From: **Student Rating of Instruction System** sri@uvu.edu
Subject: Course Evaluation Results for: CS 3240 001 - Charles D. Allison
Date: December 29, 2013 at 5:55 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
201340	TC	CSE	CS 3240 001	16136	Intro to Computational Theory	Charles D. Allison	43	47	91.5

Demographics

Total 0

Description	Response Total	Response Percent
Class Standing		
Junior	26	
Senior	14	
Sophomore	2	
Crse req'd for program?		
Required	43	
Crse Requirement		
My Major	42	
Both	1	

Instructor

Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
344	81	18	1	0	0	4.79	0.44

Description	Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
Organized	**43**	88	12				**4.88**	0.32
Respectful	**43**	84	16				**4.84**	0.37
Fair	**43**	79	21				**4.79**	0.41
Clarity	**43**	72	28				**4.72**	0.45
Knowledgeable	**43**	88	12				**4.88**	0.32
Timely Feedback	**43**	70	21	9			**4.60**	0.65
Achievement Standards	**43**	81	16	2			**4.79**	0.46
Recommend	**43**	84	16				**4.84**	0.37

Comments

Total 0

Description
Helpful
Always open to questions about the course material and the science in general. In-class slides supplemented the discussion rather than being a crutch. Very knowledgeable. I particularly enjoyed the project where we created a parser from a DFA because it was something that helped me appreciate the value of the abstract math we learned.
Examples of the different processes. (aka getting DFA from grammar, grammar from DFA, etc) And thank you for almost never saying "It's easy" I really appreciated it, it helped with my confidence in learning the course material at least. Also thankyou for having us do the problems with you, this provided great opportunities for us to see where we were missing information or not understanding the current topic and ask questions immediately. (plus it probably helped with retaining the knowledge on the tests)
Has a clear outline for the class. Knowledgeable and good at explaining the topics in class.
He explained the material well, gave us homework that helped to solidify the concepts in our minds and then reviewed anything that was still confusing.

in our minds and then reviewed anything that was still confusing.
He is always there for the student, very helpful.
He is incredibly knowledgeable about the topic. Furthermore, I think most instructors would find this course...uninteresting to teach. You can really tell that Prof. Allison genuinely is interested - and at times, even excited! - about this topic. That helped a lot in this course.
He is very willing to help students understand the material. Super witty and funny man! Class was never boring.
He made very difficult concepts some how understandable. He might be a magician. I appreciate him going over examples and sometimes going over a concept several times, in order for us to understand it.
He used slides that made the subject easier to understand and would work through problems that we had questions about.
He was always willing to help, in class, his office, email, anything. And he just explains things is a way that is very understandable and helpful. Thank you for a good semester!
He was very knowledgeable and could teach in a way to help us better learn. The quizzes were very helpful to prepare for the tests. The homework was very helpful.
I just think he makes the classroom environment very comfortable and easy to learn in
I liked how he explained stuff from the book his own way. I understood his way of teaching it ALOT better then the book. He made more sense. I am a very visual learner, and I thought he did well at teaching that way, with lots of examples and always willing to answer questions.
I liked the way he explained things, I liked the examples, and homework. Also, reviewing homework. And finding the professor outside class for questions was really easy and helpful. Also, the note sheet for tests are helpful.
I really liked how you could tell that the instructor actually cared about the students. It was really helpful going over the homework problems right after we did them.
I thought the class' pace was perfect. He is very good at explaining the concepts in a way that it's not difficult to grasp. He also allows some flexibility in the class schedule to ensure students have really absorbed the material.
Instructor is very perceptive and responsive to students and their needs.
Instructor really seems to enjoy teaching this subject and it shows. It is a really difficult class but I find that I enjoy going anyway. Subject matter is interesting and the instructor does a great job of explaining a difficult subject.
Interesting to listen to, explains concepts pretty well.
Keeps a pretty dry subject interesting. Always willing to help with any questions. Very organized (THANK YOU!!!) and timely with grading/updates/announcements. Very knowledgeable and enjoys the subject matter.
Prof Allison is incredible! He's knowledgeable, can code on the fly, and makes time to answer every question. I really liked that he graded the programs and provided helpful feedback on improving our coding styles. I appreciate that he has office hours and is happy to meet with any student until they understand. He's prepared to teach and is able to transmit difficult ideas. He also has a nice sense of humor and is relatable as a person. I recommend this teacher to every student I come across. I would take every class from him if he taught them.
Professor Allison does a fantastic job of making extremely abstract concepts make sense. Whenever someone doesn't quite get it, he'll carefully craft his answer based on what parts the student does understand.
Professor Allison is a great teacher. I can tell he goes to great lengths to make sure his students understand the topic. He also makes a lot of effort to make an other-wise less-than-exciting subject fun and interesting, and he does it very well. There were quite a few homework assignments for this course, however the length of these assignments was reasonable and provided just enough practice to grasp the concepts taught. Periodic quizzes allowed us to see how we were doing in the class, and helped us focus our studies for the tests. I really appreciated how quickly he (and the grader) posted all our scores for assignments, quizzes, and tests to canvas. Although at times the grading on assignments felt somewhat "harsh", it was very fair and the feedback given was spot-on, clearly pointing out the mistakes we made and how to not make them on future quizzes/exams.
Professor Allison wants the students to succeed. With that in mind he is willing to take the time that is needed to explain the subject material even if it puts him slightly behind schedule. Also is very willing to meet with students outside of class for help on assignment and projects. Makes hard topics lots easier to understand.
Professor very knowledgeable and very willing to take extra time to help students with knowledge they might be struggling about.
Quite comprehensive treatment of materials in short amount of time, challenging and last but least engaging. Professor Allison's passion for teaching and knowledge really

