

# C S 201-0001 Software Development Methods - Fall 2007

School Of Engineering And Applied Science (901ss)

INSTRUCTORS: Sherriff, Mark (mss2x)

Respondents: 88 / Enrollment: 108

Summary: C S 201-0001 Software Development Methods - Fall 2007 (901ss)	
<b>Overall Course Rating</b> C S-201-0001 Mean 3.70 C S-201-0001 Std Dev 1.03 C S-201-0001 Response Count 440	<b>Overall Instructor Rating</b> INSTRUCTOR: Sherriff, Mark Mean 4.02 Std Dev 0.85 Response Count 613
Difference from Category Mean, Expressed in Category Standard Deviations 	Difference from Category Mean, Expressed in Category Standard Deviations 
SEAS, 200-level courses Mean 3.94 SEAS, 200-level courses Std Dev 0.93 SEAS, 200-level courses Response Count 8968	SEAS, 200-level courses Mean 4.08 SEAS, 200-level courses Std Dev 0.92 SEAS, 200-level courses Response Count 13292

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~																											
<b>1. The subject matter was challenging.</b> ~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001</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>88</td> <td>3.88</td> <td>0.84</td> <td>16 (18.18%)</td> <td>54 (61.36%)</td> <td>10 (11.36%)</td> <td>7 (7.95%)</td> <td>1 (1.14%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	88	3.88	0.84	16 (18.18%)	54 (61.36%)	10 (11.36%)	7 (7.95%)	1 (1.14%)	0 (0.00%)
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<b>2. The objectives of the course were clearly stated and accomplished.</b> ~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001</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>88</td> <td>3.78</td> <td>0.85</td> <td>14 (15.91%)</td> <td>48 (54.55%)</td> <td>22 (25.00%)</td> <td>1 (1.14%)</td> <td>3 (3.41%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	88	3.78	0.85	14 (15.91%)	48 (54.55%)	22 (25.00%)	1 (1.14%)	3 (3.41%)	0 (0.00%)
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<b>4. The homework assignments helped me learn the subject matter.</b> ~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001</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>88</td> <td>3.78</td> <td>0.90</td> <td>16 (18.18%)</td> <td>47 (53.41%)</td> <td>17 (19.32%)</td> <td>6 (6.82%)</td> <td>2 (2.27%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	88	3.78	0.90	16 (18.18%)	47 (53.41%)	17 (19.32%)	6 (6.82%)	2 (2.27%)	0 (0.00%)
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<b>6. The course material was well organized and developed.</b> ~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001, 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>86</td> <td>3.65</td> <td>0.89</td> <td>12 (13.95%)</td> <td>43 (50.00%)</td> <td>21 (24.42%)</td> <td>9 (10.47%)</td> <td>1 (1.16%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	86	3.65	0.89	12 (13.95%)	43 (50.00%)	21 (24.42%)	9 (10.47%)	1 (1.16%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p><b>8. The instructor was well prepared for class.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Likert</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001, 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>88</td> <td>4.24</td> <td>0.64</td> <td>31 (35.23%)</td> <td>47 (53.41%)</td> <td>10 (11.36%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	88	4.24	0.64	31 (35.23%)	47 (53.41%)	10 (11.36%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p><b>9. The instructor (not Teaching Assistants) was accessible for individual assistance.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Likert</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001, 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>88</td> <td>4.02</td> <td>0.78</td> <td>25 (28.41%)</td> <td>37 (42.05%)</td> <td>21 (23.86%)</td> <td>1 (1.14%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>4 (4.55%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	88	4.02	0.78	25 (28.41%)	37 (42.05%)	21 (23.86%)	1 (1.14%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (4.55%)
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<p><b>10. The grading policy was fair.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Likert</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001, 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>87</td> <td>3.84</td> <td>0.95</td> <td>19 (21.84%)</td> <td>47 (54.02%)</td> <td>11 (12.64%)</td> <td>8 (9.20%)</td> <td>2 (2.30%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	87	3.84	0.95	19 (21.84%)	47 (54.02%)	11 (12.64%)	8 (9.20%)	2 (2.30%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p><b>11. The instructor responded adequately to in-class questions.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Likert</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001, 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>88</td> <td>4.26</td> <td>0.78</td> <td>37 (42.05%)</td> <td>41 (46.59%)</td> <td>6 (6.82%)</td> <td>4 (4.55%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	88	4.26	0.78	37 (42.05%)	41 (46.59%)	6 (6.82%)	4 (4.55%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p><b>12. As a teacher, this instructor was better than most others in this School.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Likert</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="9">Results for C S-201-0001, 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>88</td> <td>3.83</td> <td>0.95</td> <td>23 (26.14%)</td> <td>35 (39.77%)</td> <td>24 (27.27%)</td> <td>4 (4.55%)</td> <td>2 (2.27%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark									Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Not Applicable (NA)	88	3.83	0.95	23 (26.14%)	35 (39.77%)	24 (27.27%)	4 (4.55%)	2 (2.27%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p><b>13. The average number of hours per week I spent outside of class preparing for this course was:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Multiple Choice</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Office of the Provost</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6">Results for C S-201-0001</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>88</td> <td>3 (3.41%)</td> <td>38 (43.18%)</td> <td>36 (40.91%)</td> <td>10 (11.36%)</td> <td>1 (1.14%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001						Total	Less than 1 (NA)	1 - 3 (NA)	4 - 6 (NA)	7 - 9 (NA)	10 or more (NA)	88	3 (3.41%)	38 (43.18%)	36 (40.91%)	10 (11.36%)	1 (1.14%)									
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<p><b>14. I learned a great deal in this course.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Likert</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Office of the Provost</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="8">Results for C S-201-0001</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> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>88</td> <td>3.68</td> <td>0.90</td> <td>11 (12.50%)</td> <td>50 (56.82%)</td> <td>18 (20.45%)</td> <td>6 (6.82%)</td> <td>3 (3.41%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001								Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	88	3.68	0.90	11 (12.50%)	50 (56.82%)	18 (20.45%)	6 (6.82%)	3 (3.41%)			
