

CS 3240-002 Advanced Software Development - Spring 2019

ENGR (18895)

INSTRUCTORS: Sherriff, Mark (mss2x)

Respondents: 56 / Enrollment: 121

Summary: CS 3240-002 Advanced Software Development - Spring 2019 (18895)	
Overall Course Rating CS-3240-002 Mean 3.99 CS-3240-002 Std Dev 0.93 CS-3240-002 Response Count 279 SEAS, 3000-level courses Mean 3.90 SEAS, 3000-level courses Std Dev 1.10 SEAS, 3000-level courses Response Count 12247	Overall Instructor Rating INSTRUCTOR: Sherriff, Mark Mean 4.45 Std Dev 0.73 Response Count 390 SEAS, 3000-level courses Mean 4.12 SEAS, 3000-level courses Std Dev 1.00 SEAS, 3000-level courses Response Count 19980

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~ ~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

<p>1. The course addressed technically rigorous subject matter consistent with the course objectives.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	Results for CS-3240-002 <table border="1"> <thead> <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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>56</td> <td>4.21</td> <td>0.78</td> <td>21 (37.50%)</td> <td>29 (51.79%)</td> <td>3 (5.36%)</td> <td>3 (5.36%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	56	4.21	0.78	21 (37.50%)	29 (51.79%)	3 (5.36%)	3 (5.36%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p>2. The instructor used methods other than/in addition to traditional lectures (for example, active learning, in-class problems, collaborative learning, in-class discussion) effectively in this course.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	Results for CS-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark <table border="1"> <thead> <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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>56</td> <td>4.39</td> <td>0.76</td> <td>29 (51.79%)</td> <td>22 (39.29%)</td> <td>3 (5.36%)</td> <td>2 (3.57%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	56	4.39	0.76	29 (51.79%)	22 (39.29%)	3 (5.36%)	2 (3.57%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p>3. There was a reasonable level of effort expected for the credit hours received.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	Results for CS-3240-002 <table border="1"> <thead> <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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>56</td> <td>4.16</td> <td>0.80</td> <td>20 (35.71%)</td> <td>28 (50.00%)</td> <td>5 (8.93%)</td> <td>3 (5.36%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	56	4.16	0.80	20 (35.71%)	28 (50.00%)	5 (8.93%)	3 (5.36%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
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~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

4. The homework assignments helped me learn the subject matter.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-3240-002								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
56	3.80	1.02	14 (25.00%)	22 (39.29%)	13 (23.21%)	3 (5.36%)	2 (3.57%)	2 (3.57%)

Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2454	3.95	1.06	797 (32.48%)	1023 (41.69%)	281 (11.45%)	159 (6.48%)	108 (4.40%)	86 (3.50%)

5. The textbook increased my understanding of the material.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-3240-002								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
56	3.53	0.90	4 (7.14%)	3 (5.36%)	11 (19.64%)	1 (1.79%)	0 (0.00%)	37 (66.07%)

Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2449	3.40	1.21	303 (12.37%)	487 (19.89%)	387 (15.80%)	204 (8.33%)	140 (5.72%)	928 (37.89%)

6. 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-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
56	4.42	0.74	30 (53.57%)	19 (33.93%)	5 (8.93%)	1 (1.79%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.79%)

Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2865	3.97	1.04	968 (33.79%)	1212 (42.30%)	331 (11.55%)	190 (6.63%)	111 (3.87%)	53 (1.85%)

7. The instructor was knowledgeable about the subject matter.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
56	4.46	0.79	33 (58.93%)	18 (32.14%)	4 (7.14%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.79%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2864	4.50	0.71	1658 (57.89%)	979 (34.18%)	126 (4.40%)	30 (1.05%)	25 (0.87%)	46 (1.61%)

8. The instructor was well prepared for class.

Question Type: Likert

contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Results for CS-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
55	4.58	0.63	35 (63.64%)	18 (32.73%)	1 (1.82%)	1 (1.82%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses								
Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)
2859	4.33	0.81	1349 (47.18%)	1182 (41.34%)	160 (5.60%)	67 (2.34%)	40 (1.40%)	61 (2.13%)

