JHU - Krieger School of Arts & Sciences / Whiting School of Engineering
ASEN.2015.Spring

Course: EN.600.667.01.SP15 : Advanced Distributed Systems & Networks

Instructor: Yair Amir *

1 - The overall quality of this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	(1)	0	0%
Weak	(2)	0	0%
Satisfactory	(3)	1	20%
Good	(4)	1	20%
Excellent	(5)	3	60%
N/A	(0)	0	0%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 75 100

Means: Question 4.40 | School Level 4.03 | Department Level 4.05

Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
5/7 (71.43%)	4.40	0.89	5.00	7,945	4.03	0.96	4.00	1,095	4.05	0.88	4.00

2 - The instructor's teaching effectiveness is:
Yair Amir

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	(1)	0	0%
Weak	(2)	0	0%
Satisfactory	(3)	0	0%
Good	(4)	0	0%
Excellent	(5)	5	100%
N/A	(0)	0	0%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 75 100

Means: Question 5.00 | School Level 4.00 | Department Level 3.94

Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
5/7 (71.43%)	5.00	0.00	5.00	8,609	4.00	1.05	4.00	1,137	3.94	0.99	4.00

3 - The intellectual challenge of this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	(1)	0	0%
Weak	(2)	1	20%
Satisfactory	(3)	0	0%
Good	(4)	0	0%
Excellent	(5)	4	80%
N/A	(0)	0	0%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 75 100

Means: Question 4.40 | School Level 4.05 | Department Level 4.21

Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
5/7 (71.43%)	4.40	1.34	5.00	7,891	4.05	0.91	4.00	1,089	4.21	0.82	4.00

4 - The teaching assistant for this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	(1)	0	0%
Weak	(2)	0	0%
Satisfactory	(3)	0	0%
Good	(4)	0	0%
Excellent	(5)	3	60%
N/A	(0)	2	40%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 75 100

Means: Question 5.00 | School Level 4.04 | Department Level 4.04

Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
5/7 (71.43%)	5.00	0.00	5.00	7,915	4.04	1.08	4.00	1,087	4.04	1.13	4.00

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5 - Please enter the name of the TA you evaluated in question 4:

Return Rate	3/7 (42.86%)

- Amy, Jeff, Dano, Tom

- Marco Platania

- Everyone in the lab helped. There was no specific TA but everyone was extremely helpful and was always there when we needed them.

6 - Feedback on my work for this course is useful:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percentage
Disagree strongly	(1)	0	0%
Disagree somewhat	(2)	0	0%
Neither agree nor disagree	(3)	0	0%
Agree somewhat	(4)	2	40%
Agree strongly	(5)	3	60%
N/A	(0)	0	0%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 75 100

Means: 4.60 (Question), 3.78 (School Level), 3.81 (Department Level)

Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
5/7 (71.43%)	4.60	0.55	5.00	7,876	3.78	1.09	4.00	1,083	3.81	1.07	4.00

7 - Compared to other Hopkins courses at this level, the workload for this course is:

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percentage
Much lighter	(1)	0	0%
Somewhat lighter	(2)	0	0%
Typical	(3)	3	60%
Somewhat heavier	(4)	2	40%
Much heavier	(5)	0	0%
N/A	(0)	0	0%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 75 100

Means: 3.40 (Question), 3.25 (School Level), 3.58 (Department Level)

Return Rate	Mean	STD	Median	School Level	Mean	STD	Median	Department Level	Mean	STD	Median
5/7 (71.43%)	3.40	0.55	3.00	7,899	3.25	1.00	3.00	1,086	3.58	1.02	4.00

8 - What are the best aspects of this course?

Return Rate	4/7 (57.14%)

- This course is structured as a research project which is what makes it so much more interesting than other courses at Hopkins. It feels more real and relevant.

- A chance to pursue research in topics that interest you while receiving help from people that are already extremely knowledgeable in the subject.

- It was a research course! Do whatever you want

- Get to choose a project and then develop it over the course of the semester. Great professor, wants you to think big.

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9 - What are the worst aspects of this course?	
Return Rate	**4/7 (57.14%)**

- Honestly, I'm not sure that this was a class for me. The class is focused on systems work, obviously, but depending on the project you choose, I feel like the majority of the class is just resolving implementation details. In other words there is very little conceptual learning of any form. For me, that was the main reason I took the course, to gain more knowledge, or learn something that might help me down the road, but I feel like I didn't get that. Also, I didn't end up getting along very well with my teammates, and they more or less cut me out of the project, not telling me when they were working or what they were doing, or even giving me anything to do at all. Perhaps it's important to learn how to deal with situations like that, so in a way that could be construed as a useful experience.

- Any difficulties with figuring out what to do are inherent to any work like this so I wouldn't really call them issues.

- Nothing, I loved it!

- Some people might not like how unstructured it is. It is very much a research course.

10 - What would most improve this class?	
Return Rate	**3/7 (42.86%)**

- I'm not sure if there's much that could improve this course since it is designed to be a research project. I think if I had a chance to do things over, I would have chosen a different project and different teammates, but there's nothing that could be changed in the course itself.

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- Maybe less presentation-- we presented where we were at twice a week. Maybe instead some time could have been spent to teach additional advanced concepts.

11 - What should prospective students know about this course before enrolling? (You may comment on any aspect of this course such as assumed background, readings, grading systems, and so on.)	
Return Rate	**4/7 (57.14%)**

- Come into this course with an idea. If you don't already have a specific project in mind that the professor has approved (I came in with a research project but it was shot down quickly) you probably won't get much out of this. Be aware that this is not a class so much as an exercise in building prototypes. Be ready to spend a lot of time learning the details of you system, depending on the project you choose, and definitely do not take the course if you do not 100% consider yourself a systems person.

- Be self-motivated and pick a topic that interests you and that you think is important.

- It's fun! You will need to work, but it is overall fairly chill if you do you work. If you are taking this course, I assume you are already familiar with Yair, and distributed systems in general. If not, Yair is an amazing professor!

- You get what you put into it.