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<p><b>15. Overall, this was a worthwhile course.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Question Type: Likert</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~</p> <p><i>contributed by Office of the Provost</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="8">Results for C S-201-0001</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> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>88</td> <td>3.60</td> <td>1.11</td> <td>17 (19.32%)</td> <td>39 (44.32%)</td> <td>18 (20.45%)</td> <td>8 (9.09%)</td> <td>6 (6.82%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001								Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	88	3.60	1.11	17 (19.32%)	39 (44.32%)	18 (20.45%)	8 (9.09%)	6 (6.82%)			
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~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~	~ ANSWER MATRICES ~																								
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<p><b>17. The instructor was approachable and made himself/herself available to students outside the classroom.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Office of the Provost</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="8">Results for C S-201-0001, 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> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>88</td> <td>4.08</td> <td>0.79</td> <td>28 (31.82%)</td> <td>42 (47.73%)</td> <td>15 (17.05%)</td> <td>3 (3.41%)</td> <td>0 (0.00%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark								Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	88	4.08	0.79	28 (31.82%)	42 (47.73%)	15 (17.05%)	3 (3.41%)	0 (0.00%)
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<p><b>18. Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Likert ~ <i>contributed by Office of the Provost</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="8">Results for C S-201-0001, 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> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>88</td> <td>4.10</td> <td>0.79</td> <td>26 (29.55%)</td> <td>50 (56.82%)</td> <td>8 (9.09%)</td> <td>3 (3.41%)</td> <td>1 (1.14%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Results for C S-201-0001, Sherriff, Mark								Total	Mean	Std Dev	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Neutral (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	88	4.10	0.79	26 (29.55%)	50 (56.82%)	8 (9.09%)	3 (3.41%)	1 (1.14%)
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<p><b>19. Please make any overall comments or observations about this course:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Question Type: Short Answer ~ <i>contributed by Office of the Provost</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Results for C S-201-0001</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>Individual Answers</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>38</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>See below for Individual Results</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Class did feel very rushed, and felt as if we were jumping around at times.</p> <p>Let people exempt CS 201 with a placement exam.</p> <p>Mark Sherriff was an engaging lecturer and a friendly professor!</p> <p>Professor Sherriff was an excellent teacher who did his best to make sure he went at a pace everyone could follow while still challenging the students who are more gifted at the subject matter. His joking/carefree style of lecture made students want to listen to everything he said and made them feel more comfortable about asking questions. I would change the TA hours of this course to make them more available to all. The Friday afternoon hours are a joke. As an engineer I know I have always had class in the mornings up until after lunch, leaving an hour for lunch somewhere in between. I don't know who put Claire in the stacks from 11-1 but they need move those hours to an evening later in the week so she will actually see people when she goes to do her job. Despite the TA's though this is a wonderful course that shouldn't really be changed that much.</p> <p>Very useful to spend at least a few hours every week practicing coding as well as conceptual things to understand everything. It is not enough to just go to class and go over the notes</p> <p>Personally, I will probably never take computer science again. I do enjoy coding, when it works, but sitting in the stacks for 9 hours on some sundays is very frustrating. This is mostly because most of the time spent is waiting for a TA. But that is another issue. The class was good. I liked learning about cs conceptually and it also provided good real life examples of problem solving like i learned in my systems class.</p> <p>Sherriff is a good guy and all, he just needs to have more structure to his lectures. Only 3 kids knew the answers to his questions in class</p> <p>Automated testing of homework assignments doesn't work well. As long as the stated problem was solved... it shouldn't matter that the answers correspond to arbitrary class and/or method names.</p> <p>Sherriff was a great teacher. He made the topics interesting. He brought humor to the class that lightened the mood but did not interfere with the learning environment. One of the best I've had so far.</p> <p>we spend four hours and forty-five minutes in this class per week and only get three credit hours. This is absolutely absurd because this follows no precedent. In previous years they had only three hours and forty-five minutes but this year they added an extra hour, hence we should get an extra credit hour for spending such vast quantities of time in that class</p> <p>Prof. Sherriff was a decent teacher, but the subject matter was really boring. Why do Systems majors have to take this class?</p> <p>It was too hard of a class for Systems students to be taking as a requirement for their 2nd year. It could be the fact that we had to take it with CS majors that made it so challenging.</p> <p>I am a electrical engineering major, so I did not really enjoy the course, but Prof. Sherriff made the lectures the most enjoyable of any I have taken at UVa.</p>	Results for C S-201-0001		Total	Individual Answers	38	<i>See below for Individual Results</i>																		
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This course was an exact repeat of my AP Comp Sci class from high school. Not worthwhile to take a second time. Teacher was great though, although already knowing the subject matter can skew an opinion.

