# **Georgia Institute of Technology**

## Fall 2024, ECE 2020 Digital System Design Section IE3

Instructor: Talkington, Samuel (Primary), Team-taught with:

Instructor: Kevin Johnson

There were: 50 possible respondents.



	Question Text	N	RR	Interpol. Median	3	6	9	12	15	18	18+	
1	Hours per week spent on course	39	78%	7.53	5	14	16	3	0	1	0	
					0-30	30-50	50-70	70-80	80-90	90- 100	N/A	
2	Percentage of classes attended	39	78%	94.57	1	2	3	4	8	21	0	
3	Percentage of homework completed	39	78%	94.89	0	0	2	1	4	32	0	
					Extrem	Prep	Neither	Some what	Unprepared	N/A		
5	Student preparedness to take subject	39	78%	3.84	9	16	9	4	1	0		
					Except- ional	Great Deal	Modest	Little	Nothing	N/A		
6	Amount learned in course	39	78%	4.57	21	14	3	1	0	0		
					Except- ional	V Good	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A		
7	Assignments measured knowledge	39	78%	4.61	22	13	2	1	1	0		
					Str Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Str Disagree	N/A		
8	Overall course effectiveness	39	78%	4.85	30	6	3	0	0	0		
					Except- ional	V Good	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A		
11	Instructor Clarity	39	78%	4.78	27	6	3	3	0	0		
					Str Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Str Disagree	N/A		
12	Instructor: Communicated how to succeed	39	78%	4.85	30	6	3	0	0	0		
					Except- ional	V Good	Good	Fair	Poor	N/A		
13	Instructor: Respect for students	39	78%	4.99	38	1	0	0	0	0		
					Extrem	Very	Moder- ately	Slight	Detached	N/A		
14	Instructor: Enthusiasm	39	78%	4.97	37	2	0	0	0	0		

					More Eager	Interested	No Change	Less	Ruined	N/A		
15	Instructor: Stimulates interest	39	78%	4.85	30	6	3	0	0	0		
					V Access	Access- ible	Neither	Some what	Hard to Find	N/A		
16	Instructor: Availability	39	78%	4.96	36	3	0	0	0	0		
					Extrem	Very	Moder- ately	Slight	Not	N/A		
17	Instructor: Feedback helpfulness	38	76%	4.94	34	3	1	0	0	0		
					Str Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Str Disagree	N/A		
18	Instructor: Inclusive	38	76%	4.99	36	1	0	0	0	1		
19	Instructor: Overall effectiveness	38	76%	4.92	33	4	1	0	0	0		
					Mid - 3:00	3:01- 6 a.m	6:01- 9 a.m	9:01- noon	12:01- 3 p.m	3:01- 6 p.m	6:01- 9 p.m	9:01- mid
103	Time of day evaluation completed	44	88%		1	1	1	10	9	11	8	3
					1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22+
	Classes this semester	44	88%		12	27	5	0	0	0	0	0

Text Responses
Comments about student effort
(ECE 2020) The effort was appropriate
(ECE 2020) Effort was very fair.
(ECE 2020) very appropriate
(ECE 2020) Yes
(ECE 2020) Expended effort was appropriate.
(ECE 2020) Spent the more effort than I expected to.
(ECE 2020) I studied independently to reinforce material and completed all course assignments with high effort.
(ECE 2020) It was fine I believe
(ECE 2020) I think my effort was proper and adequate for the class
(ECE 2020) Effort was very fair and professor was very accommodating when students need it.
(ECE 2020) I loved this class and was really motivated to perform well in it.

- (ECE 2020) Chill
  - (ECE 2020) Expended and expected efforts were appropriate for this course.
  - (ECE 2020) Yes, the effort was appropriate and the lectures were well informed.
  - (ECE 2020) yes
  - (ECE 2020) This course was a very fair amount of effort. I feel like it wasn't too difficult, but it was not supposed to be since it was an introductory classes. The effort was perfectly appropriate.
  - (ECE 2020) Expended reasonable effort for the course.
  - (ECE 2020) The amount of effort was I put I was expected
  - (ECE 2020) Expected
  - (ECE 2020) I believe I had an appropriate amount of effort for this course. I showed up to every lecture and completed all of my homework and assignments. I went to office hours a few times during the semester and spent time studying before each exam.
  - (ECE 2020) I did the work and ended with a good grade.
  - (ECE 2020) I did my best to learn as much as possible. I have also enjoyed a lot learning.
  - (ECE 2020) Great!

