I only wish my understanding of it encompassed an iota of his understanding.

The class taught me a lot about the logic that goes into computers and algorithms. Even though it doesn't go toward my major, it will help me a lot more than some of my required classes in my field.

The class always felt well directed and guided by the teacher.

The few times the teacher stepped away from the slides and actually use mathematical proofs were fairly helpful.

The in-class examples were very helpful at understanding the material. Although no one likes doing homework, the homework problems were critical to getting the practice and understanding I needed to do well in this class.

The instructor was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the subject and worked to get the class excited about it too. Took time to answer questions and made each student feel like there wasn't any dumb question. Also took time and explained how the concept we were learning applied to real world/ industrial

explained how the concept we were learning applied to real world industrial application helping the class understand why and how we could use the concept outside of the class room. He adjust the class schedule and load somewhat to make sure student were getting the important concepts down.

The teacher cared about the students and he wanted to help us learn the material

This was a very difficult concept to understand for me. The start of the class was taken very slow during chapter one and that helped me grasp the material better.

Very knowledgeable about subject. Includes a Good number of example problems in class. Uses teaching technology effectively. Practice tests are incredibly helpful.

Very organized and used Canvas.

Willing to answer any question you have even if it is not directly related to the current discussion.

real world application of mathematical principles.

this was a fun subject. practice tests and Que sheets helped immensely. I think it helps those students that are learning the material but aren't the best at note taking and aren't able to focus the material into a way that helps them study for an exam.

□

Suggestions

Better preparation for tests and assignments. It was hard to know what to study for. The practice tests helped but there were other subjects on the actual tests that were not covered very well.

Don't use the slides so much, this is a math class with perfect examples of the problems in the book. Most math teachers will take the homework problems and do 1 example similar to each homework problem assigned. This professor often gives examples that are not relevant to the homework, this is true for the practice test as well. Has a hard time working with the student to thoroughly understand the question that is being asked. Professor often jumps to conclusions and implications without thoroughly explaining it in a mathematical manner. We did not receive grades from the first assignment until about 1 week before the semester was over, while this may be due to the lack of a grader and not completely the professors fault, this is not fair to the students. Professor also should not spend so much time reiterating the same principle over and over. Also the professor changed the schedule several times over the semester, this resulted in very little work in the beginning and too much @ end

Getting homework graded and back in a timely manner was a problem at the beginning of the semester but was addressed and improved by the end.

Having a wider variety of examples in for problems than, what is mostly given in the book and the slides. Some examples I got was about converting bit strings and but, never had an example for converting base 5 numbers and the like. A chance to see problem differently, to allow for full comprehension of the concepts.

I felt like my suggested course path ill prepared me for this class. The concepts weren't completely difficult, but they seemed to assume I had a knowledge of mathematics that I did not have. Consequently, I'll be taking Professor Allison's course again, hopefully after I've completed some more MATH courses.

I hate the testing center intensely. Please either let us test in class or make the range of testing center days a little longer. Working full time makes the testing center an obstacle unless tests are available over the weekend. I realize that this sounds silly but while working in another county, it can be difficult to make it to the testing center prior to the cut-off time.

I think the only thing that I would critique is that sometimes, I felt like Chuck would teach us at a higher level of understanding on the subject than any of us had knowledge. or he would go over a subject using understanding that we all weren't aware of. I think that he as a mathematician sometimes forgets we all don't have the knowledge he has. Maybe the majority of the class did have that background knowledge, but often I felt lost. However, as I said above, Chuck always made himself available to students who sought him out, and on a personal level, he would give the time to any student to teach them the material which gave the student trouble.

I understand that "Provides timely feedback about student performance" was a grader issue, and had nothing to do with the Professor. Thus, I have marked it Strongly Agree.

I would just say one thing. The homework took forever to get graded, forever. he kind of took care of it at the end but if he had that homework graded quicker i would have been much more pleased

I would suggest that you teach your students as if they do not know anything about the subject. You assumed we knew and understood advance concepts and would move through the material very quickly. I would also suggest writing out all of your steps. It was hard to follow some of your examples and proofs.

