#### C S 462-0001 Database Systems - Fall 2008

School Of Engineering And Applied Science (302kd)

INSTRUCTORS: Sherriff, Mark (mss2x)

Respondents: 28 / Enrollment: 47

#### Summary: C S 462-0001 Database Systems - Fall 2008 (302kd)

#### **Overall Course Rating**

C S-462-0001 Mean 4.26 C S-462-0001 Std Dev 0.82 C S-462-0001 Response Count 140

#### **Overall Instructor Rating**

INSTRUCTOR: Sherriff, Mark Mean 4.61 Std Dev 0.53 Response Count 194

#### ~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

#### ~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

## 1. So tell me... how awesome was this class?

Question Type: Multiple Choice

contributed by Sherriff, Mark (mss2x)

Results for C S-462-0001, Sherriff, Mark								
Total	Incredibly awesome (NA)	Overwhelmingly awesome (NA)	Simply awesome (NA)	Lacking of awesome (NA)	Devoid of awesome (NA)			
28	28 9 (32.14%)		6 (21.43%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (3.57%)			

# 2. How accurate is this statement for you: I am more likely to try Cheerwine the next time I see it because of this class.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Sherriff, Mark (mss2x)

Results for 0	C S-462-0001	, Sherriff, Ma	rk				
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
28	4.04	1.04	13 (46.43%)	5 (17.86%)	8 (28.57%)	2 (7.14%)	0 (0.00%)

## 3. Which topic/lecture in this course was your favorite and why?

Question Type: Short Answer

contributed by Sherriff, Mark (mss2x)

Results for C S-462-0001, Sherriff, Mark								
Total	Individual Answers							
28	See below for Individual Results							

SQL

SQL injections, better understanding of the architecture and why one needs to know it.

B+-trees and Hashing - I like data structures and the lecture did a good job of explaining both topics and piqued my interest in these areas.

SQL Injection by far

Database security/hacking because it was fun and informative.

Security, because we actually did something hands on.

SQL injection attack. It was fun trying to figure out how to hack into a database system.

SQL Injection, as we went beyond just the concepts and actually both watched it being performed in real life and tried it out ourselves

SQL injection attacks. Even though I sucked at making the attacks, it was good to emphasize security.

My favorite was the E-R diagrams and model because it allowed me to connect an abstract scenario into a solid DB design

SQL injection attacks, because we got to try it ourselves!

The lecture on security, allowing the students to attempt injection attacks on an unsecured database, was very enjoyable. Not only did we learn the value of security, but we realized the venues of attacks used by hackers.

I just liked working with SQL statements, mostly because it made sense within the context of the class and I saw and immediate use for it as a programmer.

E-R diagrams, functional dependencies,and normal forms. The things one needs to know to properly design a database.

I really liked the lectures on PHP and documentation. I thought they were very helpful to understanding parts of database and computer science that I was lacking in.

SQL Injection - I like hacking.

#### ~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

#### ~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

Functional dependencies, relational algebra. They were theoretical and I could see using them in various other forms in other fields.

I enjoyed most the schema creation and ER diagrams as I enjoyed the puzzle/challenge of coming up with the most straightforward/efficient design. My favorite lecture was the one where we debated a new technology (XML for databases) - I think it would be cool if something we discussed in class came up later at a job and I would be able to argue for/against it.

php because it is very practical

I enjoyed the information on database security because it is a very important topic and good to learn about different techniques

SQL, because I had never worked with it before and had been wanting to learn how to do it for a while.

Security...because I actually need to know that later..

Acid. Just kidding. Well, the right type of ACID: Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, and Durability. It sounds funny.

Security - it was something completely new to me, and extremely important in database systems.

security was interesting. I also liked the first half of the semester er-modeling/sql.

All of it? The hack-the-server day was awesome, and made my CS friends from other colleges openly wish they had professors that awesome.

db security.....injection attacks fascinated me

lollers. It's hard to say. Truth be told, databases are not inherently engaging. I made point to be in every class I could be in because they were well presented and I felt that I took a lot from them afterwards.

## 4. Which topic/lecture in this class do you think you will find the most useful in the future?

Question Type: Short Answer

contributed by Sherriff, Mark (mss2x)

Results for C S-462-0001, Sherriff, Mark							
Total	Individual Answers						
28	See below for Individual Results						

SQL

SQL

My developed skills with PHP and HTML will help me in any class or job I am interested in in the future.

The project. Developing a PHP/MySQI system.

Database Security.

PHP

**Database Security** 

**Database Security** 

The project in and of itself will be extremely valuable in the future

None; not going into Computing as a career.

