



myExperience Report

Term 1, 2020

Faculty: Faculty of Engineering

School: School of Computer Sci & Eng

Course: COMP3231/COMP3891/COMP9201/COMP9283 Operating Systems

Evaluation period: Apr 14 2020 12:00AM - May 1 2020 12:00AM

Course Report (Aggregate)

Comparison of results for "Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course"

This course: COMP3231/COMP3891/COMP9201/COMP9283 Operating Systems

Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course	
Statistics	Value
Response Count	113
Mean	5.27
% Agreement	95.6%

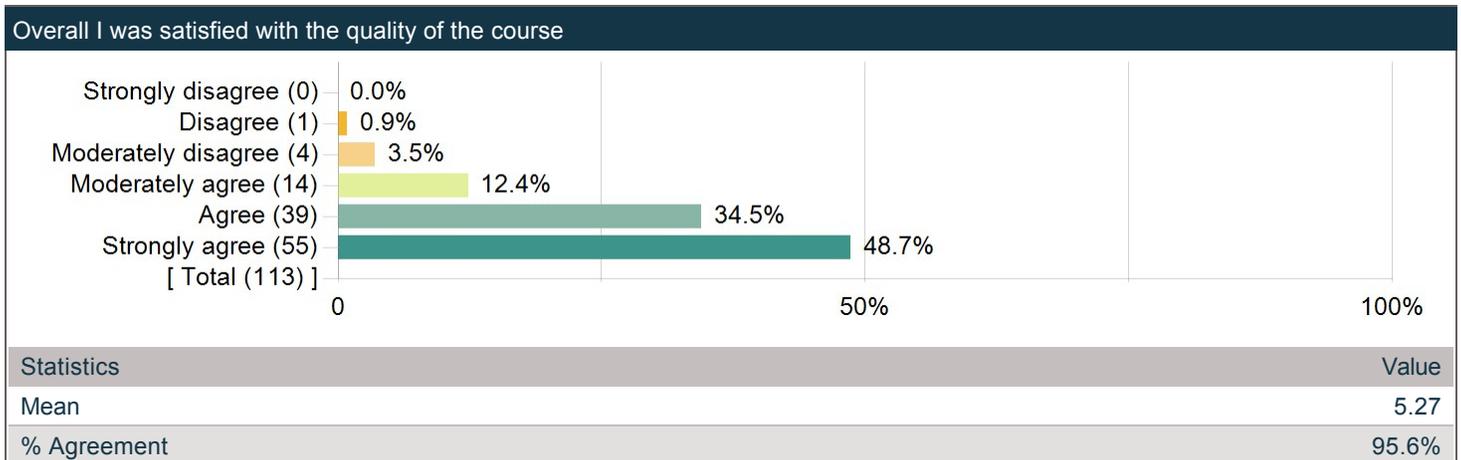
SCHOOL: School of Computer Sci & Eng

Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course	
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.63
% Agreement	84.4%

