

Final Evaluation (CTEF Numeric) (TA) for Mamano Grande, Nil COMPSCI 163 LEC A (34200), Spring Qtr 2017

Responses: 121/169 (71.6%)

A. Please comment on the following areas and be as specific as possible:

1. What are the Teaching Assistant's teaching strengths?

- -
- - good at explaining concepts and giving examples - super nice!! :D
- - High quality lecturer, great at explaining concepts - Great at keeping the lecture focused on the course material
- .
- Able to "dumb down" concepts for an easier understanding for the students.
- Always engaging with students in the class, goes above and beyond to ensure all the material is understood, answers all questions in an understandable way, and is very prompt.
- amount of effort into making difficult topics simpler.
- Being clear on what's important, being diligent in giving solutions to things
- best TA ever. great at explaining things clearly and in an easy to understand way. keeps on top of topics and great reviews. seriously though, I've had him a few times now and he's my absolute favorite cs ta.
- Clear, smart, transparent and responsive.
- clear explanation, strong mathematical backgrounds.
- Clearly explains the problems that students are having problem with.
- Everything
- everything, he is a god
- Explained the concepts well, very responsive, helped as much as he could to prepare for our exams
- Explains concepts super clearly and is very responsive on Piazza, also the final reviews are very helpful!
- Explains well, gives great examples, always answers questions on piazza.
- Extremely helpful and responsive for anything required related to the class. Provides explanations and solutions for homework problems. The study sessions before the midterm and final were extremely helpful.
- Gale Shapely and Graph coloring was very well presented
- Good
- Good at explaining topics
- Good at describing concepts and very accessible over Piazza.
- Good explanations. Very good at answering questions posted by students. Puts forward a lot of effort to help students understand.
- Great! Answers questions quickly, thoroughly, and correctly.
- Great TA, clear lecture, helped a lot
- Great TA but a bit too serious
- Has really good example and goes slow enough for the students to grasp the material
- He's good to going over concept of the materials.
- He does a really good job covering the material whenever we do review sessions.

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- He ensures every single question on Piazza is answered, holds helpful review sessions, creates and posts a bunch of supplementary documents, etc. Essentially, he is the god of TAs.
- He is always responsive on Piazza and in office hours.
- He is clear and gives great presentation slides. During his presentations, he was able to interact with students and allowed students to visualize and answer questions.
- He is helpful and patient
- He is patient and answers questions fast
- He is perfect.
- He is very active in communicating with students. He provides great review sessions.
- helpful, explains concepts well, willing to help, goes above and beyond
- Helpful and responsive. Gives clear explanations of concepts and helps us focus on the material that is important to the class. In addition, goes out of the way to help students such as providing solutions for the homeworks.
- Helpful Reachable
- He made it very easy to explain the material
- He really cares about his students and goes above and beyond to make things work and help us study.
- He takes the effort to explain basic concepts thoroughly. His example of perfect matching was very helpful for me and clear my concepts for it better than the readings would have. He looks like he genuinely loves teaching. He made a kahoot review quiz for us which was great.
- He was always open and accessible. Whenever you had a questions he was happy to help and was always very nice. The solutions to the homeworks was very helpful in better understanding the materials.
- Knowledgeable, extremely helpful in office hours, approachable, responsive on Piazza. Always goes above and beyond to help students learn the material.
- Knowledgeable. Passionate. Keeps students engaged.
- Nil is an amazing TA. He cares about us, he tries his best to help us when understanding, and he's easy to contact. He's a great TA.
- Nil is an awesome TA
- Nil is a phenomenal TA. He is the greatest TA that I've had at UCI. 10/10 would recommend. Make him a professor NOW. He can legit teach his own course. He is organized, clear, responsive, and helpful.
- Nil is by far the best TA I have had in my 4 years at university. I am not just using hyperbole when I say that. He is awesome. You can tell he puts a ton of work into his teaching material and really cares that the students understand the material. Honestly, I wish Nil taught the course instead of GR. I think he is fair and honest. When he doesn't know something
- Nil is extremely accessible and always willing to help.
- Nil is nothing short of extraordinary. He takes the time to make sure that all questions on Piazza are answered - by himself - and gives detailed responses. He is approachable and makes you think before he will help you directly with the answer. He even helped me get some points back on my midterm when he realized I did the work correctly even though I made a bad assumption at the beginning of my answer. Thank you for a great final quarter of college, Nil!
- Nil is one of the best TAs I've had the pleasure to have for a class. He's actively answering questions and always responds to students, holds various office hour meeting times throughout the week, holds review sessions using his own material/slides. Nil really goes above and beyond what I would normally expect from a TA. He's extremely knowledgeable in the field and has no problem sharing his knowledge in a way that could probably help people without a background in CS understand it.