It would be helpful if every topic wasn't treated as trivial or "easy". Some may be, while others might not. The second recommendation is to use as many examples from the homework as possible to teach the principle. Don't stick solely to the slides.

It would have been really helpful for me if you were able to explain things in simpler terms. When I see the equations on the slides it just goes over my head. It helps me to see the concept in its simplest form and then slowly expand my understanding of it with clear examples. I think it would be good if you didn't use examples straight from the book. I have a hard time understanding things when they're that way.

Keep up the good work

Make the tests closer to the practice tests or make them a little easier to do.

None.

Nothing

Overall I thought instructor was excellent, and I would take a course from him again given the opportunity. With that being said, I am a believer in feedback and there is always room for improvement, and my only suggestion is to not assume that students are getting it. Comments like "this is easy", or "this is basic stuff" make it very difficult to speak up and ask questions. I am afraid to ask questions in class because I don't want to look/feel stupid right after the instructor announced to the class how easy/simple the concept was. Of course I know that it's still on me to ask.

Also, I had to deduct points for feedback simply because my class had issues with graders for most of the semester. Not really the fault of the instructor, but someone has to grade the homework, and if we can't get help, we have to do it our self.

Sometimes I felt that Prof. Allison assumed that we already understood a concept so he would just lightly touch on the subject and just move on and not give the proper time to the concept.

The exams were more difficult than the practice exams. I'm generally of the opinion that the practice exams should be more difficult than the exams, so that students study adequately.

The subject is a difficult one, and sometimes he taught it at a very fast pace. He would solve difficult problems very quickly and some of us would get lost.

The tests stray from assignments and practice tests just a bit in that the assignments and practice tests only test the understanding and application of the material, but the tests often include slightly more complicated algebra where it doesn't require more knowledge of the course material, just a higher knowledge of algebra.

Try to get luckier when picking a grader :)

Very well taught. Lots of people understood and some people didn't. I happen to be one of those that had a tuff time understanding. I liked when you took the first chapter slow, that helped. I realize thought that with time constraints that just isn't a possiblitty to do the whole time. Just really work hard in helping students understand the concept of Big O. The frist two test seemed to be harder than the parctices tests for them were. I fell confident understanding the practice test and the conepts to get the answers, however when I got to the test I felt lost, it seemed so much are on the actual test. The third test wasn't that way but maybe just be aware.

When explaining concepts, use easy to understand and real world examples. This class material is hard enough. We don't need "far out there" examples.

do a better job at teaching python principles, give us some example code.

no suggestions

nothing, thought you did a great job.

□

You can also view your results in UVLink on the teaching page under the faculty tab. Please reply to this e-mail with any questions or concerns.

Thank you!

From: **Student Rating of Instruction System** sri@uvu.edu
 Subject: Course Evaluation Results for: CS 2300 001 - Charles D. Allison
 Date: January 4, 2012 at 12:36 PM
 To: <10005194@uvu.edu> 10005194@uvu.edu

Course Evaluation Report

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Term	Division	Department	Course ID	Course	Description	Professor	Evaluations Taken	Total Enrollment	% Complete
201140	TC	CSE	CS 2300 001	16122	Discrete Structures I	Charles D. Allison	30	39	76.9

Demographics

Total
30

Description	Response Total	Response Percent
Class Standing		
Junior	14	47%
Sophomore	10	33%
Senior	3	10%
Freshman	2	7%
☐		
Crse req'd for program?		
Required	27	90%
Both	1	3%
Elective	1	3%
☐		
Crse Requirement		
My Major	28	93%
Both	1	3%
☐		

Instructor

Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
30	50	29	13	5	3	4.20	0.69

Description	Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
Organized	30	40	40	13		7	4.07	1.08
Respectful	30	47	23	17	13		4.03	1.10
Fair	29	52	41	3	3		4.41	0.73
Clarity	30	20	37	23	13	7	3.50	1.17
Knowledgeable	30	70	27		3		4.63	0.67
Timely Feedback	30	53	33	10	3		4.37	0.81
Achievement Standards	30	83	10	7			4.77	0.57
Recommend	30	33	23	27	7	10	3.63	1.30

Comments

Total
30

Description
Helpful
The practice tests
Chuck was very well mannered and most definitely knows that he is talking about. Occasionally a student in the class would correct him, but that was always a student named Max who was also a math teacher.
Extremely accommodating to the students and will do everything he can to help the students succeed, short of doing the work for them. Very good about keeping the schedule updated and informing us of changes. Never had a professor that is so well organized. It was a breath of fresh air. He was also good about trying to

so well organized. It was a breath of fresh air. He was also good about trying to show to us how the material applied to CS majors via in-class examples and the program assignments.

