



## Instructor with Comments Report

2018-04-04 - 2018-04-18 Report ID: MSR04734

Instructor: Hamilton,Nicole

EECS 280 005

	Responses from your Students**							University Wide			School/College		
	5	4	3	2	1		Your	75%	50%	25%	75%	50%	25%
	SA	A	N	D	SD	NA	Median	Above	Above	Above	Above	Above	Above
4 I had a strong desire to take this course.	37	20	3	0	0	0	4.69	3.67	4.17	4.67	3.75	4.16	4.59
891 As compared with other courses of equal credit, the workload for this course was (SA=Much Lighter, A=Lighter, N=Typical, D=Heavier, SD=Much Heavier).	3	8	16	26	7	0	2.38	2.83	3.12	3.46			
1631 This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter.	35	22	2	0	1	0	4.64	4.12	4.50	4.75			
1632 My interest in the subject has increased because of this course.	30	18	6	3	3	0	4.50	3.79	4.25	4.67			
1633 I knew what was expected of me in this course. (SA=Almost Always, A=Frequently, N=Sometimes, D=Occasionally, SD=Hardly Ever).	28	27	4	1	0	0	4.43	4.02	4.40	4.71			
230 The instructor seemed well prepared for class meetings. (SA=Almost Always, A=Frequently, N=Sometimes, D=Occasionally, SD=Hardly Ever)	24	17	3	1	0	9	4.56	4.52	4.81	4.93			
199 The instructor explained material clearly. (SA=Almost Always, A=Frequently, N=Sometimes, D=Occasionally, SD=Hardly Ever)	20	17	6	1	1	9	4.35	4.30	4.70	4.88			
217 The instructor treated students with respect.	25	17	2	1	0	9	4.60	4.68	4.87	4.95			
1 Overall, this was an excellent course.	30	23	4	1	2	0	4.50	3.90	4.33	4.75	3.60	4.22	4.56
2 Overall, the instructor was an excellent teacher.	20	17	7	1	0	9	4.35	4.38	4.75	4.92	4.08	4.50	4.76
3 I learned a great deal from this course.	33	22	2	2	1	0	4.59	4.00	4.40	4.75	3.97	4.40	4.68
15 I increased my ability to apply math and science knowledge to engineering problems.	23	29	2	4	1	0	4.28	4.00	4.25	4.59			
19 I increased my ability to design a system, component, or process.	29	25	3	2	0	1	4.48	4.04	4.29	4.62			
23 I increased my ability to formulate, and solve engineering problems.	29	26	3	1	0	1	4.48	4.00	4.25	4.55			
1735 I improved my ability to analyze a problem and identify the computing requirements appropriate to its solution.	31	24	2	2	1	0	4.53	n/a	n/a	n/a			
28 Course improved my ability to communicate technical information, designs, and analyses.	23	20	10	6	1	0	4.15	3.88	4.24	4.50			
35 I increased my ability to apply engineering tools and methods.	25	25	6	3	0	1	4.32	4.01	4.27	4.58			
61 Prerequisites provided adequate preparation for this course.	24	19	5	9	0	3	4.26	4.04	4.29	4.55			
121 I gained a good understanding of concepts/principles in this field.	32	23	2	2	1	0	4.56	4.00	4.29	4.64			
125 I developed the ability to solve real problems in this field.	27	26	4	2	1	0	4.38	4.00	4.25	4.60			
183 The instructor used examples that had relevance for me.	21	18	4	2	0	9	4.42	4.38	4.62	4.79			
201 The instructor gave clear explanations.	20	18	5	1	1	9	4.36	4.25	4.67	4.86			
207 The instructor appeared to have a thorough knowledge of the subject.	29	14	1	1	0	9	4.72	4.69	4.87	4.95			
216 The instructor acknowledged all questions insofar as possible.	27	15	2	1	0	9	4.67	4.50	4.75	4.88			
229 The instructor used class time well.	22	18	4	1	0	9	4.47	4.29	4.69	4.88			
232 Work requirements and grading system were clear from the beginning.	31	21	5	3	0	0	4.53	4.00	4.40	4.67			
239 The amount of work required was appropriate for the credit received.	19	29	6	3	3	0	4.12	3.90	4.17	4.52			
240 The amount of material covered in the course was reasonable.	26	28	4	1	1	0	4.36	4.00	4.33	4.61			
340 The textbook made a valuable contribution to the course.	6	6	3	9	11	24	2.22	3.28	4.00	4.50			
356 Examinations covered the important aspects of the course.	26	26	7	0	1	0	4.35	4.10	4.36	4.69			
374 I developed confidence in my ability to work in the subject area of this course.	21	28	6	3	2	0	4.18	4.04	4.26	4.51			
375 The size of this class has not compromised the learning experience.	25	23	5	3	2	0	4.33	4.30	4.53	4.77			
896 My expected grade in this course is (SA=A, A=B, N=C, D=D, SD=E).	25	24	7	0	1	3	4.35	4.50	4.79	4.91			



