

Best things about the course

Independence of the coursework, and the predictability of going over the textbook sections (so that I know what is being worked on)

I like the usage of python to relate to some of the theoretical concepts, as a programmer, that relates to me more than just theoretical jargon. I also like how direct the textbook is, again it is not filled with overly complicated terms that sway away from the main concepts and I appreciate that.

Challenging problems and concepts that take time to digest and work out. I also enjoyed the JFLAP exercises

I enjoyed learning about Turing Machines, nfas and dfas. I like the in-class activities.

Writing python programs, constructing turing machines, dfa/nfa

I can get to learn those great ideas about how to prove things and the important theories in computer science.

I enjoyed working with JFLAP/Python for hw problems. Also, your textbook is a nice read that helps reinforce and clarify concepts.

I've enjoyed building the turing machines and finite automata. I also found the proof about how it is impossible to write a program that finds all bugs in all other programs to be very interesting.

The proof are very interesting and I like the way the homework are graded. It gives me the opportunity to go back and learn the materials while earning credits. I also like the fact that the text book contains all the materials needed to be up to speed with understanding the course.

the book is very detailed. The class is clear. The homework connects perfectly with what we have learned.

reduction

The textbook is clearly written and a great resource.

Worst things about the course

The brevity when going over complex theorems/proofs

Nothing stands out as something I dislike, challenging course but that doesn't mean I don't like it.

Challenging problems and concepts that take time to digest and work out

When the entire class period is lecture-based , it can be hard to stay focused.

No formalized way of writing proofs a lot of the content just skimmed over and not explained properly

Too many proofs

Since it is a harder, theoretical course, it would be nicer to get more direct feedback on the homework. It makes it harder to pinpoint what concepts I may be struggling with and need to work on.

I've struggled with some of the more challenging proofs.

I would like to go more in depth in explaining some concepts during class time.

can be confusing sometimes

can't think of any for now

Approach to readings

I usually read the assigned textbook section carefully before class. 0

I sometimes read the assigned textbook section carefully before class. 3

I sometimes skim the assigned textbook section before class, then read it carefully afterwards. 9

I don't usually look at the assigned textbook section before class. 0

Sometimes the textbook readings are helpful, sometimes they are better understandable when doing homework problems rather than before the lecture

a lot of content in the textbook, not sure which parts are important and which parts are not.

I usually read the textbook before class but not all of the materials make sense to me until listening to the lecture. So usually go over it again before doing homework.

It would be beneficial for me to read the class material before class. This way I could ask more specific questions during class time to supplement my understanding of the reading.

sometimes read the assigned textbook carefully before class. If not enough time, I'll skim the sections and sub-titles to get a brief idea of what this class is going to talk about, and read it carefully when I am doing the homework. There might be few times I'll not carefully read part of the textbook if the homework does not mention that part.

Quickly look over to get main ideas.

In-class activities

I would prefer fewer in-class activities and more lecture time explaining course content. 0

The balance between in-class activities and lecture time is about right. 7

I would prefer more in-class activities and less lecture time. 5

It's nice to go through examples of problems of the materials that we just learned. Since the information is in the textbook being able to see another example is very helpful

not enough time to do them. Would like more time on talking/working through difficult problems

sometimes helpful

Starting each class with a warm-up was always a nice way to review some material.

I like the activities because it gives me an understanding of the tools we are using in class.

I learn better doing examples than listening.

Speed of lectures

too fast 0

a little too fast 7

about right 5

a little too slow 0

too slow 0

Amount of work

more work 0

a little more work 4

about the same amount of work 8

a little less work 0

less work 0

Any final comments?

Thank you for trying a new approach to teaching this class, it keeps the classes interesting, relatable and helps me understand.

Would like to learn about practical applications of the ideas we are learning in class. Also would like to learn about contemporary theories in computer sciences, solved problems, new problems or how close we are to solving difficult problems etc.

Good luck finishing the book!

very interesting class!