

Intro to Prog Java (2018 Fall Quarter)

Instructor: **Joharapurkar, Dhawal**

Subject: **CMPS**

Catalog & Section: **5J 01**

Course ID: **019007**

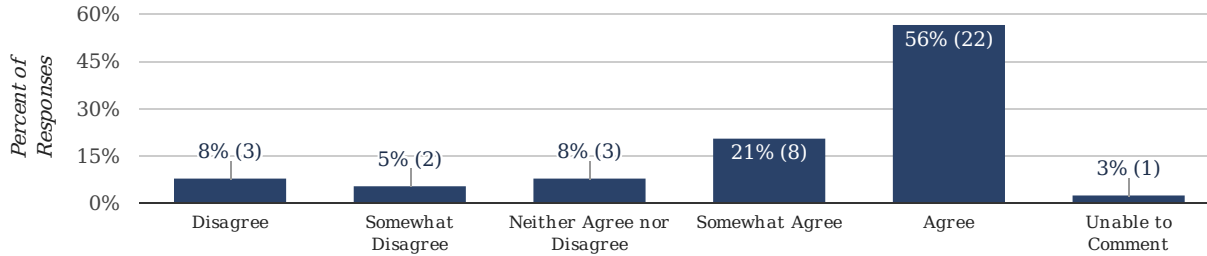
Objectives:

Enrollment: **44**

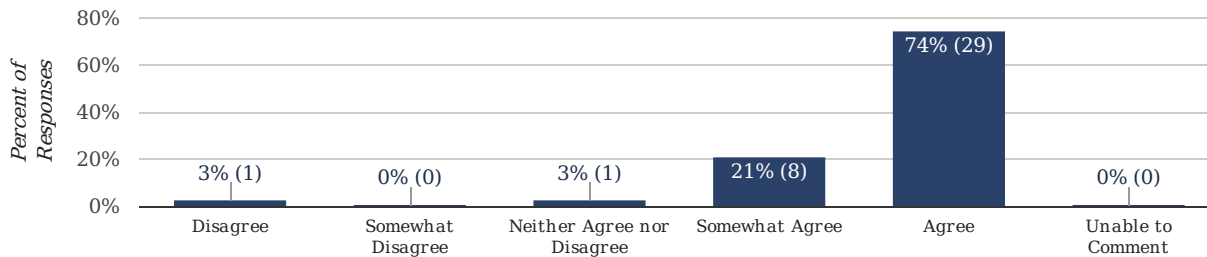
Responses Incl Declines: **42**

Declines: **1**

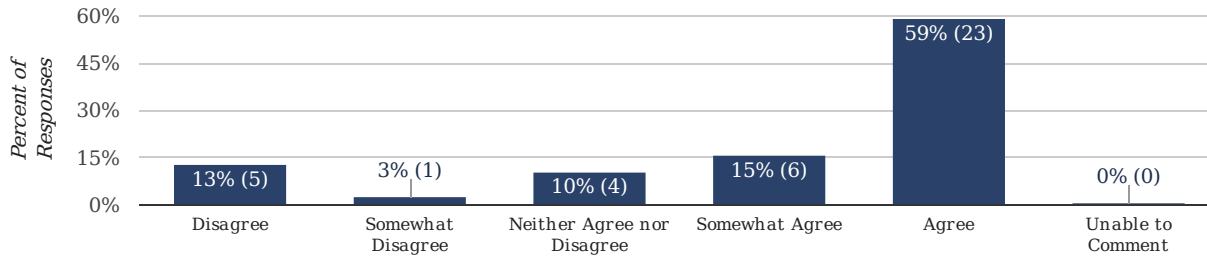
The TA was well prepared and organized.



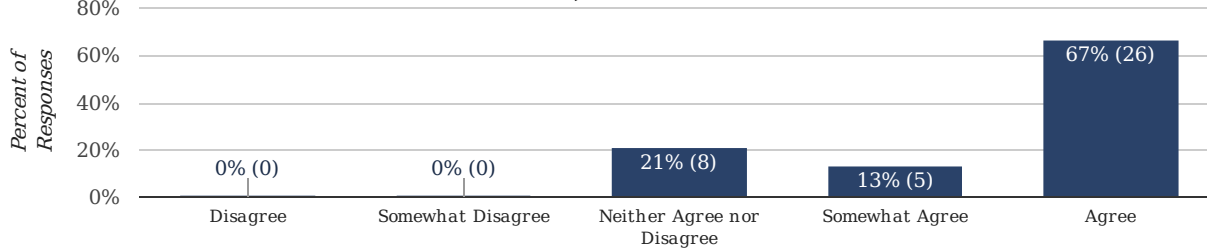
The TA had a strong grasp and understanding of the course materials and concepts.