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~																																																						
<p>9. I received adequate preparation from the prior courses in the curriculum to be successful in this course.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9" style="background-color: #2e5496; color: white;">Results for CS-3240-002</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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>55</td> <td>3.93</td> <td>1.04</td> <td>19 (34.55%)</td> <td>19 (34.55%)</td> <td>10 (18.18%)</td> <td>5 (9.09%)</td> <td>1 (1.82%)</td> <td>1 (1.82%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9" style="background-color: #a6a6a6;">Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses</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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2448</td> <td>3.78</td> <td>1.12</td> <td>674 (27.53%)</td> <td>969 (39.58%)</td> <td>357 (14.58%)</td> <td>234 (9.56%)</td> <td>121 (4.94%)</td> <td>93 (3.80%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for CS-3240-002									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	55	3.93	1.04	19 (34.55%)	19 (34.55%)	10 (18.18%)	5 (9.09%)	1 (1.82%)	1 (1.82%)	Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	2448	3.78	1.12	674 (27.53%)	969 (39.58%)	357 (14.58%)	234 (9.56%)	121 (4.94%)	93 (3.80%)
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<p>11. The instructor responded adequately to in-class questions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9" style="background-color: #2e5496; color: white;">Results for CS-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark</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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>55</td> <td>4.56</td> <td>0.60</td> <td>33 (60.00%)</td> <td>21 (38.18%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>1 (1.82%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9" style="background-color: #a6a6a6;">Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses</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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2859</td> <td>4.23</td> <td>0.87</td> <td>1209 (42.29%)</td> <td>1203 (42.08%)</td> <td>229 (8.01%)</td> <td>91 (3.18%)</td> <td>49 (1.71%)</td> <td>78 (2.73%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for CS-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	55	4.56	0.60	33 (60.00%)	21 (38.18%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.82%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	2859	4.23	0.87	1209 (42.29%)	1203 (42.08%)	229 (8.01%)	91 (3.18%)	49 (1.71%)	78 (2.73%)
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<p>12. The instructor effectively used technology in support of the learning goals for this course.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9" style="background-color: #2e5496; color: white;">Results for CS-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark</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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>56</td> <td>4.43</td> <td>0.71</td> <td>30 (53.57%)</td> <td>21 (37.50%)</td> <td>4 (7.14%)</td> <td>1 (1.79%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9" style="background-color: #a6a6a6;">Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses</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>Not Applicable (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2861</td> <td>4.03</td> <td>1.02</td> <td>1019 (35.62%)</td> <td>1185 (41.42%)</td> <td>300 (10.49%)</td> <td>154 (5.38%)</td> <td>105 (3.67%)</td> <td>98 (3.43%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for CS-3240-002, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	56	4.43	0.71	30 (53.57%)	21 (37.50%)	4 (7.14%)	1 (1.79%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	2861	4.03	1.02	1019 (35.62%)	1185 (41.42%)	300 (10.49%)	154 (5.38%)	105 (3.67%)	98 (3.43%)
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<p>13. The average number of hours per week I spent outside of class preparing for this course was:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Multiple Choice ~</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>contributed by Office of the Provost</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6" style="background-color: #2e5496; color: white;">Results for CS-3240-002</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>Less than 1 (NA)</th> <th>1 - 3 (NA)</th> <th>4 - 6 (NA)</th> <th>7 - 9 (NA)</th> <th>10 or more (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>56</td> <td>3 (5.36%)</td> <td>18 (32.14%)</td> <td>26 (46.43%)</td> <td>8 (14.29%)</td> <td>1 (1.79%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6" style="background-color: #a6a6a6;">Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>Less than 1 (NA)</th> <th>1 - 3 (NA)</th> <th>4 - 6 (NA)</th> <th>7 - 9 (NA)</th> <th>10 or more (NA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2449</td> <td>105 (4.29%)</td> <td>557 (22.74%)</td> <td>1001 (40.87%)</td> <td>463 (18.91%)</td> <td>323 (13.19%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for CS-3240-002						Total	Less than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA)	10 or more (NA)	56	3 (5.36%)	18 (32.14%)	26 (46.43%)	8 (14.29%)	1 (1.79%)	Results for SEAS, 3000-level courses						Total	Less than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA)	10 or more (NA)	2449	105 (4.29%)	557 (22.74%)	1001 (40.87%)	463 (18.91%)	323 (13.19%)																		
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19. Please make any overall comments or observations about this course:

~
Question Type: Short Answer

~
contributed by Office of the Provost

Results for CS-3240-002	
Total	Individual Answers
26	See below for Individual Results

Great professor, would take another class with him if I got the chance. Needs to stop fake falling, I got a heart attack when he actually fell.

