

Course Response
CSCI-4800-1
NUMERICAL COMPUTING

Course Evaluation - University spring 2014
Mark Holmes

Of 9 students enrolled, 3 responded. Response rate = 33%

Overall

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)							Avg.	Med.	s.d.
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Omit			
Overall, this course was excellent.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0 (0%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.33	4.75	1.16
Overall, this instructor was excellent.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
Key	1 = Strongly Disagree		2 = Disagree		3 = Neutral		4 = Agree		5 = Strongly Agree	

Course (Institute)

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)							Avg.	Med.	s.d.
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Omit			
The course readings and assignments (including projects, reports, homework) are effective in helping students learn.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0 (0%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.33	4.75	1.16
The pace of the class is appropriate.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
The course helped me learn to apply course material in order to improve thinking, problem solving and decision-making.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
The course deepened my understanding of principles and problem solving techniques that are important for my major.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0 (0%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.33	4.75	1.16
Examinations, presentations, and reviews fairly assessed knowledge of subject material.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
This course is significantly more challenging than other Rensselaer courses I have taken.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (67%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0	0	3.67	3.25	1.16
The course stimulated my interest in the subject.	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.00	4.75	1.73
The course encouraged my taking an active role in my learning.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
I have acquired the subject knowledge and skills set forth in the syllabus.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
Key	1 = Strongly Disagree		2 = Disagree		3 = Neutral		4 = Agree		5 = Strongly Agree	

Instructor

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)							Avg.	Med.	s.d.
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Omit			
The instructor is very knowledgeable of the course domain.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0	0	5.00	5.00	0.00
The instructor is aware of the student's level of understanding and course difficulties.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	0 (0%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.33	4.75	1.16
The instructor is fair in evaluating student performance.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
The instructor is well prepared for class meetings.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
The instructor makes effective use of class time.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
The instructor provides adequate feedback.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
The instructor is clear and understandable.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	0	0	4.67	4.75	0.58
The instructor is accessible during office hours.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (100%)	1	0	5.00	5.00	0.00
Key	1 = Strongly Disagree		2 = Disagree		3 = Neutral		4 = Agree		5 = Strongly Agree	

General Information

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)										
	A	B	C	D	F	P	NC	S	U	Omit	
What grade do you expect to obtain?	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0	
	Yes	No	Omit								

Was this class required for your major?	2 (67%)	1 (33%)	0
	Yes	No	Omit
Was this class a graduation requirement?	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0

Additional Feedback

Additional Feedback	#	Responses
	1	Sometimes the professor went too quickly through material, especially in derivation of formulas.
	2	Professor Holmes seemed very knowledgeable in the subject and was very kind and willing to help. Homework were very fair and reasonable in length. The homework was also a good preparation for the exams and helped to really grasp the material. Other instructors made the class rely more heavily on MATLAB and coding, which has it's place, but Professor Holmes designs it so that even if you know nothing about MATLAB you can still do well. Having previously failed this class under another instructor I was very pleased to have Dr. Holmes as my instructor. This class wasn't easier it was just better designed. The homework, while a bit lengthy (taking up to 6 hours), did not take 12-16 hours to complete. The tests adequately tested knowledge on the subject without being excessive.

Course Response
MATH-4800-1
NUMERICAL COMPUTING

Course Evaluation - University spring 2014
Mark Holmes

Of 51 students enrolled, 27 responded. Response rate = 53%

Overall

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)							Avg.	Med.	s.d.
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Omit			
Overall, this course was excellent.	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	4 (15%)	10 (37%)	11 (41%)	0	0	4.07	4.25	1.04
Overall, this instructor was excellent.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (11%)	9 (33%)	15 (56%)	0	0	4.44	4.60	0.70
Key	1 = Strongly Disagree		2 = Disagree		3 = Neutral		4 = Agree		5 = Strongly Agree	

Course (Institute)

