# Business Programming (201820)

Instructor: **Sambhara, Chaitanya**
Subject: **ISA**
Catalog & Section: **281 B**
Course ID: **83021**
Objectives:

Enrollment: **34**
Responses Incl Declines: **33**
Declines: **0**

---

## Comments (69 comments)

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

1   The challenging aspect was a good learning experience. It was good expirience handling challenging problems

2   Having various types and challenging homework helped

3   His dedication to have office hours till midnight when assignments were due

4   Clear slides, class exercises

5   The focus on exercises in-class was very helpful when learning the code.

6   Helped the students out tremendously, dealt with questions with ease and gave responses that showed that he knew that students weren't experienced with Python and would not get frustrated with problems.

7   I love the idea of homeworks being worth more than an exam in this class. It seems like the fairest of options when considering the importance of practicing code and actually learning the material rather than being tested on pointless facts.

8   Chai was always in a terrific mood, and that spread to everyone else in the class. He was an incredibly good teacher of this material, and this was one of my favorite classes that I have ever taken.

9   He really knows what he is talking about with Python, and made it very easy to learn through lecture. The class exercises were a great thing, though toward the end they were a little bit lacking. It was really great towards the beginning of the semester and learn a simple concept, only to immediately apply that concept and write a program slightly different using the same method. The homeworks definitely challenged me with what I had learned in class, and nothing was ridiculously difficult, while still being challenging. I learned a lot.

10   The class homework and exercises were very helpful in learning the material.

11   We were forced to understand how the most basic functions work and how they can be applied to more complex problems. While difficult at first, it allowed for a thorough understanding of the material. In addition, Chai knew when it was necessary to take more time and ensure students understood the material (e.g. loops). Finally, the homework questions were well-rounded so that they allowed students to develop their skills.

12   Chai really cares about his students and wants the succeed at all costs. That made this class a valuable experience.

13   This is the second time I have had Chai as a professor and I took this class with him because I enjoyed having him as a professor. Although it was the first time he taught business programming, it was clear that he put in a lot of work and effort to the coursework. The homeworks were difficult, sometimes extremely difficult, but we were given plenty of time to complete assignments. Exams were fair, and lectures were made interesting by class exercises which truly taught me how to code. There were a few hiccups along the way, but Chai always took responsibility and did anything he could to make time for his students.

14   The homeworks were incredibly well structured to help learn the material.

15   The class exercises and homeworks reflected the material covered in class very well and the professor was very helpful during office hours.

16   Chai challenged us, which made us learn a lot more than we otherwise would have. At the same time, I never felt stressed about exams, which was nice.

17   Class exercises and homework gave a really good practice of the content

18   Hands on class exercises.

19   Chai's hands-on examples during class allowed me to apply what I was learning in real time leading to a much more digestible approach to learning a new language.

20   Talking to students very often

21   Chai is one of my favorite professors here at Miami and definitely my favorite professor within the ISA department! He really cares about student learning and makes himself available for questions literally 24/7. I like the hands-on aspects of his teaching and the fact he creates his own material rather than making us read a book (something that I feel is pretty pointless when it comes to teaching technology). Although he told past classes not to take this class because it was his first time teaching it, I specifically took this class BECAUSE Chai was teaching, and I have absolutely no regrets.

22   The material taught.

| 23 | The HWs. |
|----|----------|
| 24 | the format of the class is set up very well for an intro to python course |
| 25 | The class exercise and homework are helpful. |
| 26 | Chai took everything step by step to make sure we understood the material because he knew it was tough which i appreciated. He also made himself available at all times if anyone needed help on an assignment which was greatly appreciated. |
| 27 | The valuable learning experience that Chai provided was that he was a fair professor. The way he weights his grading is a system all professors should use. He makes the homework relatively hard and worth a lot because it is our time to learn and apply the material from class. The exams are still challenging but exams should not be the reason one does not receive a good grade. This was well understood and applied this year. |
| 28 | Chai made sure that he was presenting the material in a way that was easier to explain for programming beginners. His class exercises were helpful and the homework assignments were challenging. I like that he emphasized the importance of the homeworks rather than the exams which I think helped us learn how to program better. |
| 29 | he took an interest in students and made the class challenging but fair |
| 30 | The instructor showed a true commitment to the students' learning. He was very dependable, prepared, personable, and informed. The professor made sure he was available for all questions both on email and in his office. He also cultivated a great learning environment, knowing that the course topics are complicated and at times frustrating. |