Overall the course was pretty well organized. I can see why Systems Engineers are required to take this because of the overlap in the theories behind software engineering and Systems Engineering. After the first unit though, the course becomes too technical and a little irrelevant. I think another course in the concentration would be more practical. Professor Sherriff on the other hand is a good teacher. If you participate in class he tries to learn your name which is cool because it makes the learning feel much more personal and he becomes much more willing to help. The one suggestion I have for him is to try to explain difficult concepts a couple different ways because not everyone thinks like a software engineer and the more examples the better. If I had to take another CS class (Which I don't think I do) I would take Sherriff or Bloomfield both make a subject that doesn't seem very interesting rather humorous. I think the clickers were a bad idea and a waste of money though.

thanks for keeping class fun!

The class was pretty easy overall and I enjoyed taking it.

System.out.println( " When I learned that course evaluations were out, I knew that I wanted to write something special for Mr. Sherriff. It is my full intention to write an absolutely glowing review for him, although I fear I cannot write words bright enough. In short, Mr. Sherriff is the greatest teacher I have had yet at UVA and is truly a fantastic addition to the CS department. As a Systems student, I liked CS before; however, because of Sherriff I will always keep CS as a hobby. He has made me want to learn more on my own and into the future; the mark of a great teacher. One of his greatest qualities as a teacher is his ability to make the topics fun. I actually looked forward to coming to CS every afternoon. And not just every now and then, but every single day, rain or shine. He kept the subjects light through humor and his own personality. As a student, I saw him as more of a peer than a teacher hidden behind a wall. Because of his friendly nature and our ability to relate to him, communication was easy as can be. I could actually see myself as becoming friends with Mr. Sherriff. Furthermore, he was an extremely efficient teacher. His ability to explain topics clearly is remarkable and his fun class room props and examples are very effective. For myself, I loved that he did not use slides, but rather relied on his own ability to teach. As a side note, mostly because I have no idea who is reading this (I hope this gets to him), I would like to also thank him for introducing me to my new favorite soft drink, a cherry soda from North Carolina. In conclusion, Mr. Sherriff is a wonderful professor and extremely important addition to the CS department. In fact, I know nothing about Data Bases but I am compelled to take the class just because I know he is teaching it. Do not let him escape; pay him his demands and make sure he stays at UVA." );