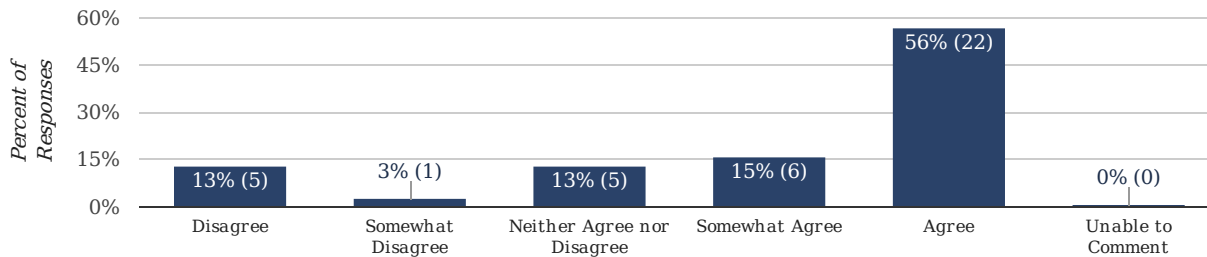
The TA communicated course materials and concepts clearly.



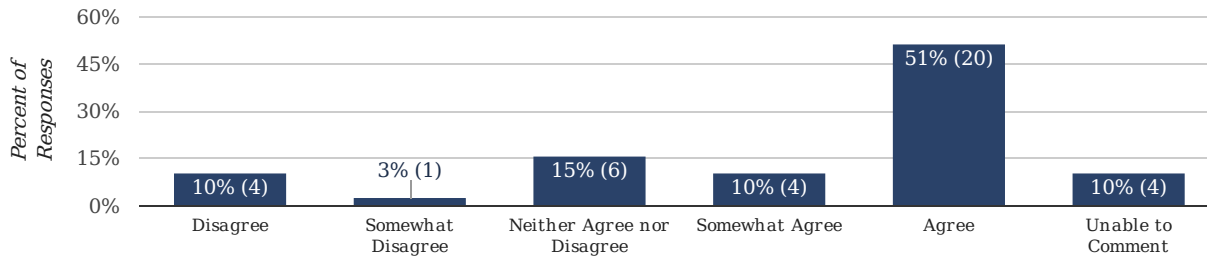
The TA was available in scheduled office hours or by appointment/email outside of class time (whether or not I attended office hours).



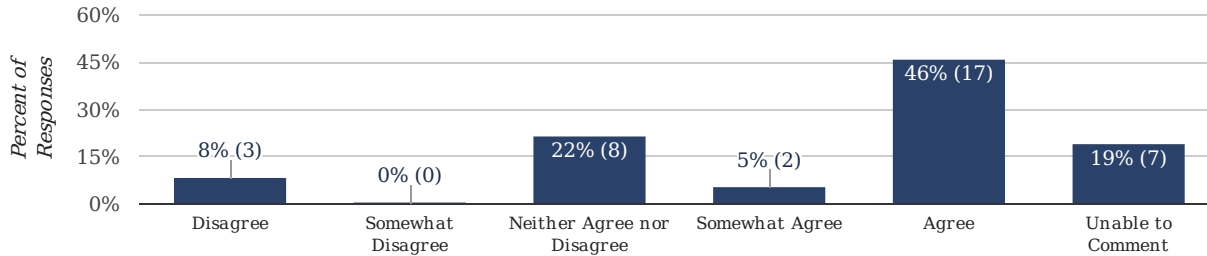
The TA was effective in supporting my learning in the course as a whole.



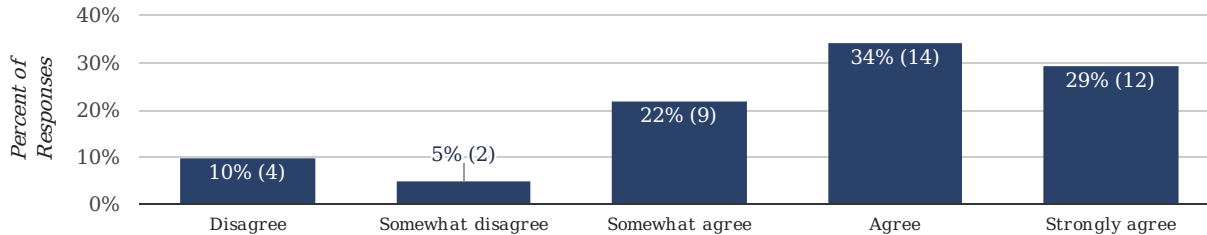
When needed, the TA was able to help me prepare for assignments (papers, quizzes, exams).



