



CAPP 30320 2 - Software Engineering for Civic Tech - Instructor(s) James Turk

Project Title: **Graduate Course Feedback - Spring 2024**

Number Enrolled: **7**

Number of Responses: **6**

Report Comments

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

Creation Date: **Wednesday, September 11, 2024**

Please review and evaluate your work in this course overall.

Comments
I am grateful for the knowledge and skills I gained from this class, particularly in front-end and back-end development. The course provided me with the opportunity to work on a project that I am proud of, and looking back, I recognize the significant progress I have made.
However, I found that much of my learning came from the hands-on experience of working on the project and through self-study, rather than directly from the course materials. While I appreciate the value provided by some of the course content, I believe there is room for improvement in terms of its informative nature and overall structure.
During class, walking through code line by line may not have been the most effective use of time. Instead, a more organized and informative approach to presenting the course material could enhance the learning experience for students.
Despite the challenges, I am thankful for the growth and achievements I attained throughout this course. I hope this feedback can contribute to the continuous improvement of the curriculum.
Though my time was slightly co-opted by another course, I put as much into this course and project as I could and I'm very proud of the result.
I completed all the assignments to the best of my ability, participated during class, and completed my portion of the team project.
I learned a lot and believe our group produced a really well-developed and thought out web application.

Please review and evaluate the course on the following:

1. I took away useful tools, concepts, knowledge, or insights from this course.

1 Strongly Disagree (0)

0.00%

2 Disagree (0)

0.00%

3 Neutral (0)

0.00%

4 Agree (1)

16.67%

5 Strongly Agree (5)

83.33%

[Total (6)]

0

50%

100%

Statistics

Value

Response Count

6

Mean

4.83

Standard Deviation

0.41

Standard Error (base on SD)

0.17

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

1 Strongly Disagree (0)

0.00%

2 Disagree (1)

16.67%

3 Neutral (0)

0.00%

4 Agree (0)

0.00%

5 Strongly Agree (5)

83.33%

[Total (6)]

0

50%

100%

Statistics

Value

Response Count

6

Mean

4.50

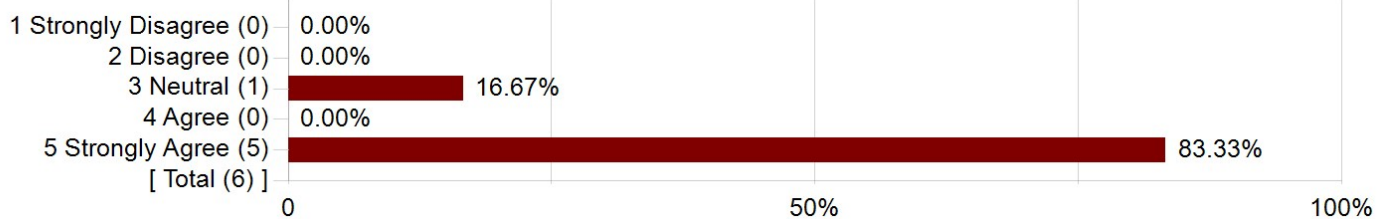
Standard Deviation

1.22

Standard Error (base on SD)

