

CS 4102-002 Algorithms - Fall 2019

ENGR (16355)

INSTRUCTORS: **Hott, John (jh2jf)**

Respondents: 65 / Enrollment: 124

Summary: CS 4102-002 Algorithms - Fall 2019 (16355)	
Overall Instructor Rating	
INSTRUCTOR: Hott, John	
Mean 4.76	
Std Dev 0.46	
Response Count 130	
SEAS, 4000-level courses Mean 4.46	
SEAS, 4000-level courses Std Dev 0.80	
SEAS, 4000-level courses Response Count 5445	

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~ ~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

<p>1. The activities and assignments helped me learn the subject matter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="10">Results for CS-4102-002</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>Mean</th> <th>Std Dev</th> <th>Strongly Agree (5)</th> <th>Agree (4)</th> <th>Neutral (3)</th> <th>Disagree (2)</th> <th>Strongly Disagree (1)</th> <th colspan="2">Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>65</td> <td>4.46</td> <td>0.71</td> <td>36 (55.38%)</td> <td>25 (38.46%)</td> <td>2 (3.08%)</td> <td>2 (3.08%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td colspan="2">0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>									Results for CS-4102-002										Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)		65	4.46	0.71	36 (55.38%)	25 (38.46%)	2 (3.08%)	2 (3.08%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
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<p>3. The course materials (such as textbook, readings, or background materials) increased my learning.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="10">Results for CS-4102-002</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>Mean</th> <th>Std Dev</th> <th>Strongly Agree (5)</th> <th>Agree (4)</th> <th>Neutral (3)</th> <th>Disagree (2)</th> <th>Strongly Disagree (1)</th> <th colspan="2">Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>65</td> <td>3.48</td> <td>1.14</td> <td>12 (18.46%)</td> <td>16 (24.62%)</td> <td>19 (29.23%)</td> <td>5 (7.69%)</td> <td>4 (6.15%)</td> <td colspan="2">9 (13.85%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>									Results for CS-4102-002										Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)		65	3.48	1.14	12 (18.46%)	16 (24.62%)	19 (29.23%)	5 (7.69%)	4 (6.15%)	9 (13.85%)	
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~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

4. The course material was well organized and developed.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-4102-002								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
65	4.40	0.81	35 (53.85%)	24 (36.92%)	4 (6.15%)	1 (1.54%)	1 (1.54%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2458	3.99	1.06	900 (36.62%)	908 (36.94%)	325 (13.22%)	172 (7.00%)	88 (3.58%)	65 (2.64%)

5. The instructor was well prepared for class.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-4102-002, Hott, John								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
65	4.71	0.52	48 (73.85%)	15 (23.08%)	2 (3.08%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2722	4.38	0.85	1448 (53.20%)	910 (33.43%)	176 (6.47%)	81 (2.98%)	37 (1.36%)	70 (2.57%)

6. The grading policy was fair.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-4102-002								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
64	3.78	1.06	16 (25.00%)	30 (46.88%)	8 (12.50%)	8 (12.50%)	2 (3.12%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2456	4.22	0.90	1095 (44.58%)	908 (36.97%)	270 (10.99%)	98 (3.99%)	33 (1.34%)	52 (2.12%)

7. The instructor showed respect for students, and created a safe and supportive learning environment.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-4102-002, Hott, John								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
65	4.82	0.39	53 (81.54%)	12 (18.46%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2723	4.54	0.74	1743 (64.01%)	741 (27.21%)	131 (4.81%)	42 (1.54%)	23 (0.84%)	43 (1.58%)

8. What aspects of the course most helped your learning?

Question Type: Short Answer

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-4102-002	
Total	Individual Answers
50	See below for Individual Results

- Professor Hott's office hours.
- Lecture recordings
- The assignments.
- Office hours
- Definitely the lectures helped the most

TA office hours

The slides

Homework problem sets really made me sit down and try to understand the material while relating it to lecture

assignments, slides

Lectures were fantastic, and office hours with Professor Hott were fun, engaging, and extremely helpful.

Lectures

Lecture activities were helpful.

Lecture

The lectures were extremely helpful and I would re watch them to help me with the assignments.

Struggling together in office hours

I think stepping through algorithms using real-world objects (e.g. playing cards, or writing on the chalkboard) or via PowerPoint animations really benefited me because I could actually see the algorithms/proofs in action rather than just learn about them in theory, where I could easily get lost/confused.