I think that lectures could've been a little more engaging than how they were taught this semester. While they helped us learn the concepts of the software engineering real world, they were often easy to get sidetracked during. I also think that KAs should be split up to have a KA topic for each day (ie have 6 instead of 3) so that we are taught a topic and then tested on it rather than teaching two and feeling more rushed while taking the KAs.

I enjoyed this class and learned a lot, but I honestly felt like there was not enough help provided when it came to learning Django. I acknowledge that the goal was to have us "learn how to learn," but having never even used Python before, I faced a very steep learning curve. I put a significant amount of time in, definitely more than would be expected for one 3 credit class (and when taking 13 other credits and working part time, this was extremely difficult). The class was definitely worthwhile, but there simply must be more Django-related help offered. The TA's were not helpful, and the online tutorial provided was pretty simple compared to the kinds of things we needed to know how to do for the project.

I think this course should be required for all CS majors, the information learned was very useful. And even though sometimes the material was pretty boring, Sherriff is a very entertaining professor and gets his point across well. One thing I would get rid of would be the project management spreadsheet as I thought it was a pain to use. Finally, one last suggestion is to better centralize the course as there were so many different places you had to go to get all the class resources(collab, google drive, gradescope, website).

I'm never a fan of group projects, but the one for this course was executed well. Perhaps I lucked out on group members, though I still feel as though I did more than my share of work. Did a good job of explaining the material clearly.

This class made me realize I like hardware description programming much better than procedural programming. Now I know I want to do hardware out of school and not software development

thanks

Great course. Should learn more about Django and html/css. If I hadn't had an internship I'd be quite lost. Great semester!

The lecture slides were very organized, and the material for the course was absolutely critical for software engineers. However, this course was constantly stressful for me with the group project. I was requirements manager of my team, and as a CPE this was exactly what I felt most comfortable doing (because I was the least experienced with programming out of everyone on my team). I really appreciated the Agile/Scrum structure, but Django, Python, HTML, JSS... all of that was completely unfamiliar to me. I struggled all semester keeping up with my group mates who had industry/internship experience in software development, and while I helped in any way I could with UI improvements or documentation, my other group members always offered to code new features and could do it so much faster/more efficiently than me so it was hard to argue with them. I just wish that there had been optional sessions with TAs or even lectures devoted to how to use Django and practice exercises. I felt so unprepared to code, and that Django tutorial kept me up for maybe two nights, near tears as I felt like I couldn't ever get it working. I guess that this course is a taste of industry, in that you are forced to teach yourself things, but the roles in each team made it unclear how much each person would be responsible for actual coding. Also, since it is still a college course, it is an opportunity to learn how to do web development before being thrown into industry, and I feel as though it failed me in that sense. My group would just encourage me to look up code to use, and because of time constraints I definitely relied on the internet to give me code that worked (never understanding the inner workings). So, I really wish that there was more actual teaching of the coding practices here. Overall, the lectures on how to be a software engineer and what to consider were eye-opening and taught me a lot in the general teamwork sense.

Great teacher, super knowledgeable. Learned a lot of useful stuff.

Great class

Sherriff is nice and all but this class is essentially torture for students who are good at programming because we are paired with those who are not. I personally carried my group through most of the semester project, frequently spending my weekend nights working on aspects of the project which were not completed by my team until 1am.

When an instructor starts a course by saying that half the people enrolled will not find the class interesting or useful, that seems like a problem with the class. There is in my opinion no reason why this class should be a requirement. The few parts that are necessary for accreditation can be put into other required courses and the rest can be made an elective. Overall this course was filled with concepts that I already knew, and busywork that I found unhelpful and boring. The class project was somewhat interesting, but having already done a Django project in the past, I did not learn anything new. Any standards for teamwork were weakly enforced and TAs in labs seemed to not really have any defined role. GPs were consistently little more than busy work copying from slides. If you want to take attendance, please just take attendance, it would be better for everyone involved. Lastly, I want to say that the XP system in the class could probably be used as a textbook example of how not to implement gamification. What was the point of using XP and no other gamification methods? Even if gamification were a useful technique, it clearly requires more effort than was put in.

Only experience I've had with the entire software engineering process. Great course, I'd recommend it to anyone.