Has an open door policy.

He is fun to listen to and he is the type of guy you like to listen to. He is friendly and very helpful with questions and trying to help students understand

He is very likeable and fun as a person. I was especially grateful that he went to the trouble to find the problems in the current book as well as the older (cheaper) book.

He knew what he was teaching he made some things that were hard he made us to see it easy. homework were helpful.

He knows the subject very well, but much of the book work is much more difficult than what he goes over, think of learning how to add for math, and then the book work is do multiplication or dividing with adding only...

He was incredibly helpful and understanding about student life and everything that it entailed. I felt like he was a fair and excellent instructor and would highly recommend him to anyone considering taking this course.

I definitely learned a lot, which of course is good.

I thought he was very willing to help students understand and did all he could to help them pass. I thought the quizzes were very helpful as well as going over the problems in class

Pretty well structured. It is nice to have an updated syllabus and know what assignments are due when at all times. It is also great to have an outline of the topics and a calendar for approximate date of coverage. Great knowledge of math and programming. Feel like he does want students to succeed. Can tell he is excited by the subject material and enjoys it.

Professor Allison really knows his stuff and helps to make the book and the concepts understandable. With this class being as hard as it was, that was a big help. There is a lot of valuable information that is applicable to Computer Science majors, that I probably wouldn't have gotten any other way.

Since he is knowledgeable he can show you examples on how to do it. He helped save people money by using both the 6th and 7th edition for the class.

The homework assignments were well-matched to the exam material. Choosing questions from the Instructor's Resource Guide that were common to previous editions was nice.

The instructor has an engaging teaching style that made it easier for me to pay attention.

The only positive part of this class was the 5% extra credit points that we could get from quizzes. But honestly its such a miniscule amount, and the quizzes were so difficult that it didn't help.

They book and powerpoint presentations were very helpful.

Time spent doing examples greatly helped with the homework problems

he is always willing to spend time on assignments with students

the instructor was always willing to take time to answer any questions and to give help whenever it was asked for.

the material was necessary for advancement of my major.

□

Suggestions

A couple more examples of each of the concepts that were taught would definitely help. Sometimes it felt like we cruised through the material so fast, one hardly had time to write everything down.

Alot happened during the semester like he was sick for a week, and he moved during the semster, so I would just suggest making up somehow for those 5 or 6 classes he missed.

Better preparation before class, and more clarity on specifics for how assignments will be graded.

Continue to do reviews before the exams, the review made all the difference for me on the exams.

Don't be gone for a week

Go over lectures beforehand.

Have a test review and spend a class period going over examples from all sections that will be on the test. There is a lot of material and when there isn't

much time to do a lot of the homework problems it's easy to forget and a test review helps to bring back to memory the subjects we went over and how to do them.

His practice tests were nothing like his real tests. On test# 2, the class average was a 67%

I found that the homework (for me) was due too early because I would end up suddenly fully understanding the material the day after I turned it in, so my homework scores were not very good. I would've liked an extra class day before turning in the homework, personally.

I would have liked to see more worked examples. At times, it seemed like we were rapidly flipping through slides, repeating what was already said. It would be nice to see worked problems from the book, particularly those similar to the homework. Those problems were much more difficult than the typical application of set $\{1,2,3\}$ or $\{a,b,c\}$ to a concept.