last but least engaging. Professor Allison's passion for teaching and knowledge really shows in this course. I'm really glad I took it from him even though the course was more challenging than I thought at the start of semester.

Simplified the ways that problems were solved, Made way more sense than the book did. I had a hard time learning anything from the book.

The class was organized and I learned a lot. Many of my recent classes have been boring and unbareable at times. This class kept me on my toes. Professor Allison knew the material and taught it well.

The professor always made sure to ask questions and make sure we were on track with what we needed to learn.

This was a difficult course that professor Allison excelled at making easier to understand. I was blown away by the level of attention we all seem to receive with our needs. I loved the online tools that he found for us to make creating DFAs simpler and the course Facebook page was helpful as well. I look forward to my next class taught by professor Allison.

Very helpful and good at explaining the topic.

Very helpful outside of class and willing to make sure you understand the material

Very knowledgeable about the subject. Made what would have been a very and dry and boring subject tolerable, maybe even a bit exciting.

Very knowledgeable and helpful. Made class interesting.

Very smart. Knows the material extremely well.

Very thorough slides, and the occasional video demonstrating things. Do more videos, it very helpful to see you running through problem.

Well prepared on lessons and flexible with assignments and projects, assignments will be moved back if there is a lack of understanding or just haven't gotten to the subject yet

Your slides are much better than the book.

he is a great teacher and makes learning an otherwise difficult subject fun.

he was merciful

Suggestions

As far as material or explanation, I can't point to anything in particular. I can say that this course moved a bit fast for me, but that is my problem, not Prof. Allison's.

One other comment I have is that though Prof. Allison's practical approach to teaching Computational Theory (using graphs/reasoning instead of mathematical mumbo-jumbo in the book) made it easier to understand what he was saying, this approach also made it more difficult to study on my own because I did not understand the jargon enough.

I certainly prefer the 'graph' approach to the material, but perhaps a book whose approach to the topic is congruent with Prof. Allison's better approach would be in order? (or perhaps I should have just studied the book better/more thoroughly).

Either way, it was an excellent course and I can confidently say that I have a better understanding and appreciation for the foundation of computing.

Dump the book. It is terrible. If you must keep the book please write your own homework. Maybe recycle old quiz questions or something?

I always found that the quiz and test questions where concise and easily understood. Half the time I didn't even understand what the book was asking me for.

In the foreword of the professor's edition of that book it even says that the exercises really for mathematicians and undergrad computer science students will likely have a very difficult time with it. I loath that book with a passion.