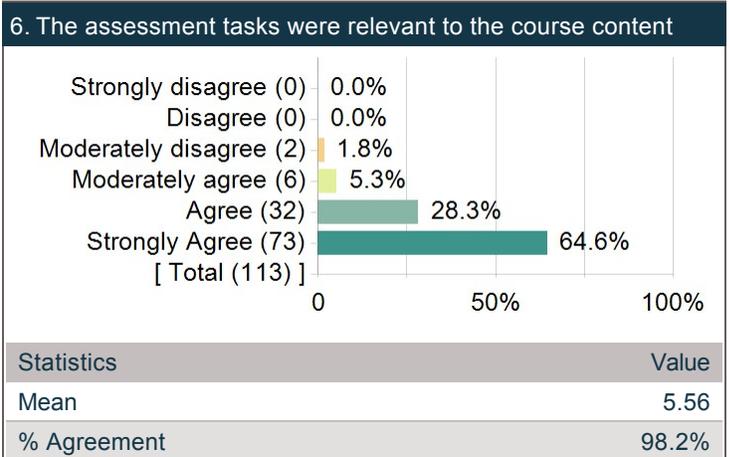
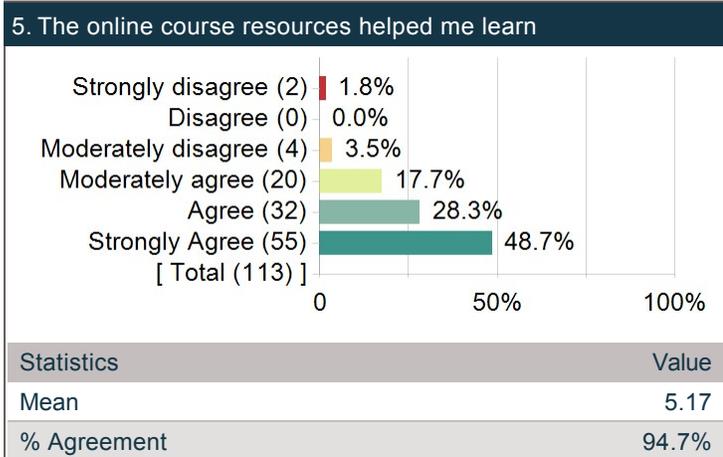
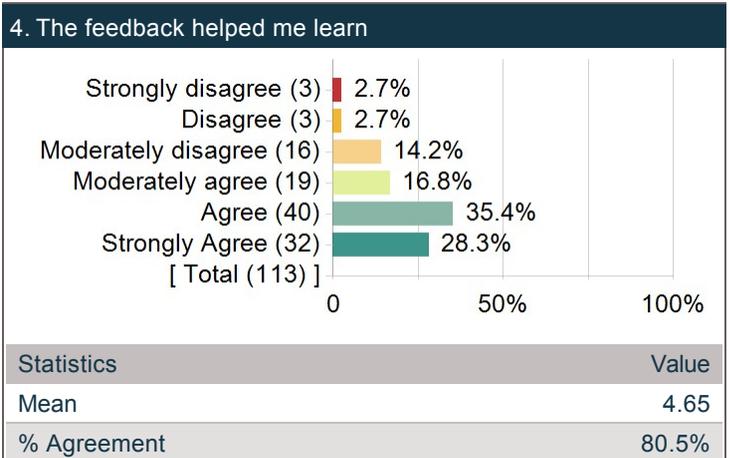
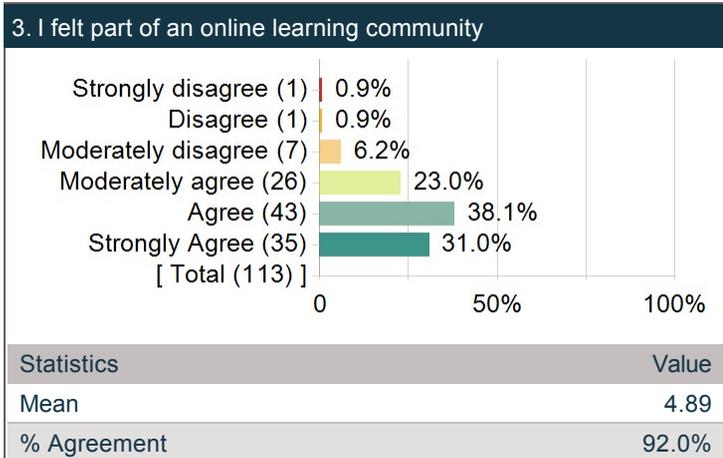
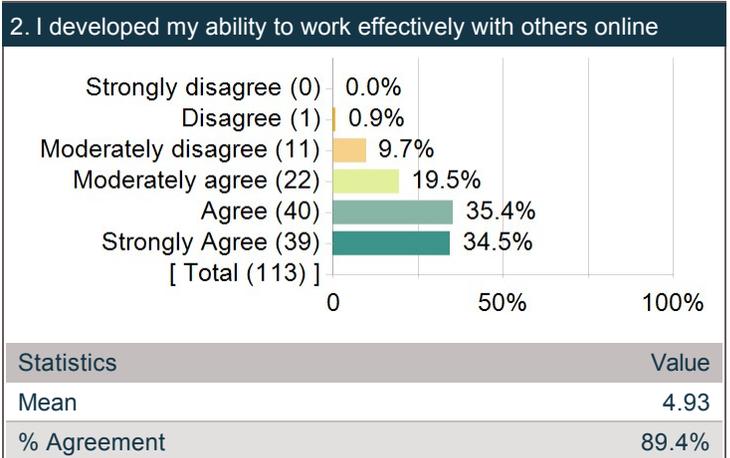
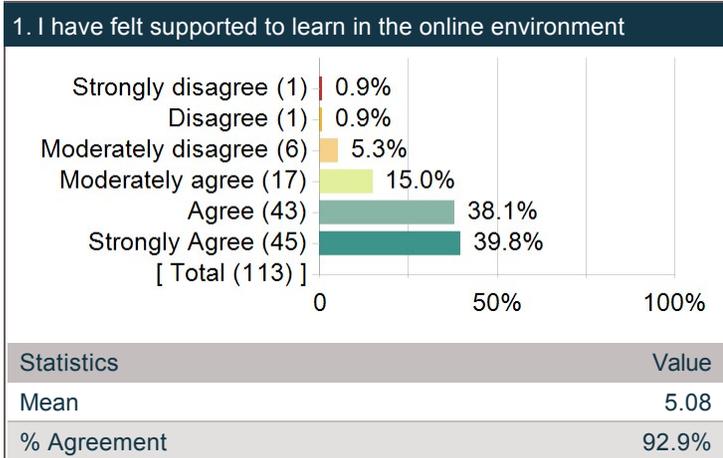
FACULTY: Faculty of Engineering

Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course	
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.51
% Agreement	82.1%

Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course



Course Questions

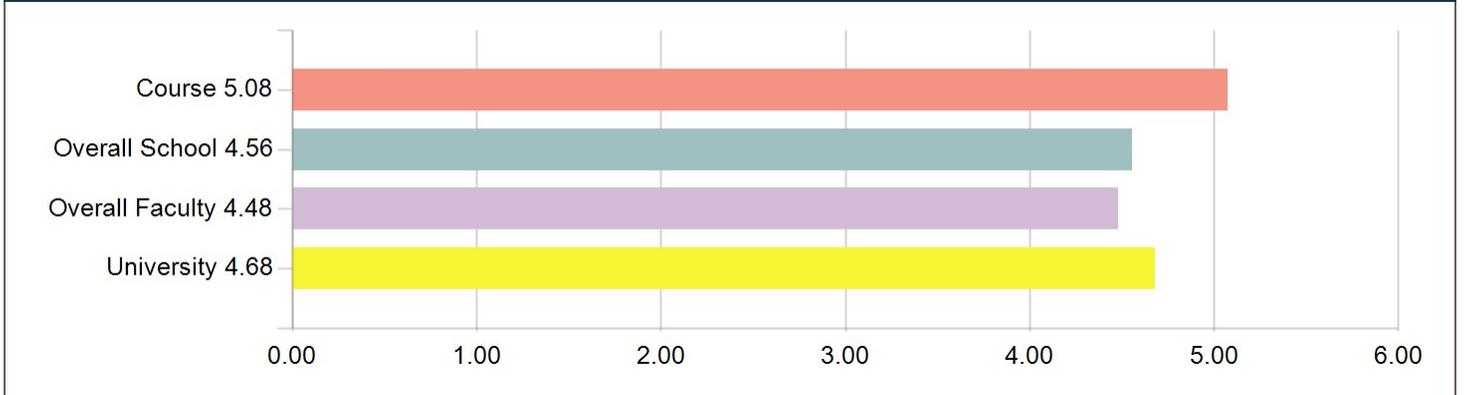


Comparison Statistics

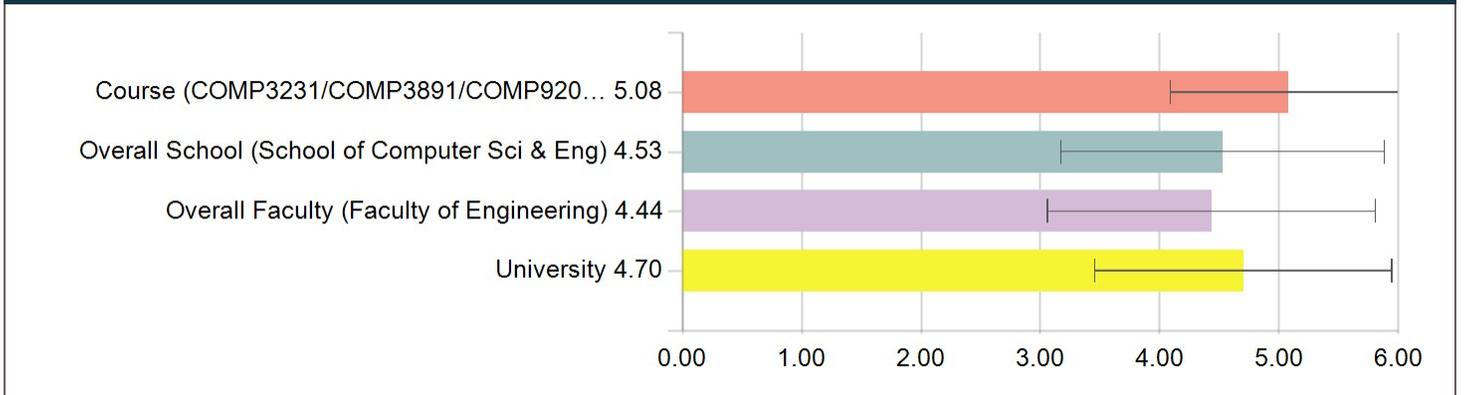
Mean (average student responses between 1 and 6) and StandardDev (Standard deviation of student responses) are used for comparison statistics between Course, School, Faculty and University.

