

University of Michigan
Fall 2020 Midterm Instructor Report With Comments
EECS 280-004: Prog&Data Struct
Nicole Hamilton

48 out of 126 students responded to this midterm evaluation.

Responses to questions related to the course:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Median
I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)	19	13	5	0	0	9	4.5

Responses to questions related to the instructor:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Median
Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)	13	12	3	1	0	6	4.4
Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)	14	14	3	0	0	6	4.4
Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)	11	16	4	1	0	5	4.2
Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)	23	6	2	0	0	6	4.8
Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)	9	15	5	2	0	6	4.1
Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)	10	13	3	1	0	10	4.2
Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)	5	16	7	1	0	7	3.9

Written Comments

What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)

Comments
The projects are a great encapsulation of what we're learning in the lectures, and more. The examples are also decent and the lectures are relatively easy to understand.
The best part at the projects. I learn the most from coding. My lab is also teaching me the most.
It helps students to review the past exam and get a glimpse of what the exam looks like beforehand.
The detailed online notes are helpful, as the lectures can sometimes be difficult to follow. Spending time reading these and winning with other students helps me to learn.
Project-oriented setting makes it very similar to real-world and teamwork scenarios.
The projects. They are very well written and thoroughly test the student's coding abilities.
Putting a focus on giving specific problems and examples helps put the topics in a better perspective. The simply set up slides and the thorough explanation help a lot when understanding the subject.
I feel like I am learning a lot, and it is really cool how we do satisfying projects where we can see the results.
It has projects which force students to really learn the material because they have to implement techniques learned in class as well as figure things out for themselves.
It is smaller because it is lab focused so easier to get one on one help.
The projects are helping me learn
I just find the content in this class very interesting – office hours from professors and in-depth lectures are helping me learn, along with the labs. The amount of questions other kids ask during lectures and the willingness of the lecturer to answer also helps me learn.
Learning by doing.
Teaching concepts well and proper techniques
The projects are fun and engaging.
While it is difficult to understand the material with little guidance, the strength is that there is the piazza community and a lot of resources on the internet to help me understand what needs to happen.
The lecture slides are great and the notes on EECS280.org are concise and well-written.
I like that lectures are recorded so I can watch on my own time and pause for examples. I also like the lecture notes on the 280 page.
I really think that the lab sessions are helpful to review material and practice exam questions.

How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)

Comments
Can't think of anything really, lectures are pretty solid.
It would help if all the slides were gone through during the class, because I would prefer the class to be more organized.
Sometimes lecture can be tedious or difficult to follow because a few individuals ask a very large amount of questions and answering them bogs down the lecture and quickly devolves into minutia. It's interesting to listen to, but I feel like it makes it harder to take notes and keep track of what I actually need to know and apply.
I was completely lost in the second lecture that was done this year and because of that I was close to dropping the class. I think the concepts taught in that lecture were overly complicated for no reason because the class was not that rigorous.
She is doing a spectacular job.
don't answer all questions, leave some to the IAs and some can be left unanswered for sake of time
The full lectures are rarely completed in class due to many questions being asked, which is helpful, but it would also be nice to advance further in the lectures in class.
I don't think there's many ways for Prof Hamilton to improve the class, she's doing a great job. Lovely teacher!
Professor Hamilton takes a bit too many questions during lecture time, slightly slowing down the class. I think if she were to send them to OH, the class material could be covered without going off on a tangent.
I think focusing on less questions that are out of the scope of the class, answering those outside of class and focusing on questions that directly relate to the material could be helpful.
N/A
Overall it feels like we are getting behind sometimes. I don't know how to fix that but it's been my main struggle.

Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)

Comments
No additional comments.
She could spent time answering most questions after the lecture.
na
Thank you for having the patience to explain these topics for us!
I wish the autograder weren't so harsh when grading our projects – hard to explain but I missed one bug caused by one symbol in P2 and it costed me eight points. I don't think that's really fair, but that's my only complaint!
She's a great lecturer, with very specific and clear examples.
n/a