Flip teaching! Record the lectures, class time for hands on!

Also, please choose graders who can be a bit more timely.

Hard to say, maybe a more detailed study guide for tests. I feel like I did well on homework and quizzes and programs but really bombed on some of the tests.

He should write a textbook for the course! It would be awesome!

If possible, maybe one or two extra problems worked out in the slides. Also, maybe a separate document posted on Canvas with the Pumping Lemma proof on paper to study instead of relying on in-class instruction only. The overarching request that I have for this class is that Professor Allison write the book! Our textbook, while adequate for some material was arguably useless for other topics in the course. I would strongly encourage the department to allow for him to write a book for this course.

It was mentioned that there is no better book for the course than the one we had. I

would drop the book entirely. It presented the informaiton differently than we learned it in class. We only used it for homework questions and it seems that Professor Allison could have done without the book entirely. If anything, just write a book yourself.
Keep up the great work, i hope to take more classes from you in the future
Let's be honest, there is nothing really bad to say. Save maybe more examples!
Maybe a day before the tests, or final we could have a review session to recap everything for the test.
None
None
None.
Not so much a improvement for the instructor but when assignments are past due and there is no chance for points mark them as 0. Canvas doesn't calculate the grades properly and I an inflated sense of my grade to the point I may end of failing the course when I thought my grade was closer to a B (totally my fault as I should have been paying closer attention)
On some of the harder subjects covered in class, maybe spend some more time covering them. Review the tougher topics covered in class the previous day before starting the new topics the next day.
One thing I would suggest is that if your assign questions out of the book, maybe do more examples like how the book asks. Many times I totaly understood your way of doing it but got lost when it came time to answer a question the way the book worded it. But I still thought you did a good job, and that didn't happen too often.
Slides in a PDF format would be much more useful. had a hard time reading many of them due to missing fonts etc. Sometimes the slides had incomplete examples, and it would be nice if complete examples were accessible.
Some additional written out solutions would be helpful with some of the more complicated sections. I took notes, recorded audio, and took pictures in class, but was still stuck on many examples. That book is so hard to understand it was nearly useless for me, unfortunately. A lack of solutions to review made it very difficult to learn many of these sections. It was similar in discrete math until I found a solution manual online that allowed me to review many different examples for problem types. My comprehension jumped a huge amount once I could review these. May just be me, but it would definitely help me understand these better. Look forward to more classes with you next year... definitely THE BEST CS professor at UVU by a pretty large margin. Thank you for all that you do!
Sometimes I felt like the professor would explain things really quickly assuming that everyone understood. This material is hard to get an understanding of and takes lots of examples and practice, not just a few power point slides and a lecture.
The book was super confusing. I honestly feel like there shouldn't even be a book and we should just use your methods for solving the problems.
The textbook is abysmal. You should write your own. For real. The way you teach and explain the problems is much better than the book. You don't have to have a video series of the whole class, but maybe of some of the main points that we struggle with. And you don't need a textbook explaining everything in the main textbook either, just course notes would be good. And with that, if I look back at the slides to learn, I sometimes have a hard time to make sense of them because the slides have just an outline needing to be explained in class. Pro. Hildenbrand has course notes that are very helpful. Talk to him about what he does. For some things in the class, the book and the slides don't fully explain what is going on and I go to the internet to look some of these topics up, just to understand what is going on.
There were a couple of times during the course where I felt like the joy was being sucked out of learning. It was when we had a quiz that wasn't very clear as to what it was asking.
Unfortunately the text book is extremely dry and difficult to follow for a student new to the topic, unless you are extremely geared towards mathematical notation. If not for the professor I would have struggled mightily.
We keep getting homework on closure properties, but I swear we never do them in class. They are at least not very well discussed in the slides. I would say this is the one area that there was never a clear example given of what is expected from the problems involving them.
With a subject as technical & complicated as this, it's a huge help to me if what I'm learning can be related to something common that I'm already familiar with. I also don't have a solution for this in mind, but I find it incredibly difficult to try to understand concepts with Greek symbols all over the place. My brain just kind of stops dead when I get 3 or more I have to keep track of while trying to understand a new concept. If you

can find some way to address that, it would have been a HUGE help for me.
Would have learned a lot more if there had been more homework problems, perhaps starting with easy ones, then each problem building on the last so there is a learning progression form the homework.
Write a better textbook! A bit tongue in cheek but the textbook for this class is so dense that there's no way to understand it without Prof. Allison's interpretation.
Write a book to replace the current book.
Write a new textbook because the one we use is horrendous. :)
keep it up, you are doing a great job.
n/a
none.
to understand the book you need a PHD.