The php/jsp was probably most useful, or marketable - that kind of stuff came up a lot in interviews

The material covered in the first portion of the class, on Entity-Relationship Diagrams, MySQL syntax, and the nature and value of databases, will be the most useful. I have already used this information multiple times outside of class for reasons including interviews.

Normal Forms

Security

Injection attacks. :P Also, SQL/php.

security.

mySQL and PHP

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### ~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~ ~ ANSWER MATRICES ~ I think most lectures are useful. I have been to job interviews that asked me what is normalization and relational database. SQL and security er diagrams security lectures Once again SQL statements. SQL because it enabled students with practice as opposed to theory. I think the use of SQL will be very helpful. SQL Injection I think the most practical/worthwhile topic was covering from beginning to end the design of a database project (from DBMS to hardware to design). Many CS classes miss the "practical" side of things that you often have to learn on your own later through trial and error. Database security. SQL. RAID. The parts that didn't have to do with theory. 5. What lecture/topic(s) in this class Results for CS-462-0001, Sherriff, Mark "did not work" or were not seen as Total Individual Answers useful in the long run? 25 See below for Individual Results Question Type: Short Answer contributed by Sherriff, Mark (mss2x) For me, a lot of topics were "not useful in the long run" simply because I do not plan on managing a database. However, for those that do plan on managing databases, every topic was important. I think the PHP and JSP lectures would have been more useful if they were interactive or there was an assignment on them. I still don't really understand XML concurrency control. it may be useful but its not very interesting. ER Diagrams, I can't seem to see how they are useful at all. When I design a database, I think of tables, not entities, putting information that would be needed in the same queries together and such. I suppose ER diagrams would be good if you can't visualize exactly what you need or something.. None. All are useful. The parts that had to do with theory. normal forms relating it specifically to database systems made it work. I think the hardware was unnecessary and unhelpful to the class. I understand your reasons for including it, but I believe those classes could be spent on other topics.

They were all pretty relevant for the course material, so even when we covered stuff I already know,

the storage and file structure was repetitive from other courses

I think everyone can agree that transactions fell a little flat and it was hard to stay awake.

The "hardware" lecture didn't do much for me. The overall review of the utility (with respect to DB systems) of memory devices was useful. There was discussion of actual prices and models, and I don't think any of that will be sticking with me.

XML... too bulky... <rickroll>Were no strangers to love You know the rules and so do i A full commitments what Im thinking of You wouldnt get this from any other guy I just wanna tell you how Im feeling Gotta make you understand <repeat>never gonna give you up Never gonna let you down Im reeling Gotta make you understand <repeat>never gonna give you up Never gonna let you down Never gonna run around and desert you Never gonna make you cry Never gonna say goodbye Never gonna tell a lie and hurt you</repeat> Weve know each other for so long Your hearts been aching But youre too shy to say it Inside we both know whats been going on We know the game and were gonna play it And if you ask me how Im feeling Dont tell me youre too blind to see (\* repeat) Give you up. give you up Give you up, give you up Never gonna give Never gonna give, give you up Never gonna give Never gonna give, five you up I just wanna tell you how Im feeling Gotta make you understand</ri> understand</rickroll>

I felt that the discussion of hardware used for database systems was not exceedingly useful. It left students regarding necessary hardware systems as "really good" or "minimal" without fully understanding what the hardware was doing, in my opinion.