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**Instructor: Hamilton,Nicole**  
**EECS 280 005**

### Written Comments

900 Comment on the quality of instruction in this course.

Student 1  
NA

Student 2  
*The quality of instruction is great. The teaching staff are very accessible and supportive of the students.*

Student 3  
NA

Student 4  
NA

Student 5  
*I think all of the instructors do a good job in their own way. At first I found myself only watching DeOrio's lectures, but then I found myself watching other instructors when I realized they all taught using their own way/slides. I found this to be the best way to answer any questions I had.*

Student 6  
*Good teachers and IAs/GSIs*

Student 7  
*The instructors of the course were good, and the TAs were always helpful.*

Student 8  
*The instruction was great! I had Nicole Hamilton, she is an incredible source of knowledge. She answered all questions well.*

Student 9  
*It is very well taught and the lecture slides are quite thorough*

Student 10  
*Good although could be sped up slightly*

Student 11  
*All the lecturers were really good at what they did. In fact, even their lectures slides were very detailed. They provided a lot of relevant examples during the lecture*

Student 12  
*Very strong*

Student 13  
*My Professor, Nicole Hamilton, was an excellent lecturer and really portrayed the content of this course well. On top of the topics in EECS 280, she gave wonderful general programming advice and life lessons. My only problem with her instruction is an occasional tangent that maybe missed the point of a student's question. This was rarely a problem as her lectures would eventually answer questions as she continued.*

Student 14  
NA



## Instructor with Comments Report

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**Instructor: Hamilton,Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

Student 15

NA

Student 16

NA

Student 17

NA

Student 18

*The instructors do a great job.*

Student 19

*I really enjoyed Professor Hamilton's lectures. This is only her 2nd semester at Michigan and I feel like she has fit into the EECS 280 group well. She did not have a large population in her lectures, but she handled it well. I'm going to assume it was due to the time of day the lecture was offered because in my eyes she gave very good lectures.*

Student 20

*Well constructed*

Student 21

*OH is always a nightmare for CS classes.*

Student 22

*Course is taught well. The material flows well.*

Student 23

*DeOrio is great*

Student 24

NA

Student 25

*Good course with good lecturers and challenging but doable projects.*

Student 26

NA

Student 27

*Good*

Student 28

NA

Student 29

*The quality of the instruction is very good for the most part.*

Student 30



## Instructor with Comments Report

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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

*Not individualized enough*

Student 31

*Depends on instructor.*

Student 32

NA

Student 33

NA

Student 34

*The lectures were straightforward and easy to follow, with many examples.*

Student 35

*great teachers of hard subject*

Student 36

NA

Student 37

*10/10 Instructors were always very clear and communicated well with students. DeOrio is an amazing lecturer and I learned a lot from going to his lectures.*

Student 38

NA

Student 39

NA

Student 40

*Availability of lecture recordings of all lecture sections to all students taking the course helps students with understanding and review.*

Student 41

*Quite well structured.*

Student 42

NA

Student 43

*I had Nicole Hamilton, she was a great instructor. She was always willing to answer questions and go into them in depth and was quite helpful.*

Student 44

*Good instructor*

Student 45

*Office hours were frequent and instructors were often available to answer any questions on Piazza.*

Student 46



## Instructor with Comments Report

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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

*Nicole Hamilton is great. I have heard Eecs280 is crazy hard, but I attended all of her lectures and she made every topic seem very manageable and easy.*

Student 47

*The labs and website were relatively clear. The specs were not as clear as possible. Could have structured the specs better.*

Student 48

*Hamilton always acknowledged students' questions and made sure to thoroughly answer them. She really cares that her students understand the material and get the most of out her lectures.*

Student 49

*They're understandable but sometimes the concepts are hard to grasp.*

Student 50

*Instruction was very good and instructors are very knowledgeable in the subject. I attended Hamilton's lectures for a while but then switched to DeOrio's simply because they better fit my learning style.*