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- Nil is very attentive and helpful to students, and always makes himself available. He is patient, and explains concepts very clearly and thoroughly. All in all, he goes above and beyond to make sure that students truly understand the depth of the material.
- Nil is very good at lecturing. He goes above and beyond the responsibilities of a normal TA to make sure the students learn the material. He puts aside extra time for review sessions to help the students. He is extremely busy on Piazza answering student questions.
- Nil teaches with examples that help you understand the topic being taught. Unlike other professors that try to teach at a really low level. Nil teaches in between, he teaches you the low level stuff but also supplements it with a high level explanation. This helps me really drive the importance of the topic home.
- Oh man, Nil has been my TA for 161 Algorithms and this course and hands down throughout my time at UCI he has been the best TA in my academic career. I have 2 degrees, and throughout my 7 years in higher education, he has been the most thorough at explaining difficult concepts. He holds extra office hours and additional midterm/final reviews. Nil you're a great guy, and I personally thank you for making my time at UCI more pleasurable.
- One of the best TAs everyone has ever had.
- Passionate about the material and is the one the TA at this school that actually likes to be a TA it seems.
- pretty knowledgeable, and really accessible. Tries to simplify things to a good level.
- Really great on piazza! a lot of help for homeworks, tests, and general questions.
- Really responsive to questions and comes up with really good examples when explaining a concept or helping with a homework question.
- Responding quickly student's on Piazza, providing many office hours, providing review sessions, and pretty much any type of resources needed for a student to do well in the class.
- Responsive, great material, cares a lot
- Smart
- Super responsible and accessible. Every piazza post has his explanation and effort. Holding extra sessions for exams. Going to lecture every time. Very nice and helpful.
- TA is very responsive, devoted, knowledgeable, and well-respected by all students.
- The TA is able to explain concepts clearly and at a good pace.
- This TA is very good at explaining concepts to students to help them get a better grasp of the material. His explanations / lectures / study sessions helped a lot, and he always posted his notes online. He also posted exam study question answers on Piazza, which was also very helpful for students' studying. His office hours are also helpful.
- Understood student's perspective. Gave interesting interactive examples during lecture
- Very, very helpful and responsive. Goes above and beyond to help the class by preparing detailed responses and examples. Good work.
- Very accessible, does his best to help online and in person, comes up with great examples.
- Very active on forums like piazza, provided solutions to practice exams and homeworks when the professor did not provide one. Very clear explanation of the subject during his lectures and review sessions.
- Very engaging and responsive, always helpful in office hours and gives excellent responses on Piazza.
- Very helpful Fast response
- Very helpful in all aspects
- Very helpful when asked questions. Explains concepts very well and very clearly. Also very nice.

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- Very knowledgeable about the subject, clearly passionate about it. He is great at explaining things, and he seems to enjoy teaching.
- Very knowledgeable, puts in extra time to answer questions on Piazza and to host review sessions, cares about students, good lecturer
- Very responsive (on Piazza). Holds review sessions. The class seems to admire him a lot.
- Was really helpful in the the few lectures and review sessions he did. Did a great job of conveying material to the class and making difficult concepts seem really easy to understand. Was also always quick to respond to questions on piazza and gave very clear and helpful answers.
- When Nil teaches, he makes sure we students truly understand what we're being taught. He gives demonstrations (either with students, writes psuedocode/code, or draws figures) to clearly show how algorithms or proofs work and keeps us engaged. Nil also efficiently teaches, as in, he doesn't take too little or too much time to teach on the subject at hand. He's also pretty quick and detailed in responding to questions we have on Piazza.
- Willing to work with students and will adjust schedule to meet with students needs. Answers
- 39 blank answer(s).