Thoroughly enjoyed your class, thanks for everything!

Learning django was difficult at the start, and the practice assessment, while helpful, just made me confused about some Django and Heroku. Maybe having an in class demo of making a quick Django project and explaining it would be helpful. I do get that you want us to struggle some, though.

Disclaimer: I am a 4th year and do understand this course is for younger students but believe below still applies. Also none of these criticisms apply to Professor Sherriff, he is an excellent lecturer and has structured the course very well. However, I do think this course needs to be forced to be taken at an earlier time. It's no secret that this course is almost a waste of time to anyone who has had an internship. Tech company recruiting is moving to younger and younger kids so even a majority of first years are able to find a pretty solid internship. Learning all of these topics is much better done in the workplace and every intern learns a majority of this material. The reason I took this class as a 4th year is because I had a good internship at a high profile tech company after first year and quickly learned my time would be better spent in other courses to improve my skills and resume, for example I took Internet Scale Applications in the "recommended" semester for this course instead. The only way this course would have been beneficial to me was if I was forced to take it first year. I know this is hard due to the project nature of the course as skills vary in that point in the curriculum, but I'm sure something can be devised. The course is also not a pre-req for anything as far as I know, which makes it very easy to put off. I may be in the minority in this position, but I am sure I am not alone.

It is a unique class in the cs curriculum. Sherriff teaches it well

Enjoyed the class and felt like I learned a lot about the developmental process that I wouldn't have much exposure until I was actually in the field.

The XP dashboard is pretty useless throughout the semester. It would be nice to have a class percentile value to know how I am doing compared with everyone else/ see where I should be

I really liked this class, but it would've been nice if there was someone who was super knowledgeable about django that could give a tutorial during some OH time to students. Also a git/ git hub tutorial by a TA in the beginning would've been super helpful starting the project

This was honestly one of the worst classes I have ever taken. I cannot believe that firstly it is required. Secondly, Mark Sherriff clearly does not know his material. He brings up the fact that he interned at Wachovia and coded in Cobalt, but has clearly never worked in industry. He pretends to know material that he is clearly outdated on. He is a very conceited teacher and considers himself to be the be-all know-all of this subject material. I (and others) who have had plenty of internships over the course of high school and college clearly feel that we know more than he does as we have been in industry more recently. Additionally, the project in this class is a gross use of time. Your grade entirely depends on how good your group is. If your group does not do work, well it sucks to be you. Because you will have to do the whole project or just risk getting a 0/500000. That's essentially half your grade. Any complaints about the project brought up in class are dismissed as "this is how the real world is." Well, actually, it's not. I've worked in the real world and I can guarantee you that if someone does not carry their weight, they get fired. They get pulled off the project and not only do they get monetary backlash, but also likely lose their job. Once again, I cannot iterate enough how little Sherriff knows about this material. He clearly reads off the slides and memorizes some book that has nothing to do with current workforce. I hope the CS department heavily considers replacing him as the teacher for this course. Or ideally, allow people that have the experience to bypass this course. They cite ABET accreditation as reason to not let us bypass the course. In all honesty, I could not care less about ABET accreditation. It just makes it more difficult for me to take actually useful and interesting classes. I was heavily considering switching to the College of Arts and Sciences so that I could take more interesting CS classes and not worry about these inane requirements.

Groups seemed overly determinate of final grades but were definitely unevenly distributed in terms of skills. There was also a significant delay in grading, and differential standards depending on the TA that was looking over the sprint checks or KAs.

Sherriff did a phenomenal job making dry material very interesting. Please never lose the energy that you put into the class, even if students are not responding. It made me really sad that nobody would speak up and answer sherriff's questions sometimes because he obviously is trying so hard to get us engaged. Otherwise, my only suggestion is to try and connect some of the material in the lab vs in the class.

It would have been helpful to have more of an in-class explanation of Django. It was intimidating and frustrating at first having to develop an understanding of Django while trying to make initial progress on our projects. I felt like I was using tools I didn't understand for a while, which added confusion to the process. That being said, once our team had a better understanding of Django, we were able to effectively work on the project and everything ended up fine.

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

Professor Sherriff is one of the best professors that I've had so far. His lectures are engaging and interesting and easy to follow. Overall a worthwhile course that is extremely useful for life after college (it should be a required CS course). Only complaint is the grading system -- it was confusing as to when things were due and nothing really made sense.