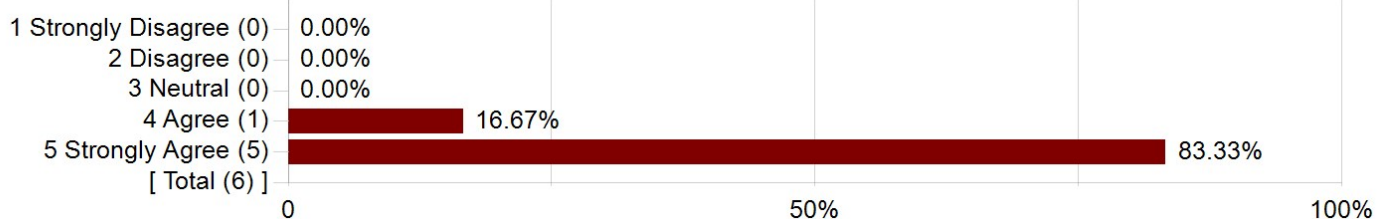
0.50

3. I would recommend this course to other students.



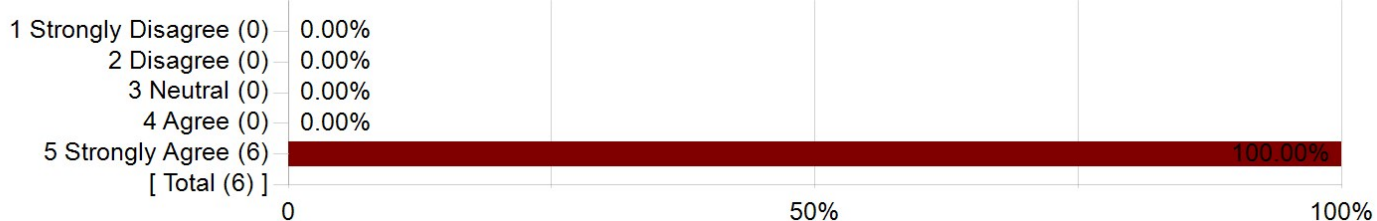
Statistics	Value
Response Count	6
Mean	4.67
Standard Deviation	0.82
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.33

4. The material in this course was constructively challenging.



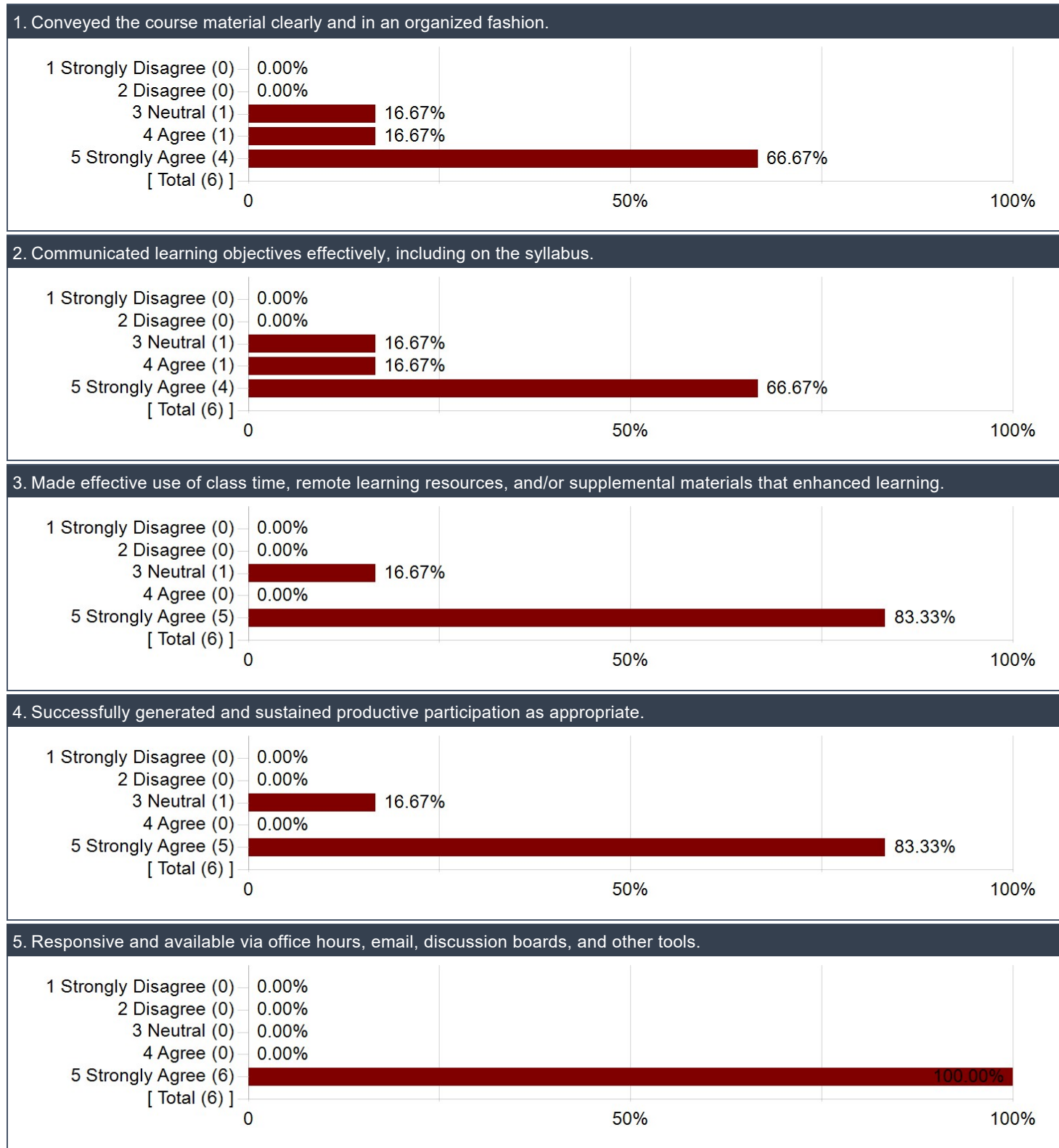
Statistics	Value
Response Count	6
Mean	4.83
Standard Deviation	0.41
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.17

