Sabancı University

Center for Individual and Academic Development

2017-2018 Fall Student Evaluation Of Instruction Report

Individual Course

Course Information

Course Subject & Code : ENS 210
Course Name : Computational Biology
Instructor : Deniz Sezer (dsezer)

Enrollment : 23
No of responses : 11
Response Rate : 48%

Student Information

	0.0-0.99	1.00-1.99	2.00-2.99	3.00-4.00
Cumulative grade point average	0%	9%	18%	73%

	Undergraduate	Masters	PhD
Level	100%	0%	0%

	FDY	Freshman	Sophomere	Junior	Senior
Class	0%	0%	27%	55%	18%

	FASS	FENS	SOM
Faculty	0%	100%	0%

	BIO	BIO+CS	CS	CS+BIO	EE	Undeclared
Program	9%	9%	55%	9%	9%	9%

	FIN+FIN	MATH+MATH
Minor	9%	9%

	A / A-	B+ / B / B-	C+ / C / C-	D+ / D	F / NA	succesfull	progress	unsuccesfull
Your expected grade from this course	73%	27%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

	It was a required/core course for my program	It was one of the area electives of my program	It was a free elective
I registered for this course because	82%	18%	0%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I had a strong desire to take this course.	45%	45%	9%	0%

	Very Hard	Hard	OK	Easy	Very Easy
For my background and ability, the level of difficulty of this course was	0%	27%	73%	0%	0%

Sabancı University

Center for Individual and Academic Development

2017-2018 Fall Student Evaluation Of Instruction Report

Results

QUESTIONS(as percentage)	SA	A	D	SD	Course			*Level			FENS-Undergraduate-Lecture			University Overall-Undergraduate-Lecture		
					Median	Mean	StdDev	Median	Mean	StdDev	Median	Mean	StdDev	Median	Mean	StdDev
1. The instructor explained concepts clearly.	91	9	0	0	3	2.9	0.3	2	2.1	1.0	3	2.2	1.0	3	2.3	0.9
2. The instructor presented information at a rate I could follow.	91	9	0	0	3	2.9	0.3	2	2.1	1.0	2	2.1	1.0	3	2.3	0.9
3. The instructor showed enthusiasm in teaching the subject.	100	0	0	0	3	3.0	0.0	3	2.2	1.0	3	2.3	1.0	3	2.4	0.9
4. I felt free to ask questions during class.	91	9	0	0	3	2.9	0.3	3	2.2	1.0	3	2.3	0.9	3	2.3	0.9
5. The instructor put the content across in an interesting way.	100	0	0	0	3	3.0	0.0	2	1.9	1.1	2	2.0	1.1	3	2.2	1.0
6. The instructor made clear what was expected of me in terms of course requirements.	82	9	9	0	3	2.7	0.6	2	2.2	1.0	3	2.2	1.0	3	2.3	0.9
7. The instructor clearly defined learning objectives.	82	18	0	0	3	2.8	0.4	2	2.2	1.0	3	2.2	1.0	3	2.3	0.9
8. The instructor motivated me to do my best work.	91	0	9	0	3	2.8	0.6	2	1.9	1.1	2	2.0	1.1	3	2.2	1.0
9. I could reach the instructor outside of class.	100	0	0	0	3	3.0	0.0	3	2.2	1.0	3	2.3	0.9	3	2.3	0.9
10. The instructor encouraged me to think critically.	100	0	0	0	3	3.0	0.0	2	2.0	1.0	2	2.1	1.0	3	2.2	1.0
11. I would recommend this instructor to other students who plan to take this course.	91	9	0	0	3	2.9	0.3	2	2.0	1.1	2	2.1	1.0	3	2.2	1.0

SA : Strongly Agree
A : Agree
D : Disagree
SD : Strongly Disagree

1XX : Refers to all 100 coded courses
2XX : Refers to all 200 coded courses
3XX : Refers to all 300 coded courses
4XX : Refers to all 400 coded courses

*** Level:** The mean, median and the standard deviation of the same type of courses (lecture, recitation, laboratory or discussion) at the same level (FDY, Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, Senior or Graduate) in the faculty.

Program	Program Name
Undeclared	Undeclared
BIO	Biological Sci.&Bioeng.
CS	Computer Science & Eng.
EE	Electronic Engineering

Minor Prog.	Program Name
FIN	Finance
MATH	Mathematics

Comments

Question: What recommendations do you have for this course or instructor? What could the instructor do better or differently to better help you learn?

- The teaching assistant was never helpful throughout the course. When he was asked a question, he never had the answer and he always forwarded us to Deniz Hoca. In my opinion for a course like this which needs both biological and computational skills, an assistant who knows both biology and computer science is needed. Not an assistant who knows things about programming and never helpful. An assistant who won't say "I did not have time to look at the code".

- He should give courses to other instructors for how to teach a university level course.
  Unlike other instructors, he did not scared us. Usually, I am always worried about what will I do if I am learning the something new (Python). He told us that he is a learner too. This made me feel more comfortable and released my anxiety.
  Other than that, he encourages students to attend discussions. He asks our opinion about anything that he teaches and wants us to question the subject and propose our own ideas about it. In most of our classes I was even discouraged to ask questions and only the best students ask and answer questions. In this course everyone is encouraged to propose any idea. It is like freedom of thought. So other instructors should learn this approach.

Question: What were the least useful aspects of this course, in your opinion (such as course content and structure)?

- Recitations, where we do two hours of coding, should not be done in Friday because it is the day of the week when most of the people feel exhausted.

Question: What were the most useful aspects of this course, in your opinion (such as course content and structure)?

- Constructing phylogenetic trees using global or semi-global alignment and analyzing genomic parameters

- Lab sessions were really useful. I could not imagine myself solving a biological problem in just two hours with coding. Every week we solved a biologically motivated problem using coding. It was like a magic to me especially in my other computer science courses where I was taught C++ language, I hated coding. In this course I was introduced with Python and I was surprised how I quickly learn Python and started to code with it in just two weeks. Currently after Matlab, Python is my second favorite language.
  What makes this course better and different than other biology related courses is the approach we were using when we were learning a subject. For instance, in regular biology courses we were taught the subject for just to memorize. We were never told to question what we have learnt. Just memorize it and use it midterms and that's it. However, in this course we were questioning and testing whether what we learn is true and compatible with our findings (real science!). For example, we were introduced to endosymbiotic theory which is well accepted theory today. Through our Python knowledge, small scale experiments designed and we tested the theory and we observed that was actually the case. It is beautiful that our small scale experiments support the theory.

- Working with python

Question: What would you like other students to know about this course?

- They should definitely take this course. No matter what their background is.

- The instructor puts a lot of effort and time for this course, and he is very helpful. He creates his own presentation slides, writes his own code for every single class and tries very hard to do the best he can. I wish every instructor had this much dedication towards their course.

- Computer skills are not enough, you should have sufficient amount of biology knowledge