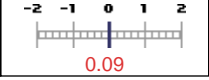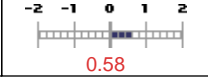# C S 150-0001 **Computing From Ada To The Web** - Spring 2009

School Of Engineering And Applied Science (402vh)

INSTRUCTORS: **Weimer, Westley (wrw6y)**

Respondents: 35 / Enrollment: 77

Summary: C S 150-0001 Computing From Ada To The Web - Spring 2009 (402vh)

Overall Course Rating

C S-150-0001 Mean 3.89
C S-150-0001 Std Dev 1.21
C S-150-0001 Response Count 174

Difference from Category Mean, Expressed in Category Standard Deviations	
	0.09

SEAS, 100-level courses Mean 3.79
SEAS, 100-level courses Std Dev 1.02
SEAS, 100-level courses Response Count 4389

Overall Instructor Rating

INSTRUCTOR: Weimer, Westley
  Mean 4.53
  Std Dev 0.85
  Response Count 245

Difference from Category Mean, Expressed in Category Standard Deviations	
	0.58

SEAS, 100-level courses Mean 3.97
SEAS, 100-level courses Std Dev 0.99
SEAS, 100-level courses Response Count 6123

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

1. The subject matter was challenging.

~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.66	0.54	24 (68.57%)	10 (28.57%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
880	4.06	0.83	277 (31.48%)	432 (49.09%)	115 (13.07%)	51 (5.80%)	2 (0.23%)	3 (0.34%)

2. The objectives of the course were clearly stated and accomplished.

~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.14	1.00	14 (40.00%)	16 (45.71%)	3 (8.57%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (5.71%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
878	3.87	0.89	198 (22.55%)	455 (51.82%)	157 (17.88%)	49 (5.58%)	18 (2.05%)	1 (0.11%)

3. There was a reasonable level of effort expected for the credit hours received.

~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	3.49	1.36	10 (28.57%)	11 (31.43%)	3 (8.57%)	8 (22.86%)	3 (8.57%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
878	3.85	1.04	229 (26.08%)	435 (49.54%)	97 (11.05%)	73 (8.31%)	38 (4.33%)	6 (0.68%)

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

4. The homework assignments helped me learn the subject matter.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
34	4.15	1.08	16 (47.06%)	12 (35.29%)	2 (5.88%)	3 (8.82%)	1 (2.94%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
876	3.88	0.98	231 (26.37%)	383 (43.72%)	142 (16.21%)	63 (7.19%)	21 (2.40%)	36 (4.11%)

5. The textbook increased my understanding of the material.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	3.00	1.19	2 (5.71%)	12 (34.29%)	11 (31.43%)	4 (11.43%)	6 (17.14%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
877	3.18	1.16	81 (9.24%)	241 (27.48%)	217 (24.74%)	109 (12.43%)	81 (9.24%)	148 (16.88%)

6. The course material was well organized and developed.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.29	0.89	16 (45.71%)	16 (45.71%)	1 (2.86%)	1 (2.86%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
871	3.86	0.99	228 (26.18%)	402 (46.15%)	135 (15.50%)	70 (8.04%)	23 (2.64%)	13 (1.49%)

7. The instructor was knowledgeable about the subject matter.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.77	0.73	30 (85.71%)	4 (11.43%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
874	4.36	0.80	428 (48.97%)	347 (39.70%)	54 (6.18%)	18 (2.06%)	11 (1.26%)	16 (1.83%)

8. The instructor was well prepared for class.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.74	0.74	29 (82.86%)	5 (14.29%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
877	4.17	0.86	341 (38.88%)	375 (42.76%)	99 (11.29%)	30 (3.42%)	11 (1.25%)	21 (2.39%)

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

9. The instructor (not Teaching Assistants) was accessible for individual assistance.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.49	0.82	21 (60.00%)	12 (34.29%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
875	3.88	0.96	239 (27.31%)	331 (37.83%)	182 (20.80%)	52 (5.94%)	16 (1.83%)	55 (6.29%)

10. The grading policy was fair.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.63	0.77	25 (71.43%)	9 (25.71%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
875	3.81	0.99	207 (23.66%)	394 (45.03%)	157 (17.94%)	73 (8.34%)	23 (2.63%)	21 (2.40%)

