

2023-2024 Autumn OTE  
James Riely  
CSC-300-430 DATA STRUCTURES I

Project Title: **2023-2024 Autumn OTE Course Evaluation**

Enrollment: **23**

Responses Received: **14**

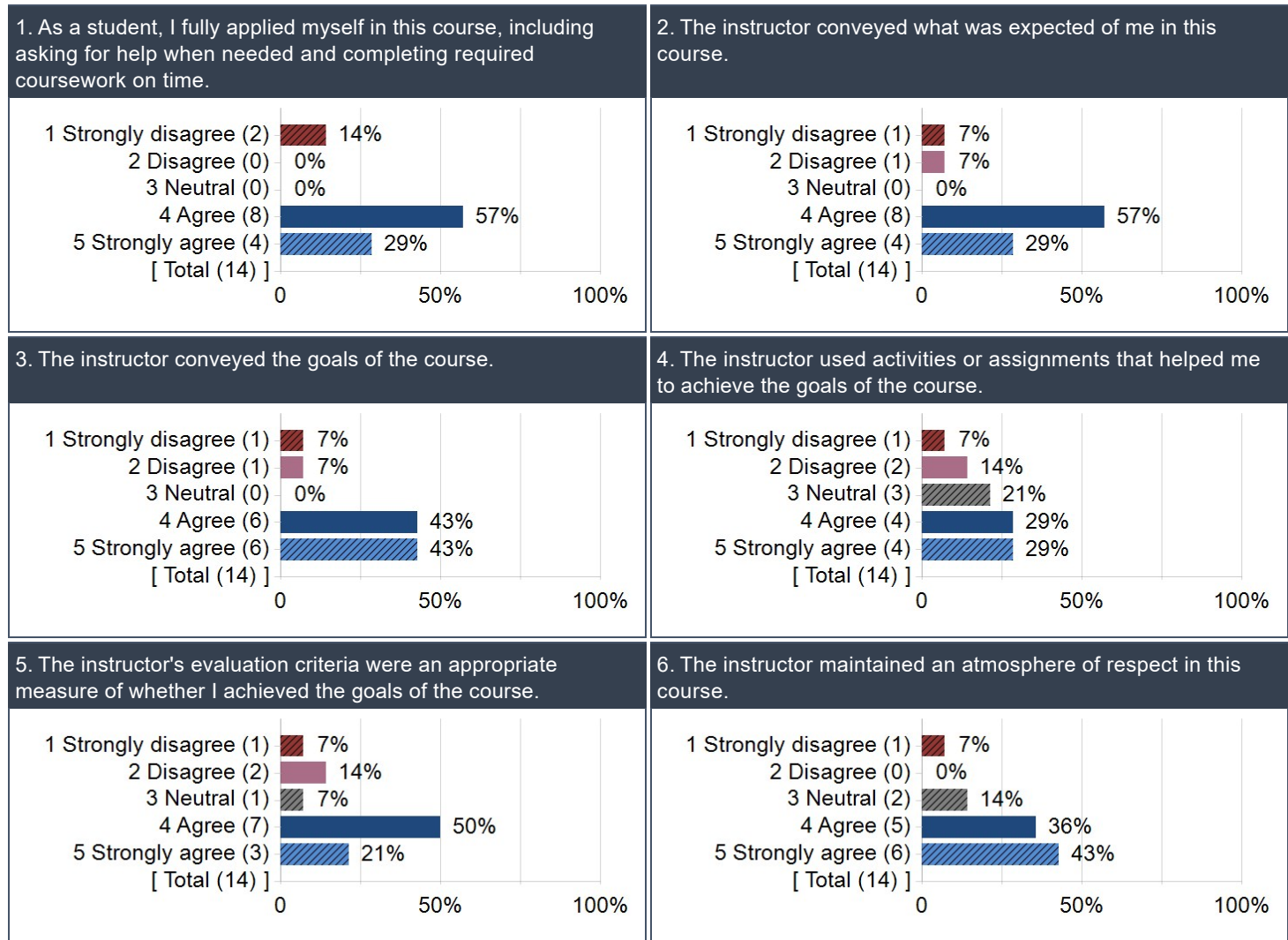
Rate of Response: **61%**

## University Questions

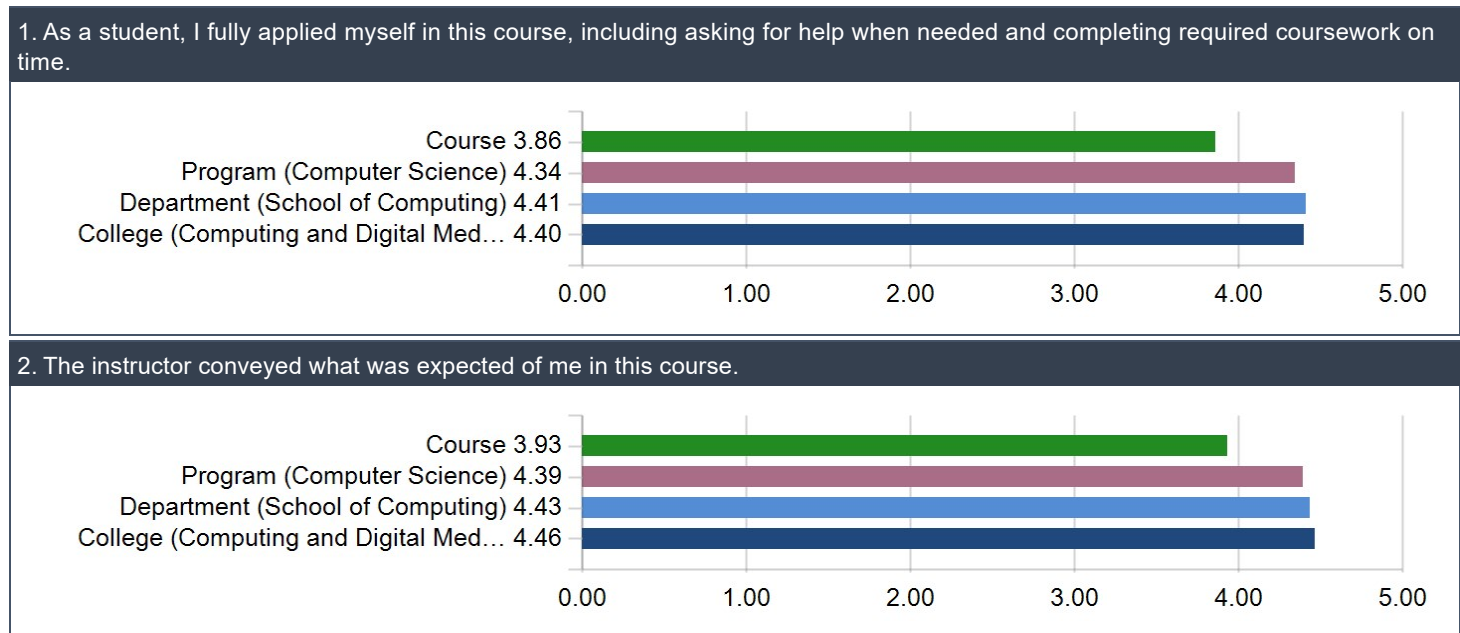
University Questions Table

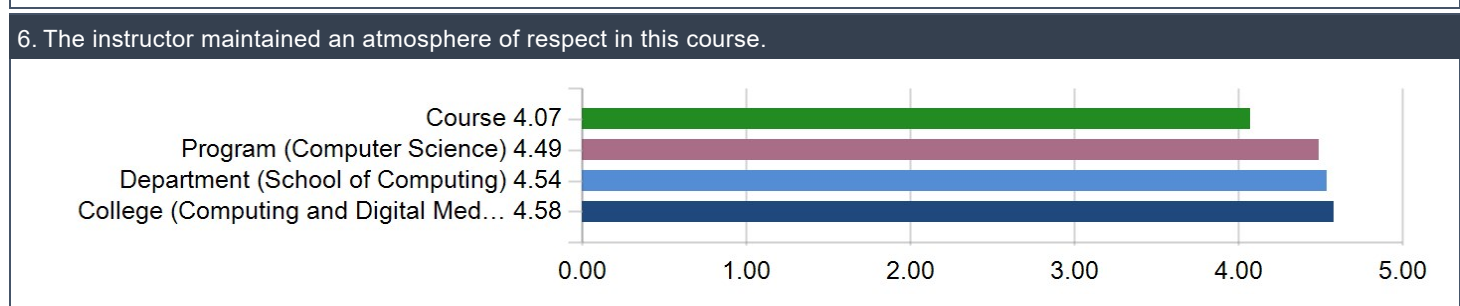
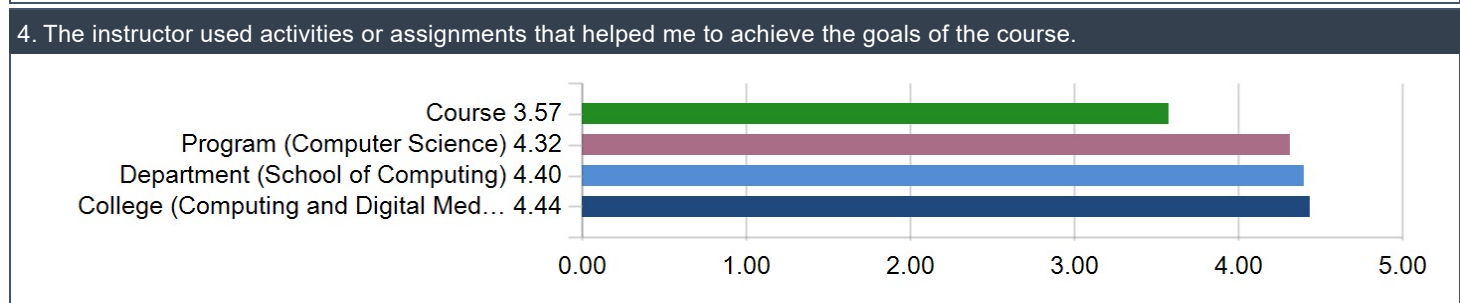
Question	Course			Department (School of Computing)			College (Computing and Digital Media)		
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
As a student, I fully applied myself in this course, including asking for help when needed and completing required coursework on time.	3.86	1.29	4.00	4.41	0.80	5.00	4.40	0.78	5.00
The instructor conveyed what was expected of me in this course.	3.93	1.14	4.00	4.43	0.83	5.00	4.46	0.79	5.00
The instructor conveyed the goals of the course.	4.07	1.21	4.00	4.47	0.80	5.00	4.50	0.76	5.00
The instructor used activities or assignments that helped me to achieve the goals of the course.	3.57	1.28	4.00	4.40	0.87	5.00	4.44	0.83	5.00
The instructor's evaluation criteria were an appropriate measure of whether I achieved the goals of the course.	3.64	1.22	4.00	4.34	0.89	5.00	4.39	0.84	5.00
The instructor maintained an atmosphere of respect in this course.	4.07	1.14	4.00	4.54	0.78	5.00	4.58	0.74	5.00

