David G. McKenney (COMP1001B - Computing for Arts Students)

Believe it or not Dave, I enjoyed your jokes a lot :)

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he needs to teach this "intro" class like it is an intro class to the subject and that people do not have an underlying understanding of the subject.

I have mixed feelings on this course. The assignments were great, they were challenging but I really felt like I understood the concepts highlighted by each one after I finished it. The lectures before the midterm were really good, everything was explained well (but not over-explained) and the poll everywhere quizzes were a great touch. I assume that the midterm class average was pretty bad because I felt like I was having concepts beaten into my head/really over-explained after the midterm. That's not really your fault, but for me, it made the lectures much less engaging and not really worth going to. Also, I think that there is more python and less excel in this course than suggested by the course description - this was a pleasant surprise for me, but maybe not for others.

I found the pace to be a little bit fast, especially when going through programming examples / practice problems.

I really don't enjoy the format of the quizzes for this course. Of course i understand that you can see the stats on the matter, i'd just like a little more of a distribution of marks over other mediums e.g. essay, assignments, projects, etc...

Thanks for being a fantastic lecturer!

Professor McKenney is a genuinely funny professor who aspires to engage the students. He is able to come up with creative ways to help us remember information and on occasion shows us examples of the course content being implemented in real life. The course content is interesting, and the professor takes the time to upload his lecture recordings to help further our learning, which I greatly appreciate. Thank you professor!

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great instructor, uses many examples to help us understand

I really appreciated the fact that you go out of your way to make yourself available if students need help. The discord server was a great idea! I also really liked the fact you gave us a sample midterm to help us prepare for the exam! The only minor comment I have was that I sometimes found that the instructions on the assignments were kind of broad, but this is probably just a comp thing.

Great Prof!

A++++++++++++++++++++++. what does the G stand for?

You cover class content very quickly which can be difficult for students that have no knowledge of computer science (like myself). Can be hard to keep up with during class time. Posting the lectures really helped though, and you're super helpful during office hours!! Thanks for all the help.

Cheers

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some elements of the assignments seemed to be much harder than expected for an intro to computing for arts students class

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He made the lectures interesting with his sense of humour and some neat programs we can run with Python and Simple Graphics. The example code he showed us every class made me understand everything a lot better than if it were just the slideshow notes. Thank you for introducing me to computer science!

One of the best classes I've taken.

He makes an exceptional effort to relate computer science to an arts student's day to day life.

Dave's class was great! I really appreciated how he recorded and uploaded his lectures as they made me feel very secure in the chance I wasnt able to go to class! The discord is also a very smart way to keep students and tas in contact and reduced the stress of asking for help!!! Everything was very clearly explained and the amount of examples was very helpful in figuring out how ti do the assignment! Also Dave's a cool guy !! I really enjoyed this class as my first experience with computer science! Thanks Dave!!!!

Thanks.

Overall was a fun introduction to computer science, however, sometimes I felt that it was directed for students who were more knowledgeable in this area and less for beginner arts students. It was very evident the professor knew the information very well but I think they forgot that we were first year students and not higher level students. The material seemed to go by quite quickly and I did not feel that students were prepared properly for assignments. When asking for help from the TA's their answers were quite vague and it made it difficult to ask for future help. Enjoyed the course, would recommend it but do not think I would take a computer science course again in the future.

Excellent professor, David is fair in marking and being available outside of classroom hours. Professor David also provides free online lectures wheres most programs add an additional cost. Thank you for this semester professor.