11. The instructor responded adequately to in-class questions.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.69	0.80	28 (80.00%)	5 (14.29%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
874	4.15	0.92	345 (39.47%)	351 (40.16%)	97 (11.10%)	40 (4.58%)	15 (1.72%)	26 (2.97%)

12. As a teacher, this instructor was better than most others in this School.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
35	4.14	1.00	16 (45.71%)	11 (31.43%)	6 (17.14%)	1 (2.86%)	1 (2.86%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
877	3.52	1.13	190 (21.66%)	249 (28.39%)	263 (29.99%)	92 (10.49%)	49 (5.59%)	34 (3.88%)

13. The average number of hours per week I spent outside of class preparing for this course was:
~
Question Type: Multiple Choice
~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Less than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA)	10 or more (NA)
35	0 (0.00%)	4 (11.43%)	12 (34.29%)	9 (25.71%)	10 (28.57%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Less than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA)	10 or more (NA)
878	62 (7.06%)	353 (40.21%)	328 (37.36%)	88 (10.02%)	47 (5.35%)

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

14. I learned a great deal in this course.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
35	3.83	1.07	10 (28.57%)	14 (40.00%)	8 (22.86%)	1 (2.86%)	2 (5.71%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
871	3.71	1.08	211 (24.23%)	365 (41.91%)	162 (18.60%)	97 (11.14%)	36 (4.13%)

15. Overall, this was a worthwhile course.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-150-0001

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
35	3.60	1.09	6 (17.14%)	17 (48.57%)	6 (17.14%)	4 (11.43%)	2 (5.71%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
875	3.52	1.21	197 (22.51%)	326 (37.26%)	163 (18.63%)	116 (13.26%)	73 (8.34%)

16. The course's goals and requirements were defined and adhered to by the instructor.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
35	4.29	0.96	17 (48.57%)	15 (42.86%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (5.71%)	1 (2.86%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
870	4.00	0.82	224 (25.75%)	475 (54.60%)	126 (14.48%)	34 (3.91%)	11 (1.26%)

17. The instructor was approachable and made himself/herself available to students outside the classroom.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
35	4.46	0.85	21 (60.00%)	11 (31.43%)	2 (5.71%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.86%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
877	3.95	0.90	255 (29.08%)	384 (43.79%)	191 (21.78%)	33 (3.76%)	14 (1.60%)

18. Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.
~
Question Type: Likert
~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-150-0001, Weimer, Westley

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
35	4.34	0.87	17 (48.57%)	16 (45.71%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.86%)	1 (2.86%)

Results for SEAS, 100-level courses

Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
877	3.87	1.02	257 (29.30%)	368 (41.96%)	163 (18.59%)	58 (6.61%)	31 (3.53%)

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

19. Please make any overall comments or observations about this course:
~
Question Type: Short Answer
~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-150-0001	
Total	Individual Answers
22	*See below for Individual Results*

The TAs were absolutely amazing and deserve more recognition and thanks than can be given. The textbook served solely to further confuse me, it rarely ever was clearly explained and easy to understand.

I didn't feel that homework assignments and readings adequately prepared us for the final project. If the extremely high final project expectations are to be maintained, more TA aid should be made available during the last few weeks to assist with final projects. Zac and Rachel were effective TAs, but Paul had a way of making me more confused, and tended to just write the code for me instead of walking me through it and helping me figure it out myself. He in fact made some of my code even worse in an attempt to fix it, and still didn't adequately explain what he was trying to do.

Interesting course. The homework assignments were engaging and explored different areas of CS than other courses I've taken in the department.

Tough, but totally worthwhile. I learned a lot of new concepts important in a technologically-based world

This class is way too hard for what it is supposed to be -- an easy intro course in computer science. I spent so many hours on the problem sets each week. I didn't understand anything without the TAs helping me.

As a cognitive science major, I found the course useless. Professor Weimer is a great professor and definitely was conscious of the fact that not all of us were CS majors. However, I would recommend that the Cognitive Science department make another cs class (apart from 101 and 150) available to majors- I walked away knowing little to nothing more about cognitive processes than what I had entered the course with.

best professor I've had at UVA, and I'm not in E-school

I really enjoyed the professor-to-students interaction in this class, the candy 'bribery' for answering questions, as well as the random liberal arts trivia thrown in to the lectures. Wes's teaching style is very motivating and his lectures are typically entertaining, except when the subject is very very dry. Overall, an enjoyable class.