The most helpful aspect of this course was being able to work with other people and TA to solve the homeworks. I really benefited from being able to talk out solutions to problems.

The lectures and his availability for office hours. The lectures held important information the entire time and weren't filled with fluff. The fact that these were recorded really helped me when I had to miss a class, was sick, had family issues or wanted further clarification. Additionally, the availability of office hours truly helped because any conceptual questions were answered :)

The lectures and some of the homeworks most helped in learning the material

Hott taking questions in class and diving deep into any point of confusion in certain topics helped clear up areas of confusion.

Hott's lectures and the homeworks

The homeworks and the examples given in the slides during lecture.

The homework sets, although difficult, definitely helped me grasp some of the more abstract material better.

The homeworks were difficult but were useful and very relevant to the class and material, they required a higher level thinking that was very helpful.

lecture vids

Very little of this course helped my learning, other than perhaps the slides.

Office Hours.

The problem sets, while challenging, were extremely helpful in learning the course material.

The homework assignments helped the most with leaning the material (although they were very difficult).

The problem sets being collaborative to simulate the real world working environment.

The professor tried his best to make sure students were engaged and keeping up. The assignments were relevant to the materials covered in lectures and helped students understand them better.

Homeworks

The homework assignments and I get it accuracy is important, but like maybe grade similarly to CS3102.

I think a strong effort was made to engage students, allowing times for questions, active warm-ups, and a variety of examples always contributed to my understanding of the material.

Mostly TA office hours and completing homeworks; actually completing the homeworks, however, was very difficult and it was difficult to grasp the concepts if you weren't sure that your answers were right.

The collaboration policy of the homework assignments and extensive office hours helped my learning the most. I am personally not a great test taker, so I try my best on every homework, generally going to office hours at least 3-4 days a week. The TAs are really helpful, and working with other students made it less stressful.

Coding assignments

Professor Hott is great

Hotts office hours

Lecture presentations

I liked that we were able to collaborate with people on assignments without being afraid of being caught for cheating.

problem sets

HWs

Problem sets, lectures, office hours

Assigned work effectively taught the material.

posting lectures

The lectures were vital, HWs helped, but they were on another difficulty level for the most part... It would actually be more helpful if we get more practice with the algorithms we discuss in class, and maybe insert these in-class algorithms as 50% of the HW assignments, and leave the other half to be the really difficult ones. Right now, the HWs don't relate to the exams because they were way too hard, and they don't relate to in-class materials as much either, because once again, they were a bit difficult to relate, in my opinion

the homework assignments

The warm ups in class were helpful because it refreshed from the topic of the previous lectures.

The piazza is very helpful when working on the homeworks, especially after we all found out that we were allowed to share test cases. Maybe that should've be explicitly stated at the beginning of the course?

9. What changes to the course would most help your learning?

Question Type: Short Answer

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-4102-002

Total	Individual Answers
41	<i>See below for Individual Results</i>

More programming

fewer homework assignments

More time to work on homeworks. Turnaround was a bit too quick

If there was clearer guideline for the homework.

Less homework or more explanation on how concepts apply to homework. I felt lost and overwhelmed every single week.

I think the assignments should perhaps be reconsidered a little bit. I understand having weekly assignments to keep the weight of each one reasonable and to make sure that we are learning the material. The problem, I guess, comes from the nature of the course -- you could sit with a problem for hours and not be able to really gain any insight on it. Very quickly in the semester, I became a student who would early on in the week go to office hours to get the "gist" of the problems -- I was not trying to get direct solutions from the TAs or my peers, but it felt like I needed a helping hand guiding me heavily through the problems (especially because the solutions were so multifaceted). My own behavior of this dependency disappointed me but the assignments felt too overwhelming for me to be able to tackle without a large amount of help. On the other hand, I found the collaborating process very rewarding -- I would spend hours talking through problems with my peers, and when I got to point where I understood them, I felt really good explaining them to others in a semi-TA style. So I think the assignments were good in that sense of collaborative learning, but at the same time definitely felt overwhelming. I'm not sure there is a good solution, but perhaps scaling them down slightly or somehow allowing more time on them, or even simply allowing written/simple-typed submissions rather than the overly complicated Latex (I understand it is an industry standard but I think it impeded our focus on the actual material if anything -- I would always have to allocate a half or full day before the due dates just to type up the solutions/make them look "pretty").

