

## 1. Computer Science

### What did you like best about this course?

- Algo
- The challenge.
- Humorous!
- Sriram's passion and thorough knowledge of the subject made the material soooooo much more exciting.
- Professor Pemmaraju is very helpful during office hours.
- I appreciate examples of problems.
- Interactive classes
- Some of the programming assignments could have been interesting given adequate resources.
- Professor really go pretty deep through some materials which is what I'm looking for.
- The instructor often breaks down an abstract, hard concept, proof into several approachable pieces
- open note tests
- The lecture
- This is my 9th full-time semester of my undergraduate at the University of Iowa and Professor Pemmaraju is one of the best I have ever had. He is excited about the material, has a good sense of humor, and stays focused on the course material. He clearly cares that the students develop a strong understanding of the material, and he explains complex concepts completely and with excellent examples. I attempted this class once before with a different professor and promptly dropped it because I felt the material was over my head, and that professor moved quickly and appeared uninterested. Pemmaraju has kept me interested and excited about the class, and I have been performing very well.

### What did you like least about this course?

- Homework, it's too long and too difficult
- I don't think I was expecting such a hard first test. I had to really understand the whole idea of the teachings to pass.
- Coding assignment are sometimes too heavy.
- Not a thing. Would have liked to go over  $P = NP$  complete a little more, but that's a time constraint issue
- Midterm exams were 2 hours long. The midterms from all other CS courses I have taken were only 50 minutes and given during the lecture period.
- tough homework assignments.
- It was impossible to learn anything in the lectures. It wastes a ridiculous amount of time writing every single word on the chalk board, when 90 percent of this information could be more effectively presented via PowerPoint.
- Homework and exam problems sometimes are hard to understand the problem itself. Could give more details to explain the problem.
- The programming homework problems were given too little time to solve
- length of the class
- The first machine problem
- The programming assignments always felt a little out of left field. While this is expected in an upper level computer science class, I was disappointed the work done to create the working code was not graded. If it takes the amount of time it does, which is quite a bit for most people, I think some credit should be given for the time and effort. Getting graded on the easiest part of the assignment feels like a punch to the gut.
- The practice midterms didn't help prepare for the actual midterm.

## 2. Written Comments

### Additional comments

- Professor was by far the greatest instructor I have had at the University of Iowa. He was passionate, explained everything very well and was always willing to accommodate to helping students out.
- Great course!
- Sriram has become my favorite professor in the CS department. His lecturing style - excellent. His availability - superb. His grading - the fairest (he's lenient when he needs to be, and critical when it's required). Seriously, I felt so fulfilled this semester and my love for CS has grown in a large part because of this course.
- I don't agree with the grading criteria of the two projects we were assigned. The students should have received credit for the coding required to complete the assignment. It is largely unfair to only grade the analysis when the analysis cannot be done without finishing the extensive portion of coding.
- I've never been more disappointed and frustrated with a course. 37/78 had below a 59 percent according to mid-semester grades. The grading criteria was ridiculous; if an assignment didn't contain a specific piece of code

your score would be terrible at best. The code features only served to hurt your score, because even if you had the code but didn't have the questions answered based on the code you would receive a 0. The amount of time that would be required to succeed in this class far exceeds 3 credit hours. This class doesn't showcase my academic ability in the slightest. I would not recommend this class or professor to anyone.

- Overall, you're an awesome professor. I really enjoy your class. Hope I have chance to take your other courses.
- Would appreciate if slow down the pace of the lecture a little bit
- I like this course! Thought it is difficult but I do learn a lot from it. I would like to take advanced algorithm course that you teach.
- Fantastic class, thank you!