I would often get lost during class. I think it was because these are hard concepts, and it seemed like I didn't have enough time to let it set in my head before we were moving on and building upon it, so then things got even more confusing. Also, asking questions seemed intimidating because when I did ask, it felt as though the teacher was getting frustrated that I hadn't understood already. For example, he would often introduce a topic as "obvious" or "trivial" and then when I didn't understand it, I felt that I must be the only one and that everyone else was far ahead of me, so I would be the 'dumb one' in the class.

If anything take a few of the questions from the HW (or the odd ones) and walk through them with the concept/formulas given in the chapter.

If I didn't get a concept I didn't feel like asking a question to clarify because I felt dumb when he responded to me. He makes you feel like you should have already known how to do it. I suggest being more patient with the learners, although you may get it, they most likely don't. Be more respectful to them, maybe they don't understand it, or they get a different answer, be nice and explain it again, don't make them feel dumb.

More unweighted practice tests

One thing that made the class hard was that the material was covered so quickly, there simply wasn't enough time to absorb what was being taught. A quick run through in class, and one like-question in the homework simply wasn't enough exposure to retain anything.

Slow way down. Try and use less powerpoint if possible. The powerpoint lets him fly through complex material very quickly, but it leaves most students behind. He is great at asking if we have any questions, however, my feel is that the question is almost rhetorical. I think we have so many questions that we don't even know where to start many times, so he will simply move on, which makes asking a question on any new material even harder since we didn't understand the fundamental step. This isn't always the case, but often was. We need many more examples in order to try and understand this very "mathy" subject. Most of us have very little math background and just understanding the formulas and notation that the textbook provides is more difficult than the actual subject matter. Please, please, please save your students the pain that I went through this semester by providing more examples, and not of just easy things. The HW is much, much harder than what we cover in class.

The course was rushed. The slides were based on the book which was pretty difficult to understand. The instructor needs to slow it down and find a better way to explain the material to the students. I felt in the dark and on my own the entire course.

The instructor was well educated and kind, but his tests were way too hard. I really think he needs to provide better examples for the problems that will be on the tests. He teaches the material well enough to understand, but a lot of the questions we learn in class or homework aren't efficient practice for the tests.

The only thing I could think was to say that sometimes he was almost too knowledgeable. I occasionally felt like sometimes he would say things that were obvious to him, but weren't as obvious to me.

The only thing that I can think of is that it would be nice to see more of the big picture and how this class applies to a Computer Science major at the beginning of the class. To tell you the truth, I wasn't a big fan of the class until about halfway through the semester when we were discussing Big-O notation. I didn't realize how any of this was useful until I saw a game developer on Twitter use Big-O notation. After that I saw a lot more value and importance in the class. It

was hard, but well worth it. Thank you.

Treat us like we're stupid - like we don't know the subject. There were a lot of comments like "This is obvious so I won't go into it" a lot. It may be obvious, but perhaps not to everyone. Never assume something is obvious to all the students. Test scores would prove that what is obvious to you is not obvious to the students. And when something is "obvious" or "common sense", then it will make a student feel even more stupid if it isn't as clear to them as it apparently should be.

Where to begin... Everyday the students would come into the class and Chuck would stand up front and go over slides that were made by the publisher of our textbook. Mind you, this textbook is extremely difficult to understand, so the slides weren't any better. Chuck would read the slides word for word, which really didn't teach us anything. I would leave class everyday being extremely confused, and without anymore knowledge than I had when I walked into the class. Chuck blamed the students when our test scores were so low. He said, and I quote, "maybe this will serve as a wake up call for some of you to work harder." Okay Chuck I would spend an hour and a half to two hours working on homework every night, and your telling me I'm not working hard enough!? It doesn't take a computer scientist to realize the teacher is at fault when the average test scores are in the sixties and low seventies. Fact of the matter is you cant teach this subject and your very disrespectf! ul towards students.

he is a good professor but I think the test were a little to hard, on my own opinion i went to take the test prepared on my own way i spent time studying for test i still think the test were hard that;'s the only thing

make tests a little more manageable

no one in the class knew there was a solutions manual to the book and no one knew that there was a tutor for this class until just last week. it would have be nice to know the resources available when I started this class.

□

You can also view your results in UVLink on your faculty detail schedule. Please reply to this e-mail with any questions or concerns.

Thank you!