Homework is very difficult, problems are complex and there are many of them. Even in collaboration groups, it can take multiple days to create a solution for one problem, and then each person needs to create a proof for the solution, which takes up even more time.

working over examples more in class

Some of the homeworks took forever to simply find the algorithm and seemed very random at what time you find out the solution. Maybe making the homeworks that contain those problems have less problems would help?

little more explanation as to what the written homework's should be like, often got points off for arbitrary things that we were never told about

I find matrix chaining to be one of the harder Dynamic Programming algorithms, and probably would rather have covered it later in the unit.

if office hours were more available; getting stuck on problem sets feels terrible and office hours feels like it would just be a very long line

Wish homeworks were designed like this: of the questions here, do 2/3 or 3/4 or whatever, and if you do 4/4 you have the opportunity for extra credit. Would be so nice to get more of a break or wiggle room with grades and homeworks.

Since the homeworks are so difficult, office hours are essential. I appreciated how many OH there were, but they often got bottlenecked and it was hard to get any help if you weren't able to arrive as soon as possible.

amount of work that is due

Time expected for the course could be lower.

Creating HW problems that the TA's believe students could solve without their assistance

I think the level of difficulty of the assignments was too much especially since they were back to back problem sets. for each, I would say I spent at least a total of 12-15 hours trying to complete them, and often needed TA help because I was completely lost.

I think giving us more code examples would've been helpful to conceptualize concepts from a developer perspective.

Homework way too hard; didnt really help learning

More optional homework; not necessarily for grading, but so that we get more experience/exposure to algorithm type questions that could be asked in coding interviews.

It would be helpful to space the homeworks out a little bit more (stick to every week and a half to two weeks).

Not having the hw be so difficult

I wish the instructions for answering questions on the exam were clearer. I was a bit confused on what answers were actually wanted as the solutions released for the practice were incredibly short, so I didn't know if that was expected. Otherwise everything was great.

I feel like having less difficult homework questions would've made it easier to learn the material without having to go to office hours a lot. Maybe the homework could have more questions, just with some easier ones sprinkled in.

The class really needs more consistent graders. Some graders are apparently way harsher than others. Being heavily punished for minor issues is really frustrating for my learning, especially when my friends did not get punished nearly as much for having the same issues.

Better preparation for the homeworks! They are unrealistically difficult and attempting to solve them feels more like an exercise in frustration than an attempt to learn.

Provide solution to homework in pdf

I believe the regrade policy should be changed, partial credit should be given for code that had certain part of the algorithm and not that no credit is given even if their code cannot be made to work with a few lines of change. If like 80% of the code works or the algorithmic part is correct, credit should be given.

n/a

I thought some of the assignments were extremely difficult and time consuming.

I started feeling really burnt out on the course after slogging away on assignments for an hour or so a day until it was due, so maybe shorter assignments or just provide the slightest bit more guidance when providing the assignment.

more opportunities for "practice" to build our knowledge of algorithms besides big HW problems

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

Having more grades for effort rather than correctness; I realize that extra credit is supposed to be for this purpose, but I found that I really didn't have time to do extra work for the already time-consuming course, so the extra credit didn't really come into play at all. I think assessing effort should be built into the course / grading, instead of "extra" credit that you can get.

I enjoyed having the extra credit assignments at the end because they helped me connect the concepts from our problem sets with actual implementation of the solutions.

I appreciated both the coding and written assignments, but I feel that if we had a few assignments composed of short answer questions that would have helped too. Long-answer problems tend to get circuitous, especially with proofs, so I feel throwing in a few shorter-answer ones would have helped us learn the material as well.

Make exams worth less

I would prefer shorter assignments that are due more frequently. I'd much rather have one homework question due every week than 3 due every two and a half.

Honestly, I can't think of any. HWs were difficult, and I wish they can be easier. But then that means there will probably be more HWs, and no one certially wants that... 10 HWs is very fair, and I think it should be kept the same

None!