Student 51

*Hamilton was a great lecturer. Her short tangents about industry were always relevant and aided my understanding of concepts and reasons for doing certain processes. IA's and GSI's were hit or miss. Some were great others not so much. I recognize its hard due to the size of the course, but its definitely frustrating waiting for hours to get help at office hours for a simple question.*

Student 52

NA

Student 53

*I enjoyed Hamilton's lectures a lot.*

Student 54

*The instruction was very clear and explained whatever was necessary to do well on assignments.*

Student 55

NA

Student 56

*I watched Juett's lecture recordings online, and I learned a lot from him. His examples and the way he lectured were super helpful for me, and I really enjoyed his lectures.*

Student 57

*Professor DeOrio was a fantastic lecturer; he was very knowledgeable about all course-related topics, and he was eager to answer any questions students had, regardless of how simple or advanced the questions were. His explanations of concepts were very concise and very clear, which helped me understand the course material. In addition, he made the class fun by adding little tidbits of humor in his lectures, which made the class much more enjoyable.*

Student 58

NA

Student 59

NA

Student 60

*well done. lots of resources.*

Student 61



## Instructor with Comments Report

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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

*Not bad, but also felt like a lot of stuff I had to teach myself/ rely on lab just because of the class size*

### Written Comments

911 Please comment on the quality of the course as a whole.

Student 1

NA

Student 2

*I think there is improvement for how labs are conducted. Right now, labs are more of a chore. I heard the EECS 281 labs are great and offer problems that are similar to those given in interviews. I think the EECS 280 labs could be made more interesting.*

Student 3

NA

Student 4

NA

Student 5

*It's a great course, sometimes the grading system could be explained better, and it would be nice to be able to get feedback on the labs and assignments without having to go to office hours.*

Student 6

*Lots of wait to get help*

Student 7

*I no longer want to major in EECS*

Student 8

*The course is amazing! The projects are so well thought out.*

Student 9

*It is a good course and the projects do a good job of making you think about the material*

Student 10

*Good, could do without so much reintroduction at the beginning*

Student 11

*I thought the course was excellent overall. The professors are very patient when it comes to helping the students, and they make sure to have all their lecture slides and recordings posted almost immediately before or after the lecture. Additionally, students are given plenty of time to complete the projects required for the course, and are given ample help by the office hours IA's and professors running it*

Student 12

*Very strong*

Student 13

*This course is very well organized and easy to stay on top of. My only critique is that there is too much hand holding on the projects.*

Student 14



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**Instructor: Hamilton,Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

NA

Student 15

NA

Student 16

NA

Student 17

NA

Student 18

*I like how I am able to attend any lecture and watch lectures online.*

Student 19

*Well organized*

Student 20

*Pretty good*

Student 21

*Not nearly as fun as 183. 280 feels like they sucked the joy away already*

Student 22

NA

Student 23

NA

Student 24

NA

Student 25

NA

Student 26

NA

Student 27

*Good*

Student 28

NA

Student 29

*Overall, this is a very informative and interesting course.*

Student 30



## Instructor with Comments Report

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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

*Poorly organized*

Student 31

*Lots of content*

Student 32

NA

Student 33

NA

Student 34

*It was helpful to further my knowledge of CS*

Student 35

*high*

Student 36

NA

Student 37

*The quality of the course was very high. All of the projects and labs and lectures fit together well and did a very good job of reinforcing my understanding of the topic.*

Student 38

NA

Student 39

NA

Student 40

*Piazza structure has been very valuable to me. The platform allows me to get responses from professors and other outstanding peers when I don't have the time to go to office hours.*

Student 41

*Good Quality.*

Student 42

NA

Student 43

*Pretty good course.*

Student 44

*Good*

Student 45

*I really enjoyed this course; it did a good job allowing us to practice a number of different techniques that I believe will be useful in the future.*

Student 46





## Instructor with Comments Report

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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

*Great course*

Student 47

*One of the hardest course. The lesson covered was probably 4 times as hard and as much as EECS 183.*

Student 48

*This was a great course with interesting projects and great intruction*

Student 49

*It's a good course overall.*

Student 50

*The strong point of this course--above the rigor of material and organization--is its flexibility. Even though nearly a thousand students take it, there is plenty of room to get personal guidance to suit a learner's needs.*

Student 51

NA

Student 52

NA

Student 53

*I am unhappy with the lack of attention for individuals. Contacting the eeecs280staff email is like shouting into a void, or trying to assign a value to a dereferenced null pointer.*