The TA provided useful feedback on my assignments (if part of TA duties).



The Teaching Assistant was effective in supporting my learning in the course as a whole.



BSOE Specific Questions (38 comments)

Q: Please describe any specific teaching practices that your TA used that particularly helped you to learn the material and that encouraged you to feel that you could succeed in the course.

- 1 I liked his explanation of the code.
- 2 Eh ew. Maybe try teaching instead of making us copy and paste code
- 3 Going over the coding homework or further explaining concepts
- 4 N/A
- 5 I think that the practice of going over the code as a class and explaining everything that was happening when the code was written really helped. Also walking us through things like eclipse helped a lot.
- 6 He stopped and asked if any of us had any questions.
- 7 The TA regularly would make sure every student was comfortable with the assignment he had assigned by going around the room and giving personal help to any student who felt lost or confused.
- 8 The TA went over the concepts that I had trouble with by going over problems step-by-step.
- 9 answered questions
- 10 Some labs were pretty engaging, specifically when we were given assignments to create something with code which was enjoyable.
- 11 Directly answered my questions one on one
- 12 how to use eclipse
- 13 Showed how to do CodeHS and was very approachable. Overall great TA
- 14 Use of examples
- 15 Walked through coding outside of CodeHS and explained what every part of the code does

- 16 He was coding on the projector along with the students which helped.
- 17 Created programs from scratch allowing students to understand the component that built the entirety of the program.
- 18 The TA allowed us to do pair programming, which made lab activities more efficient for me.
- 19 Introduced us to new programming environments.
- 20 My TA did not use any practices that allowed to succeed in this course.

Q: Please describe any specific teaching practices that were less helpful for your learning, or offer constructive suggestions that might improve your TA's effectiveness.

- 1 Literally nothing
- 2 n/a
- 3 Learn the material we are actually working on for class and maybe go through assignments with us, instead of having us do irrelevant work in lab. Also, be kind. Not everyone has had computer science or java experience. It's so important to not make students feel dumb for not knowing things, especially when this is an introductory class.
- 4 figuring out the logistics often wasted time.
- 5 All teachings were pretty effective.
- 6 Maybe use laymans terms when discussing topics then transition to more official language as we continue to learn.
- 7 I cannot think of any teaching practice that was less helpful for my learning or any constructive suggestions, as I felt the TA beyond sufficiently fulfilled his duties as a TA in helping us.
- 8 There was one time where he made code in the beginning and just told us to copy it down without showing us what each line did, but it was the beginning of the year so I guess it wasn't that bad.
- 9 lab
- 10 During lab his instructions for the assignments were very unclear. He was also very unorganized in his teaching style.
- 11 Some other labs were not as interesting in my opinion. Mainly the ones where it was more of the TA showing how to do something in code. All we did during those labs was watch what the TA did, so it would have been nicer if we had more engaging assignments rather than an hour of watching the TA code.
- 12 play games
- 13 He corrected coding mishaps without putting people down
- 14 Sometimes he lectured the entire class and we didn't do anything.
- 15 Explain how to read the codes.
- 16 We were never allowed to go over homework in labs, which would have helped me understand the concepts at a deeper level.
- 17 Lab 1 didn't really cover anything important, but that's ok because we didn't learn anything yet.
- 18 Every single thing that Dhawal did.

TA Effectiveness (29 comments)

Q: Briefly explain your answer: in what ways the TA was effective or was not effective.