Not sure

10. The average number of hours per week I spent outside of class preparing for this course was:

Question Type: Multiple Choice

contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-4102-002					
Total	Less than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA)	10 or more (NA)
65	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	10 (15.38%)	28 (43.08%)	27 (41.54%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses					
Total	Less than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA)	10 or more (NA)
2457	114 (4.64%)	773 (31.46%)	1004 (40.86%)	364 (14.81%)	202 (8.22%)

11. I learned a great deal in this course.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-4102-002							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
65	4.43	0.68	35 (53.85%)	23 (35.38%)	7 (10.77%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
2460	4.13	0.91	963 (39.15%)	1045 (42.48%)	294 (11.95%)	117 (4.76%)	41 (1.67%)

12. Overall, this was a worthwhile course.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-4102-002							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
65	4.25	0.88	31 (47.69%)	23 (35.38%)	7 (10.77%)	4 (6.15%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
2458	4.15	0.96	1051 (42.76%)	962 (39.14%)	274 (11.15%)	111 (4.52%)	60 (2.44%)

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

13. The course's goals and requirements were defined and adhered to by the instructor.

Question Type: Likert
 ~
 contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-4102-002, Hott, John							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
65	4.69	0.50	46 (70.77%)	18 (27.69%)	1 (1.54%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
2709	4.39	0.82	1458 (53.82%)	973 (35.92%)	183 (6.76%)	56 (2.07%)	39 (1.44%)

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

Question Type: Likert
 ~
 contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-4102-002, Hott, John							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
64	4.75	0.47	49 (76.56%)	14 (21.88%)	1 (1.56%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
2718	4.42	0.81	1562 (57.47%)	832 (30.61%)	243 (8.94%)	55 (2.02%)	26 (0.96%)

15. Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.

Question Type: Likert
 ~
 contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-4102-002, Hott, John							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
64	4.69	0.50	45 (70.31%)	18 (28.12%)	1 (1.56%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 4000-level courses							
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
2722	4.31	0.90	1416 (52.02%)	918 (33.73%)	248 (9.11%)	91 (3.34%)	49 (1.80%)

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

Question Type: Short Answer
 ~
 contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-4102-002	
Total	Individual Answers
34	See below for Individual Results

Good course

homework too hard to inspire learning **Comment on TAs**

John Hott is a great lecturer and very approachable professor and I have no qualms with him personally. The class was incredibly unenjoyable and needlessly challenging, though. I feel as if many of the homeworks expected far too much time commitment going off tangentially related examples from the class for the 3-credit-course that this was. The material could potentially be interesting, but I think condensing it into a single 3 credit course is unreasonable and bad for learning.

Comment on another course/professor

Hott is the best. Please give him a raise.

I think more programming would be more fun, but then realized that programming could get really difficult. The written HWs are a good evaluation of ones' learning, given their difficulty level. I want to ask for extra credits, but then realized they would probably be super hard, and it is already difficult for you guys to make so many questions... 10 HWs is a good number, maybe we can so the current EC assignment but have it count as an additional 60 points optional EC (like add it as the 11th assignment?) instead of letting it replace one of the existing grades? Idk, it's just another option.

This was a challenging yet extremely rewarding course, as I feel that I have learned so much that I will use in my future career in computer science.

Great course!

Prof. Hott was really friendly, approachable, and willing to help out his students in any way possible. He really seemed to care about his students doing well in the course. Overall, I thought this was a very challenging course and I wish that I had utilized office hours earlier in the semester, since I really found the homeworks incredibly challenging without guidance. I also think it would help to have a better system for forming groups to work with on the homeworks; not everyone knows someone in the class, so it's really difficult to find an effective group of people to work with consistently.

Hott is great!! He's such a kind professor and really cares that every student understands the material to the best of their abilities. Even when he was going through a tough family situation, he worked to make it to class and to host office hours as best he could. It's clear that he cares the student's wellbeing more than anything else (even if the homeworks can be very difficult sometimes). He really changed my opinion on how algorithms apply to the CS world at large and what it would look like to pursue studying algorithms and theoretical math long-term!

John Hott is one of the better teachers I have had. Despite this being a rough semester for him, he made an effort to continue to support us, to be in class when he could, and to put us first in a way that is admirable. Not his fault at all, but I will complain that a lot of lecture time was lost to questions and comments from one particular student. I'm not sure there is a way as an educator to ask a student to talk less, but I was frustrated.

I have to say I love Robbie as a teacher and I think he's doing a great job with this class. He makes the material interesting and is a good lecturer.

Professor Hott understands the material really well truly cares about his students. While the material is indeed very difficult, I enjoyed learning about it. I attended nearly every lecture, and went back to recordings if something was unclear. Thank you, Professor Hott, for being such a great professor and making algorithms a challenging but enjoyable course :)

The course was good, but like I said before, the homeworks took FOREVER. They did help me learn the subject matter though.

