Instructor: Sambhara, Chaitanya Subject: ISA Catalog & Section: 245, B Course Title: Database Systems
Enrollment: 37 Responses Incl Declines: 36
(Declined: 0)

1. Comments

Which aspects of this course/instructor led to a valuable learning experience?

- Helped me understand how database creation tie into an everyday setting. Also very hands on.
- I enjoyed the hands on portion of the class. It helped me learn more than just a regular lecture
- Chai is always available to help with questions. The homeworks are difficult but helpful in understanding the concepts. Class was hands on and interesting, and Chai did a good job making sure of both.
- Chai is one of the best professors I've had at this school. Every class has a purpose and with so many hands-on activities, it was much easier to learn the materials.
- Chai is one of the best teachers I have ever had. He worked hard to make this class a hands-on experience, and was always available to help me and other students out.
- He was always willing to help students understand the material, even if it wasn't his office hours. He brought positive energy to the class, and didn't criticize students if they got the wrong answer.
- the hands-on aspect
- · Great homework.
- Learning about the basics of database systems. The homeworks, while sometimes challenging, led to valuable learning.
- We had difficult coursework but it never felt unfair. Professor Chai was always there to talk us through our mistakes or concerns.
- · Good lectures and hands-on activities.
- The hand-on experience is very valuable.
- The hands on aspect of this class was very useful as the exposure helped me feel extremely comfortable working with databases.
- · Chai was always available to help students and showed strong concern for our learning
- I think his passion and background knowledge of the subject and the industry really helped to make it a valuable experience. He knows what we need to know to apply to a job and he focuses on making us successful.
- I enjoyed the in class activities as they would help with performing the homeworks.
- He was always willing to help and meet outside of class at any time that was convenient for the student. Challenged us in class
- The class was very hands on because of in class assignments and homeworks. The semester long group project was very helpful in reinforcing class concepts.
- He was always energetic and taught the topics in a very interesting, hands-on manner.
- Almost every class was filled with in class exercises. Our homework and projects very much reflected what we
 were learning in class which helped reiterate the information.
- · Hands on learning
- Chai really cares about his students and does his best to provide accurate feedback and add value to the class
- challenging material on homework was where i really learned the material in this class
- everything he did helped me learn.
- -Very hands-on course and just the right amount of homework to reinforce learning during the class and outside the class
-Chai was extremely concerned with all students' learning styles and abilities. -Chai was always available, even outside of office hours to meet with students.
- Chai was always extremely available to offer help.he would never turn anyone away from his office even if it
 wasn't during his regular office hours. Truly had a passion for the students and always wanted us to truly learn.
 This class was one of the most helpful classes I've ever taken where I feel as though I truly learned and did not
 have to memorize and spit information back out. He sets the tone on a respect basis that really makes the
 students want to do well for themselves.
- Passion for the subject, real world experience, learning useful skills, availability to help and respond to questions

Which aspects of this course/instructor need to be improved to increase the value of the learning experience?

- N/A
- The lectures were dry and hard to follow.
- None
- Less slides/info on the Power Points. Potentially have a day in class where students manually draw out normalization tables
- Chai holds "participation points" hostage so he can ensure that the class is orderly and students don't break the
 established rules. While this method is effective, more opportunities to "participate" and earn those points back
 would be nice.
- If you skip the slides with information on it, make sure you note if they are important enough to be on exam.
- need to have exams on the computer

- If he can make every concepts more clearly and help can give us more time to understand the concepts.
- N/A
- None that I can really think of...
- · Nothing.
- I hope the homework part of this course could reflect the class more, sometime the homework is beyond my study.
- More opportunities to participate it's difficult to receive a good participation grade in this class
- He is a little too critical sometimes.
- Although you challenged us with homework, it would have been better if some of the in class activities were closer to the difficulty of the homeworks.
- · sometimes condescending
- I would have liked to receive the answers in some format that way I can compare and remember what I did right and wrong when preparing for other assignments.
- Not sure. I had great experience with this class. I enjoyed it and learned a lot.
- The work is challenging but there is nothing I would do to change this class.
- · Really tough grading
- n/a
- · professor explaining things more in class
- nothing
- N/A, very well-prepared and organized course
- Some of the comments made when mistakes were made can be harsh. I think if I didn't have tough skin it would be worse.
- Chai keep saying that the concept is useless for work and skip the ppts. But most of his homework and exams are about concepts. So we have to learn by ourselves.
- For the exams there were no strict guidelines on the topics we needed to study and basically all the information in the power-point resources were extremely vague. This made the midterm extremely hard to study for.

Please write any additional comments or suggestions.

- Great teacher! Glad I took him for this course!
- Chai is great! Such a friendly professor.
- Professor actually cares about the students learning and understanding of the course.
- none
- N/A
- Great professor. One of the best professors I have had at Miami. His dedication to his students is incredible and he genuinely wants us to succeed. I feel I have learned more in this class than any other class in my 3 years here.
- N/A
- N/A
- really great professor who showed concern for his students
- Chai is a great instructor and I think he really helped me learn and thing outside the box. He also helped students learn the value of constructive criticism which is important.
- N/A
- Take students grades more seriously. Understand that students will (and have the right) to care about grades.
- n/a
- There were questions on the homework that required an in-depth understanding of material, but the material was barely mentioned in class
- He deserves a raise.
- I truly loved this class and thought it was one of the most beneficial classes I've taken at Miami
- Consider reevaluating the amount of points you take off for one mistake. 10% of the grade for one mistake (-1 on a 10 point assignment seems excessive)