

## 1. Computer Science

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

- This is the best course i have taken in the department till now. Professor teaches really well and takes out extra time to help the students. I have learned a lot from this course. Homework problems are challenging which help you improve your thinking process.
- Course emphasize more on distributed algorithms and it helps me visualize many common problems in my research area.
- The algorithms and analysis techniques.<br/>Teacher's broad writing is great!
- It's fun learning how some of these algorithms can contribute in real word situations.
- I liked the HW assignments. Although they were pretty tougher than the basic material. we are taught, they made me learn more. I liked those HW questions that require to propose an algorithm. I learned a lot from HW assignments since I forced myself to get the complete score. The best strategy for prospective students is that they can think about problems for hours. Then Prof. Pemmaraju would be available in his office to help you find the correct answer. During his office hours also I learned a lot since he helped me to learn how I can deal with some harder questions.
- Taught by one of the best professors in CS. He's very patient and effective when teaching. Even for students with poor algorithms background, the professor does a great job in making everyone understand the material clearly and expects the students to ask for help anytime. Recommended if students are interested in learning new algorithms concepts.
- The course helps to know how to implement mathematical concepts like probability
- How the instructor presented and clarified the materials.
- I learnt some interesting algorithms which are useful for my future study
- Preparation and course delivery were great, it didn't feel like the Professor was teaching the course for the first time.
- the algorithmic part and distributed part are both helpful for my future work, I do like the algorithmic part more.
- Home Work Assignments in the course are very challenging, interesting and thought provoking.

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

- I may get low grades but grades were not my objective while taking this course.
- It's hard to find a drawback. If must refer one, I will say that at the beginning of the semester it is hard for me to understand Indian accent. However, at the end of the semester I can understand almost all teacher's speaking, and most of other students' interaction.
- I think the exams were too difficult. Some of the problems were okay, but some questions asked you to try to figure out a problem that we haven't solved yet assuming we can figure it out based on prior knowledge. I don't like that. I'm still not exactly sure how the grading is going to work. The syllabus said there would be 8 HW assignments and there were only 5. Also it said HW was 50% of the grade. I don't know if it is still 50% since we didn't do all HW's. Too much uncertainty.
- It's a challenging course for students with little algorithms background. Assignments are tough and challenging but doable as long as you get help early.
- Some of the course concepts are tough
- Exams were lengthy.
- I spent too much time on writing notes
- It would be have been great if we had some practical applications of distributed system.

## 2. Written Comments

### Additional comments

- More practical scenarios during class would have helped in better understanding / visualizing where such algorithms could be used in real world. Some of the course material should cover distributed systems as well.
- The course is pretty good!
- I found this to be a difficult class. I have only taken one algorithms class and sometimes the language can get to be too much. I like the examples where you solve out a problem using real numbers and values so I can see how it works.
- It is also good to give us some very hard questions for HW as bonus to solve.
- Also, Teaching assistant of the course had been very helpful in the help sessions.