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 3240 001 - Charles D. Allison
Date: December 23, 2012 at 5:19 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 3240 001	16136	Intro to Computational Theory	Charles D. Allison	29	33	87.9

Demographics

Total 0

Description	Response Total	Response Percent
Class Standing		
Junior	21	
Senior	7	
Sophomore	1	
Crse req'd for program?		
Required	28	
Elective	1	
Crse Requirement		
My Major	28	
General Education	1	

Instructor

Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
232	69	22	8	1	0	4.58	0.69

Description	Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
Organized	**29**	79	17	3			**4.76**	0.50
Respectful	**29**	76	21	3			**4.72**	0.52
Fair	**29**	72	24	3			**4.69**	0.53
Clarity	**29**	52	41	3	3		**4.41**	0.72
Knowledgeable	**29**	90	7	3			**4.86**	0.43
Timely Feedback	**29**	34	28	34	3		**3.93**	0.91
Achievement Standards	**29**	69	24	7			**4.62**	0.61
Recommend	**29**	76	17	3	3		**4.66**	0.71

Comments

Total 0

Description
Helpful
Dr Allison is the best Professor I've ever had. Well organized and always willing to help, listen and understand students.
Explained things very clearly, and helped take a hard subject to a manageable level. Took time for questions from students after class
Frequent quizzes and notes on exams is the best.
He give many thorough examples, and tests on what he teaches. He's excellent at explaining things.
He is very thorough and provides good examples in class. Very knowledgeable on the subject.
He was very organized and willing to help
He was very willing to help the students and listen to what we had to say. The quizes were super helpful preparing me for the test and they helped me remember the concepts.

He went through a lot of examples in class which helped me understand the subjects better.
I found going over examples in class to be very helpful.
I found this course very helpful. The first third really helped me to understand regular expressions on a deeper level and he class as a whole gave me valuable insight into how to think about language from an algorithmic perspective. Professor Allison was extremely helpful and knowledgeable about the subject and was able to explain some of the very difficult concepts in this course extremely well.
I honestly love the way he teaches, it just matches my learning style. Gives quizes for me to gauge how i'm doing and helps me focus on the most important parts as well as doesn't try and trick you on tests. The tests aren't always easy but thats just because of the subject not some form of trickery. You can also tell he knows what he is talking about and if he doesn't know(or makes a mistake because heaven forbid he be human) he freely admits it. I love that! Some teachers act like that have to be perfect and it comes of as holier then though instead of helpful. Great teacher. wish he could teach all my classes.
It gave me the tools I need to decide if a program can be created to solve a particular problem.
My favorite class so far! great job relating the complicated information in a way that is easily understood and implemented.
One of the best, if not THE best professor in the Computer Science Department! His courses are challenging, but fair. I learn the material and am held responsible for my education. I would definitely recommend Professor Allison to any and all CS students.
Prof. Allison is an excellent professor who took a potentially dry and difficult subject, and managed to make it fun, enlightening, and the right kind of challenging. I absolutely feel like a better Computer Scientist from having taken a course from him, and am excited to take more in the future.
Professor Allison cared if we actually learned the material and tried really hard to present it in a way that we would understand.
The book was useless, without the lectures I would have been lost. In fact on the occasions I had to miss lectures due to travel, I really was lost inspite of having read the text and reviewed the slides. The instructor explains this abstract subject in a very real way making the information accessible.
The exploration of the limits of what a computer can/cannot do.
The programming assignments really helped to solidify the concepts that were being taught.
The slides were kind of helpful that the instructor provided.
This course is key to understanding more advanced programming concepts. Although it took a good deal to grasp many of the concepts, the effect of that understanding on my programming abilities has been very definite. Also, when approached, the professor was very willing to take time individually to help with the concepts.
Very clear and understandable lectures. The topics made a lot more sense when hearing the lectures compared to just reading the book or looking at the slides.
very helpful to students in need
well organized