Student 54

*The course prepared me well for future EECS courses.*

Student 55

NA

Student 56

*I loved this course and I am now minoring CS because of it.*

Student 57

*The course, though valuable, was very dense in terms of the amount of information students had to learn. It was very fast-paced at times, and I occasionally felt like the lectures were not especially relevant to the skills and knowledge required to finish the projects. Going over material more slowly would have been much appreciated, especially with difficult concepts such as pointers and recursion.*

Student 58

NA

Student 59

NA

Student 60

*very well organized structure*

Student 61

*Pretty good, but a little hard.*



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**Instructor: Hamilton,Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

### Written Comments

931 Please give any other comments on this course as a whole.

Student 1

NA

Student 2

*I do think that Project 3 and Project 4 call for revisions.*

*Based on general opinion, little to none enjoy Project 3 despite it covering one of the most important concepts in basic software engineering. I think the an object oriented programming project has limitless potential to be so much more interesting than Euchre. I personally felt that Euchre was a lot more about learning to play the game than learning to code in an OOP approach.*

*The workload for Project 3 is a little too high while the workload for Project 4 was a little too low.*

Student 3

NA

Student 4

NA

Student 5

NA

Student 6

NA

Student 7

NA

Student 8

*Very fun*

Student 9

*The labs are also a nice component*

Student 10

NA

Student 11

NA

Student 12

*Had a great time*

Student 13

NA



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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

Student 14

NA

Student 15

*The automatic style grading on the autograder is a complete joke. No functions more than 40 lines? No lines more than 90 chars and whitespace in front from indentations is included? OK goodbye to descriptive variables names and let me destroy my functions with meaningless helper functions that obliterate the readability of my code. 90 characters??? If the goal is so that people on an iPhone can read the code its OK I guess, but it makes no sense otherwise.*

Student 16

NA

Student 17

NA

Student 18

NA

Student 19

*Find a way to boost attendance in lectures and lab. Participation in lectures is important to the flow of the lecture. If attendance is too low, like it was in my MW 3:00 - 4:30 lecture, it can stifle the flow of the lecture.*

Student 20

NA

Student 21

*Very unenthusiastic class honestly.*

Student 22

NA

Student 23

NA

Student 24

NA

Student 25

*I was in Nicole Hamilton's course but I preferred to attend/watch DeOrio's lectures as I preferred his style of explanation.*

Student 26

NA

Student 27

*Strongly suggest holding office hour on central campus*

Student 28

NA

Student 29



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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

N/A

Student 30

NA

Student 31

*Spec sometime confusing*

Student 32

NA

Student 33

NA

Student 34

*It was fun*

Student 35

n/a

Student 36

NA

Student 37

*I love this course so much!*

Student 38

NA

Student 39

NA

Student 40

NA

Student 41

*Good Teachers.*

Student 42

NA

Student 43

*Project design and instructions were slightly convoluted at times.*

Student 44

*Would have liked to have had to do the organization of my programs rather than be given an outline*

Student 45



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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

NA

Student 46

Great course

Student 47

Not a lot of support were given to students who were struggling except for "Office Hour" that really does not help that much

Student 48

NA

Student 49

NA

Student 50

I would really appreciate reminders on Sundays to turn in the lab assignments. I missed one by an hour simply because I forgot to press submit, and that was a source of great frustration. I'm sure others had the same problem as well.

Student 51

One thing I forgot to put in the google form is that I think there should be a little more instruction in the beginning on using graphical debuggers. In project 1 we went through a tutorial where we are shown to make targets, but are never told what they do or why, and I still have no idea what they are or how to use them. I spent a couple hours trying to figure out targets and things like that before being shown alternate ways by a friend. I think its a simple short thing that could be added that would help greatly

Student 52

NA

Student 53

NA

Student 54

No additional comments.

Student 55

NA

Student 56

NA

Student 57

The projects were well-suited for the class for the most part, but I found the euchre project (project 3) very challenging mainly because we had to learn how to play the game on top of figuring out how to code the project. I would suggest changing it to a different game that is easier to understand, because that added extra difficulty that I do not think was necessary to learn the main objectives of the project.

In addition, I would like the exam review sessions that the IAs put together to be more Q & A based. Doing the worksheet was somewhat useful, but it was not the best use of the two hours of time. Making it more like the EECS 183 review sessions (with a general review of concepts followed by a Q & A) would have been significantly more helpful.

