Course Evaluation: Discrete Mathematics

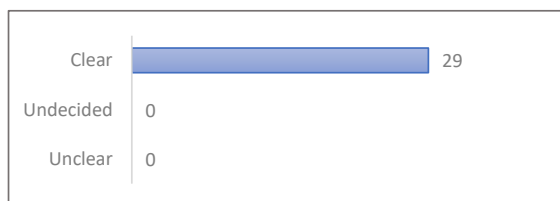| Semester	Spring 2021
Course Instructor	Waqar Saleem
Course Code	CS/MATH- 113
Component	Lecturer
Section	L1
Class Size	35
Response Rate (%)	83% (n=29)
Avg. Rating of Course	4.91
Avg. Rating of Instructor	4.76

Course Evaluation:
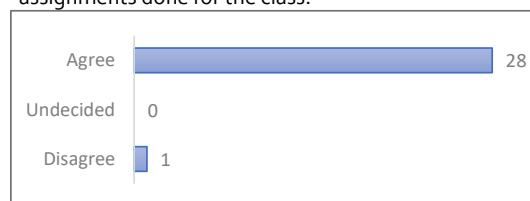
Course Recommendation = 86%

1. Syllabus clearly stated course objectives and learning outcomes.   5.00

Clear	29
Undecided	0
Unclear	0

2. The stated course learning objectives and outcomes were met through the teaching and assignments done for the class.   4.89

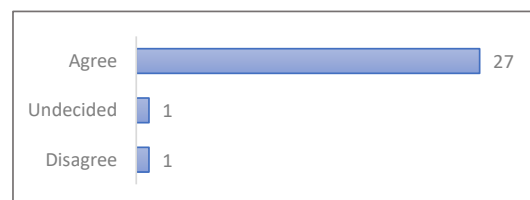|	
Agree	28
Undecided	0
Disagree	1

3. Course challenged me in ways that encouraged my intellectual growth.   5.00

Agree	29
Undecided	0
Disagree	0
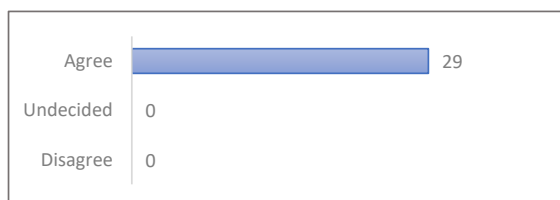
4. Course stimulated my interest in the class subject matter.   4.83

Agree	27
Undecided	1
Disagree	1

5. Assignments helped to increase my knowledge and confidence in the subject.   4.89

Agree	28
Undecided	0
Disagree	1
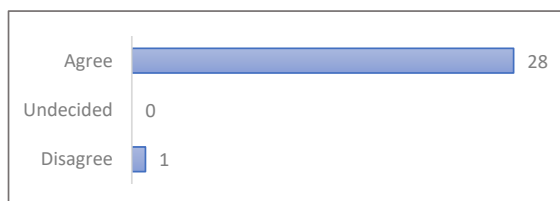
6. Material presented in the course was helpful to understand the concepts.   4.83

Agree	27
Undecided	1
Disagree	1
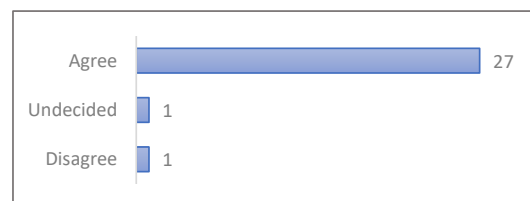
7. Grading scheme shared in the course was followed.   4.94

Agree	28
Undecided	1
Disagree	0
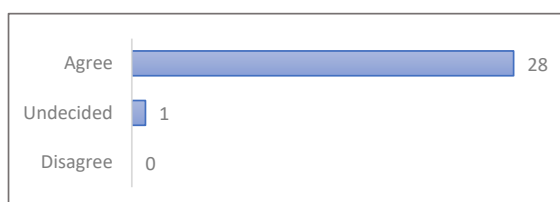
8. The average number of hours per week I spent outside of class-time preparing for this course were   5.83