StandardDev

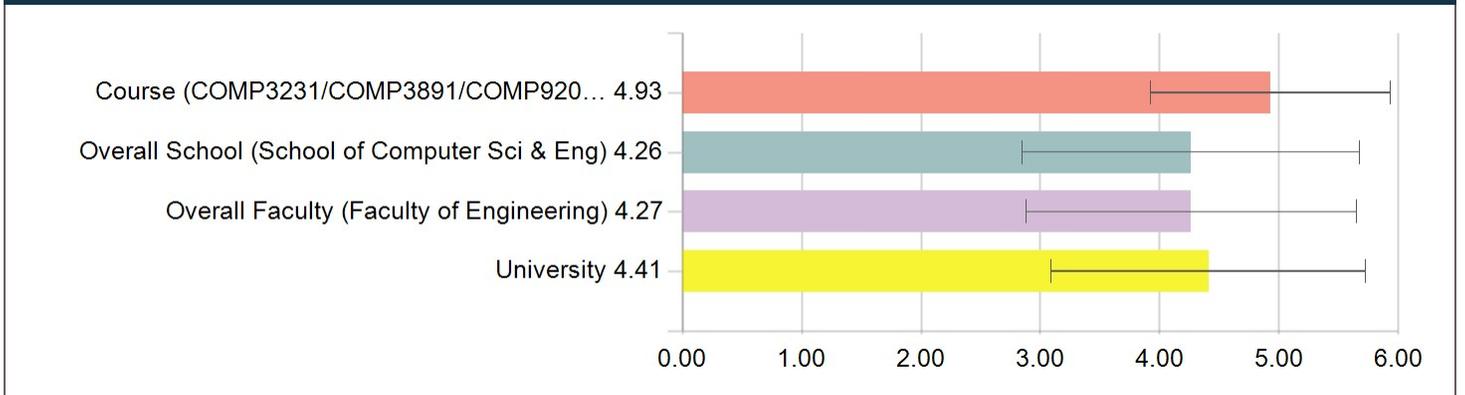
Mean across all responses



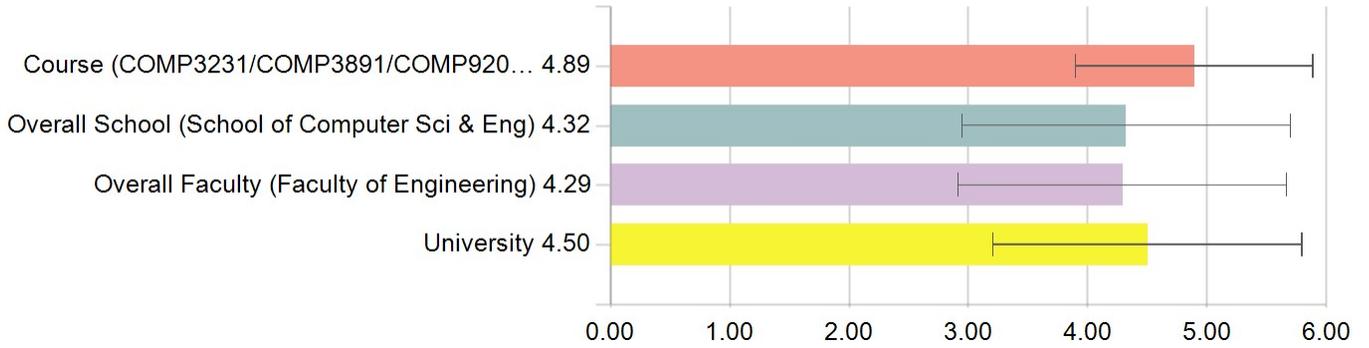
1. I have felt supported to learn in the online environment