#### ~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~ ~ ANSWER MATRICES ~ Concurrency Control none php/jsp lecture, can easily be learned outside of class. The hardware lecture didn't do it for me. I know it's one of your favorite, but I felt like everyone in the room either already knew the answers cold because they'd built their own PCs, or didn't know the answers AND didn't learn them that day, because they're never going to really need to know. Also, the "shop for a system" activity that day was just annoying for those who'd never had to do it before and had no idea where to start. (Sorry to rain on your parade) Theoretical topics like B+ tree that we don't really use in our career. Some were boring, but I would still say that all were useful. I've already forgotten about them so I don't remember, but there definitely were some. Maybe teaching things just for the sake of teaching them like TRC and B+ trees? I mean, I guess you have B+ trees, though you probably already guessed that. The lecture with the slides from the book. I think that sums up how much of that I remember. B+ Trees The table-calculus thing. You didn't seem too excited about it, and thus there was no excitement in that material conjured in your students. 6. The subject matter was challenging. Results for C S-462-0001 Std Dev Agree (4) Total Mean Strongly Neutral Disagree Strongly Not Question Type: Likert Applicable Agree (3)(2)Disagree (NA) (5)(1) contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science 28 4.00 0.82 18 (10.71%)(21.43%)(64.29%)(0.00%)(3.57%)(0.00%)7. The objectives of the course were Results for CS-462-0001 clearly stated and accomplished. Disagree (2) Std Dev Strongly Total Mean Agree (4) Neutral Strongly Not Disagree (1) Applicable Agree (5) (3)Question Type: Likert (NA) 28 4.68 0.48 19 contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering (67.86%)(32.14%)(0.00%)(0.00%)(0.00%)(0.00%)and Applied Science 8. There was a reasonable level of effort Results for CS-462-0001 expected for the credit hours received. Total Mean Std Dev Strongly Agree (4) Neutral Disagree Strongly Not (2)Agree (3)Disagree Applicable Question Type: Likert (5)(1) (NA) 28 4.46 0.51 13 15 0 contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering (0.00%)(0.00%)(46.43%)(53.57%)(0.00%)(0.00%)and Applied Science 9. The homework assignments helped Results for CS-462-0001 me learn the subject matter. Std Dev Agree (4) Total Mean Strongly Neutral Disagree Strongly Agree (3)(2)Disagree Applicable Question Type: Likert (1)(NA) 28 4.46 0.64 contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering (39.29%)(53.57%)(7.14%)(0.00%)(0.00%)(0.00%)and Applied Science 10. The textbook increased my Results for CS-462-0001 understanding of the material. Disagree (2) Agree (4) Strongly Total Mean Std Dev Strongly Neutral Not Agree (5) (3) Disagree Applicable Question Type: Likert (NA) (1)28 3.67 1.11 0 contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering (28.57%) (25.00%) (25.00%)(0.00%)(3.57%)(17.86%) and Applied Science 11. The course material was well Mark Results for CS-462-0001, Sherriff

Total

28

organized and developed.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering

and Applied Science

Mean

4.50

Std Dev

0.51

Strongly

Agree

(5)

(50.00%)

Agree (4)

(50.00%)

Disagree

(2)

(0.00%)

Strongly

Disagree

(1)

(0.00%)

Neutral

(3)

(0.00%)

Not

Applicable

(NA)

(0.00%)

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~									
12. The instructor was knowledgeable about the subject matter.	Results for									
~	Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree	Agree (4)	e Neutra (3)	I Disagree (2)	Disagree		
Question Type: Likert	27	4.78	0.42	(5) 21	6	0	0	(1)	(NA) 0	
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science			0.12	(77.78%)				(0.00%)	(0.00%)	
13. The instructor was well prepared Results for C S-462-0001, Sherriff, Mark										
for class.	Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree	Agree (4)	Neutra	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable	
Question Type: Likert			0.40	(5)		. ,		(1)	(NA)	
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science	28	4.68	0.48	19 (67.86%)	9 (32.14 <sup>9</sup>	%) (0.00%	) (0.00%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)	
14. The instructor (not Teaching	Results for	C S-462-0	001, Sherrift	f, Mark						
Assistants) was accessible for individual assistance.	Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutra (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	
Question Type: Likert	28	4.56	0.64	17	8	2	0	0	1	
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science				(60.71%)	(28.57	%) (7.14%	) (0.00%)	(0.00%)	(3.57%)	
15. The grading policy was fair.	Results for	C S-462-0	001, Sherrift	f, Mark						
Question Type: Likert	Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutra (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science	28	4.39	0.57	12 (42.86%)	15 (53.57°	1 %) (3.57%	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
16. The instructor responded	Results for	C S-462-0	001, Sherrift	f, Mark						
adequately to in-class questions.	Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree	Agree (4)	e Neutra	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree	Not Applicable	
Question Type: Likert				(5)		` ,		(1)	(NA)	
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science	27 4.74		0.45	20 (74.07%)	7 (25.93°	%) (0.00%	) (0.00%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)	
17. As a teacher, this instructor was better than most others in this School.	Results for	C S-462-0	001, Sherrif	f, Mark						
Question Type: Likert	Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree	Agree (4)	Neutra (3)	Disagree (2)	Disagree		
contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering	28	4.61	0.57	(5) 18 (64.29%)	9 (32.14	1 %) (3.57%	0 (0.00%)	(1) 0 (0.00%)	(NA) 0 (0.00%)	
and Applied Science				(01.2070)	JH. LO 70)   (J. 1470)   (J. 3170)   (U. UU%)   (U. UU%)				(0.0070)	
18. The average number of hours per week I spent outside of class preparing	Results for			4 4		4 6	7 (		0	
for this course was:	Total	Le	ss than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA	)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA		0 or more (NA)	
Question Type: Multiple Choice	28	(	0 (0.00%)	17 (60.71		10 (35.71%)	(3.579	%)	0 (0.00%)	
contributed by Office of the Provost					, , ,					
19. I learned a great deal in this course.	Results for	C S-462-0	001							
Question Type: Likert	Total	Mean	Std D		ongly gree	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree	
contributed by Office of the Provost	28	4.54	0.58	(	5) 16	11	1	0	<u>(1)</u> 0	
		7.04	0.00			(39.29%)	(3.57%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)	
20. Overall, this was a worthwhile	Results for	C S-462-0	001							
course.	Total	Mean	Std D		ongly gree	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree	
Question Type: Likert		4.74	0.46	(	5)			` ,	(1)	
contributed by Office of the Provost	28	4.71	0.46		20 43%)	8 (28.57%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
21. The course's goals and requirements	Results for	C S-462-0	001, Sherrif	f, Mark						
were defined and adhered to by the instructor.	Total	Mean	Std D	ev Stro	ongly gree 5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	
Question Type: Likert	28	4.57	0.50	) ,	16	12	0	0	0	
contributed by Office of the Provost			a 5 of 7	(57.	14%)	(42.86%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)	

