

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

To: Alexander Stoytchev
Personal and Confidential

E CPE Student Ratings of Teaching Results for 2024 Fall

Alexander Stoytchev,

In the attachment you will find the student ratings of teaching results of the survey F2024-CPRE-2810-5 [Alexander Stoytchev (alexs)] (Lecture).

If you have questions or comments contact your E CPE Student Ratings of Teaching Administrator or email student-ratings-of-teaching@iastate.edu

- ISU E CPE Student Ratings of Teaching Administrator

Alexander Stoytchev

F2024-CPRE-2810-5 [Alexander Stoytchev (alexs)] (Lecture), AY25-ISU

No. of course participants = 201

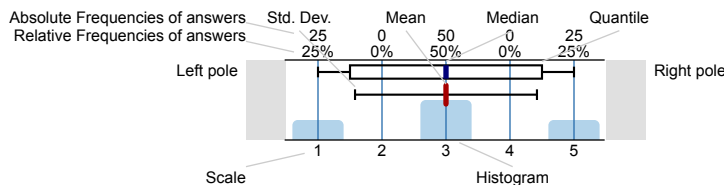
No. of responses = 88

Response Rate: 43.78%



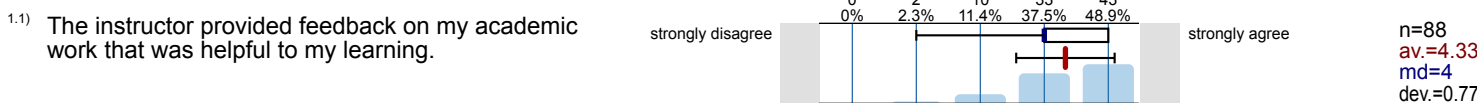
Legend

Question text



n=No. of responses
 av.=Mean
 md=Median
 dev.=Std. Dev.
 ab.=Abstention

1. Student Feedback for F2024-CPRE-2810-5 [Alexander Stoytchev (alexs)] (Lecture)



1.4) What helped your learning the most in this course?

- -
- .
- Animations in lectures that helped visualize what was happening given certain content.
- Asking the professor questions and asking TA's for help really helped me understand things clearly.
- Attending lecture, reading the book before and after class, and going over lecture notes from previous years.
- Attending lectures and paying attention in class was the best way I learned in this course. The lab was also helpful in putting the material we learned into action.
- Attending lectures and taking notes during lectures.
- Book and labs were extremely helpful
- Classes
- Combined with a lot of encouragement to read the textbook and great use of slides and explanations with lectures made learning really smooth
- Creative examples and well-documented slides
- Doing hands on learning in the lab.
- Doing homework problems and reviewing on my own.
- Doing homework's and going back over slides that were posted on website class page.
- everything

- Going to lectures. Working on the labs and homework.
- going to the lectures and doing the homework
- Having a professor as good as Stoytchev. He was willing to stay and answer questions after lecture, was very interactive during lecture, would stop to answer questions, quickly reviewed the previous lecture before moving onto the current one to make sure everyone understood it. I felt this professor actually cared and prioritized out success. This can also be seen in the extra credit lab. He recognized that one of the exams didn't go well for some people, so he made an extra credit lab to help students make up for it. He is a very nice and open person. He makes jokes and it helps significantly to stay engaged.
- He had good visuals for new concepts being taught
- He makes it fun
- His lectures were super applicable and easy to learn from. When he animated his slides and went step by step through each topic, I learned the topics way more than I would have. He also felt very personable, which made it way easier to pay attention to than my other classes.
- His style of teaching
- How attentive and entertaining Professor Stoytchev is during class. Also, homework is a good way to practice and determine your proficiency in class subjects.
- I feel as though the lectures were very well conducted. I also feel as though the pre-labs and labs did a really great job in applying the content which helps with understanding.
- I loved this class very much. The grading scale is spot on I think and I feel like Alex isn't out to get us:) The labs were fun and the homeworks were great practice for the exams. I like how there are more problems on the exams and takes some stress off. Lectures were fun and helpful to go to.
- Instructor is passionate about the course, clearly enjoys the subject, and has a talent for teaching in an exciting and interesting way.
- I really enjoyed the slides that were provided for during lecture. Not only did they provide a good understanding of the material, but they were also engaging and would help students pay attention and enjoy the lecture.
- I really like that the slides are published before the lecture, so I can download them and follow along and make any annotations and notes on the slides as we cover the content, rather than having scramble to get notes down on the page. I also think the slides are really easy to follow, and can be used to mostly learn the content on their own which is really helpful for if students ever have conflicts and have to miss an occasional lecture.
- I really like the lectures. They are really engaging and interesting to listen to
- I think Mr. Stoytchev is an all-round great professor. He taught material in a way that was understandable and enjoyable at the same time. I loved how easy it was for students to meet and talk with him at the end of lectures; it made for easy access and allowed him to give personal feedback to any student who needed it. His sense of humor is also pretty amazing, it made the class a lot of fun when needed.
- Labs
- Lab TA, instructor
- lab TAs
- Lectures and the animations done in class
- Lecture Slides and Office Hours
- Oops sorry I accidentally answered this question for the recitation.
- PPTS of lecture are helped to understand concept.
- Professor Stoytchev's lectures were clear, and he also prepared detailed lecture slides to help us understand the concepts. The homework assignments helped me check my knowledge.
- reviewing lecture slides
- Slides
- Slides and HW
- Stoytchev is great. He makes class fun and interesting. I feel like I learned a lot this semester because of him.
- Stoytchev is one of the best professors I have had during my time at Iowa State. He always made lecture engaging and would explain complicated topics in a way that was easy to digest.

