

# Online Student Ratings Report

Period: **Fall 2008**  
 Instructor: **McCarthy, Jay A (075667467)**  
 Course: **C S 330-001: Concepts of Programng Lang**

Responses/Enrolled: **10 / 12 = 83%**  
 College: **Physical/Mathematical Sciences**  
 Department: **Computer Science**

Instructor Below Overall    Instructor Above Overall

Course	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	VSD (1)	SD (2)	D (3)	SwD (4)	SwA (5)	A (6)	SA (7)	VSA (8)	NR	Resp Rate			
Amount learned	1.48	6.2	6.1 / 6.1	6.1 / 6.6	6.1 / 6.3	6.1 / 6.6	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	2	0	83%			
Materials & activities effective	1.20	5.9	5.5 / 5.5	5.5 / 6.4	5.5 / 6.1	5.5 / 6.5	0	0	0	1	3	3	2	1	0	83%			
Well organized	1.29	5.1	5.3 / 5.3	5.3 / 6.4	5.3 / 6.3	5.3 / 6.6	0	0	1	3	1	4	1	0	0	83%			
Evaluations good measures of learning	1.15	5.0	4.9 / 4.9	4.9 / 6.1	4.9 / 5.8	4.9 / 6.2	0	0	1	2	4	2	1	0	0	83%			
Grading procedures fair	0.79	5.2	5.4 / 5.4	5.4 / 6.4	5.4 / 6.2	5.4 / 6.5	0	0	0	1	7	1	1	0	0	83%			
Intellectual skills developed	1.08	6.5	6.5 / 6.5	6.5 / 6.7	6.5 / 6.3	6.5 / 6.5	0	0	0	0	2	3	3	2	0	83%			
Testimony strengthened	1.37	6.1	6.5 / 6.5	6.5 / 5.8	6.5 / 5.6	6.5 / 6.3	0	0	0	1	3	2	2	2	0	83%			
Hours spent in class	0.21	2.9	2.9 / 2.9	2.9 / 2.8	2.9 / 3.4	2.9 / 2.8										83%			
	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	0% (0)	10% (10)	20% (20)	30% (30)	40% (40)	50% (50)	60% (60)	70% (70)	80% (80)	90% (90)	100% (100)	NR	Resp Rate
Valuable time in class	6.75	83.0	78.4/78.4	78.4/74.0	78.4/74.1	78.4/80.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	4	0	0	0	83%
Hours spent out of class	2.67	6.9	7.8 / 7.8	7.8 / 7.8	7.8 / 5.2	7.8 / 3.6													83%
Valuable time out of class	13.37	77.0	74.7/74.7	74.7/77.9	74.7/78.4	74.7/80.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	2	1	0	83%

Instructor	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	VSD (1)	SD (2)	D (3)	SwD (4)	SwA (5)	A (6)	SA (7)	VSA (8)	NR	Resp Rate
Interest in student learning	0.67	7.3	7.2 / 7.2	7.2 / 7.1	7.2 / 6.8	7.2 / 7.0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	4	0	83%
Opportunities to get help	1.35	7.4	7.4 / 7.4	7.4 / 6.9	7.4 / 6.6	7.4 / 6.9	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	0	83%
Active student involvement	0.97	6.6	6.7 / 6.7	6.7 / 6.8	6.7 / 6.5	6.7 / 6.8	0	0	0	0	1	4	3	2	0	83%
Prompt feedback	0.88	7.1	7.2 / 7.2	7.2 / 6.3	7.2 / 6.2	7.2 / 6.5	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	4	0	83%
Useful feedback	0.79	5.8	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 5.9	6.2 / 6.4	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	0	0	83%
Responded to students respectfully	0.88	7.1	6.9 / 6.9	6.9 / 7.1	6.9 / 6.8	6.9 / 7.0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	4	0	83%
Explained concepts effectively	1.06	6.7	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 6.7	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 6.7	0	0	0	0	2	1	5	2	0	83%
Integrates gospel into subject	1.35	6.5	6.8 / 6.8	6.8 / 6.4	6.8 / 6.1	6.8 / 6.6	0	0	0	1	1	3	2	3	0	83%
Spiritually inspiring	1.18	6.5	6.9 / 6.9	6.9 / 6.6	6.9 / 6.3	6.9 / 6.7	0	0	0	0	2	4	1	3	0	83%