2. How can this TA improve as a teacher?

- -
- - Not really a "teaching" improvement, but it was hard to hear your voice at times. I would turn the mic up a bit.
- .
- Although he is already a good lecturer, he could use more practice.
- Although repetition is good in explanations, I feel like sometimes Nil went over something more times than was necessary in order to drive a point home. Sometimes I felt like we spent longer on one topic than was necessary for the class to understand.
- Be more relaxed
- Concept explanations vague at times.
- Could speak louder (in lecture). Some of the "participation-based" teaching methods were a bit contrived.
- Fine as is
- Give more details on the homework feedback
- He's already one of the best TAs in UCI
- He's great.
- He's the best TA I've ever had at UCI. I wish more graduate/PHD students were like him.
- He can be a bit more vocal by encouraging class to participate more.
- He can go over more examples.
- He is amazing as is and provides enough help to the students that nothing needs to be improved on.
- He is great at translating his thoughts and breaking down concepts during office hours. It would be helpful if we had discussion for this class, but office hours were great.
- He is perfect.
- He needs to speak louder when teaching. I think it might be caused by nerves, but he is extremely knowledgeable and should teach with confidence.
- Hopcroft algorithm for maximum cardinality was glossed over even though it was probably the hardest algorithm for me to grasp

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- In lectures, could speak a little louder.
- I think Nil is the best TA at UCI, so I can't think of anything.
- I think the only thing he can improve is his oral English skill. During the sessions, i sometime could not understand his words, but he is always trying to make sure that every one in clear. though it may waste a little time.
- Keep doing what he is doing.
- Keep improving your pronnunciation. I had you in 161, and I think you have improved since last quarter but just keep working. Listen to podcasts, watch films, hear the language as much as possible and you will naturally improve.
- More examples when teaching the class for better understanding at first.
- more review sessions
- n/a
- N/A
- n/a
- N/A
- n/a
- N/A
- N/A he's too good.
- Nil's good but he just needs to develop his confidence and become more relaxed/bold in front of a class - I'm sure this will come over time, though.
- Nil has seriously done everything possible to help the students!
- None
- None
- None.
- None.
- Not be afraid to talk about the concepts at a more intricate level.
- Nothing
- Nothing, he is one of the best TAs I've had at UCI.
- Nothing.
- nothing.
- Nothing I can think of
- Not much, he's great.
- Not possible. Nil is amazing.
- Perhaps break things done more thoroughly on slides. Some of us learn easier by visualizing the actions. Notations and words can be too abstract.
- Please hold discussion section. Your discussion section is very helpful
- Practice, he is still relatively new to teaching. With time he will be excellent professor, but he needs to keep practicing giving lectures. And by that I mean that he still gets a little bit nervous, but then again he is already doing a great job.
- Practice makes perfect? I guess he could provide step by step solutions, but he's already pretty great.
- probably just know the material more thoroughly...
- Should prepare longer lectures

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- Sometimes, He goes a bit too fast but that is probably due to time constraint over anything else.
- Speak a bit louder because sometimes I am not able to hear in the back
- Speak and enunciate a little better
- Speak more confidently and louder. Don't get sidetracked for too long by odd questions from others.
- Talk a little louder. He talks very low and that makes it seem like he is not confident. Which I know is not the case because I know he is very well educated on the topic.
- The lectures that Nil presented can sometimes become convoluted and unclear. Although this was not always the case, I think Nil can benefit from more practice as a lecturer.
- Though he's good at holding discussions (as I remember from two quarters ago), his style isn't exactly compatible with the lecture format. In his substitute lecture, his explanations didn't seem very clear to me (except for the interactive demo part) and he missed a few raised hands because he looks down a lot when thinking.
- When he lectured, I felt that he rushed some parts. He can slow down at times.
- 59 blank answer(s).