### Course best aspect

- (ECE 2020) The homework assignments were challenging and tested my understanding.
- (ECE 2020) His assignments were lowkey fun
- (ECE 2020) Lectures and Homeworks
- (ECE 2020) I really enjoyed how engaging Sam was in lecture.
- (ECE 2020) The second lab was interesting and so were the homework problems. They were modeled after more real-life situations.
- (ECE 2020) the lectures were great, all the resources we were given were very helpful, the homeworks prepared us well for the exams, the exams were fair
- (ECE 2020) Lecture slides, homework, exam prep, lecture in general
- (ECE 2020) I liked the homeworks, they balanced the theory we learned in class with real world applications to get excited about.
- (ECE 2020) Accesibility and effort from intstructor.
- (ECE 2020) Lectures was fun. Professor was great.
- (ECE 2020) Definitely learned the most in labs.
- (ECE 2020) homeworks were very helpful in preparing us for exams
- (ECE 2020) Homework
- (ECE 2020) Tests
- (ECE 2020) The best features of this course were the homework and exam review sessions
- (ECE 2020) The lectures were well prepared and the detailed feedback on all of the assignments were helpful. It was also extremely helpful to have optional redemption/correction opportunities available so that it would be possible for students to learn from their mistakes and apply that knowledge again.

- (ECE 2020) I really appreciated how interactive the course was and how supportive the instructor was in meeting student learning needs.
- (ECE 2020) Kind of felt lost in the course at times
- (ECE 2020) Homeworks, Labs, and in class engaging activities and exercises
- (ECE 2020) The lectures were the best feature of the course.
- (ECE 2020) Professor did everything he could to help and for students to have every opportunity to learn. Labs were very helpful and I attended basically every class.
- (ECE 2020) Assignments and tests were based fully on the things we were taught in class.
- (ECE 2020) I enjoyed the homework's as I felt that they were stimulating and really got me to think about what we learned in class and how I can apply what we learned in class.
- (ECE 2020) The best features of this course was definitely the homework. Before completing the homework I was often unsure of a few topics but after completing the homework I always felt like I had learned a lot about the topics and was very prepared for the exams.
- (ECE 2020) Tests are great.
- (ECE 2020) Luctures and homework
- (ECE 2020) Great interaction with students.
- (ECE 2020) Lectures

## Course improvements

- (ECE 2020) I thought the work we had to put in for the lab reports was a little excessive but not awful, still found them valuable.
- (ECE 2020) The labs, given that they were circuit simulators instead of actual circuits, were a little underwhelming. I don't know if it is feasible to build physical circuits but it would be more interesting.
- (ECE 2020) Seemed stressed by questions
- (ECE 2020) NA
- (ECE 2020) I wish homework and test problems were more similar to the problems we saw during lecture.
- (ECE 2020) Hands On Components
- (ECE 2020) More practice tests
- (ECE 2020) Maybe with more accurate practice exams?
- (ECE 2020) If time permits, it would be helpful to go through some more application based problems in lecture, in similar difficulty to the ones in labs and homeworks. Sometimes it feels like I am missing some information or need more examples to fully understand how to do homework and lab problems.
- (ECE 2020) N/A
- (ECE 2020) The labs could've been fixed and adjusted
- (ECE 2020) Not in many ways, the professor was near amazing
- (ECE 2020) Maybe implement a semester long project instead of having 4 exams and a final.
- (ECE 2020) Maybe more structure in grading, but thats it. To be fair, this was this professor's first class ever and it was also my best experience so far at tech.
- (ECE 2020) None.

- (ECE 2020) Labs could be confusing
- (ECE 2020) I felt the pacing was a bit slow, but I understand that is because not everyone has done boolean algebra before, or have seen logic gates before.
- (ECE 2020) I really enjoyed the course and don't have any ideas for improvement.
- (ECE 2020) N/A
- (ECE 2020) More confidence in teaching
- (ECE 2020) Everything was great.
- (ECE 2020) Liked the class as it was!

#### **Instructor greatest strength**

- (ECE 2020) He was the most enthusiastic professor I've ever had during my academic career.
- (ECE 2020) So compassionate!
- (ECE 2020) He is so very passionate and happy every time he comes to lecture. It made me happy to be in the class even though I wasnt excited to take this class. Sam is a very thoughtful and caring person and made sure we were all as prepared as possible for all of our assignments. I enjoyed having him as a professor very much.
- (ECE 2020) Energy and enthusiasm. One of the best professors I have had. His energy and enthusiasm for the material is infectious and inspiring.
- (ECE 2020) great concern for the students, really wants everyone to understand and develop the same passion he has for the subject. clearly put in a lot of effort into everything, particularly in developing new resources for us (exams, hws, practice problems). great lectures, very helpful homeworks. Thank you for a great semester!
- (ECE 2020) Willingness to do whatever it took for his students to succeed. He was so kind, so helpful, and enthusiastic. I felt valued in that class
- (ECE 2020) His passion for this course and his care for the students, I honestly have never had a teacher care more about the success of his students than Sam did. Also, it is clear how much he loves electrical engineering, and his enthusiasm made me more eager to learn.
- (ECE 2020) Enthusiasm and obvious s effort and accessibility
- (ECE 2020) Very enthusiastic.
- (ECE 2020) His enthusiasm and interest in administering an effective course.
- (ECE 2020) very caring and helpful and went out of his way to ensure we had everything we needed to succeed
- (ECE 2020) Relatability, this instructor cared a lot about students.
- (ECE 2020) He is awesome and cool
- (ECE 2020) The greatest strength was how much he cared about the course and his students. He was honestly just amazing overall and hands-down the best professor I've ever had the privilege to learn under.
- (ECE 2020) Sam's enthusiasm about the material in this course while he was presenting it made me more eager to engage and participate; his teaching style is definitely not boring. He is also focused on feedback and improvement, which is also a great quality to have.
- (ECE 2020) The effort was clearly there. Sam went the extra mile to make sure students felt adequately prepared for all assignments and assessments, worked hard to give robust feedback on assignments and always was open for consultation and assistance. He was enthusiastic and welcoming and a great professor.
- (ECE 2020) Willingness to work with the students
- (ECE 2020) The instructor cares a LOT about his students. He made sure everyone was up to speed on the topics we were learning and did everything in his power to accommodate for all students.