Suggestions

Adding more notes to your slides.
At the beginning of the semester, it took a while for our homework to be graded and returned to us. But this situation got better as the semester went along.
Homework was slow to come back, and there probably wasn't enough time spent going over it before tests.
I felt like the test questions were much more difficult than any of the questions in the homework or on the slides. Perhaps you could give more examples in class of test-level questions so that students might be better prepared for your tests.
I wish that there was a better way of explaining some stuff but, it is just the nature of the material.
I would have liked to have had more programming assignments, and fewer exercises from the book. After doing the programming assignments I grasped the concepts a lot better. The programs make you think more deeply than the book exercises, so you understand and remember better.
I would like to see less theory/proof related questions on the homework and more of an application of the concepts learned. I would also like to see some of the slides changed to better match up with the way the topics were taught in class. I found Professor Allison's teaching style much easier to understand

Allison's teaching style much easier to understand.
If a better text cannot be found then please write one. Additionally, while this is course is full of abstract concepts, some anchoring them to the real world would be of significant help. There were hints of this in the course, but some browsing online shows others courses where there is significant effort made to ground the concepts in real world application. I think that programming should take a much more critical role in this course and be a substantial portion of the grade. Exercises in programming would help to ground the information in the practical and give it meaning. Writing parsers of mathematical expressions using the techniques in the course is along the lines that I am suggesting.
More external resources. Different book.
More office hours
None here. Good job!
Not having homework graded before first test was painful, didn't know I was doing problems wrong until after test.
Nothing.
The lecture and example given in class very helpful and pertinent, however, there was typically about one week between lecture and the due date for the corresponding homework. Granted the students were free to work ahead and close this gap, but my schedule made this very difficult. Perhaps the professor could have reviewed the concepts once the homework was handed in so that the concepts could be reinforced. Also, the delay from the grader on the homework grading and feedback added to this problem.
This course isn't very useful for the Software Engineering degree and it's a very difficult class. The book is very difficult to follow and I walk away from this class not really understanding how this class is that useful. I think we were told at the beginning of the semester that this class is basically to show or illustrate what a computer can't do. To me, that seems pretty obvious and this class should either not be required or not be so complicated. It seems like it's more geared as an introductory course for compilers but the compiler classes aren't required for the Software Engineering degree so it seems like a waste of time. I realize that part of this is more a CS department issue as far as the class being required for Software Engineering majors, but I think that if it's going to remain required then the instructor needs to simplify it much more. It's not that important of a class and the homework and exams are far too difficult.
This was definitely one of the best courses I've taken at UVU and don't have much to recommend for improvement. Getting feedback on homework was a little slow at first, but that problem was quickly rectified.
Wish we would review homework so we knew how we did and if we were doing things right
i wish there were more programs and fewer homework assignments from the book
provide some lecture notes to accompany the slides. They can be difficult to interpret on their own

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 3240 001 - Charles D. Allison
Date: January 3, 2011 at 4:16 PM
To: 10005194@uvu.edu

Course Evaluation Report

Dear Faculty Member,

Your detailed SRI results are listed below:

Term	Division	Department	Course ID	Course	Description	Professor	Evaluations Taken	Total Enrollment	% Complete
201040	TC	CSE	CS 3240 001	16136	Intro to Computational Theory	Charles D. Allison	33	36	91.7

Demographics

Total 33

Description	Response Total	Response Percent
Class Standing		
Senior	15	45%
Junior	14	42%
Sophomore	4	12%
Crse req'd for program?		
Required	30	91%
Both	2	6%
Elective	1	3%
Crse Requirement		
My Major	32	97%
Both	1	3%