3. Any other comments about this course?

- -
- .
- Algorithm classes are not for me, but they made the class enjoyable for me.
- Best TA ever
- Enjoyed graphs very much, please TA more algorithms courses next year!
- Hands down one of the best TA's at UCI
- He's the best TA I've had at UCI. No contest.
- He is perfect.
- made this class really fun
- Make sure you lecture on your research in more detail in subsequent quarters! Oh, and the Gale-Shapley algorithm run-through we did in class was a really good example. I would incorporate examples like that into lectures and study materials more often.
- N/A
- N/A
- n/a
- N/A
- N/A
- needs discussions in addition to lecture
- Nil, Thank you! Thank you for having you to be my TA through out the upper-division algorithm courses. I'm graduating this quarter, and wish you all the best.
- Nil did so great with his lectures in class.
- Nil is literally the best TA ive ever had
- Nil is probably the best TA I've had in college so far.
- Nil made the course easier and more interesting. I appreciate him a lot
- no
- No

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- No
- No
- no
- No.
- None
- None.
- None.
- official discussion section might be helpful
- Probably my favorite TA ever so far.
- Thank you, Nil, for all the work and effort you put into our class! We really appreciate it! Hope you have a great summer!
- Thank you Nil for being an awesome TA.
- The course was great, keep up the good work.
- The TA has been really helpful throughout the course. Thank you very much! You're awesome Nil!
- Tough course, lots of material to cover (perhaps too much)
- very fun glad nil was the TA.
- Wish there were discussion times for this class. That way, there's a set time for Nil (or other TAs) to review and discuss about subjects we learned in class.
- 82 blank answer(s).

B. Please choose the appropriate rating:

If you have no opinion on the question asked or if it does not apply, please select "Not Applicable."

4. The course TA shows enthusiasm for and is interested in the subject.

96	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
17	8	Value: 8
3	7	Value: 7
0	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.80	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.46	Std Dev	

5. The course TA stimulates your interest in the subject.

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91	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
11	8	Value: 8
10	7	Value: 7
4	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.63	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.78	Std Dev	

6. The course TA meets stated objectives of the course.

103	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
7	8	Value: 8
6	7	Value: 7
0	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.84	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.49	Std Dev	

7. The course TA is accessible and responsive.

108	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
5	8	Value: 8
2	7	Value: 7
0	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
1	Not Applicable	No Value
8.92	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.33	Std Dev	

8. The course TA creates an open and fair learning environment.

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101	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
10	8	Value: 8
3	7	Value: 7
1	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
1	Not Applicable	No Value
8.83	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.49	Std Dev	

9. The course TA encourages students to think in this course.

95	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
13	8	Value: 8
7	7	Value: 7
0	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.77	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.55	Std Dev	

10. The course TA's presentations and explanations of concepts were clear.

90	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
18	8	Value: 8
7	7	Value: 7
1	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.70	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.62	Std Dev	

11. Assignments and exams covered important aspects of the course.

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91	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
14	8	Value: 8
5	7	Value: 7
2	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
1	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
3	Not Applicable	No Value
8.69	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.77	Std Dev	

12. What overall evaluation would you give this teaching assistant?

101	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
10	8	Value: 8
5	7	Value: 7
0	6 (Good)	Value: 6
0	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
0	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.83	Mean	
9.00	Median	
0.48	Std Dev	

13. What overall evaluation would you give this course?

77	9 (Excellent)	Value: 9
25	8	Value: 8
6	7	Value: 7
6	6 (Good)	Value: 6
1	5	Value: 5
0	4	Value: 4
1	3 (Fair)	Value: 3
0	2	Value: 2
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	Value: 1
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	Value: 0
0	Not Applicable	No Value
8.44	Mean	
9.00	Median	
1.01	Std Dev	

C. Please answer:

14. Based on completed assignments thus far, what is your current course grade or approximate standing?

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49	A	Value: 4
53	B	Value: 3
7	C	Value: 2
0	D	Value: 1
0	F	Value: 0
7	NA	No Value
3.39	Mean	
3.00	Median	
0.60	Std Dev	

15. How much academic dishonesty seemed to occur in this course? If applicable, please describe the type of academic dishonesty that occurred (not the particular students involved).

1.

- 1** A lot
- 1** Some
- 3** A little
- 110** None I could discern

2. Examples:

- A few homework solutions could be found online.
- Homework was graded toughly in my opinion. I had trouble getting help on homework, but I know other people that could easily find others to help, which isn't academic dishonesty, but I just figured I'd comment on it here.
- 119 blank answer(s).

16. How helpful were the textbooks and/or readings to your overall learning experience?

- 34** Very
- 37** Adequately
- 33** Somewhat
- 11** Not at all

17. How challenging was this course?

- 23** Very
- 77** Adequately
- 12** Somewhat
- 3** Not at all