### University Questions Frequency



### University Questions Histograms





## College Questions

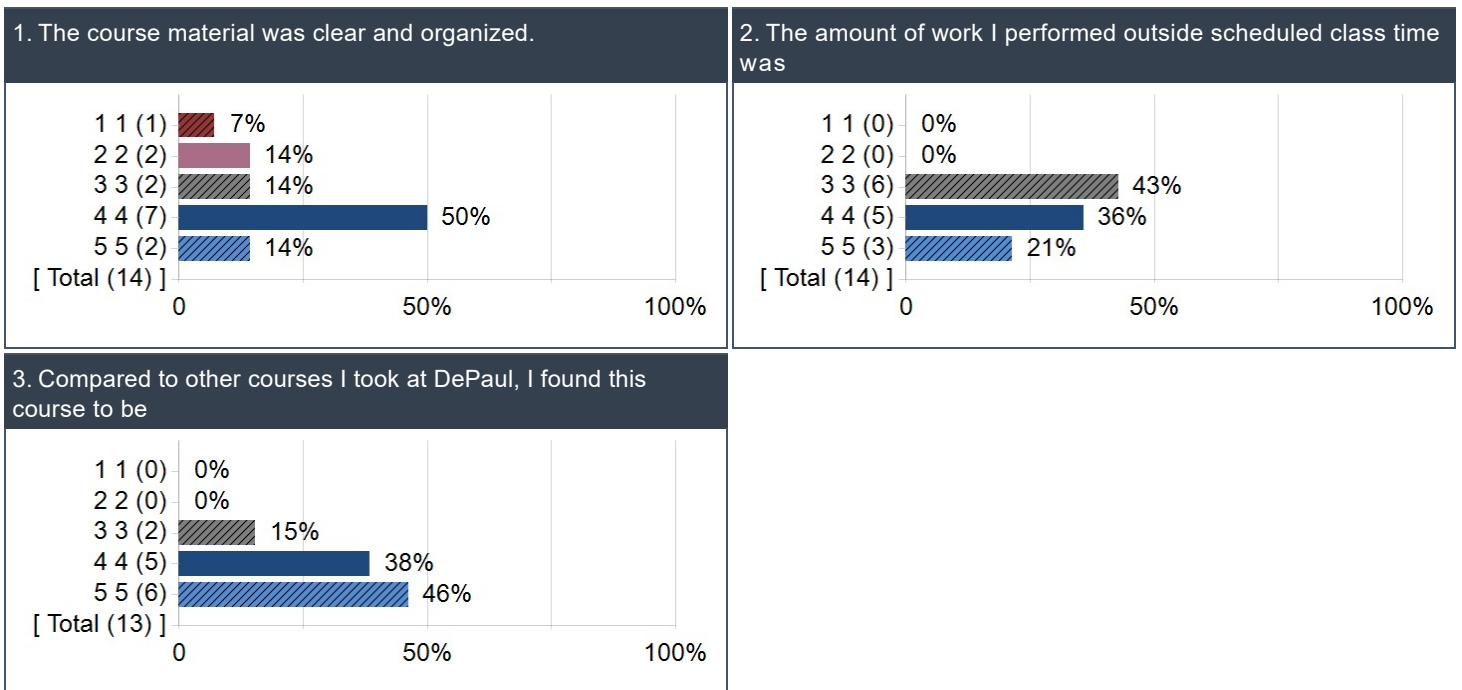
### Course Questions Table

Question	Course			Department (School of Computing)			College (Computing and Digital Media)		
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
The course material was clear and organized.	3.50	1.16	4.00	4.25	0.99	5.00	4.29	0.95	5.00
The amount of work I performed outside scheduled class time was	3.79	0.80	4.00	3.28	0.67	3.00	3.20	0.60	3.00
Compared to other courses I took at DePaul, I found this course to be	4.31	0.75	4.00	3.38	0.90	3.00	3.17	0.90	3.00