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



Statistics	Value
Response Count	6
Mean	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.00
Standard Error (base on SD)	0.00

Please review and evaluate the faculty on the following:



Please elaborate on any of your responses above.

Comments
During project check-ins, I felt that the feedback provided by the instructor could have been more effective if there had been a deeper understanding of our project milestones. It would be beneficial for the instructor to allocate more time to comprehend the progress and content of our milestones before providing guidance.
The instructor released the requirements for class participation on week 7 which didn't make sense to me.
The course is a great unofficial capstone for the MS CAPP.
James does a great job lecturing. I will always enjoy his lectures because he is so knowledgeable and the material is communicated so naturally. There is always time and space for questions during the lecture and James answers from his own perspective and gives other resources and perspectives as well in order to provide a more thoughtful and balanced range of opinions and experiences. He is a very thoughtful instructor and great role model for CAPP students to have in the program.

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

Comments
Most: The topics chosen to cover. The Least: The Readings
The real world experience Prof Turk brought to the classroom was completely invaluable. He was able to constantly use real examples of the lessons he was teaching us in class and then those were reinforced through the implementation of the semester-long projects. I found it so valuable to receive weekly feedback in our 1 hr meetings from multiple people (professor, TAs, other students) that has such a depth of knowledge on the subjects we were working on.
Professor Turk was genuinely fantastic. He is very knowledgeable, helpful, and encouraging.
James and the TA's constant willingness to provide feedback on our projects and adapt the course to what we were working on.
James teaches accessibly and relies on useful and applicable coding examples to guide lecture topics.

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

Comments
revisit the class material
Clear communication about guidelines and expectations for some of the project milestones.
I would recommend implementing some sort of participation assignments like a reading response on 2-3 of the out-of-class readings you think are the most valuable for students to read. It was easy to bore down on the project and sometimes forget to do readings before class, but this would make sure that at least the most important readings were not passed-over.
Maybe provide resources or contacts with expertise in specific niche domains, such as recommendation systems or GIS, that we may be working on for our project.
NA

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

Comments
Out of all of my courses in grad school, this one made me feel the most seen as an equal to the professionals in the space we are preparing to enter. It helped me understand the value of the skills I have and how capable I am of doing the jobs I want to. I also just felt that my opinion was valued by my group members, the TAs, and the professor, to the point that they saw me as a colleague rather than someone to preach to.
I always felt respected and listened to.
I felt respected, valued, and included as a participant at all times in the course.

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

Comments
Michael was indeed helpful!
Divij , Amazing TA like always (clear communication, always helpful, and great with debugging).
Divij: Divij was super knowledgable about software engineering and brought lots of experience to our team meetings. He was so helpful scoping out our project, selecting tools, and helping to debug weird errors. I have no notes for Divij
Divij Singha was my team's TA and he was always available, provided good insights, and was passionate about teaching.
Michael Plunkett and Divij Sinha did a great job as TAs. They were available during and outside of class. They provided great perspectives having additional experience in the software engineering field which was greatly appreciated.