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

| 1 | I would like to see more of a business connection, like how we can use python skills that we learned to help decision making in an everyday business environment. |
|----|----------|
| 2 | Helping students to understand each function. It is quite fast for new learners to fully understand functions |
| 3 | Everything is great!! |
| 4 | There were times where the answer files to the in-class exercises were not on canvas making it difficult to utilize them on the homework. |
| 5 | None |
| 6 | The class policies and rules are absolutely ridiculous and very counterproductive. I found that the professor was often more of a distraction than if I left the room for a minute to go to the bathroom. I also thought that the balancing of the workloads for the six homeworks was unfair. Some of the hardest assignments gave us the least amount of time to do it. |
| 7 | Making the quizzes more regular would have helped me a lot. Some topics we skidded over fairly quickly and were barely quizzed upon, and those are the topics I feel like I know the least about. For me (maybe not for everyone), it would have been good to maybe have a shorter quiz over each topic rather than having a 10 question quiz over two topics every 3-4 classes. |
| 8 | For not enjoying slides and tending to skip through them quickly, you ask pretty specific questions about the slides on quizzes. |
| 9 | The only aspect that can be improved is the implementation of an overarching group project that uses a culmination of the topics covered. |
| 10 | Chai moves at a very fast pace. This is okay for class, but when I ask questions he goes fast in his explanations and I often do not fully understand his answers. I wish he would go slower and take time to provide some background explanation. He is very smart and knows a lot about coding, and I think he sometimes forgets that the students are not nearly as experienced as him. It would be helpful if he provided more practice problems so that we can get practice with concepts before tackling the complex homework problems. I did not mind that the homework was hard, I just wish we had more practice with the various concepts before diving into the homework. |
| 11 | More class exercises on some of the more difficult concepts towards the end of the semester. More practicehelped to figure out the difficult homework assignments. |
| 12 | I thought he did a great job |
| 13 | I would involve the class more often, even if it means selecting a number off of the attendance list and going from there. |
| 14 | It was hard to get the right codes for the class exercises since we would just be introduced to the new topics and not showing the right code affected class participation grade. With so many people in class sometimes there wouldn't be enough time to show code |
| 15 | Homeworks. Up until 3/4 of the way through class the homeworks were effectively challenging but I understood the material. Following, the homeworks were far too challenging and I did not have an understanding the of the material required to complete them. |
| 16 | Some of the webscraping codes were hard to understand since we did not learn in detail what some of them meant. While there simply was not enough time to do so, additional reading materials for out of class learning could help. |
| 17 | Less class exercise |
| 18 | Sometimes, I felt like there was not enough time between lecture and homework due dates, mostly towards the end of the semester. |
| 19 | N/A |

20  Teaching webscraping.

21  Maybe make longer homework's with slightly easier problems

22  Could still "dumb down" or make some of the topics easier to understand. I was taking a class in R that went over a lot of the same concepts like regex, but if I wasn't I'm not sure I would have been able to understand the topic fully.

23  There was obviously a learning curve since this was his first time teaching ISA 281 but he understood what to include and not to include for next year. This was my first time taking a coding class so I did not know what to expect, therefore i did not know what really needs to be improved.

24  Sometimes during the class exercises Chai would move faster than some of us could keep up. For some exercises, he allowed us to work on it first for 10-15 minutes and then would go through the code with us. But for other examples that were in the slides, he explained things too quickly sometimes and it was hard to keep up.

25  I would have liked to know all the material i had to to work on hameworks a little earlier so i could have gotten them done earlier

26  The instructor could do better to pace the topics and homework. For example, I would want to have gone over the rest of the material needed for the homework at least a day before the homework is due. It is a little stressful knowing you can't complete an assignment without having gone through the class on the day it's due. As far as the pacing of the topics go, the professor is well aware that he needs to adjust the timing of certain concepts (some need more time, some need less.) The professor was incredibly adaptable to his teaching and did a great job keeping both his sections at the same spot academically.


## Q: Please write any additional comments or suggestions.

1   Chai is doing fantastic as his first semester teaching this class. He has a great attitude for teaching a class that can be frustrating and it is very helpful for ensuring students learn the material. Many thanks on a great semester, Chai!

2   Chai was great, and I was glad I had him as a professor again. He teaches that it's ok if you get a question wrong, and you shouldn't be embarrassed, since we're all here to learn.

3   The learning environment is great. However, It is hard to remember all the functions learned during the class and keep them to the end of the class. Maybe it applies the same for any other coding classes by the way.

4   In the HW Qs [which sure are hard] sometimes I got the right output as shown on the Question but there were some parts within which had requirements and I just didn't know I was wrong but still lost points

5   Please change the coding aspect of the exams. I found it difficult to succeed when I was unable to run my programs.

6   none

7   He is one of the best professors I meet.

8   I really appreciated the kind attitude you took towards a class of beginners I didn't feel overwhelmed by the material at any point.

9   None

10  The instructor is great.

11  Class layout and rules need to be reworked.

12  In my opinion the best teacher i have had so far in my college career

13  This was a tremendous learning experience and I'm so happy I got to spend my last semester starting to learn business programming skills! I'm proud of the work I've created these past few months and I look forward to using my skills further as needed in my career.