# 22. The instructor was approachable and made himself/herself available to students outside the classroom.

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-462-0001, Sherriff, Mark								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	
28	4.61	0.57	18 (64.29%)	9 (32.14%)	1 (3.57%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

## 23. Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for C S-462-0001, Sherriff, Mark							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
28	4.71	0.53	21 (75.00%)	6 (21.43%)	1 (3.57%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

## 24. Please make any overall comments or observations about this course:

Question Type: Short Answer

Results for C S-462-0001							
Total	Individual Answers						
17	See below for Individual Results						

great class. It will be very helpful for any endeavor that I decide to take.

I would like to stress that Sherriff has been the most helpful and available professor outside of class that I have worked with, which greatly improved the quality of my learning for the class. Otherwise, and I hate to say this, the class needed a little more homework to add to what is done in the final project. The final project was great, but maybe an almost-trivial mini-project earlier on would help teach some of the concepts early on and then allow for the students to build on this later for the final project. Sure, this wouldn't be necessary if students followed the suggested schedule, but that doesn't happen often. As for the material, the lectures, homeworks, and the test were spot-on for what I expected to learn and were very effective.

This should be a requirement because so many of my job interviews have asked questions about SQL.

Prof. Sherriff did a great job with this class. He clearly sees it as an important subject and that attitude translates into how he teaches the class. Additionally his responsiveness to class e-mails and questions is unparalleled in promptness. It was very quick resolving any issues with the class or assignments. The only bad thing is that he needs to do some work on his trivia game because that think is a kludge.

I kid you not...I have consequently purchased Cheerwine, and it has become a staple in my late night coding sessions.

good class, great professor

Thank you for teaching me about Cheerwine.

Totally kickin' like KFC's chicken Calligraphy ain't gonna do no thang MC Sherriff's knowin' his game He got the style and he got the brains He gonna learn us some brand new flames With the Daily WTF and the B+ trees, the beset thing I learned are funk dependencies So, Mary Lou Soffa, don't downgrade the Sherriff You'd be doing yourself a favor to recognize if getting him some tenure would smooth the school, walk the walk, boost our cool, upgrade our rep like a rich nerd on Newegg; how you gonna get funding if you only got one leg? Peace, winter's coming.

I actually tried Cheerwine because of this course. It was tasty.

Professor Sherriff is crazy awesome. Most enjoyable/informative course I've taken in SEAS.

Prof. Sherriff made what could have been a fairly dry subject much more interesting with examples and real-world applications. I went into the course feeling that I had a strong grasp of database management systems and the applications that interact with them and found that I still learned a great deal

Pugging Heroic UP was a bad idea...

Better protect the last day quiz. It was really fun.

Good class. We covered a lot and I felt that I learned a lot.

Overall a great course! Sherriff was very invested in the material and very knowledgeable. The course is a good overview of basic principles which are very important to know before leaving the university. Although the large project was a lot of work, it was a good way to actually implement the database principles taught

I would take any course taught by this professor. He taught incredibly effectively while keeping the material approachable and fun. Keep him around, give him a raise, tenure, whatever. Have new faculty sit in on his lectures to see what good teaching is. ...oh, but teach him to write in-class trivia games that don't break. :P

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~
	An excellent course with worthwhile material that was made fun and exciting by a great instructor.