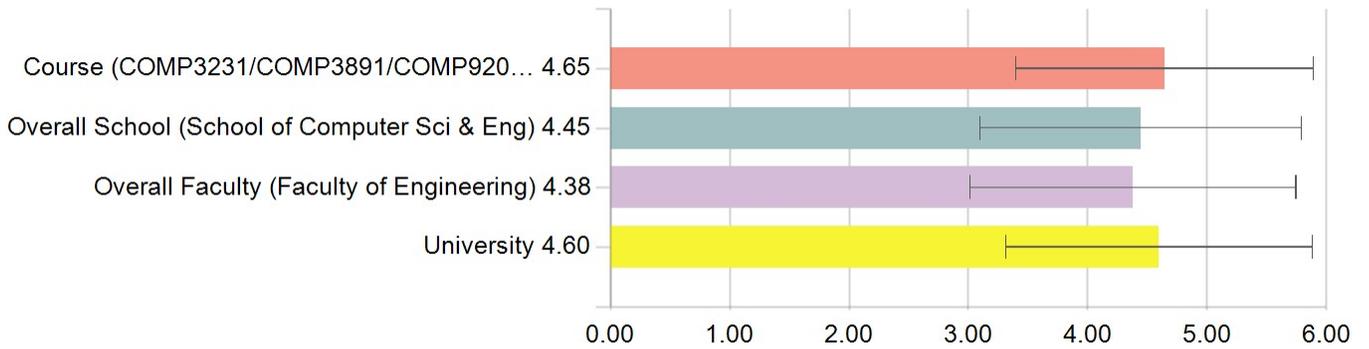
2. I developed my ability to work effectively with others online



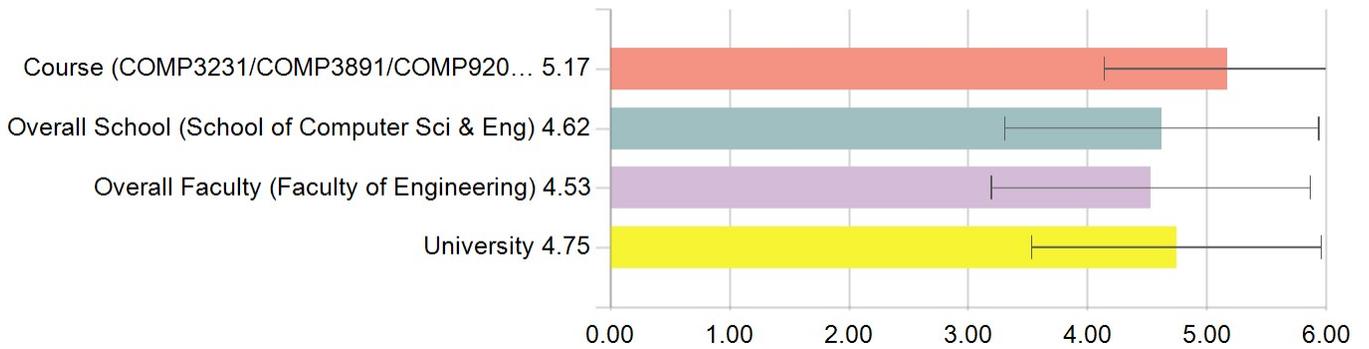
3. I felt part of an online learning community