- Stoytchevs humor. And his animated slides. Those were great
- Studying with friends in a group to ensure we understand the principles taught in the lecture.
- Taking notes and doing homework, sometimes doing past years homework.
- Taking notes in class and using notes when doing homeworks.
- The animated slides were very beneficial as well as all of the other methods used to improve student comprehension. It is clear that the instructor puts a ton of time and effort into finding the best ways to teach complex topics and does it very effectively and in an interesting and entertaining way. He is definitely the best instructor I have had so far during my time at Iowa State.
- The animation in the slides helps so much.
- The animations on the slides so it was easy to follow along and understand
- The animations on the slides was very helpful to me.
- The animations were great to help visualize and learn from!
- The detail within the slides and the animations really helped visualize what was happening and really increased my understanding of the topics. The homeworks also helped a great deal with practice.
- The fact he built the processor the class was based on, he also really knows how to help people and ensure that they understand what they did wrong when they ask questions (which is needed for improvement).
- the fun learning environment
- The homework and labs were helpful because it gave me the opportunity to work on real problems involving the material I had learned. The textbook was also good as a way to refresh my understanding and clarify points made in the lectures.
- The instructor went step by step on topics that were difficult to understand. Made the topic easy to understand
- The lab component
- The lab sessions where we actually get to apply the content we learn into the cad software were very helpful for me to develop a deeper understanding.
- The Labs really helped me visualize the concepts on a physical level.
- The lectures and the homework.
- The lectures were really well put together, and then the homework assignments helped to practice the content for the exams.
- The lecture was great and super helpful. Many animations in the slides and some physical demonstrations created engaging lectures that made everything easier to learn.
- The most I learned from the lectures was how you presented the slides. You went into very great detail about the devices and how they functioned, showing every example possible from said device.
- The professor and the way he went about his lectures
- The professor is very funny and makes you enjoy the class
- The slides are extraordinarily detailed and excellent reference material. Pacing made everything feel very easy to follow. Additionally, the textbook is generally helpful. Having access to prior exams was also helpful in my studying.
- The slides are useful, although very lengthy. The lectures are mostly entertaining and can be dry sometimes. But overall the slides being posted are the most helpful.
- The slides were incredibly well laid out and easy to follow, even if not able to attend class that day. In addition, although the class covered a lot of material, it never felt too fast and the review at the beginning of class helped a lot.
- the slides were very helpful and comprehensive and the TAs were amazing
- The teacher, the lab, everything helped to improve my knowledge
- The well put together slides helped supplement the lecture content
- What helped my learning the most in this class was going to the lectures and the professor would walk us through examples. He also makes the class fun and enjoyable.
- What helped my learning the most in this course was actually coming to class and talking to my professor

- Wonderful slides and strongly worded lectures that are easy to follow and learn from.
- Working with others to answer my questions and Googling my questions

1.5) What changes could have been made to enhance your learning in this course?