Student 58

NA



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**Instructor: Hamilton,Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

Student 59

NA

Student 60

*good stuff*

Student 61

*Good course for CS majors, definitely more work than 183, but manageable.*

### Written Comments

1098 Among the courses you have already taken, which proved the most (or least) effective in preparing you for this course, and why?

Student 1

NA

Student 2

*I did not take ENG 101 but I took EECS 398 C4CS this semester which proved to be a valuable complement to EECS 280.*

Student 3

NA

Student 4

NA

Student 5

*EECS 183, because it covers pretty much the first month of 280.*

Student 6

*ENGR101*

Student 7

*EECS 183, because I knew some C++*

Student 8

*ENGR 101 was helpful.*

Student 9

*EECS 183 was the most effective in preparing me for this course because it gave me a solid programming foundation*

Student 10

*151, it was the only CS class I had taken*

Student 11

*Engineering 101 really did not prepare me at all. Compared to the workload and level of difficulty of this class, Engineering 101 was very cookie cutter*

Student 12

*ENGR 101. Introductory C++ was a great help*



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**Instructor: Hamilton, Nicole**

**EECS 280 005**

Student 13

ENGR 151

Student 14

NA

Student 15

*ENGR 101 is a complete joke. Why is EECS 183 so much better for preparing students for EECS 280 than ENGR 101? Ridiculous that I had to waste half a semester before getting to the part where loops are taught. Not a real programming class, either remove it from requirements or make it a real class that has ANY value.*

Student 16

NA

Student 17

NA

Student 18

ENGR 101

Student 19

*EECS 183, I had no prior programming experience before 183*

Student 20

NA

Student 21

*183 was really useful.*

Student 22

*Engineering101 does not go into classes which made me feel much more behind than EECS183 students.*

Student 23

NA

Student 24

NA

Student 25

NA

Student 26

NA

Student 27

*EECS 183 most helpful*

Student 28



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**EECS 280 005**

NA

Student 29

*EECS 183 was the most effective in preparing me for this course.*

Student 30

*Engr 101 because it was easier to talk with the department*

Student 31

*280 is big jump from 183 lmao.*

Student 32

NA

Student 33

NA

Student 34

*Engr151 was the most helpful because it is the only prerequisite.*

Student 35

*eeecs 183 because it is an intro to doing in c++*

Student 36

NA

Student 37

NA

Student 38

NA

Student 39

NA

Student 40

*ENGR 151, for its review of C++ concepts that I knew, prepared me best.*

Student 41

*ENGR 101*

Student 42

NA

Student 43

NA

Student 44





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**EECS 280 005**

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Student 45

*I was lucky enough to have sufficient background on the course material before coming to the university, but I believe ENGR 101 provided a good refresher on the basics.*

Student 46

*Eecs183*

Student 47

*EECS 183 was helpful, but not enough. EECS 280 expected me to know Vectors and other concepts that EECS 183 did not cover.*

Student 48

*Engr151 because it gave me C++ coding experience*

Student 49

*I think the most effective would be Ecoach, but the instructors never acknowledged its existence.*

Student 50

*n/a*

Student 51

*NA*

Student 52

*NA*

Student 53

*N/A*

Student 54

*ENGR 101 was the most helpful for preparing me for this course. It introduced me to concepts that were expanded upon in EECS 280.*

Student 55

*NA*

Student 56

*Engineering 101 was not very helpful in preparing me for this course. I felt like students that took EECS 183 were ahead of me in the beginning, and I struggled to catch up at first.*

Student 57

*The only relevant course I have taken previously was EECS 183, which was moderately effective in preparing me for this course. It was helpful with regards to learning basic syntax and coding practices, but I felt like there was a significant jump from the difficulty of EECS 183 and EECS 280 in terms of content, course speed, and concept specificity that was very hard to overcome.*

Student 58

*NA*

Student 59

*NA*



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**EECS 280 005**

Student 60

*eeecs 183 - only other coding class i've taken here at UM. taught me the basics*

Student 61

*EECS183 because it taught me everything relevant for before this course.*

\* The quartiles are calculated from Winter 2018 data. The university-wide quartiles are based on all UM classes in which an item was used. The school/college quartiles in this report are based on lower division classes with an enrollment of 75 to 9999 students in College of Engineering.

\*\* SA - Strongly Agree, A - Agree, N - Neutral, D - Disagree, SD - Strongly Disagree, NA - Not Applicable.