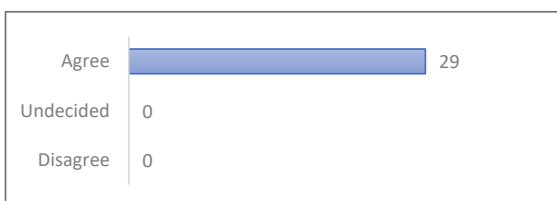|	
10 or More Hours	1
7-9 Hours	9
4-6 Hours	16
1-3 Hours	3
Less than 1 Hour	0
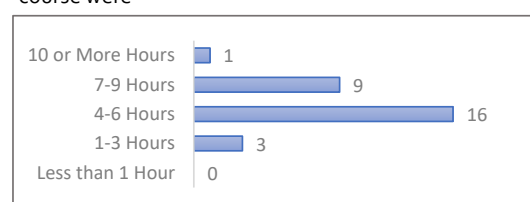
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Instructor Evaluation:

Instructor Recommendation = 97%

1. Instructor clearly communicated the syllabus, objectives, and learning outcomes of this course. 5.00

Agree	29
Undecided	0
Disagree	0

2. Instructor was successful in creating an environment that supported my learning process. 4.89

Agree	28
Undecided	0
Disagree	1

3. Instructor presented the material in a way that stimulated my interest in the course. 4.89

Agree	28
Undecided	0
Disagree	1
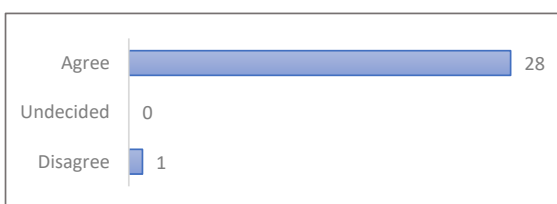
4. Instructor was receptive to my questions and contributions in the class. 4.89

Agree	28
Undecided	0
Disagree	1
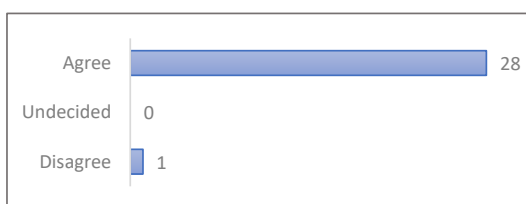
5. Instructor indicated what was expected of students in tests, essays, or assignments. 4.77

Agree	26
Undecided	2
Disagree	1
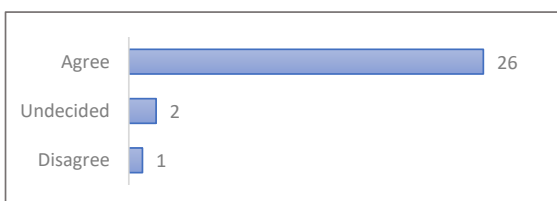
6. Instructor gave me constructive feedback that helped me improve in the next assignment or task. 4.48

Agree	23
Undecided	3
Disagree	3
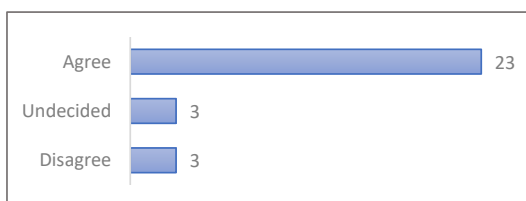
7. Instructor met time commitment in grading assignments and submitting results. 4.14

Agree	19
Undecided	5
Disagree	5
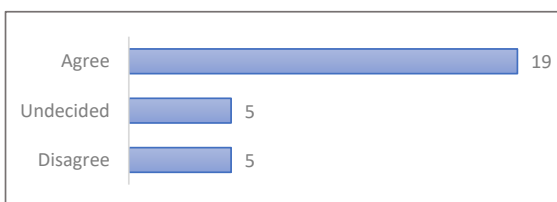
8. Instructor was available during specified office hours. 5.00

Agree	29
Undecided	0
Disagree	0
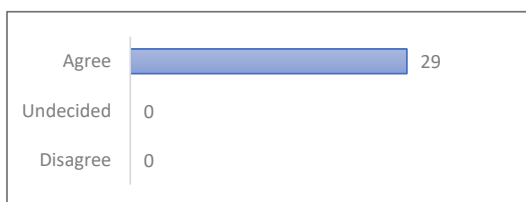
CS Program Rating		DSSE School Rating	
Average Rating of Course and Instructor		**Average Rating of Course and Instructor**	
4.54	4.50	4.68	4.62
Course	**Instructor**	**Course**	**Instructor**

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Students' Comments
Share strengths for this course.