Overall	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	EP (1)	VP (2)	P (3)	SP (4)	SG (5)	G (6)	VG (7)	EG (8)	NR	Resp Rate
Overall Course	1.45	6.1	5.9 / 5.9	5.9 / 6.4	5.9 / 6.1	5.9 / 6.6	0	0	0	1	4	0	3	2	0	83%
Overall Instructor	0.95	6.7	6.4 / 6.4	6.4 / 6.8	6.4 / 6.5	6.4 / 6.9	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	2	0	83%

BYU Aims	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	VSD (1)	SD (2)	D (3)	SwD (4)	SwA (5)	A (6)	SA (7)	VSA (8)	NR	Resp Rate
Contributed to BYU Aims	1.23	6.8	6.7 / 6.7	6.7 / 6.7	6.7 / 6.5	6.7 / 6.9	0	0	0	1	0	2	4	3	0	83%

Comments	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall											Resp Rate
Comments																	58%

# Online Student Ratings Report

Period: **Fall 2008**  
 Instructor: **McCarthy, Jay A (075667467)**  
 Course: **C S 330-002: Concepts of Programng Lang**

Responses/Enrolled: **9 / 16 = 56%**  
 College: **Physical/Mathematical Sciences**  
 Department: **Computer Science**

Instructor Below Overall    color: green;">Instructor Above Overall

Course	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	VSD (1)	SD (2)	D (3)	SwD (4)	SwA (5)	A (6)	SA (7)	VSA (8)	NR	Resp Rate			
Amount learned	0.78	5.9	6.1 / 6.1	6.1 / 6.6	6.1 / 6.3	6.1 / 6.6	0	0	0	0	3	4	2	0	0	56%			
Materials & activities effective	1.54	5.1	5.5 / 5.5	5.5 / 6.4	5.5 / 6.1	5.5 / 6.5	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	0	0	56%			
Well organized	2.01	5.4	5.3 / 5.3	5.3 / 6.4	5.3 / 6.3	5.3 / 6.6	0	2	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	56%			
Evaluations good measures of learning	1.76	4.9	4.9 / 4.9	4.9 / 6.1	4.9 / 5.8	4.9 / 6.2	1	0	0	2	2	3	1	0	0	56%			
Grading procedures fair	1.01	5.6	5.4 / 5.4	5.4 / 6.4	5.4 / 6.2	5.4 / 6.5	0	0	0	0	6	2	0	1	0	56%			
Intellectual skills developed	1.01	6.4	6.5 / 6.5	6.5 / 6.7	6.5 / 6.3	6.5 / 6.5	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	2	0	56%			
Testimony strengthened	1.17	6.9	6.5 / 6.5	6.5 / 5.8	6.5 / 5.6	6.5 / 6.3	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	4	0	56%			
Hours spent in class	0.17	2.9	2.9 / 2.9	2.9 / 2.8	2.9 / 3.4	2.9 / 2.8										56%			
	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	0% (0)	10% (10)	20% (20)	30% (30)	40% (40)	50% (50)	60% (60)	70% (70)	80% (80)	90% (90)	100% (100)	NR	Resp Rate
Valuable time in class	18.03	73.3	78.4/78.4	78.4/74.0	78.4/74.1	78.4/80.1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	3	0	0	56%
Hours spent out of class	3.31	8.8	7.8 / 7.8	7.8 / 7.8	7.8 / 5.2	7.8 / 3.6													56%
Valuable time out of class	14.81	72.2	74.7/74.7	74.7/77.9	74.7/78.4	74.7/80.8	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	0	1	0	56%