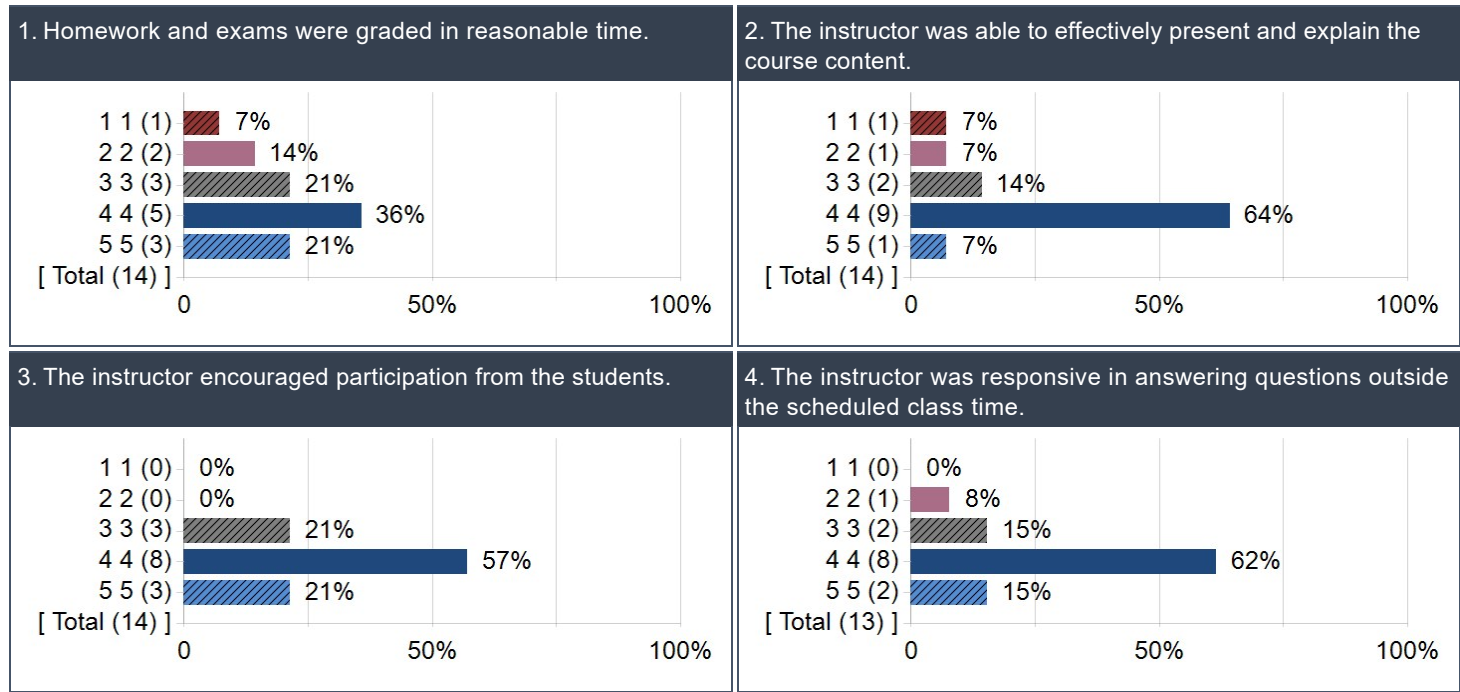
### Instructor Questions Table

Question	Course			Department (School of Computing)			College (Computing and Digital Media)		
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median
Homework and exams were graded in reasonable time.	3.50	1.22	4.00	4.14	1.00	4.00	4.18	0.95	4.00
The instructor was able to effectively present and explain the course content.	3.57	1.02	4.00	4.35	0.89	5.00	4.41	0.84	5.00
The instructor encouraged participation from the students.	4.00	0.68	4.00	4.35	0.84	5.00	4.42	0.79	5.00
The instructor was responsive in answering questions outside the scheduled class time.	3.85	0.80	4.00	4.38	0.85	5.00	4.38	0.84	5.00