(ECE 2020) Professor was very accommodating towards students. Listened to our requests and tried his best to fit everyones needs. Gave us multiple extra opportunities to succeed in the class.

(ECE 2020) I think his passion and enthusiasm was most striking and impactful. He genuinely really cared about the material and being a good teacher.

(ECE 2020) Caring for students and making sure they had every opportunity to learn the material.

(ECE 2020) He cared heavily about the students, and was always open to accommodate if any student had a valid excuse to not turn in an assignment on time.

(ECE 2020) Very chill and accessible professor.

(ECE 2020) Professor Talkington was one of, if not the most enthusiastic professors I have had at Georgia Tech so far. It is crystal clear that he cares about teaching, the material he is teaching, and fostering an appreciation for what he is teaching us. It made listening to his lectures so much easier because anyone could see how much he cared, and how hard he worked to make sure we understood what he was teaching.

(ECE 2020) Sam was a great professor. His greatest strength was definitely his interest in the course and his care for his students. I can tell from the work he put into the assignments and lectures that he really cared about helping students learn the material.

(ECE 2020) Great Teacher, genuinely cares about his students

(ECE 2020) He was very enthusiastic and empathetic throughout the class

(ECE 2020) Great interaction with students helped.

(ECE 2020) Made the class engaging and was understanding.

#### **Instructor improvements**

(ECE 2020) Flawless

(ECE 2020) There were times when Sam would make an error on topics which was confusing in turn. However, he always would make sure to correct himself and make sure we fully understood the topic afterwards.

(ECE 2020) Honestly, I'm giving you a big thumbs up. First time teaching and you did great. I'm sure any kinks in your teaching will be worked out as you gain experience.

(ECE 2020) I really do not have any critiques, I thought Sam was an effective instructor in terms of delivering the material. In addition to this critical part of teaching, he was passionate about the material and consistently went above and beyond for his students.

(ECE 2020) Maybe try to answer questions without a startled look and perhaps a more relaxed demeanor. We all thought you were grand.

(ECE 2020) I would often get really confused when we were working through problems during class, which then resulted in me being confused when it came to the homework. I think instruction could be a lot more clear and by giving steps on how to approach the types of problems. I also think the assignments in this class are not weighted fairly. Even though I have done really well on all the homeworks, tests and labs I may not get an A because I missed some of the classes we had the participation quizzes. I did attend most classes but got unlucky that the ones I chose to miss had the quizzes. I think we should have more predictable attendance checks. Either every class should have them so that missing a couple doesn't affect your overall grade so much or they should be more consistent. I didn't attend all classes because I had learned most of the content in another class and wanted to use my time as effectively as possible.

(ECE 2020) Maybe, have in person component labs like hands on.

(ECE 2020) He is literally perfect, cannot improve

(ECE 2020) No way

(ECE 2020) Sometimes, more complicated questions that are asked during lectures or labs are answered in a way that lacks structure/clarity, so the answer ends up being difficult to follow. Other than that, everything's great.

(ECE 2020) A bit more structure when presenting new definitions or context setting up a topic could help aid effectiveness of lectures. Sometimes when introducing new concepts, professor would go too fast and other times spend too much time on concepts we have already gone over a lot.

(ECE 2020) A little more organized and structured lectures

(ECE 2020) Honestly, there are not any ways I can think of, the professor was beyond amazing!

(ECE 2020) Be more assertive when asking questions towards the class. Can call out students to have a more engaging environment to promote learning.

(ECE 2020) I think sometimes he went too far in being accommodating to students' requests. I think sometimes a date has to be set and people will figure out how to get it done. I understand that it is challenging to do that especially being newer to teaching.

(ECE 2020) None.

(ECE 2020) N/A.

(ECE 2020) I think the lecture slides could be improved.

(ECE 2020) This was Professor Talkington's first semester teaching, so organization is his biggest area of improvement as he was adjusting to teaching, and finding his rhythm. For future semesters, I would recommend having a clearer plan from the start, as the direction and pacing of the course was unclear at times. Of course, because this was the professors first time teaching the course, and since he made pretty much all the course materials, judging how fast the course should move, and expecting everything to be prepared ahead of time is unreasonable, so I hope Professor Talkington uses what he learned this semester, to be better organize the course, and hopefully, not lose so much sleep next time.

(ECE 2020) N/A

(ECE 2020) More confidence even when mistakes were made

(ECE 2020) All good.

(ECE 2020) I liked the instruction the way it was and I felt that I learned a lot from the course!