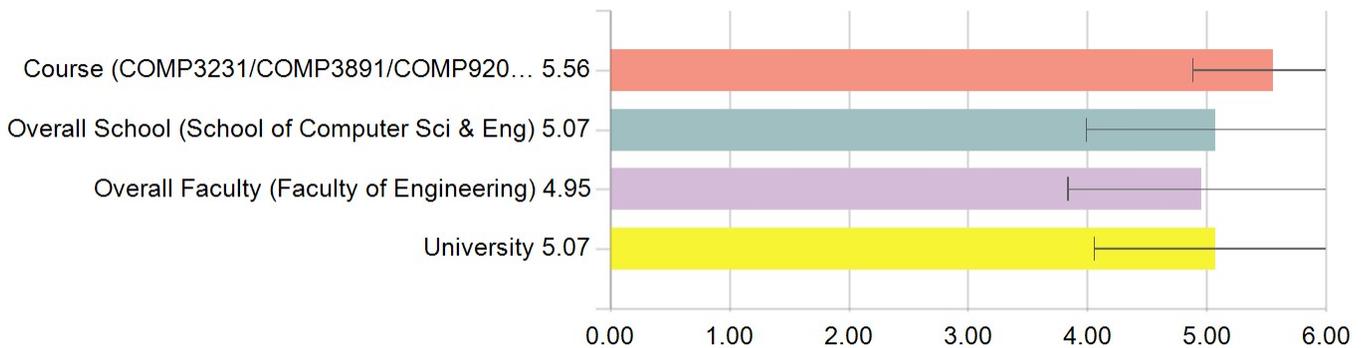
4. The feedback helped me learn



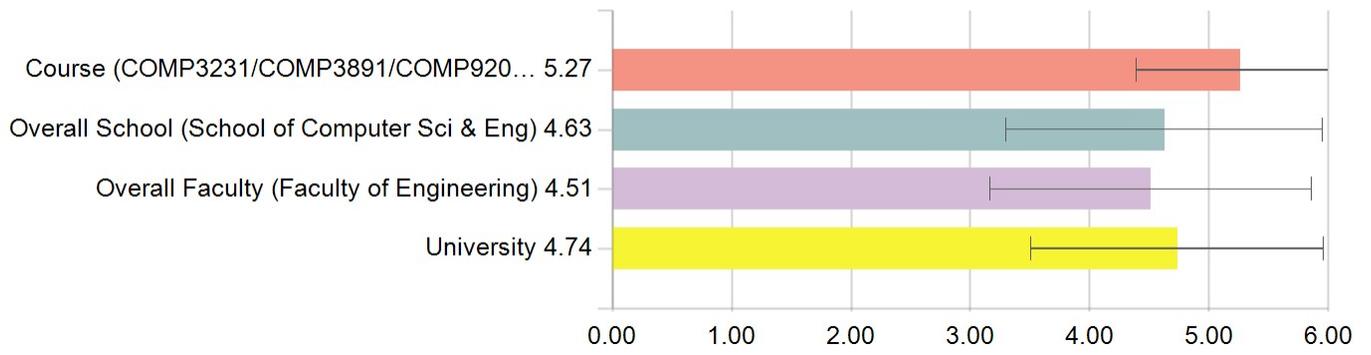
5. The online course resources helped me learn



6. The assessment tasks were relevant to the course content



7. Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course



Raw Comment Data

What have been the best elements of studying online?

Comments
The lecture recordings and piazza forum were great. It was also nice to have tutorial recordings on blackboard collaborate since I would often refer to it if I forgot or didn't understand how my answers came to be.
Live Q&A with tutors on Blackboard Collaborate that could be watched at a later time because they were recorded. I like how we can access the past course materials from previous years because we can skip ahead if we wanted to. Also glad that this course uses Piazza forums because they are so much better than WebCMS3 forums.
Less pressure to attend lectures, which saves me a lot of travel time and gives me more control over my learning schedule
Nothing The lectures were still good quality but it's extremely hard to stay on top of content without being physically there.
I quite like having online tutorials as I can attend them without having to spend time travelling to university. I would prefer online tutorials over physical tutorials in most cases.
A fantastic course, very well transitioned to online teaching
Although it was a challenge to move online, Kevin & the team moved incredibly quickly to translate the course online. I'm very glad that we've been able to learn the same content, uninterrupted.
It's nice to not have to travel to and from university.
Got to do the work when i was most motivated
Lack of commute time has meant that I had more time to work on the assignments, and was able to attend tutorials when I wouldn't have been up to going to campus.
Work at my own pace – apart from assignments, doesn't really matter when you study as long as you keep somewhat up to date.
It was great that all the lectures and slides were put online on a weekly basis.
Navigating a large code base and working on a large project not just some random graphs like 2521.
easier to ask questions in online tutorials than in person ones, because i could type my question and not look overachieving.
Lecturer kept us informed as much as possible such that the experience was very close to what I would expect in a face-to-face environment
– Kevin is very prompt responding to questions on Piazza
Piazza was very active and various other students and instructors/tutors helped a lot. Learning from other student was very valuable and approachable online. I could also see that various other student had the same question as I did.
The online resources are very good, especially the recordings by Kevin Elphinstone
Not having a 4h commute
Lecturer's knowledge and the extra stuff he talks about
Concurrency, critical sections, system calls and memory management. More flexibility on the course and save transport costs.
The lecture is well-organized which helps me get a deep and clear understanding of the operating system.
n/a
– The piazza forum for discussion of questions and other material – Pre-recorded tutorials so I can re-watch them
Online lectures, well displayed course website
The Lecturer has made resources like lectures, tutorials and forums available to students, so it's been manageable to get help. Not much in this course has changed, since it was primarily online.
Assignments
Most resources were already online, so it wasn't that big of a transition
Learning at my own pace in my own time was very nice. Especially with the density of the information in this course.
Procrastinating
I mean.. I usually study online because of my conditions so this doesn't really change for me
The lectures were still easy to follow
Everything was already online, so the transition wasn't difficult.
The quality of the lectures never dropped and I particularly enjoyed the diagrams included in the lecture powerpoints.

