Advice From CSE Students

CSCE 156 Evaluation Feedback

Instructor Advice

- Many semesters I've given advice on how to succeed in this course
- Some have taken it, some have ignored
- Maybe it's better to listen to actual students of this course instead
- Previous CSCE 156 Students were asked:
  
  "If you could give students who take this course next semester or next year any piece(s) of advice, what would it be?"

Student Advice

- Stay on track and keep notes on your laptop. Makes for easier access when working on homework and referencing.
- Do the homework, don't be afraid to ask for help.
- Don't be lazy or get lazy at any point, it will build up and get you at the end
- Review your notes so you know where things are in them before tests.
- Go to class. Every single one. Take notes, it's all important. Take lab seriously and do the advanced activities. Make use of office hours, everyone is super helpful. Respect Dr. Bourke, his facial hair is remarkable because he earned it through hard work and a passion for computer sciences.
- Stay up on your work and follow Bourke's instructions on how to design and implement things. This will make your life 1000x easier in the end. I saw these comments in the beginning and didn't follow them and it hurt me in the end.
- Be prepared before going to class.
- As long as you're not behind, it's not too bad.
- Do the homework, go to the TA's, work with partners, or drop out.

continued

- Do not fall behind, and do not do the bare minimum on the assignments
- I would tell students to stay on top of their work; it would be so easy to get behind because, with the labs, design documents, and homework assignments, you have multiple things due every week.
- Sometimes the labs take off 90% of your time because one assignment took WAY longer than expected.
- Do the homework in advance and show up to all the classes.
- Always be prepared, and use the best of the methods learned to address a particular problem in your project/homework.
- If possible, attend every lecture. There is a lot of vital information that is given in each and every lecture. One-missed lecture can result in missing important information that could be crucial to solving the next homework/lab assignment.
- Go to the labs, they're the best way to learn the material
- Don't skip class, and start on your homework early, you will fall too far behind if you try to accomplish your work the night before. I suggest starting within a few days of being assigned.
- Stay ahead and do not use late's
- Go to class! Dr. Bourke is great at explaining things but a lot of his notes are on the board. Often just looking at the posted lecture slide is not enough. Also take full advantage of the SRC. It is a great place to do your homework.

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- A homework assignment in this class is not done if not COMPLETELY done. If you feel you are almost done, do not wait to finish it. You WILL always find something to fix or add.
- Figure out how much time you think you'll need to finish an assignment, and add another week! Start on assignments early and don't get behind, especially at the beginning!
- Don't procrastinate on the homework and look at the labs before the lab time.
- don't get behind in homework, complete all the labs, go to office hours
- Make sure you think out your programs, so it's easy to modify and build off for the later additions. Try to separate your code blocks into parts, so it's easier to debug and fix your problem. I try to keep my code blocks short and simple for adaptability and readability.
- should start the homework extra-early, taking more time to do the design document.
- Make sure your code runs in webgrader. Make sure you know how to find webgrader. Don't wait until the last moment of your first assignment to search for it. You'll likely need to do much debugging on your program after your first webgrader run through.
- The earlier you start working on the homework, the better off you'll be.

continued

- Don't fall behind on the homework, and make sure to carefully read all instructions for the homework.
- Don't fall behind
- Plan ahead! Read ahead too if you can and start the homework early in the resource center so you can get help with things that haven't been started yet.
- Make use of office hours and start homework early
- Do the homework when you get it, not the night of.
- Stay ahead and do not use late's
- Google every topic covered and connect to the SVN as soon as they can for examples. Don't let yourself get behind because it is really hard to catch back up even with the late policy.
Continued

- Learn by heart in class and review after class
- Go to office hours if you don’t understand an assignment, or work with a partner. Not knowing how to do one of the early homework assignments really hurts you in the long run.
- Work on the homework immediately!
- The second you get a piece of new material, start applying that to the HW & use the solutions that you get from the lab strongly to your advantage in said HW.
- Work in partners, especially on the continuing assignments.
- Don’t miss lectures!
- Don’t get behind on your work
- Stay ahead of the homework and don’t get behind.
- Show up to class, attend the labs, ask the TA’s lots of questions, and you’ll be fine. It’s not an easy class, but it’s not a terribly difficult one either.

Continued

- Don’t procrastinate, particularly on the early programming and especially if assignments build on each other.
- Don’t fall behind!
- Do not get behind. Start homework the day it is assigned. *find a partner to work with.* collaborate.
- Keep up with the material
- Don’t wait until the last moment to work on homework
- Work in groups, bounce ideas off of each other. In the writeups, put effort into explaining the design/organization of your programs, since that’s a main focus of the class.
- Try and get ahead of your assignments... They’ll come up sooner than you think.
- Don’t wait till the night before the assignment is due to do it.