David G. McKenney (COMP1006A - Introdu to Computer Science II)

Lectures are dry and often aren't clear in explaining the concepts for each course. While writing code on the screen is useful for class, failure to explain more specifically what is happening and how the code works makes the lectures confusing. Additionally, reading off definition in terms that are also new to make it difficult to fully understand the material.

Very thankful for the recorded lectures, and I have a lot of respect for a guy who can handle being in the worst-smelling room in the entire campus and teach for an hour and half. Makes very dated jokes. Tutorials were presented as problem sets to be done in 1.5 hours but every single one took longer and had to be done as a weekly assignment beforehand. This is fine, but please call it that!

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excellent instructor. cannot find better than him!

It is very hard to improve without answers to assignments or tutorials, it just becomes a buildup of errors.

I really enjoyed having Dave as an instructor. I found his lectures and tutorials very informative, and his assignments really helped me consolidate my knowledge of the concepts. I also found your jokes funny and relatable, which made the lecture a little more fun. I really appreciated how you set up assignment workshops, and while most I couldn't attend, I found it very easy to reach you in person or email. My advice would be to start the course with a smaller project, as a video game, while fun, was a little hard to follow with the amount of classes and complexity it had in the beginning. Also, while I'm sure every student appreciates that you records your lectures, I'm sure you'll get a lot more student engagement and attendance if you don't, aha. Thank you for a great semester and I'm happy to say that I feel confident with java and in succeeding in my future cs courses! <3

He's a lovely Prof!

You are a very good teacher, I took this class at UOttawa last semester and didn't understand anything, but everything was clear with you. A lot of teachers simply come to class and teach their courses, but it shows that you take time outside of the class to prepare the material and it makes a huge difference in our understanding compared to a teacher less dedicated. I hope I'm right, but I believe that you care a lot about giving the best possible class.

Good course! Sucks that attendance was so low, I think it's because a) you record your lectures, b) the start of the course was hard to follow along. You improved a lot later into the semester so I think you'll have better luck next term. Don't make as many self deprecating jokes, even though some of them can be funny it makes people lose respect for you as a teacher.

Best teacher i have ever had i honestly wish he would teach me all through my time in carleton. Makes the course material very clear and simple, Gives more than one method to solving problems and lenient and considerate to students trying to learn. Truly the best i've had since i started here. Thanks for being such a blessing and please have a wonderful Christmas and new year

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He is a great teacher. Even goes beyond his way to help out students. He takes his time to interact with us on discord if we have any questions/concerns. We get an instant answer. I wish more proffesors were like him. He also uploads his lectures online, if we ever miss a class, we don't feel handicapped.

My main feedback is that I would have appreciated a slower introduction to the course. I had no prior knowledge of java, so some more practice with basic functionalities would have been useful for getting used to the syntax/ide.

Thank you for an excellent semester, it was fun learning about OOP and Java from you! I hope the winter treats you well, and you have/had a merry Christmas.

Rapid changes in tone and volume cause me headaches during lectures. A softer, more steady delivery would greatly improve communication.

I feel like the classes and the assignments are two different things. Going to classes doesn't prepare you for the assignments and the homework doesnt aid the class

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Dave is super cool and helpful and during lectures he can be pretty entertaining and funny.

The course was mostly very good. I found the first three assignments were structured excellently, building off each other to help develop the skills they focused on. The business type model for these assignments was far more relevant than those of assignments in other courses, particularly gaming which seems to be popular in COMP courses, but isn't very relevant to a science student.
The last two assignments, however, I found were hindered by the used of obscure data structures. this meant that instead of learning about the focus of the assignments (ArrayLists and Recursion), much of the effort was spent trying to understand data structures which have little to no documentation (TreeSets and TrieMaps). Which, in my opinion, detracts from the goal of the assignment.

Those jokes in class were funny. Keep it up!

Great work this semester. I loved this course. Learned a lot. Thanks Professor McKenney!

Dave is a great Prof and his run of COMP1406 was very fun and I learned a lot. Some of the content is very complex so slowing down a bit during live coding sessions would be better for students to comprehend things more. Having the lectures recorded and accessible via cuLearn is an excellent bonus and helped me a lot during difficult assignments and exam studying. Thanks for the great class Dave!

Great class, learned a lot of useful information although assignments did not always have the most clear direction, mainly from needing to really understand the base code given for the later assignments took a lot of time

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You're a great prof! Your sense of humour puts a few classmates at ease during classes. Hope to see you in other courses!

You did great. Not every class is talkative or will answer questions readily. Also dont feel bad that most of the class didnt show up; You recorded your lectures so most of the students who didnt show up probably watched the lecture at home afterwards.
Its good to keep up a personality to help your students connect with you. Im sure Im not the only one who appreciated your jokes and sense of humour.
You said you were 'moderately bad', but you did your best and that's all your students will ever need.
Keep it up :)