

Summer Session Instructor and Course Evaluation for Lathrop, Richard COMP-SCI 171 LEC A (34090), Summer I 2016

Responses: 55/59 (93.22%)

Please mark the appropriate rating.

If you have no opinion on the question asked or if it does not apply, please mark "Not Applicable."

1. The course instructor shows enthusiasm for and is interested in the subject.

38	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
7	8	Value: 8
6	7	Value: 7
2	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.53	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.84	Std Dev	

2. The course instructor stimulates your interest in the subject.

23	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
12	8	Value: 8
8	7	Value: 7
7	6 (Good)	Value: 6
1	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
1	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
1	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
7.72	Mean	
8.00	Median	
1.70	Std Dev	

3. The course instructor meets stated objectives of the course.

32	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
13	8	Value: 8
6	7	Value: 7
2	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.42	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.83	Std Dev	

4. The course instructor is accessible and responsive.

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41	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
8	8	Value: 8
2	7	Value: 7
1	6 (Good)	Value: 6
1	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.64	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.80	Std Dev	

5. The course instructor creates an open and fair learning environment.

41	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
4	8	Value: 8
5	7	Value: 7
1	6 (Good)	Value: 6
1	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
1	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.43	Mean	
9.00	Median	
1.46	Std Dev	

6. The course instructor encourages students to think in this course.

33	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
14	8	Value: 8
4	7	Value: 7
1	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
1	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.42	Mean	
9.00	Median	
1.04	Std Dev	

7. The course instructor's presentations and explanations of concepts were clear.

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30	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
10	8	Value: 8
7	7	Value: 7
5	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
1	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.17	Mean	
9.00	Median	
1.16	Std Dev	

8. Assignments and exams covered important aspects of the course.

34	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
9	8	Value: 8
7	7	Value: 7
2	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.44	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.86	Std Dev	

9. What overall evaluation would you give this instructor?

31	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
14	8	Value: 8
5	7	Value: 7
2	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
1	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.26	Mean	
9.00	Median	
1.40	Std Dev	

10. What overall evaluation would you give this course?

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28	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
10	8	Value: 8
9	7	Value: 7
4	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
1	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.06	Mean	
9.00	Median	
1.50	Std Dev	

11. How helpful were the textbooks and/or readings to your overall learning experience?

- 12** Very
- 14** Adequately
- 20** Somewhat
- 5** Not at all
- 1** No comment

12. How challenging was this course?

- 5** Very
- 31** Adequately
- 15** Somewhat
- 0** Not at all
- 1** No comment

Please comment on the following areas and be as specific as possible.

13. What are the instructor's teaching strengths?

- Bringing real life examples to enrich the the lessons. Very knowledgeable on the subject matter.
- Clear, concise
- Definitely into his topic, fair learning environment, very responsive, knows his subject
- Dr. Lathrop really understands the subject well, not only academically, but in practice through his research and business venture as well. I feel that the professor really cares about the students and ensures that they are being fairly tested on the material he has covered, we've had time to question, among other things. I think Dr. Lathrop is the best professor I've ever had at UCI.
- Explaining certain tough concepts, and make it easier
- He's very fair and thinks through things. He's also very nice.
- He's very interested in the subject which makes it easier to pay attention. He's very responsive and always replies quickly. I like when we watch videos during class because it gives my brain a break.
- He is enthusiastic and helpful
- He is very helpful and knowledgable Tries his best to make students understand the concepts
- He makes class interesting with outside material and YouTube.
- He was very interested and willing to teach the subject.
- His lectures are clear and make the material easier to understand.
- Interested in his subject, pleasant, detailed in website and e-mails

- Loud and clear Videos are awesome
- Responsive, clear, punctual, fair
- tells jokes
- The instructor is well-versed in the subject material, answers students' questions thoroughly, and is easily accessible via e-mail.
- This instructor is very knowledgeable about the subject and has a very good way of getting the class comfortable with him. He is also very thorough in his explanations and lecture slides.
- very clear, very organized. Students know exactly what is expected of them.
- Very good at explaining concepts, and breaking for examples in well placed spots
- Very good at explaining difficult to understand topics from the book in lectures, very informative lecture slides, video breaks are nice, very willing to answer any questions that students may have, very generous in extending amount of time for quizzes and exams, study guides from previous years are very good way to practice the material, also amazing singing voice.
- Very good at staying in constant communication with students. Very clear about what he expects from students. Flexible and good at sensing when students may need extra time for quizzes/deadlines.
- Very knowledgeable, very dedicated, very reasonable, and very friendly. Gives great incentive to participate through extra points, but also through outside of the box examples such as videos and demos/projects. Also incredibly responsive and positive. Really one of the best professors I've had.
- Very knowledgeable; fair and accessible; makes learning rather than assignments/grades the main focus of the course; respectful but stern; has a good sense of humor
- Very knowledgeable on the subject and does the best job communicating with students that I have even seen with a Professor.
- Very willing to answer all questions as long as they are related to the class material, and very responsive to email. Breaking up the lecture to do 'cultural enrichment' is actually a good way to stay on topic while also peaking multiple student's interest in the lecture so that they do not day dream off. Very straight forward quizzes that you can easily get a good grade in if you STUDY THE MATERIAL. Basically, class is structured in a way to reward those who actually try.
- 29 blank answer(s).