Absolutely wonderful class and professor. It was challenging, but Wes always made himself available to students, and the TA's were great.

Challenging class, but I think it required more time each week than it should have. Overall Weimer was a very effective professor.

Liberal arts trivia questions _rule_.

I came into this course loving the subject matter. I wanted to learn about the theories behind computation, get into the history of computers, delve into serious math and logic. I expected this to be my favorite course at UVA, and I was seriously disappointed. Instead of learning theory, we learned how to barely get by with the help of the TA's. The lectures and the textbooks were little to no help with the problem sets. Both seemed totally irrelevant to our graded work. Instead of covering the fun conceptual aspects of CS, Wes focused in minute detail on Scheme programs. The lectures were cluttered with irrelevant info and dragged down by the constant demand for class participation. The biggest problem is that the main (tested) concepts were only briefly touched on!! We couldn't see the forest for the trees. It was nowhere near the level of other CS courses I've taken as far as teaching and organization. For someone who loves math, paradoxes, AI and theories, it was uninspiring- I don't think I learned a single new or interesting concept. And the textbook was god-awful, besides being useless. Wes seems like a very kind and smart person, I don't to be a jerk about the course, but it was seriously disappointing.

I enjoyed the course, but I found it to be very overwhelming. However, the difficulty of this course was made clear to us at the beginning, and Professor Weimer has done an excellent job making sure that students who work hard and put in the effort will receive the grade that they deserve :)

Very challenging course. I have a fair amount of programming experience, and I found it hard, so I imagine students with no programming experience or who are taking the course to fulfill a requirement for a major other than Computer Science would find it extremely hard. However, the grading policy seems to account for the difficulty of the class and is extremely fair. Wes is a great teacher!

A few suggestions: 1.This course should NOT be recommended to CogSci majors in order to fulfill their CS requirement. I fear that the CogSci department saw "liberal arts" in the course description and immediately thought it was a CS course for non CS majors. That was certainly not the case. 2. The class would benefit from being either a theory based or a programming based course, but not both. The problem sets did NOT help so much with the understanding of lecture material, and the two were often dichotomous. 3. This class required entirely too much work to only count for 3 credits. I averaged at least 12 hours in the problem sets alone, not including readings. This should be a 3 hour course with a 1 to 2 hour lab. Problem sets are too distinct from lectures, so you are doing twice the work for a 3 credit course. 4. I feel that learning Dr. Scheme was a waste of time in the grand scheme (pun intended) of things, I would have preferred to start with a language that is more widely used. 5. throwing candy was great! Chocolate is a definite plus!

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~
	Good class, more difficult than I would expect for a 100 level, however I feel Wes does an effective job dealing with grades/trying to make everyone happy (which are usually one in the same....) I really liked how much Wes took into account student comments. I have never experienced anything like that and I think it was great for the course.

This course is very difficult but Wes Weimer is a great professor! I appreciate his willingness to adapt the course to the students to be serve their interests.

The assignments and exams were too long. It was the most stressful and time-consuming course I've ever taken. Hopefully the course text will be improved and more emphasis will be placed on GEB (great book). Wes is a great professor, but he expects too much time commitment from students - it's only a 100-level course!

N/A

I feel like this course had too broad of a talent/experience range and therefore was hard to accomodate everyone's learning needs. For someone like myself looking to fill a requirement for cognitive science, I probably would not recommend this class unless you have HOURS of free time to dedicate to the subject matter.

Interesting and fun intro to CS. I missed the majority of structured lab hours due to schedule conflicts and a busy schedule, but even with no prior CS experience I don't think I suffered too much. (Of course, the TAs were helpful when I did make it to lab hours.) I understand that there were too many people enrolled at the beginning of the semester, but I think the professor might have been a bit too discouraging (he told me to take the class another semester when I could make it to the lab hours.)

I was not very happy about the final project. I just didn't understand how he expects us to come up with a dynamic website from the very least knowledge we have (for me, this is the first and only CS class I would ever take). I thought it would be more concept-based than programming-based, since it was one of the requirements for Cognitive Science major. I mean, seriously, there is a reason why I chose Cog sci major, and not cs major... |