

# University of Michigan

## Winter 2020 Midterm Instructor Report With Comments

### EECS 280-005: Prog&Data Struct

#### Nicole Hamilton

40 out of 149 students responded to this midterm evaluation.

#### Responses to questions related to the course:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Median
I had a strong desire to take this course. (Q4)	23	15	1	0	1	0	4.6
This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter. (Q1631)	21	17	2	0	0	0	4.5
My interest in the subject has increased because of this course. (Q1632)	18	13	7	1	1	0	4.3
I knew what was expected of me in this course. (Q1633)	17	18	4	0	1	0	4.3
Work requirements and grading system were clear from the beginning. (Q232)	22	15	2	0	1	0	4.6
I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)	19	16	3	1	1	0	4.4
The amount of work required so far appears to be appropriate for the credit being received. (Q971)	17	15	4	3	1	0	4.3

#### Responses to questions related to the instructor:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Median
Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)	23	14	2	0	0	1	4.7
Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)	20	15	4	0	1	0	4.5
Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)	19	16	4	0	0	1	4.5
Nicole Hamilton gives clear explanations. (Q967)	18	20	1	0	0	1	4.4
Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)	23	16	0	0	0	1	4.7
Nicole Hamilton uses class time well. (Q969)	17	18	3	0	0	1	4.4
Nicole Hamilton seems well-prepared for each class. (Q970)	22	16	0	0	0	1	4.6
Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)	19	13	6	1	0	1	4.5
Nicole Hamilton is teaching in a manner that serves my needs as a student. (Q974)	16	16	4	2	0	1	4.3
Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)	17	18	2	0	0	3	4.4
Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)	16	15	5	1	0	3	4.3
Nicole Hamilton sets high standards for students. (Q978)	14	20	4	0	0	1	4.3

## Written Comments

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

Comments
I like the lab sections
lectures
good lecture and challenging problems
The powerpoint slides are clear and the lectures are helpful most of the time
Structure online through website
So I don't go to lecture anymore because of one very disruptive student. But the class notes are phenomenal. They're the best, most descriptive set of notes I've read other than Paul's Online Math Notes. I've successfully managed to finish writing all the projects by myself with no difficulty, just by referring to them when I find a concept I don't know.
Talk about data structure in depth. The Professor's detailed explanation helps me a lot.
The opportunities for help outside of class are really helpful for students. The projects are also helping me learn about hands-on coding.
Ms. Hamilton is a major strength of the class. She teaches well and it is very clear she has an extensive knowledge of the subject.
This class has very few strengths. While lecture is somewhat informative, the projects and labs are seriously vague and are an incoherent blob. The pervading ambiguity hinders learning. Lecture often discusses contrived situations and professors often have a difficult time explaining how/why many examples posited during class have any real-world significance or use. Likewise, labs and projects force students to write implementations with (vague) guidelines that either are poorly constructed (i.e. there are far better and more efficient ways that the code can be written if the said restrictions were not in place). Labs too do not teach applicable concepts and instead focus on contrived situations. Furthermore, almost all (with the exception of few) office hours IAs are clueless and do not offer any useful help/advice.
This class is helping me learn to program and problem solve in C++
Small coding exercises in the lecture notes and the lab assignments are really helpful. The directory of lecture notes is an incredible C++ resource.
It seems like a little thing, but I think that all of the Makefile files that are provided with each project and lab are very helpful time-saving aspects of these assignments.
The help you can always get when solving problems or trying to understand a concept.
Office hours everyday is a great help.
The projects are the best way I learn the material.
nicole hamilton is just good at her job
We look at lots of snippets of code in lecture, which helps me understand how the concepts will be applied when I am actually programming. Additionally, I enjoy the projects and how they actually demonstrate how CS can be applied in cool ways.

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

Comments
Please have more interactive lectures like Beaumonts questions
She can't, she's wonderful
finish all the slides
N/A
Make more concise connections between lectures and the projects and labs
Not much :)
Prof. Hamilton can give out more sample code and some in-class coding practice.
I would appreciate it if she could go over project details throughout lecture. I recall that in EECS 183, the professors would sometimes, although rarely, cover project material in lecture.
Perhaps, answer less questions. Sometimes it feels as though we are falling behind.
—Discuss content that matters. —Disambiguate lab/project specifications. —Grant students greater freedoms in writing implementations. —Remove office hours IAs that are clearly incapable and hire competent ones.
I don't think that this class really has any room for improvement.
More talk about the midterm.
Nothing
When you upload lecture slides to the Google Drive would it be possible to leave the notes you write on the slides in there.
our specific lecture always seems to be behind the others
I would move through the review material more quickly in lecture, so we can cover the new material more extensively.

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

Comments
I learn best by doing not listening
N/A
She is very helpful in office hour.
None.
The labs as a whole should be worth more. Maybe equal to a regular project or a little less. Their relatively low value makes them feel demoralizing when stuck on something.
Great job.
You deal with people who ask too many questions very well :)
keep it up
I love how clear and welcoming Nicole Hamilton's teaching style is. Additionally, the music before class is great!