Item Frequency Report Filter Results

Python Programming - 2014-05-05 to 2013-05-09

1. Please check the box for each question that represents your opinion (1 to 5 where 5 is the highest rating):	Response Percent	Response Total
The presentation was informative.		
1	**0%**	**0**
2	**0%**	**0**
3	**0%**	**0**
4	**8%**	**1**
5	**92%**	**12**
Total Responses	**13**	
The instructor was knowledgeable of the materials.		
1	**0%**	**0**
2	**0%**	**0**
3	**0%**	**0**
4	**15%**	**2**
5	**85%**	**11**
Total Responses	**13**	
The instructor was effective in delivering the materials.		
1	**0%**	**0**
2	**0%**	**0**
3	**0%**	**0**
4	**23%**	**3**
5	**77%**	**10**
Total Responses	**13**	
I will be able to use the skills learned in my current job.		
1	**0%**	**0**
2	**0%**	**0**
3	**0%**	**0**
4	**31%**	**4**
5	**69%**	**9**
Total Responses	**13**	

2. The length of the class was:	Response Percent	Response Total
Too Short	**15%**	**2**
Just Right	**85%**	**11**

Too Long		**0%**	**0**
	Total Responses	**13**	

4. Would you recommend this class to others?		**Response Percent**	**Response Total**
Yes		**100%**	**13**
No		**0%**	**0**
	Total Responses	**13**	

3. How could the course be improved for future offerings?

1. The course was excellent. I was not able to complete the course, but really learned a good deal with the time I spent.
2. Some background reading might be helpful in advance of the course - common vocabulary and terms used in the lectures, for those unfamiliar with similar languages. While I got a lot out of the course, I felt like I had missed a necessary prerequisite, even though none was required. I commented that the class was "too short", not because of any fault with the class itself, but just because this is such a huge topic to cover and 5 days is not really enough. Not sure how this might be fixed. Perhaps there should be multiple courses, at different levels of expertise?
3. I think this class was just perfect. I really liked that he kept the class involved everyday by asking us a lot of questions. It made us stay on our toes and pay attention. I also liked that he asked us to close our laptops during the class.
4. Perhaps the only thing in this case would be to try to inform the students regarding configuration needed to start the class at the time of signing; specially given the different OS systems used. This will ensure they have the proper configuration in their systems from the get go. Other than that, I think there was very good interactive style of class.
5. I'd like to see how functions written in different files collaborate together to make one large project. As is, all functions are defined in one script and we only run that script. In reality we make millions of scripts to work on one project. I'd like to see what kind of import modules are useful in real life. One of the things that confuse me about Python is that there are millions of modules out there and I have hard time looking for the right one.
6. The course would be improved if notes were provided in addition to the sample code. We were discouraged from using our laptops during class so we couldn't write our own notes. Some of the material would have been more effectively delivered if the instructor provided some diagrams of the data structure concepts. For example, the concepts of addresses and copied/mutable/immutable data structures might have been made clearer through the use of "box and pointer" diagrams.
7. More practice would be nice, but that may not be doable given the length of the course and the amount of material covered.
8. I think if the instructions for getting everything installed (python, github, coverage) were more clear it would be more helpful. It was unclear that we didn't need to create our own repo. There also seemed to be similar issues that a lot of us ran into, perhaps having common workarounds/steps for installing might be helpful. Once the class started and everything was installed, it was great!
9.
10. For myself Wednesday and first half of Thursday were the most valuable parts. More drilling on OO design would have been my preference (of course, that's based on my particular background).
11. I think an additional hour of instruction each day would make the length just right. I would have liked to do an example of how to read in a file and modify it, because that is what a lot of scripts we need for Juno will have to do. A lot of what we practiced definitely provided the foundation for this though. That additional hour would allow us to spend more time on the example on the final day and learn more about the standard I/O. Overall I felt like the method of teaching was really great for me, and the Socratic method kept me involved and focused. The incorporation of a few more *short* quizzes on the Wednesday and Thursday lessons would be beneficial, since they are long lessons with a lot to absorb. The exercises were extremely effective.
12. A session on other application areas that Python can effectively support, such as web programming, networking, or GUI programming, and an example of each, would provide a more general and complete description of Python.

13. One week was too short for this type of class, especially for someone relatively new to programming like me, so it might have been better if it was few more days longer.

5. General Comments:

1. Great Course!

2. The instructor was very enthusiastic and engaged, and kept the class' attention over many hours of instruction. In his enthusiasm, instructor needs to be careful not to talk over student comments/questions. Examples and quizzes were informative, but more specific instructions might be helpful on some of them. I learned a great deal, but I expect some of it went over my head, given my lack of experience: I have experimented with some inherited Python code for work; I also spent some time with the lynda.com and google Python courses in advance of the class. The material in these two courses was vaguely helpful, though the material covered in the JPL course did not have signifiant overlap with either of the two I completed prior to the JPL course. Overall this was a very informative course and I would recommend it, though I'd strongly recommend that future students familiarize themselves with "Comp Sci 101" and/or experiment with some equivalent of "Python for Dummies" before taking the course to get the most out of it.

3. I really enjoyed the style of class and the approach of teaching the instructor had; it really made everyone participate in some way.

4. This course was really really helpful. Thank you for offering this!

5. The interactivity of the course was extremely effective. Being called upon to answer questions about the behavior of code forces students to think and remain focused. The group exercises were very effective at reinforcing the concepts.

6. Great instructor, very energetic and engaging!

7. This course exceeded my expectations. I was expecting on being rather bored and also completely lost (my programming skills are lacking). I really enjoyed how interactive the class. I liked that Glenn called on us randomly which sort of forced us to pay attention. I also like the exercises we got which gave us a break from the lecture to more hands on. I would totally want to take another class taught by Glenn!

8. I had the idea (not sure where from -- perhaps entirely of my own invention) that the class was for "advanced" python, or particular to OO python for those already familiar with the basics. As I have been programming python for about 5 years, some of the content was naturally not new to me. Nevertheless, I stuck with it because I found it was a good review and I was getting a new tidbit or insight with some regularity.

9. It is definitely important to note in the class description that some background in programming is almost required. If I had not had experience with the structure of functions and running code in a terminal, I would have fallen behind very quickly. Overall the class was an excellent experience and Glenn was a very engaging and enthusiastic professor. I really enjoyed the opportunity to be in his class! Thank you!

10. I learned a lot from the class, and Glen is very enthusiastic about teaching the material and making the class exciting.

11. There needs to be a follow-on course a year later at a higher level, possibly incorporating user-submitted design/implementation problems. I did not write the statement above, it was there on default, but I do agree with it.