• Graphs

• The syllabus and the course outcomes.

• Easy to understand concepts.
Clearly explained concepts, with frequent revision.
Taught in a very simple manner, with helpful examples. Intriguing content shared.
The instructor was very passionate about the course, which i think is most crucial.
No final, but small quizzes.

• Knowing the relation between mathematics and computer science and how diverse mathematics can be beyond numbers

• It is a perfectly designed course. Taught me new concepts, challenged and enhanced my logical and critical thinking capabilities.

• Sir waqar saleem

• It is very different from an average math course since it focuses on concepts that are not normally discussed which makes the course special. Moreover, this course also gives a brief history of every math concept that is discussed in it which allows us to appreciate the content even more. The asynchronous videos along with the weekly quizzes helped me get a proper grasp of the concept being discussed and also allowed me to learn from my mistakes.

• Great course. Great asynchronous material. Great grading scheme.
It's really designed to encourage you to learn e.G. Quizzes have unlimited attempts and assignments are worked on in pairs. You could just ask a friend for all the answers and pass the course without learning a thing. But you wouldn't, because the course treats you like a responsible adult in the right ways and an unaware child who may know nothing when you start off. I think i matured as an individual going through this course - i understand that not having a timed closed-book final exam is too unconventional especially for a course as important as this to cs students. But the course cemented concepts well and fostered a love for the subject, i think, through two areas it did really well in:
good teaching (good explanations, good support etc. Through a/synch/recitations) and good assessments (usually well-designed hw questions that made you curious, relevant and meaningful questions in quizzes - you really wanted to know how to do them, because sometimes they were easy enough, sometimes they seemed almost the right degree of challenging to even get the uninterested student curious).

• - interesting content
- great practice for latex
- made friends by teaming up for hw's

• It helped expand the grasp of my knowledge.

• Latex, knowledge of sets, functions, combinatorics

• Async vids

• Helped in exploring maths and cs from a new perspective

• The strengths of this course were how it made us realize computers and math are connected. The no final exam part really made the course more learning and less stressful. The idea of videos for home and questions for class was interesting.

• One of the best courses ive taken this semester, the way this course was structured was very helpful to my learning where the asynchronous videos were released on monday and sir waqar used to discuss our queries in class sessions.

• A very amazing course with wonderful content and the course was structured perfectly.

• The lectures and quizzes.

• The course covers a lot of concepts that provide basis for higher level courses of cs. In addition to that the course have also made me more comfortable with mathematical notations and logical proofs which also helps a lot in understanding concepts of further math courses.

• It gives the basic and very important concept of logics which is helpful in cs

Share challenges for this course.

• Logic

• Sometimes the concepts were tricky but were well explained in class.
Videos were open to being watched anytime, so procrastination was frequent, yet the quizzes forced us to watch them beforehand.

• Practicing and learning to type on latex

• The assignments were a challenge but i enjoyed doing them.

• Really fast paced.

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• Initially it was a bit challenging to learn latex since i had no experience with it beforehand however, eventually it became easier. Certain topics such as proofs were difficult to comprehend especially due to all the mathematical notation that was used.

• Sometimes we had issues with the schedule, e.G. Asynch lectures were uplaoded late, but that was fine, because the rest of the workflow was adjusted accordingly.
It was difficult when we shifted to ramez ragheb's asynchronous videos, however, i think that was a different style and passion for the subject that one (sometimes) eventually got somewhat used to - though for those videos i really had difficulties understanding the instructor and had to refer to the book and online resources more often than with waqar saleem's recorded lectures.

• The time between homeworks was less.

• The homeworks or assignment or this course was hard among all. The questions were such difficult which we haven't been informed in class.

• So many async. Videos

• None that i can think of

• Assignments were tough

• The only challenge i felt was that the online setting made me too comfortable at home which is why i used to not go in person classes which i guess would have made me learn even better.

• No challenges, everything went smoothly.

• Formulating proofs was a bit challenging.

• The homeworks are extremely difficult compared to the examples given in videos and quizzes.
If i had to do the homeworks alone it would be very difficult.

• None, the course was designed in a very nice way

Any suggestions for this course.

• Ungraded practice would be nice

• None!!
(Since it was a shared course, we really felt the class go dull when the other instructor made those videos.)