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)							Avg.	Med.	s.d.
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Omit			
The course readings and assignments (including projects, reports, homework) are effective in helping students learn.	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	9 (33%)	16 (59%)	0	0	4.48	4.66	0.75
The pace of the class is appropriate.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	6 (22%)	9 (33%)	12 (44%)	0	0	4.22	4.33	0.80
The course helped me learn to apply course material in order to improve thinking, problem solving and decision-making.	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	4 (15%)	10 (37%)	12 (44%)	0	0	4.22	4.35	0.85
The course deepened my understanding of principles and problem solving techniques that are important for my major.	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	4 (15%)	10 (37%)	11 (41%)	0	0	4.07	4.25	1.04
Examinations, presentations, and reviews fairly assessed knowledge of subject material.	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	10 (37%)	15 (56%)	0	0	4.44	4.60	0.75
This course is significantly more challenging than other Rensselaer courses I have taken.	2 (7%)	2 (7%)	10 (37%)	6 (22%)	7 (26%)	0	0	3.52	3.45	1.19
The course stimulated my interest in the subject.	1 (4%)	3 (11%)	3 (11%)	12 (44%)	8 (30%)	0	0	3.85	4.04	1.10
The course encouraged my taking an active role in my learning.	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	5 (19%)	9 (35%)	11 (42%)	1	0	4.15	4.28	0.88
I have acquired the subject knowledge and skills set forth in the syllabus.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (12%)	13 (50%)	10 (38%)	1	0	4.27	4.27	0.67
Key	1 = Strongly Disagree		2 = Disagree		3 = Neutral		4 = Agree		5 = Strongly Agree	

Instructor

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)							Avg.	Med.	s.d.
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	Omit			
The instructor is very knowledgeable of the course domain.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	6 (22%)	21 (78%)	0	0	4.78	4.86	0.42
The instructor is aware of the student's level of understanding and course difficulties.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (19%)	13 (48%)	9 (33%)	0	0	4.15	4.15	0.72
The instructor is fair in evaluating student performance.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	12 (44%)	13 (48%)	0	0	4.41	4.46	0.64
The instructor is well prepared for class meetings.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	11 (41%)	15 (56%)	0	0	4.52	4.60	0.58
The instructor makes effective use of class time.	0 (0%)	1 (4%)	3 (11%)	10 (37%)	13 (48%)	0	0	4.30	4.45	0.82
The instructor provides adequate feedback.	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	4 (15%)	8 (30%)	13 (48%)	0	0	4.15	4.44	1.06
The instructor is clear and understandable.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	7 (26%)	18 (67%)	0	0	4.59	4.75	0.64
The instructor is accessible during office hours.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (11%)	5 (26%)	12 (63%)	7	1	4.53	4.71	0.70
Key	1 = Strongly Disagree		2 = Disagree		3 = Neutral		4 = Agree		5 = Strongly Agree	

General Information

	Number Responding/(%age of Respondents)									
	A	B	C	D	F	P	NC	S	U	Omit
What grade do you expect to obtain?	18 (67%)	7 (26%)	2 (7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0
	Yes	No	Omit							

Was this class required for your major?	18 (67%)	9 (33%)	0
	Yes	No	Omit
Was this class a graduation requirement?	17 (63%)	10 (37%)	0

Additional Feedback

Additional Feedback	#	Responses
	1	I believe that this class is not really living up to its potential. I feel like the Engineers that have to take this class for their major struggle with this class, but the students with a stronger math background find it too easy. Personally, I think this class could do really well if it was possible to meet the needs of both groups, I'm just not sure how to do that.
	2	I know a lot of people who've struggled with this course in general in the past, and I feel really lucky to have had Professor Holmes. The notes in class sometimes were a little tedious just because the math and all of the variables can get confusing, but the online notes really helped me. I definitely feel like I learned the material and could apply it in the future.
	3	During lecture, the professor jumps around a lot and sometimes writes on the board in places where half the class can't read it, But your notes are always liar and make sense in the end
	4	Homeworks are graded a bit harsh. I have heard horror stories about NumComp in the past, but the way Holmes presents the information is clear and understandable.
	5	I felt that parts of this class were very basic for a math major. I think that it would be nice to see some more challenging topics introduced.
	6	The course does a great job at getting to the base of what numerical computing is. It is sometimes easy to get lost in the proofs partly because it sometimes feels disorganized.
	7	Though I do enjoy learning from the professor, I lost momentum by mid-semester because I did not like the coursework. Also, sometimes the instructor was condescending, but he's still great. The instructor rarely responds to emails. I don't know if the material will help me further than getting a relatively mediocre grade on my transcript, but it may surprise me. However, that is not the courses fault, it's mine for not looking into the material further before I took the class.
	8	This course gave me a general understanding of principles that help me to understand what is going on behind the computer screen when I solve problems. I am glad I enrolled in this course. Online textbook written by Holmes very nice. Some questions difficult to understand. Aware of differing levels of programming skills.