Comments
Honestly it wasn't much different except we got the bonus of having recorded tutes :) I watched lectures online anyway from the start.
– lecturers replied to student forum posts within the same day and gave very lengthy explanations of the issues some students were facing – lecturers were very helpful on forums, and suggested ways students could be getting errors until the student located the cause
Heaps of support online with piazza, and a strong feeling of community from fellow students. This course translates well to online, as most content is already available to be completely distance learnt.
Best element was that you could do things at our own pace.
Piazza forums.
the lecturer provides everything which supporting online studying.
I would want to have a physical face-to-face learning asap, since I think studying online is harder for me in term of the mentality. Usually I go to uni, attend lecture/tutorial and prepare my mentality more to learn. Studying from home is a bit hard, since I'm not as ready as if I were to have a face-to-face lecture/tutorial. Overall, I don't think it has a major impact at all in term of being able to catch up on course subject.
Doing work in my own time
There hasn't been a significant drop in teaching quality from in-person to online
no need for commute time, more flexibility
I like the flexibility and not having to spend time commuting.
The freedom, the increased amount of time to study and complete assignments.
Less travel time. Able to watch lectures faster when I already know the content.
I can manage my time as my schedule
We have got three courses this semester, so online study makes my timetable more flexible
Don't need to come on campus
Flexibility of study schedule
The flexibility, studying online means that I don't have the option to go to a lecture and therefore can watch a lecture whenever I want.
Study from the comfort of own home.
Lot of learning materials available
Adapting to online with the edited videos based on topic, not on week, was very useful. All courses should do this.
The lecture recordings were basically the same as if you were there in person (without the ability to ask questions live). The tutorials hosted on Blackboard were great because you had the normal small ratio of students to tutor and could ask questions easily.
The lecture recordings on the OS website is formatted so well! Being able to skip to specific slides and not worry about skipping the "10minute" break is perfect. Surprised echo 360 hasn't done this!
OS is extremely interesting and useful knowledge that I think is fundamental for computer science/software eng majors. Assignments were challenging but I learnt a lot by doing them. Tutorials helped consolidate the main concepts.
online tutorials didn't change too much, blackboard was a pretty good simulation of a classroom, online forums were the same, lectures edited together did the job too.
I'd rather not be online
I definitely prefer in person 100% but big respect to Kevin who did a fantastic job making the course work for us doing the unusual circumstances. So I guess the best element was having Kevin as a lecturer.
The best elements of studying online was the ease of access to many similar questions that other students were having, and the quick responses from the course staff.
Tutorial recordings
Lecture recordings were very good, tutorials were still awesome, and great responses to questions on the Piazza forum.
Study at self-pace, save commuting time
Good online resources
Because everyone is online, Piazza was more active for both class content and homework assignments, so it seemed like more people were asking needed questions.
I wouldn't say there were any "best" elements, only that the course still ran really well online.
The lectures still provided the level of information expected for the course.
Being able to work on, study for, and complete the course (mostly) in my own time

Comments
This course is set up well to be run online. The lecturer is clear and to the point, and the recordings are of good quality. The quality of the tutorials depends on the tutor. Both of these things can be run well online.

What were the most challenging elements of studying online?

Comments
Dedicating time to spend on studying. When you're at home most of the time it's hard to commit a certain amount of time to actually working on the course (e.g. watching lectures) when it is so easy to be doing something else at home.
Staying motivated to work on the course – especially hard for the extended part since it isn't assessed during the term.
Finding the motivation to study.
It's always more fun being in the lecture theatre, so I did miss the interaction with other students! But given the circumstances, I think the OS team did an amazing job of moving online.
There's less ability to get fast feedback, for example, one conversation with the lecturer in person can constitute maybe a 10–20 thread conversation on piazza which can take up to hours to resolve, so that's definitely a bummer.
Hard to stay motivated at all, especially when pass/fail
Not physically attending lectures removed the time pressure on keeping up with course content, which meant that missed lectures tended to pile up more than if I was attending in person.
Getting motivation to study.
If you miss the tutorial getting feedback is a lot harder
lack of motivation. hard to keep up with lectures because its up to me to decide when to watch them, rather than showing up in person to the lecture.
Delays during transition in which we were unsure what was going to happen to the course
– Motivation
I couldn't get the instant feedback and required certain format to ask certain questions.
Finding time to watch lectures
Sitting in a room all day
Getting help for assignments, less motivation to work on course content and less engaging.
Need strong discipline to follow the lecture
Lectures are not as engaging as in person, but that is to be expected.
n/a
no face to face tutorials
nil
It's difficult to express yourself and your issues online. Communicating with my partner during the assignment and communication my issues in the forum or over email was challenging compared to being able to ask questions and show examples in person. It's difficult to complete group tasks online since you can't monitor your partner's participation and rely heavily on them to take initiative and self-motivate. It's difficult to stay motivated when there's no real schedule. I found it much easier to stay on top of my course-load when I was attending the tutorials and lectures in person. Furthermore, home is not my ideal study environment, so it was initially quite challenging to study at home.
(NOT for COMP3231) The course content and structure of my other two courses (which I had initially also undertaken) changed dramatically and the movement online was a major reason as to why I dropped the courses.
Watching lectures
In person lectures and tutorials are much more conducive to learning, and allow you to receive immediate feedback during Q&A's
The density of the information in this course.
Procrastinating
See above, though isolation has made both my condition and my partners condition significantly worse and my work has suffered because of that.
Communicating with my group member.
Not being able to physically attend lectures was hard.
I found it extremely difficult to do assignments after the shift to online learning. The resources that were made available to help with starting out (the assignment walkthroughs, forum, tutorials, etc.) were great but I personally felt that I needed a one-on-one