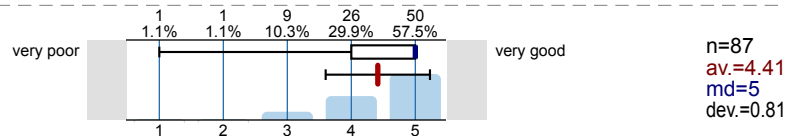
- -
 - .
 - Attended more lectures
 - easier more practical homework
 - Everything was excellent.
 - Having a week off from homework or labs when there is an exam that week so it isn't so stressful to get everything done.
 - Having the lectures go into my depth, felt like he tried to speed through his lectures.
 - Honestly, the last couple of weeks covering the i281 CPU were really confusing to me, and I feel we went through them really fast. So, I think it would be better to maybe go through the first units faster as they are in the book so they are easier to learn then have more time for the i281 stuff.
 - IDK
 - I don't know
 - I don't think I have any suggestions for changes as the existing structure and methods have worked well for me.
 - I feel like some of the HW assignments could've been shortened, as much of the time the later questions would feel like busy work rather than beneficial. Having more time for the exams would've also been helpful.
 - I know that the exams are how you pick TA's, but they still feel to be overbearing and less of a test of knowledge of what we went over but instead can you be one step above where I would actually expect you to be in order to just get an A.
 - Information in the lectures was sometimes presented exceptionally fast making it hard to absorb and pick up what was being taught in the lecture. So, perhaps a slightly slower pace for the lectures might be beneficial. I also felt that sometimes the homework could feel vague on some problems or weren't always clear on what they wanted.
 - I really wouldn't change anything about this course other than the tests. The fast test times were a bit outlandish sometimes because of the material we learned. The complex material didn't translate well with the fast test times.
 - I think that it would be helpful to include more design problem examples in the lecture slides. The slides would usually only include small examples, but I think the bigger design problems are more helpful for the exam and more interesting for the student.
- Some of the HWs had confusing instructions that could easily be fixed by several of the TAs reading over it. It is hard for HW to be a good representation of student understanding if the HW has multiple interpretations.
- I wish the homework was due at midnight rather than 10pm to allow an extra two hours to work if needed, although I can understand the thought process of trying to discourage students from staying up late to finish an assignment.
 - I wish there had been a bit more formal instruction on Verilog syntax, because it made some of the later labs difficult when trying to work with and debug circuits with buses.
 - I wish there were videos I could pass on in case I missed a lecture or to clarify my notes/slides.
 - I would've liked if you posted the slides for the lectures earlier. That way students can make the decision to learn materials early in order to get ahead on the homework. This class already has a pretty sizable workload, and essentially locking students out of some homework problems till Friday makes the work harder to manage.
 - I would have appreciated some sort of focus being put on reviews before exams.
 - I wouldn't change much, the only thing to keep in mind is that sometimes the lectures are very monotone, and that mixed with a not good day on my part makes for a pretty average lecture.
 - literally nothing. flawless course. very very difficult but stoytchev is my favorite professor i've ever had and the learning curve was something i became accustomed to quickly
 - Maybe a recitation separate from lab so you can focus on 1 thing at a time.
 - Maybe give a list of all the complex circuit diagrams in one place so I don't have to go through all the lectures

- Maybe less slides, but overall not much to change
- Maybe make it more interactive
- Maybe more in-depth explanation of later concepts as this course rams up quite fast and gets exponentially harder and more complicated as time goes on.
- More design problems done in class
- More examples during lecture
- More physical demonstrations
- More Star Wars questions, please
- More time during exams would be helpful! The low time limit is added on to the stress of even taking the exam!
- N/A (3 Counts)
- N / A
- NA (2 Counts)
- None (2 Counts)
- none (more final practice exams)
- None, I liked this course as it was.
- None, The class is set up properly, and the website is so much more comprehensive than Canvas.
- None.
- nothing
- Nothing!
- Nothing, wish exam were not 50 minutes
- Nothing. Stoytchev did an excellent job putting the course together and teaching it. I wouldn't have had any other professor do it. Give this man a raise.
- Nothing I can think of.
- not much
- Not much. Make Verilog a little more included in the class content, it can be difficult to figure it out on your own since there are a million ways to do things. Another thing is the lab TAs, it honestly doesn't seem like some of them know what they're doing at all. They don't really know Verilog and when there are errors with the lab code, they are no use. Same with Quartus and Questa, if there is some error, they basically say "I don't know, figure it out".
- One big change I would make to this course would be extending office hours like other courses have it. Some courses have offices hours from 12-7pm or something around that and office hours for this class are only three times a week and for like two hours and I'll have some type of conflict.
- Posting recorded lectures after being given in person if students can't make the in-person
- Probably more office hours from him. He might've had more and I didn't know, but with quiz reviews for math, I was swamped because of when his hours were.
- recorded lectures
- slightly better descriptions of help materials and how to get to them
- Sometimes, when trying to review the slides alone, it can be hard to piece together the thought process behind things as there are mainly only pictures.
- Sometimes the class is fast but that is the nature of a topic like the ones discussed in this class.
- The class has really steep learning curve. The materials after exam 1 are hard to go through and also for exam 2 we get very little time solve the questions that re given to us. I also wish we had more extra credits.
- The homework assignments range in quality, and the lab grading seems inconsistent, often docking a single point out of a hundred for

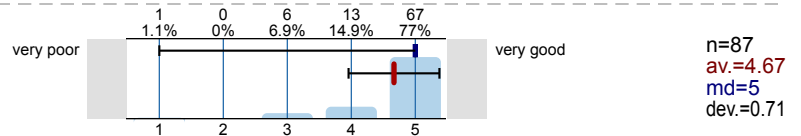
strange reasons. More lectures on Verilog would also have been nice.