Instructor

Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
33	81	15	3	0	0	4.78	0.34

Description	Total	Strongly Agree	Agree(%)	Neutral(%)	Disagree(%)	Strongly Disagree(%)	Avg	Std Dev
Organized	33	85	15				4.85	0.36
Respectful	33	91	6	3			4.88	0.42
Fair	33	85	12	3			4.82	0.46
Clarity	33	61	36	3			4.58	0.56
Knowledgeable	33	94	6				4.94	0.24
Timely Feedback	33	70	21	6		3	4.55	0.87
Achievement Standards	33	88	9	3			4.85	0.44
Recommend	33	79	15	6			4.73	0.57

Comments

Total 33

Description
Helpful
At the start, I found the slides extremely helpful, and I could easily do the homework just from reading them. Professor Allison did realize that students had trouble with the pumping lemmas, so he tried to help more with those. I didn't understand it well enough, but I saw it helped other students quite a lot.
Exited and enthusiastic about the subject. Did well explaining complex ideas and theories. Helped make learning fun. Found ways to apply theoretical material. Was open to student ideas and he created a good learning environment. Instructor was fair with students when he made mistakes or when the class had a hard time grasping a concept
Great example and explanations
He has his own methods on handling problems which are easier than the ones from the textbook used in the class. He also provides hints on test and homework.
He is hands down the best, most caring teacher in the department. This was my first class from him but if at all possible I will continue to take classes from him. His

class from him but if at all possible I will continue to take classes from him. His teaching style is very engaging and it is easy to pay attention in his class. I felt like he gave us everything that was needed to be completely prepared for every test. He is always open to suggestions and changes so he can be a better teacher the next time he does the class (no other teachers do that like him).

He is very knowledgeable in the subject and knows how to teach the information.

He is very knowledgeable. I am impressed with how he was able to deal with students yelling out corrections and pin him in minor errors. I would not be able to do so well in front of such a critical crowd. He was also able to keep the students focused on the theory while they tried to focus on the minor details and the 'what if' of details. The programming projects we very nice to do, nothing stressful and they were relevant.

He takes the time in class to give clear examples of each type of problem that he expects his students to know how to do. His tests are challenging, but are a good indication of the amount of knowledge that was attained from his course. Best teacher ive had

Homework was spot on. Just enough to teach the material, but not so little that that the concepts weren't learned, nor so much that the work became too tedious to bear.

I really enjoyed how whenever a student had a question, he would spend time in class making sure that question was answered. Even though I didn't ask the question, the answer helped me better understand the material. I liked how the quizzes were extra credit. I didn't have to stress over them, and they provided me with an accurate assessment of what I needed to study more in depth.

I thought this was an awesome course and would recommend the class/professor combination to anyone. It was challenging but not impossible -- and professor Allison was always available to answer questions and clear things up. He also allowed students to voice their opinions and entertained alternative answers to test and homework questions. Very helpful, learned a lot.

Instructor is extremely effective at understanding and answering student questions, and adapting the material to the comprehension of the class.

Instructor quickly responded to questions asked and brought a lot of enthusiasm when lecturing.

It was interesting even though it was hard.

Knows his stuff.

None

Professor Alison is very adept at providing examples that directly relate to the material he wants the students to learn. His ability to walk through the examples step by step is highly beneficial in helping students learn how the algorithms are applied.

Professor Allison always provides examples, and for parts of the course we had regular quizzes and I know that it is hard to keep up time wise; but I appreciated feeling like i got to regularly check my understanding in class with professor Allison there to answer questions.

Professor Allison is always willing to help and his objective is to make us succeed as students. Passionate teacher and deeply involved with class. Bom demais :)

Professor Allison really seems to care about his students' success. He is teaching abstract, difficult to grasp material and understands that if students aren't getting it, he needs to try another approach. It seems he's figured it out for the most part because I was able to grasp everything in the class due to his excellent teaching and because he expected it of us. He instills a sense of confidence in his students in the way he expects the best out of us, giving students extra motivation to learn. His lesson plans are very well planned out. A wonderful teacher.

Teaches very well, providing simple explanations and unique ways to look at things that are not in the book. Also: Donuts. All is forgiven.