14. How can this instructor improve as a teacher?

- At times the lectures can be slow and the important details of a chapter/section is reiterated many times, but in a way it makes sure that you know the material well.
- Being slightly more friendly
- Changing requirements of assignments through emails is annoying.
- Don't deviate too much from the system you got going right now. Because, right now, what you're doing is already a lot better than some professors and I don't want that to change for the worse. I wish I could provide something better, but that's all I can think of.
- He needs to stop spamming "emotes" in the emails, they get irritating at times.
- I'm not sure, I think it was a pretty fair class.
- Instructor tells bad jokes. It would also help to focus more on crucial material.
- Is sometimes sarcastic in email responses
- I think it would be great if he gave us an approaches or hints on how to solve the programming assignments that are given

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- I think that this instructor could have been a bit more prepared for this course (maybe it was because it was a very compressed format since it was cut in half) because some of the materials for assignments took awhile to come out at the beginning. The teacher could also improve the course site by making it a bit cleaner and course materials easier to access (zip files instead of directory indexes. These are all very tiny things and I believe the instructor has very little to improve, as he is already a great instructor.
- It would be nice if the powerpoint only has crucial information, or at least more organized.
- It would help to discuss how the topics discussed in lecture can be helpful in doing well on the Project for the class. Felt like the project was separate from everything else in the class as it was never talked about how to solve or ideas outside of the first lecture.
- lectures were really slow and not engaging.
- Making sure labs works before given to the students allow better work to be produced due to more time working on it
- Maybe more office hours, but I understand that summer is very compact and everyone is already a great job.
- More examples, not quite so heavy on pure theory. Summer session moves very quickly and I would have enjoyed a few more examples relevant to what would have been done on the quizzes and tests; sometimes I felt like I hadn't been exposed to the materials on the quizzes and tests quite enough
- N/A
- N/A
- None, he is an excellent teacher.
- Not cover topics that will not be on a quiz/tests.
- Nothing in particular.
- Perhaps show one cultural enrichment video per lecture to keep students interested in the subject material, as constant lecturing on mathematical calculations can get boring. Mentioning, "Mastering this material will help you make a cool AI like the one in the video!" may genuinely motivate students to learn the material, as they may not realize its importance in the field of AI.
- tells better jokes..
- The course is excellent. Maybe the only thing would be having multiple, smaller programming assignments rather than one large one (maybe for a 10 week course). That way each programming assignment can test on a range of topics covered in the course.
- The powerpoints were confusing to review and without a lecturer some made very little sense.
- 30 blank answer(s).

15. Any other comments about this course?

- Fun course, spent a lot of time on the stupid wumpus world game, but i have to admit it was pretty fun coding the AI for it.
- I feel there needs to be some sort of healthy medium for discussion sections during summer session; students may need to lead the class for personal reasons and being forced to sit there, or scolded for standing up, for the multi-hour discussion felt like a borderline hostage situation (slight exaggeration :-)
- If there are more exercises on solving problems, the class would be more useful. Concepts are kind of useless when doing quizzes.
- It's a lot to shove into 5 weeks. I don't think I'll retain the information later.