- The labs felt a bit too easy, I would like to have seen some more challenging labs.
- The presentations were hard to take notes on, and the slides that were given to us were not as detailed as covered in lectures, making it challenging to go back and understand the material I struggled with in class.
- There were definitely times when the lecture felt rushed but that is to be expected with these courses.
- The timing of the lectures seemed illogical to me. Some elementary topics (binary adding, mealy & moore machines) took many class periods or even weeks to cover while some difficult topics (latches, flip flops and i281 board) seemed rushed. The exams also seemed to be formatted strangely. I feel that having the exams be more about speed than actual knowledge disadvantages students who work slower.
- went to more office hours
- While I understand there is a lot of material to cover in one lecture, something that could be done to make the lectures better is post online recordings of the lectures after class.
- While the class overall was great, it would be nice to have a little bit more time spent on verilog. Some of the homework and labs using verilog were very hard to do as it felt as though we weren't given enough information to fully understand how to do the question or understand what was going on.

1.6) My overall rating of this course is:

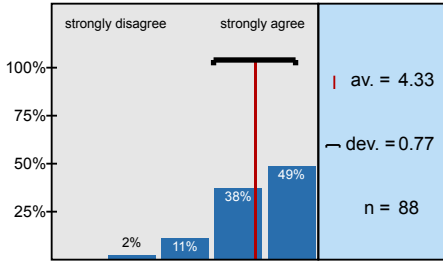


1.7) My overall rating of the instructor is:

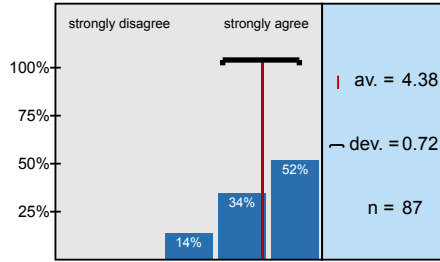


Histogram for scaled questions

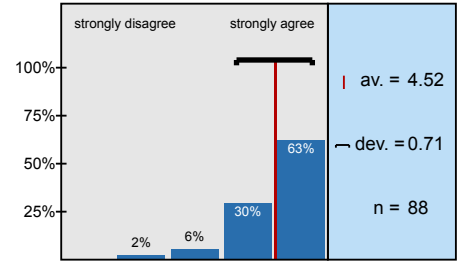
The instructor provided feedback on my academic work that was helpful to my learning.



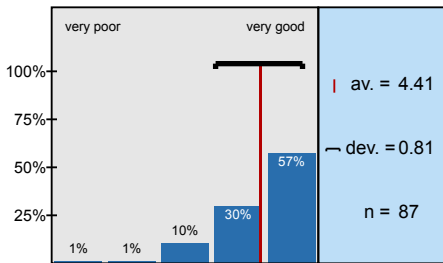
The instructor assisted me when I had questions regarding course content during the semester.



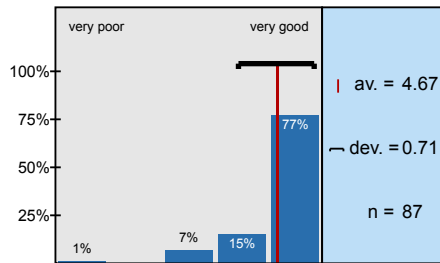
The instructor established an environment that was conducive to learning.



My overall rating of this course is:



My overall rating of the instructor is:








Profile

Subunit: E CPE
 Name of the instructor: Alexander Stoytchev
 Name of the course: F2024-CPRE-2810-5 [Alexander Stoytchev (alexs)] (Lecture)
 (Name of the survey)

Values used in the profile line: Mean

1. Student Feedback for F2024-CPRE-2810-5 [Alexander Stoytchev (alexs)] (Lecture)

1.1) The instructor provided feedback on my academic work that was helpful to my learning.	strongly disagree		strongly agree	n=88	av.=4.33	md=4	dev.=0.77
1.2) The instructor assisted me when I had questions regarding course content during the semester.	strongly disagree		strongly agree	n=87	av.=4.38	md=5	dev.=0.72
1.3) The instructor established an environment that was conducive to learning.	strongly disagree		strongly agree	n=88	av.=4.52	md=5	dev.=0.71
1.6) My overall rating of this course is:	very poor		very good	n=87	av.=4.41	md=5	dev.=0.81
1.7) My overall rating of the instructor is:	very poor		very good	n=87	av.=4.67	md=5	dev.=0.71