Comments
consultation with an instructor who can go through the code with me at my own pace. During ASST2 and ASST3, both my partner and I were completely lost and still only have a rough understanding of what needed to be done. It's a shame because the assignments were interesting and we both wanted to excel at them. My partner and I's bad experience with assignments isn't the fault of the course organisers but the situation that we are in so I applaud the organisers for doing the best that they can given the current circumstances.
Attending tutorials in real time so you can ask questions, technical difficulties.
– tutorial solutions were released 1 week later and the explanations aren't as detailed as how tutors explained them during tutorials (simply gave answer and no step-by-step explanation of how the answer was reached with an example)
It is extremely hard to be motivated to even listen to lecture recording. Is that possible for you guys to mimic what udemy, coursera, MIT open course does? Separate everything into different modules. Try and make the content inside each module interesting and rewarding when completed.
Unable to meet up in person to work on assignments. Not being able to see the legend Kevin himself in person.
Harder seeking help online. That being said, the forum was super useful and course staff were super responsive.
Switch to pre-recorded lectures rather than zoom meetings.
laziness
Procrastination.
Motivation to do it
Staying up to date, week to week
The feeling in the class is weak
i found that my motivation to study decreased when completing the course online compared to in person. I think it may have helped to have lectures livestreamed (in addition to recorded), so that I could continue in my regular routine. It would also have allowed for questions to be raised during the lecture.
Getting stuck on a particular problem for long periods of time, adjusting to a new routine.
Harder to engage with the community. Less incentive/motivation to keep up to date. I use attendance at lectures and tutorials to make sure I'm not behind. I had trouble doing live connections for tutorials since my internet at home is poor for continuous connections.
Waiting for the lectures to be released, since this can actually affect my time management skills. Normal lecture times were supposed to be Monday and Thursday, I know for sure that it's going to be released that day, so it's easy to schedule my time. With online learning, lectures can be released anytime, either wednesday, or Friday. This makes it very hard to catchup knowing that each lectures can be 2 hours++ long. I feel like more contents are being cramped up into one lecture, making it hard to maintain focus and stitch pieces together.
We have to post the questions on the forum instead of asking lecturers in the class
Maintaining a proper schedule
Collaborating with group members
I feel that it is generally harder to focus to an online lecture, particularly if there are hard concepts being covered which does happen in COMP3231. I feel that physically being live lecture is less passive than just sitting at home and being able to choose when you play/pause the lecture.
I also felt that the tutorials were more like lectures, although there's time saved, I think that the discussion that we had in physical tutorials benefited my learning and had more value than going through more questions than in a physical tutorial.
Lack of motivation to study because at home
There was a large amount of work for the assignments which ultimately end up not being worth much in the grand scheme of marks. You could get full marks on everything before the final and still not have passed yet. Also, no way of testing theory/written content before the final exam. A multiple choice each week, adding up to 10% would keep the content fresh, and reduce the degree to which the final exam determines whether you pass or fail.
Not being able to work on the projects with the lab partner in person. Also, having a final exam with negative marking seems unfair – no other course I have ever done has done this, even during this current term.
Na
For assignment 3, I really could've used a help session to help me, a forum can only go so far, but that's COVID19's fault.
Trying to stay motivated and having to get through coursework in a less engaging way.
No live questions for lectures, although this was insignificant.
Not having a face to face consultation, but the course staff compensated for that with ample FAQ and other online resources

Comments
I would have preferred having new lecture recordings as opposed to always using the old ones (I know they were used for a period of time so the course could be planned out with the current situation
It was harder to keep on top of lectures, especially because they weren't live.
Bad internet connection/microphone/camera problem when attending tutorial, cannot communicate with team member effectively as some just kept silent but were shown to be online
Not much
We didn't get a lot of instruction on anything, and it was up to us to sort of self-teach then ask for clarification, which is difficult when you don't have a base understanding of some concepts.
Not being able to see our tutors face to face and ask questions, which sometimes made tutorials a little harder to properly get a better understanding.
The loss of interactivity in the lectures and between classmates.
Coordinating groupwork – I was friends with my other teammember but can imagine it would be hard for others
It has not been so challenging for this course.