I have never had a professor care so much about his students. Professor Hott was incredible, and he was enthusiastic and supportive when answering questions. I felt valued as an individual student, even though the class was so large. The homeworks and tests are challenging, but there was enough office hours throughout each day to answer questions. Thank you for a great semester Professor Hott!

This was a very difficult course and I would say I did not enjoy it as much as 2150 due to its theoretical nature, but I also feel like I have learned a lot and have developed better analytical skills as related to CS (e.g. runtime) and I am very thankful to Professor Hott for guiding us through the material so well (especially amid emergency situations at the end of the semester).

Although the course was challenging, Prof. Hott definitely made an effort to make it enjoyable.

This class is very very difficult, and I struggled through it. However, Professor Hott is truly incredible and always makes time for his students, often making one on one appointments with me to offer extra assistance. It is safe to say I did not like this class, however, despite not doing well I did learn a lot and that is all thanks to how incredible professor Hott is.

This class is just too hard!

Great class

sometimes Professor Hott seemed to not know the answer to questions related to the material; otherwise very interesting course

I really appreciate professor Hott. He gave lectures despite having personal family issues, which shows how much he cares about his students and the course. He is truly a professor that is kind and caring, which I really appreciated. He made algorithms fun by providing fun anecdotes and use cases. I thoroughly enjoyed the lectures, but felt the homework were time consuming and rigorous.

This was the hardest course I've ever taken, but I feel like a legitimate computer scientist now, so thank you!

I learned a lot in this class despite its rigor. I appreciate the professors' understanding for us as students who are trying to balance many different classes and were able to push back HW due dates. For programming assignments, I wish there were more sufficient test cases especially large ones that will help us test our algorithms. I found grading to be somewhat harsh on written assignments as I got 8 points off for partially answering a question and often had to go to regrades to gain points back.

great course and semester!

Professor Hott is probably one of the kindest professors I've had in the CS dept. and one of the only ones who actually cares about his students.

I loved this course! It honestly was not as bad as some people say with regards to content or time commitment.

n/a

This class is just hard and time consuming. The homeworks take a long time so increasing the credit hours received would have been nice. Other than that I believe the professors are doing the best possible job of teaching the course materials

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

Ok, where do I start? Whoever made the decision to make Professor Hott an algorithms professor made an amazing decision. Apart from my CS2110 professor (shout out to Professor Basit) I actually felt like a student and not another person being shuffled through the system. If you wanted to put in the time to succeed in the course, Professor Hott gave you the resources to succeed. Whether that was holding office hours a bit longer to answer all remaining questions, making time in his hectic schedule (even during times of family situations), to address concerns or just offering advice, Professor Hott did it all. The material taught in the class is very very relevant. During my coding interviews, I was asked material that was presented in class. Having this course made in a structure of actually teaching you how to tackle problems actually led me to do well in the interviews! Additionally, the professor was very, very knowledgeable. At no point did I think he didn't know anything I asked, it's almost like he anticipated questions and prepares adequately to answer them. He also does a very good job of breaking down and concisely explaining hard topics. If he doesn't do it the first time around (because after all he's only human), you could go to his office hours. He would explain it again and it would make more sense and you leave satisfied that you now have that algorithmic tool in your toolbox. Such a great class and I'm so glad I had this professor.

This class was difficult but so worthwhile. Professor Hott was so kind and helpful, I really enjoyed getting to speak with him about algorithms and life. The content was well-presented and built on past topics, and even though the problem sets took a long time, the amount of content per set was good. Thanks for everything!

It was well taught and allowed me to learn a lot

<3 Hott. He is amazing and very helpful. I can tell he really wants students to succeed.

Interesting class but definitely more difficult than I expected because of the HW, but a fair amount of time was given to complete them

Professor Hott is undeniably the best professor that I have had in the computer science department. His dedication to the class and his students is unquestionable, and I have never learned more from a lecture than in his class. He is an amazing educator and makes the class interesting and engaging no matter how difficult the subject matter is. Sometimes the grading felt a little wonky just because there are so many TA's with different styles. That being said, I really can tell that Hott is trying to make the class the best it can be, and I enjoyed this so much. I could honestly drone on and on about how great this was which is weird because usually I do not feel this way about academic lectures. Thanks a million Hott.