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- Maybe offer more freedom for students to use the bathroom or leave discussions. I understand the reasoning behind the strictness both for the sake of fairness and for the benefit of the class/TA. However, especially over summer when the hours are already very long, the strictness is a bit tedious.
 - n/a
 - N/A
 - no
 - No
 - No.
 - No.
 - None.
 - Prof. Lathrop is a really good leader. The male TA was really bad but the prof still backed up his TA and did not allow anyone to disrespect him. After a couple discussion sections, the TA was gone so I assume he might've gotten the boot.
 - Project is very tight in summer session - project drafts due on consecutive sundays.
 - The class felt extremely fast, so it was easy to fall behind. Perhaps more than 2 days of lecture a week would help students get a grasp on the material.
 - The instructor mentioned that the subject material was moved around for this summer course to allow students to begin the coding project ASAP. Perhaps this may be preferred when the course is offered in the regular school year (10-week term). Also, if the Project Workshop with the tournament director was held once a week during the regular school year (10-week term), then it should be held twice a week for a summer offering of this course (5-week term). However, if this is not the case, then please disregard this suggestion.
 - This course was poorly organized for the first couple weeks, not at the fault of the professor, but at the fault of the ICS school who did not even let Professor Lathrop know who the TA's would be until the first day of lecture.
 - Tough course since it's so compressed.
 - Very interesting and theoretical - but fun and well laid out
 - 36 blank answer(s).
16. How much academic dishonesty seemed to occur in this course? If applicable, please describe the type of academic dishonesty that occurred (not the particular students involved).
1.
 - 1 A lot
 - 1 Some
 - 3 A little
 - 44 None I could discern
 2. Examples:
 - Haven't witnessed myself, but an email was sent out about suspicion on a quiz.
 - Instructor sent out email of two exams being suspiciously similar in errors.
 - Some people told their friends the answers when the tests/quizzes were being handed out because the questions were visible (a cover page in front of the questions would prevent this).
 - There is only one version of every test and there is no seating chart.
 - There was a single report of a student having similar incorrect answers with the person they sat next to during an exam.
 - 50 blank answer(s).

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17. What school do you normally attend?

- 51** UCI
- 0** Other UC Campus
- 1** Other College or University
- 0** Community College
- 0** UCI Extension
- 0** High School
- 0** Not Applicable

18. What is the PRIMARY reason you enrolled in Summer Session?

- 48** To accelerate progress toward my degree
- 3** To enroll in a course impacted during Fall, Winter or Spring
- 0** To retake a course
- 1** For personal development or professional enrichment

19. What is your preference for the time of day to take Summer classes?

- 3** Early morning
- 10** Late morning
- 28** Early afternoon
- 4** Late afternoon
- 3** Evening
- 4** No preference

20. What is your preference for the frequency of meetings for a Summer class?

- 2** 5 times/week
- 4** 4 times/week
- 8** 3 times/week
- 31** 2 times/week
- 1** Once a week
- 6** No preference

21. How did you find out about UCI Summer Session?

- 6** Academic Advisor
- 6** Summer Session Banner
- 3** Summer Session Booth on Ring Road
- 0** Summer Session Facebook
- 2** Summer Session Flyer
- 13** Summer Session Website
- 11** Campus Email
- 0** Placement Testing Brochure
- 9** Word of mouth

22. What courses would you like to see offered in the Summer here at UCI?

- A variety of more CS courses
- Computer Science 132
- Computer Science courses. But I might be biased since I am a Computer Science major.
- courses that count towards my degree
- CS112. Just more upper division ICS classes I suppose.
- CS courses that don't overlap.
- ICS 53, Math 175 (combinatorics), Math 174A (graph theory), Math 194 (problem solving seminar)
- I would like to see mobile / web application development courses, as well as internet / computer security courses in which people practice legal and practical hacking to better handle security implementations in their code.

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- Math 121AB, Math 130 ABC
 - More courses that are impacted during the regular school year
 - More CS classes
 - More CS upper div
 - More CS upper division classes to choose from
 - more GE classes that satisfy multiple humanities GEs that do not conflict
 - More lower-division courses and the upper-division courses that are offered only once during the normal school year (i.e. only offered once among the fall, winter, or spring quarters).
 - More UD
 - More upper-div Computer Science courses
 - More upper div courses
 - More upper division class.
 - More upper divs CS electives
 - N/A
 - no preference
 - This course, although maybe a longer version. Machine learning and data science courses would be nice. I understand a lot of them are graduate only and that the internet is a good resources for these topics. However, formal courses with good professors and TA's would be awesome.
 - 32 blank answer(s).
23. UCI Summer Session seeks to create meaningful new Summer Special Programs (a set of courses outside of the regular academic curriculum). What Program would you like to see offered in the Summer here at UCI?
- Courses that are completely outside the regular academic curriculum? I don't know... Metal-smithing?
 - IDK
 - N/A
 - n/a
 - N/A
 - n/a
 - No comment.
 - No comment.
 - None.
 - recreational math, problem solving seminars, or survey of open problems that can be understood by undergraduates
 - Sports classes.
 - Time management.
 - 43 blank answer(s).