Instructor	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	VSD (1)	SD (2)	D (3)	SwD (4)	SwA (5)	A (6)	SA (7)	VSA (8)	NR	Resp Rate
Interest in student learning	1.12	7.0	7.2 / 7.2	7.2 / 7.1	7.2 / 6.8	7.2 / 7.0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	4	0	56%
Opportunities to get help	0.87	7.3	7.4 / 7.4	7.4 / 6.9	7.4 / 6.6	7.4 / 6.9	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	5	0	56%
Active student involvement	0.83	6.8	6.7 / 6.7	6.7 / 6.8	6.7 / 6.5	6.7 / 6.8	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	2	0	56%
Prompt feedback	0.83	7.2	7.2 / 7.2	7.2 / 6.3	7.2 / 6.2	7.2 / 6.5	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	4	0	56%
Useful feedback	1.13	6.6	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 5.9	6.2 / 6.4	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	2	0	56%
Responded to students respectfully	1.22	6.7	6.9 / 6.9	6.9 / 7.1	6.9 / 6.8	6.9 / 7.0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	3	0	56%
Explained concepts effectively	1.66	5.7	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 6.7	6.2 / 6.2	6.2 / 6.7	0	0	1	1	2	3	0	2	0	56%
Integrates gospel into subject	0.83	7.2	6.8 / 6.8	6.8 / 6.4	6.8 / 6.1	6.8 / 6.6	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	4	0	56%
Spiritually inspiring	0.87	7.3	6.9 / 6.9	6.9 / 6.6	6.9 / 6.3	6.9 / 6.7	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	5	0	56%

Overall	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	EP (1)	VP (2)	P (3)	SP (4)	SG (5)	G (6)	VG (7)	EG (8)	NR	Resp Rate
Overall Course	0.71	5.7	5.9 / 5.9	5.9 / 6.4	5.9 / 6.1	5.9 / 6.6	0	0	0	0	4	4	1	0	0	56%
Overall Instructor	1.36	6.1	6.4 / 6.4	6.4 / 6.8	6.4 / 6.5	6.4 / 6.9	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	0	56%

BYU Aims	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall	VSD (1)	SD (2)	D (3)	SwD (4)	SwA (5)	A (6)	SA (7)	VSA (8)	NR	Resp Rate
Contributed to BYU Aims	1.01	6.6	6.7 / 6.7	6.7 / 6.7	6.7 / 6.5	6.7 / 6.9	0	0	0	0	1	4	2	2	0	56%

Comments	Std Dev	Sect Mean	Crse Mean Instructor/Overall	Dept Mean Instructor/Overall	Coll Mean Instructor/Overall	Univ Mean Instructor/Overall											NR	Resp Rate
Comments																		44%

## C S 330-001 Fall 2008 - Comments

### Responses: 7 Total

Jay is brilliant and personable. I really enjoyed his class. I was a little overwhelmed at times, but as long as I was on top of things enough to have questions during business hours (essentially the same as his office hours), it always turned out fine.

It would have been nice to have more information about grades more quickly. I think it might be more a cultural difference than anything else: at BYU, most students have strong expectations for their grades, and feel empowered because their grades are in their own hands. But we are spoiled in some respects. I don't think Jay expected us to expect so much.

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Very unique course. Awesome, really enjoyed it.

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For his first class, I think he did a fine job. I hope that he can improve his class and style for later classes. It was very disconcerting and worrying that we had no idea what points meant or really how we were going to be graded. The assignments were VERY hard, especially at the beginning where he wanted us to both implement the topic we were on and learn a fairly tricky language all at the same time. It is also very hard when we only know what assignments there will be a week ahead of when they are due. It doesn't allow for a student to try and start earlier to make up for not understanding or being adept at Scheme. It was also hard with no TA for the class, not because Jay wasn't very helpful, but I was never sure when he was going to be in his office. While I am not a "group person" working in these groups wasn't so bad. It could have been, depending on who was in the class, but this time it went well, I think.

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I really enjoyed the course. The only policy I didn't like was how open ended the grading was. By writing our own test cases as the way we were graded, it became very difficult to determine if we had actually finished the project correctly or not. I often missed coverage on my test cases and would have learned better if I had been given the test cases. It would have helped me write a more complete program, and understand what the test cases were testing.

Also, a more thorough introduction to scheme would have helped immensely. The beginning assignments I found difficult and the early subject matter seemed unbelievably hard, but I think that is mostly attributable to my lack of knowledge of scheme.

Professor McCarthy is the most helpful professor I have ever had. He was always available to help us understand the projects. He always expected us to have tried before we came to him, but once we had put in the effort and needed the right nudge, he was great. I respect him very much as a professor.

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The class started out as way over my head, but things drastically improved as the course progressed. While the course definitely wasn't perfect, it has been one of the more interesting and thought-provoking CS classes I've taken. I would definitely recommend other students to take this class from Dr. McCarthy. He was always willing to help us work through problems, providing we'd made some of our own effort first. He's adaptable to specific needs, both on the individual level and on the class level.