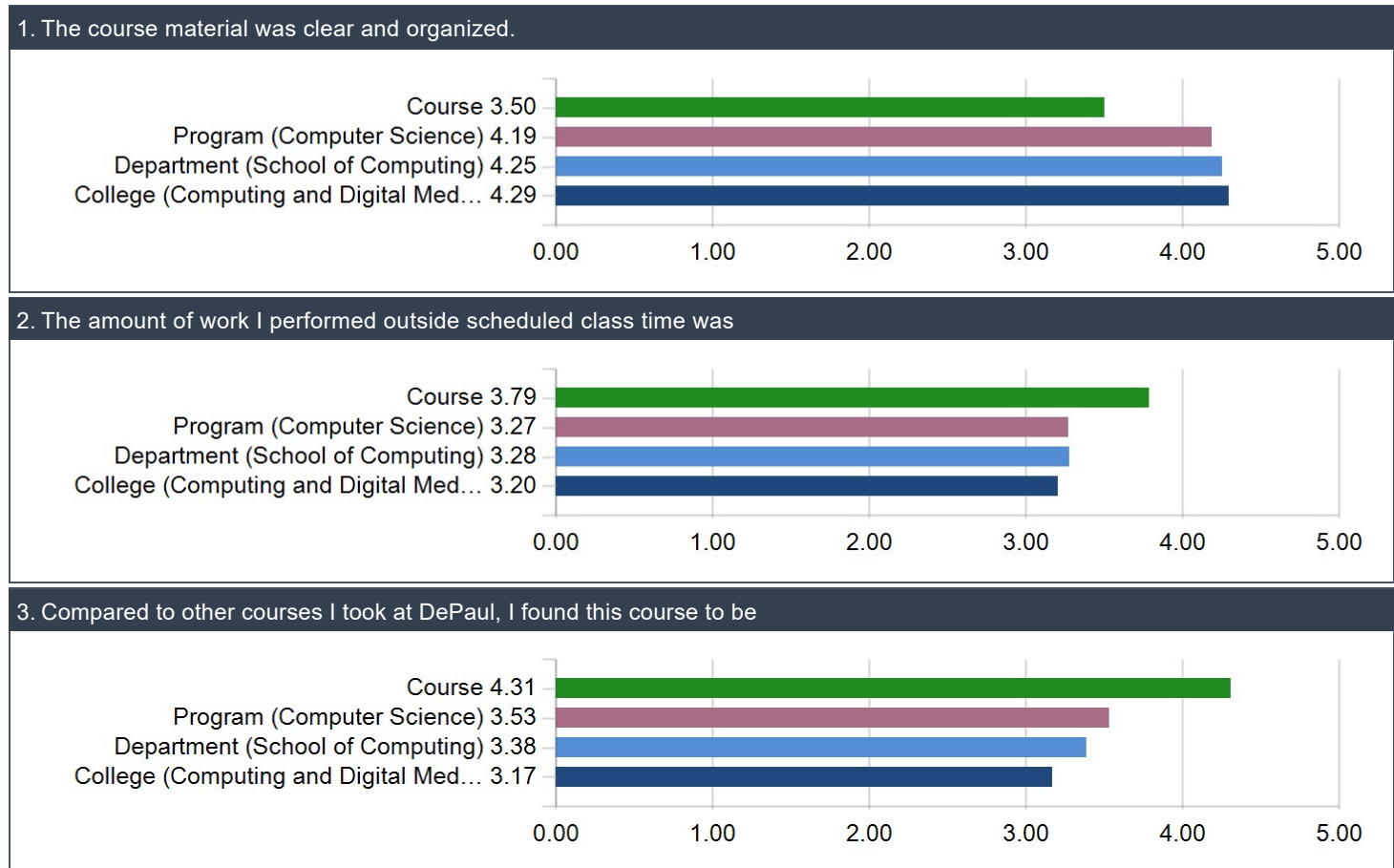
### Course Questions Frequency



### Instructor Questions Frequency



### Course Questions Histograms



### Instructor Questions Histograms



### Open Ended Feedback By Question

What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?

Comments
I liked the homeworks and quizzes
Since I am going into computer science, this will help me to get a job in computer programming.
The setup of homework and quizzes.
Discord was very useful. I liked the SI sessions when I attended occasionally.
learning the structural material and what is needed for coding interviews
The work flow in this class was very enlightening in the real life applications of data structures concepts.
I think the layout of the course was helpful, where we could watch lectures on our own time at our own pace, and work together in class.
The in class questions were good and so was the quizzes
the videos were useful but I did have to find outside sources such as udamy.

### What suggestions do you have that could help improve the course?

Comments
Teach more during lectures to discover common questions and problems faced by students instead of letting them "figure it out", which is what he told us to do during the lecture.
change how the midterm and finals are graded, add a bit of a curve, allow students to take the final and midterm throughout the week.
The SI recordings could be posted sooner (the day of the SI session, instead of a few days).
Encourage more handwriting code and show examples of said code in writing.
Lesss review more lecturing
I would suggest more time on new material in lecture as opposed to just reviewing homework
More focus on concepts in class, rather than reviewing on homework. Learning completely new topics on our own can lead to confusion
I think people just need to apply themselves more to the class because it is challenging, but it's a course typically required for CS majors and it's not supposed to be easy.
maybe offer more practices on each topic as 5 problems arn't enough to help someone new to understanding the structure
more hands on coding with answers.
I would have liked to see some some handouts with topics

### Other comments?

Comments
When he said that 30% of the students failed this course, I internally freaked out (although I am doing very well in this course). I would like the professor to take more time ensuring that the students learn from him so that more students pass the course. Also, sometimes, the professor uses foul language (at himself, not to others).
Nah
Amazing guy. I enjoyed this class. Amazing introduction to CSC at DePaul
nope thanks

### What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?

Comments
He cares too much about his ego to adapt to new technologies like IDEs and D2L.
goes over the homework and quizzes most of the time In class instead of teaching us.
One major strength is that he knows a lot of stuff for this class. One weakness is he frequently puts people "on the spot."
pro: smart con: too smart
His enthusiasm and control of the subject matter come through really well. The explanations for each section are simple enough to grasp.
Very intelligent and knows his stuff very well. He has a really good way of explaining things. Often gets sidetracked and misallocates class time.
Professor Riely is very smart and tells us exactly what he wants from us, but there were times in class that were a little confusing because of tangents that made things feel a little complicated.
I dont know didn't interact much. the videos posted for the homeworks were very helpful though
I loved the passion he has for teaching and he did a fantastic job showing homework steps.