That I could go to his office, sometimes even outside of office hours, and he was always so willing to help with any questions I might have had.

The instructor makes great effort to make sure students understand the material. I would definitely recommend this instructor to other students.

The instructor went slowly through examples of everything he taught so we could really see what was going on.

The presentations are such that it is easy for the class to ask questions and give input making it a better learning environment.

Very knowledgeable and passionate about the subject. He loves what he's teaching and he loves teaching it. This makes him a fantastically engaging wonderful professor. One of the best I have ever had.

he is very enthusiastic about a subject that is less then exhilarating

it was easy to know what we were going to talk about and what was expected every class. The assignments were difficult, but effective and not overly repetitive. He always answered questions very clearly and respectfully. He also was good about emailing well in advance and letting us know any changes happening in the class.

well in advance and letting us know any changes happening in the class.

one of the best teachers in the school

very knowledgable about the subject at hand and is good about working with student to help them understand the topics

Suggestions

Can't really think of anything that should be better.

For the first exam he did an excellent job preparing us for the material that would be on it. For the 2nd exam it was like his approach completely changed and we were left on our own. Feed back for the homework was horrible because we didn't even get the majority of it back before the exam so I didn't know which areas I needed to review more then others before taking the exam. The 2nd exam seemed to be a style that was completely different then the first, that covered information from the first exam and information from the section we hadn't even covered. A lot of the material on the 2nd exam came from the last part we covered that we didn't even turn the homework in until after the test so I had no idea if I was doing it properly going into the exam. The programming assignments seemed to amount to nothing more then additional busy work.

Homework was turned back in a timely manner up to the first test. After that the grader fell behind and it was challenging to study for tests or to know how well I was grasping a concept.

I do not possess enough knowledge about teaching to provide any meaningful feedback regarding how to improve instruction or material for this course. The course is quite good, and Professor Allison is very skilled at teaching it.

I like how you keep trying to make the class better for future students. I think you should keep doing that, and asking for class input like you have all semester long.

I think we would do better if he gave more examples for the difficult parts, as we said already about pumping lemmas.

It would be nice, not necessary, to see more documents that give fully worked out examples of the algorithms; My mind may work to understand the algorithm then seeing the theory behind it.

Maybe gives a real-life example on how the computational theory actually apply in modern computer. I know that computer are based on the automata explained in the class, but it will be more interesting to know how does it apply directly in the computer. =)

Mentioning the class "top performers" gives the appearance favoritism, whether it is in fact present or not.

More lecture notes would be good. Or lecture notes period since there aren't any.

Never lose your ability to listen to the students. Your sincere attention to the students in the class shows you care. Thanks.

None

None that I can think of.

On the first test of this course we had a super quiz to review the day before the test opened. I found that to be so much help. It gave me a chance to see what should I know and what am I missing, and I just wish we had that opportunity with the other test.

Probably post more examples from every lecture on the website. Those examples were extremely helpful when working on homework assignments and while studying for the tests.

Pumping Lemma subject need a little more examples in order to make us understand it.

Some of the topics learned in course are harder to understand, I felt that there could have been more examples posted on his website.

Tests seem to take a long time for students, would like some questions on tests that were not work-out problems to reduce some of the stain while taking the test.

The book was hella hard to read. It's almost impossible to understand if you're not a harvard mathematician.

The tests were a little long. Not many questions but they still took several hours to complete.

This one is a bit tough... He heavily relies on slides, which isn't so bad, but sometimes I like it when teachers change things up and write things out on the white board. Near the end of the semester he could use some more of the quizzes, I don't feel quite as prepared for the final as I did for the first 2 tests because there have been less quizzes. Though I'm sure it will be okay. Overall, he doesn't need much improvement in my opinion.

Write a book.

give equally difficult examples in teaching as you assign for homework

practice tests would be nice

practice tests would be nice

some of the concepts are not explained well enough to do some of the homework when the homework is assigned. needs to give more examples of actual questions we will see on the test rather than theory and then go and figure it out with the theory concept of teaching. would of like an actual study guide for test with exact examples of test questions and how to solve them.

You may reply to this e-mail with any questions or concerns about the system. Thank you!