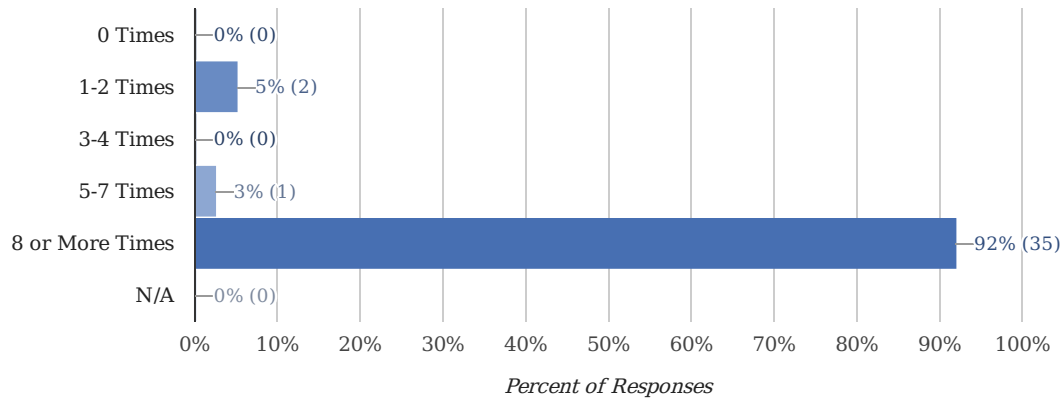
- 1 Although I really liked the professor as a person, the labs were where the real lectures and real potential to learn were.
- 2 Dhawal was good at explaining material and I enjoyed him as a TA.
- 3 He would help when students got stuck and would often let students try to figure it out themselves before giving them the answers, which I thought was helpful.

It would be better if he could explain why or what he was doing.
- 4 He's not the most friendly or approachable person.
- 5 The explanations he provided while we programmed in the labs were very helpful in understanding how the code worked and what it did.
- 6 During the lab, he can explain the concepts of some programming effectively.
- 7 The TA helped teach us more about programming and gave us programming tools to use outside of class.
- 8 He clearly knows a lot but doesn't know how to teach the material.

- 9 lab was well-organized
- 10 Explored outside of the general work, answered questions of students and gave clear instructions
- 11 Didn't help as the way I expected
- 12 Lab activities had very little to do with course material, instruction seemed all over the place
- 13 Helped me finish and understand all my labs, helped me make up the lab I missed.
- 14 Huge ass ego. Took a few weeks for him to calm down. Expected us to be able to run and swim before We were even taught how to crawl. He's actually the reason i don't want to do code anymore. Toxic
- 15 Dhawal was always available for office hours and definitely went above and beyond to accommodate me. He made sure that the whole class was on track and if someone fell behind, he tried his best to make sure they caught up with the rest of us.
- 16 He was friendly and helpful when I asked him for help with my code. I think he was just not used to an intro class as much. Sometimes when he would explain things to us he would leave out defining what something that he thought we had already known meant. But if we asked about it, he defined it and helped us.
- 17 Helpful when you got stuck. If we were just reviewing or getting help we would give us the option to leave.
- 18 Sometimes the TA would teach in a way where it felt like you needed prior knowledge of the subject to understand what he was talking about.
- 19 The TA was effective in giving clear and relevant guidance to help supplement our learning in class and understanding of our homework.
- 20 He had all the answers
- 21 He answered questions pretty well, offered good explanation to them. But the lab was a bit boring and so I was not too engaged in the class. Assignments were not engaging enough.
- 22 Explained sections well and answered questions effectively
- 23 He was effective in time management
And was very helpful with the CodeHs assignments
- 24 Clear, helpful, and direct. Solid TA
- 25 He always went around and made sure everyone was on task, and made sure to help those who were not following along.
- 26 The TA was effective in helping students complete lab assignments.
- 27 The TA always offered help and was willing to answer any questions anytime.
- 28 Sometimes did not seem to have a plan to express the content in lab or to understand that many had no background in coding/programming so some questions (like "Should we start writing a program from scratch?") have no meaning, no idea what they might entail.
- 29 Dhawal is by far the worst T.A. I have every had in my entire college career. His "teaching" tactics include publicly shaming students and harassing particular students consistently throughout the quarter. For the record, I was not one of these students but I still do not like what I saw and still do not believe that someone like that should be leading a class. Dhawal payed little attention to any student's actual understanding of the material and instead chose to spend class time making sure no one was doing their 5J homework instead of doing the lab assignment. He never asked questions, never asked us if we understood, never offered help, and never took any time to stop and make sure everyone was on the same page before continuing lecture. It was easy to fall behind and get lost in this section, and every single time I left feeling absolutely unaccomplished and like I had just wasted my time despite doing everything that I was supposed to do. He also NEVER knew what was going on in lecture, and often told students fall information regarding exams and homework simply because he was guessing. One time he told us that the midterm was collaborative only for us to find out that it strictly wasn't, which could have resulted in many students accidentally committing academic dishonesty. Dhawal lacks the sensitivity and awareness needed to be a TA, and I hope from the bottom of my heart that he is never given the opportunity to be one ever again.

Quantitative questions (might be empty) - BSOE Specific Questions

How many times did you attend section or lab with the TA this quarter (10 week term)?



How many times did you meet with this TA in office hours or by appointment?