## Do you have comments on the grading procedures and exams?

Comments
Very harsh grading, as well as very notorious exams that were not clearly described forcing me to study unnecessary material.
I would say let the homework be a little bit more points or if the midterm and final exam is written have it be open notes.
The instructions on how to get someone to proctor our exams should be more detailed.
Nah
Maybe add an explanation to the notation for points off.
Exams are heavily weighted, but the homework I believe does deserve a higher weight in the grading scale.
No, grading and requirements were very clear
um no i did good on everthing so no problems
I think the exams are graded too harshly. In the real world people have access to check notes or sources. To do exams on paper when this is a computer class is great for understanding but not realistic when we have our own comfort on a computer and the software helps us catch our own mistakes in the real world when I paper we can get more anxiety.

## Open Ended Feedback by Student

**Courses Name: CSC-300-430 DATA STRUCTURES I**  
**Instructors Name: James Riely**

- 1. What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?**
  - ◊ The setup of homework and quizzes.
- 2. What suggestions do you have that could help improve the course?**
  - ◊ Encourage more handwriting code and show examples of said code in writing.
- 3. Other comments?**
  - ◊ Nah
- 4. What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?**
  - ◊ pro: smart con: too smart
- 5. Do you have comments on the grading procedures and exams?**
  - ◊ Nah

**Courses Name: CSC-300-430 DATA STRUCTURES I**  
**Instructors Name: James Riely**

- 1. What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?**
  - ◊ I think the layout of the course was helpful, where we could watch lectures on our own time at our own pace, and work together in class.
- 2. What suggestions do you have that could help improve the course?**
  - ◊ I think people just need to apply themselves more to the class because it is challenging, but it's a course typically required for CS majors and it's not supposed to be easy.
- 3. What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?**
  - ◊ Professor Riely is very smart and tells us exactly what he wants from us, but there were times in class that were a little confusing because of tangents that made things feel a little complicated.
- 4. Do you have comments on the grading procedures and exams?**
  - ◊ No, grading and requirements were very clear

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- 1. What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?**
  - ◊ Since I am going into computer science, this will help me to get a job in computer programming.
- 2. What suggestions do you have that could help improve the course?**
  - ◊ The SI recordings could be posted sooner (the day of the SI session, instead of a few days).
- 3. Other comments?**
  - ◊ When he said that 30% of the students failed this course, I internally freaked out (although I am doing very well in this course). I would like the professor to take more time ensuring that the students learn from him so that more students pass the course. Also, sometimes, the professor uses foul language (at himself, not to others).
- 4. What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?**
  - ◊ One major strength is that he knows a lot of stuff for this class. One weakness is he frequently puts people "on the spot."
- 5. Do you have comments on the grading procedures and exams?**
  - ◊ The instructions on how to get someone to proctor our exams should be more detailed.

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- 1. What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?**
  - ◊ I liked the homeworks and quizzes
- 2. What suggestions do you have that could help improve the course?**
  - ◊ change how the midterm and finals are graded, add a bit of a curve, allow students to take the final and midterm throughout the week.
- 3. What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?**
  - ◊ goes over the homework and quizzes most of the time In class instead of teaching us.

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  - ◊ learning the structural material and what is needed for coding interviews
- 2. What suggestions do you have that could help improve the course?**
  - ◊ I would suggest more time on new material in lecture as opposed to just reviewing homework
- 3. What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?**
  - ◊ His enthusiasm and control of the subject matter come through really well. The explanations for each section are simple enough to grasp.
- 4. Do you have comments on the grading procedures and exams?**
  - ◊ Maybe add an explanation to the notation for points off.

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- 2. What suggestions do you have that could help improve the course?**
  - ◊ maybe offer more practices on each topic as 5 problems arn't enough to help someone new to understanding the structure
- 3. Other comments?**
  - ◊ nope thanks
- 4. What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?**
  - ◊ I dont know didn't interact much. the videos posted for the homeworks were very helpful though

**5. Do you have comments on the grading procedures and exams?**

- um no i did good on everthing so no problems

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**3. Other comments?**

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**4. What are the major strengths and weaknesses of the instructor?**

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