Difficult to evaluate the purpose of the course, lack of direction.

Textbook really didn't help.

I loved this class and especially Mark Sherriff. He is extremely personable and it is evident that he is here for the students. He is always wondering how we feel the class is going and what he can do to help us out. He makes the effort to learn names in a lecture class which makes the whole atmosphere more comfortable. The class is always amusing, and I rarely have difficulties staying concentrated. The only inefficiency in the class is that often the HW submitting is very confusing. But other than that, I have highly enjoyed the class and I am beyond impressed with Sherriff, especially as a new teacher here at UVA. I would take another CS class just for his teaching.

It felt like not everything in class made sense at first, but very consistently the labs would clarify all concerns. Class was well prepared and a lot of fun.

Fun course - liked the examples and the jokes in class. Was very approachable and always willing to help out. Grading policy was very fair - good course!

A lot of my difficulty arose from the knowledge level expected at course entrance that I didn't have after last year in 101x.

it would have been very helpful to have hw grades back a lot sooner...

The answers made about Sherriff in this survey are more aimed towards the CS department as a whole. Information (such as homework descriptions) pertaining to homework is normally incorrect in multiple ways and unclear. When a student would ask Sherriff a question, it always seemed as if he really wasn't in control of the course. It was always about Horton. Grading on homeworks was unbelievably slow and normally at least a little unfair. Grading on tests was normally vague, leaving the student no clue as to why he or she actually missed the question.

A good course, teaching style was different but fairly effective.

Understanding material during class is easy, but when we have to apply it outside of class and the necessary help isn't available it makes it not only very challenging but frustrating.

Grading is a tremendous problem with this class. If a student has taken CS 101X prior to 201, GOOD LUCK! All materials necessary for the semester project should be provided immediately when the project is assigned instead of only a week before the deadline.

Overall, he was a pretty effective teacher. His overall character and sense of humor was fun.

As a public speaker, Dr. Sherriff is very engaging.

class is fun. go to it and you get a lot out of it.

~ QUESTIONS AND DETAILS ~

~ ANSWER MATRICES ~

I thought that the course was good but the labs and homeworks should be more specific to what we are trying to learn at that point in time. the homework sometimes felt disjointed from the class lectures

Prof. Sheriff was very easily sidetracked in class. He would go off on tangents about unrelated, irrelevant material. Then the professor was upset when the class did poorly on our 2nd midterm. If we had stayed on topic, I do not think this would have happened. In addition, I think that for the level of complexity on some of the homework assignments, there need to be more TA hours available. Nearing the completion of our semester project one night, the stacks were filled with CS 201 students and one TA for the last 2 hours of help. This is very frustrating, because I know for a fact that groups (including my own) were there waiting for help since one in the afternoon and were not able to get more than about 10 minutes of assistance all day. The bottom line is it would be the right thing to do to increase the number of TA Office Hours, or reduce the complexity of the assignments.

Great demos - very easy to follow. The Powerpoint slides were pretty boring though. I think more coding handouts would have helped but the class was still pretty enjoyable.

After taking cs101x, I felt extremely ill-prepared and inadequate at coding. Because of this, i felt extremely behind the entire semester.

i like sherriff but the class was rough. why am i taking it as a systems major again? There were times on sundays before a hw assignment was due that i would be in stacks for 8 hours because the line for a TA was so long. Either more ta's or make the material more understandable for the average programmer

Prof. Horton was a much better teacher, and he taught the other section. Sherriff is not approachable at all.