One thing I would recommend is there be an actual TA for this course. I understand that this was nearly impossible this semester, since it was Dr. McCarthy's first semester teaching it. I think future classes could benefit even more from having a TA, instead of having the professor be the TA.

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The instructor always responded to my e-mails quickly, and I really appreciated that.

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My only real issue with the course was the lack of an outline and grading structure at the beginning of the course. For the first 6 weeks or more of the semester, I felt very lost. I was struggling with the first few assignments, and I didn't know what to expect in the future. I didn't know if these assignments were going to weigh as much as later ones, or if we were going to start any big major projects or more frequent smaller ones. Some grades were out of 100 points and others were out of 2 or 3. On an oral presentation I got a 1 out of 2, and I thought I had done well. I wasn't sure if this 50% would affect me like a 100-point assignment would. I realize there were reasons for having the grading structure in this way, but it would have been very helpful if there could have been an outline at the beginning of the semester describing the grading structure, and also listing the names or descriptions of the assignments and possibly the predicted due dates. It would be nice to know what you're going to learn throughout the semester.

Professor McCarthy is a very good teacher and made himself available to the students all the time for questions and help on assignments. He was also good at explaining concepts that were hard to understand, and he showed a great interest in making sure the students were understanding the material. If he could make it a little more personal, and try to follow up with each student individually about grades, or performance on assignments, this would be even more helpful, although this is hard for a lot of professors to do with so many students.

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## C S 330-002 Fall 2008 - Comments

### Responses: 7 Total

It would have been very helpful to have more time or more projects that helped students learn the exact skills and functionality they would need to use to do the projects before jumping right into a project like the seemingly simple interperator. Making comparisons to other more familiar languages like "this is how you might do it in java" does not take away from the learning process or make a crutch that prevents you from really learning what scheme is. It helps build a foundation to further learn about scheme, so scheme is not just thought of as a scary language that we have to fumble through on the next project and end up somehow writing code that we still don't really understand why it works.

I felt like many concepts were over my head and stayed that way even after assignments. I think some students get material right away, but for others it takes more examples and different approaches. I thought that kind of thing was lacking a little. That's really how most of our other classes are done, and if we are meant to be mostly responsible to make sure we understand stuff, although that almost sounds silly, that is somewhat different from other courses and would be helpful to maybe be made clear.

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Many of the assignments in this class were unreasonably complex when compared with the material presented in class. Often it felt like the lectures in class would describe how A can be combined with B can be combined with C, so your homework is to implement Q. Figuring out how to do Q often took hours upon hours, where a little more framework, or progressive assignments, would have produced the same learning result with far less time and frustration.

The practice of hiding all the assignments at the start of the semester, and only revealing them as they were assigned, was detrimental. I would have been able to schedule my time far more efficiently if I had know in advance what this class was going to demand.

Jay is a brilliant professor. He knows and is passionate about his material, and I have a lot of respect for him. My main suggestion would be to please slow it down a little...a lot of the students in the class can't think at his level, so the previously mentioned progressive assignments, or building up a bit more gradually to the complex topics, would be extremely helpful to some of us.

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I'll give Jay a break because this is his first year. The course certainly ran smoother as the semester went on. However, I think this class puts too much emphasis on Scheme. Students are spending too much time trying to figure out Scheme that they don't get much out of the actual programming concepts they're implementing.

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At the beginning of the class it was extremely stressfull. The stress came mainly from the "how" the class was taught. We needed to be taught scheme before being expected to use it. We needed some concrete idea as to how grades are given(this idea was given at the end of the semester). We needed Jay to code on the projector because we couldn't understand it on the white board. These among other things. I realize that this was Jay's first time and it was really hard, however, I would take other classes from him in the future because I see him actively trying to improve his teaching and he's a cool guy ;)

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At the beginning of the semester, the grading scheme wasn't very well set out. However, I think the grading was a lot better at the end of the semester. Also, the professor got a lot better as the semester went on. He is probably one of my favorite teachers at this point.

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Jay was great! He was always willing to help us on our assignments!!! Scheme was very difficult as we

had no background given to us, but later in the semester in got better.

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I really enjoyed this class. I feel as though some of the material went over my head at times, but I learned a lot.

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