• Some topics needed more time

• Some of the concepts such as combinatorics and proofs were a bit challenging so i feel like more time could have been spent on them instead of functions which is a topic that we have already covered in calculus.

• Maybe waqar saleem can record high quality videos for further offerings of the course, so that they can be uploaded on time? Though, i am not sure, if that would break the connection we got to make with the instructor over the course of the semester, when we knew they had stayed up till 2:00 am recording the lecture :p

• More time for hw

• Upload the homeworks marks within a week or two.
We have had 4 homeworks and only received marks for the first. If we don't know our marks we don't know how well we are doing and where we need help.

How was your experience of taking the course with this instructor?

• It was a pleasure to be in dr waqar's class. As a professor and a mentor, he always comes through. The course was, in my opinion, the kind that we would easily dislike but the way he navigated through it was exceptional

• The instructor was very nice and helpful. The instructor helped me gain interest in this course and made learning quite fun.

• The best!!
Had a great time, the instructor was very understanding and fun.
Used platforms that were visually appealing and fun.

• It was the most well managed course in the online setting. The instructor was successful in getting us interested in the course content, and delivered it well.

• It was great, classes with this instructor were interactive, we were always on point and things were understandable requiring the focus ofc

• Professor waqar is a great instructor, he helped us learn so many complex concepts easily. His asynchronous videos were most helpful as they explained the topics in detail, his synchronous classes were interactive and i enjoyed taking them. He even gave constructive feedbacks every week on our weekly feedback forms and homework which helped me in doing self-assessment and thus, improve my work. I would definitely take more courses offered by him in the future.

• Sir was really helpful and i absolutely loved him .

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• Sir waqar saleem was a very pleasant instructor to have for this course. I was able to clearly understand the topics which he taught since he knows how to impart his knowledge to the students e.G. I could not understand relations from the asynchronous videos but after sir waqar explained them in class, the concepts seemed so simple and easy to comprehend. Moreover, he is also very understanding and accommodating e.G. Once we had a dsa exam the next day hence knowing that all of us were stressed, instead of teaching, sir waqar showed us a youtube video related to the topic which we were supposed to study. This not only relieved some of the stress but also gave us an insight on the topic. Overall my experience of taking the course with sir waqar was excellent.

• Waqar saleem's asynchronous lectures were very well delivered. Clearly articulated explanations was one of the main reasons i enjoyed playing with the stuff i learnt in this course (rather than wasting time trying to understand what the teacher might be trying to say). Checking was delayed, but i wouldn't mind that because that might have been partly because there were a lot of quizzes (which were often checked timely), and a lot of forms. So i don't think i mind this too much - maybe in the next offering, asynch video recording schedules are more organized to give the instructor time for checking. Live classes were usually engaging, and always something to look forward to.

• Sir waqar saleem explains so well that you would always understand the topic. He is sweet but a little strict with the sel, would recommend him to everyone taking this course !!

• Sir waqar honestly is a great teacher and helped me in ways for instance when i was getting low marks in sel he emailed me instantly and explained me why it was dropping and how to improve it.

• Sir waqar saleem is the best among all the teachers i had. The way he presents his material is phenomenal. The only thing which i found problematic was that in class he just randomly picks one question and talks about it. The other things were coverd in assychrons videos but he should also discuss the practicality of the problems in class too. Secondly, the semester has come to an enc but still i am not surw why this course was mandantory for cs students.

• Sir was explained every question in great detail

• Quite good

• Instructor made sure that everyone was engaged in the course.

• Sir waqar was great, he was very responsive to my queries and made me feel like a part of the class.

• The instructor made this course so much fun, i loved learning about discrete maths as he made me look forward to watching the videos just because of how well he explained. Sir waqar's asynchronous videos were the best

• Dr. Waqar was hands down the best instructor i had this semester. He was so enthusiastic about the course which made it lots of fun for us too. His lectures were interesting and he shared tidbits related to the content which made the classes exciting.

• This course is extremely difficult because it is being taught online through asynchronous videos. I highly advise a revaluation of the material presented because this course is very important for the upcoming years for cs students. In the classes it would be better to show more examples for the respective topics so we students have a clear understanding.

• I really enjoyed the course with my instructor, he was very encouraging and engaging throughout the semester and made sure that our learning wasn't effected because of the online setting.

• Instructor had a very good knowledge of the subject and the course was delivered very systematically.