Report Comments

Results of the open-ended Direct Instructor Feedback Form (DIFF's) are included below. These can only be viewed by the instructor teaching the course. Please download and save a copy for your records. DIFF's are only available in BLUE and are removed by the end of the next Fall or Spring semester's evaluation period. For example:

- Spring, prior Fall and Winter semester DIFF's will be removed.
- Fall, prior Spring and Summer semester DIFF's will be removed.

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - I liked the last project

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - It just needs to be more clear– go over algorithms/how things are done in practice as examples in detail

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - [No Response]

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - [No Response]

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - [No Response]

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - The best part of this course was seeing the instructor be responsive to feedback after the midterm. They were willing to put in effort to change certain weak aspects to improve the course.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - AI has a huge amount of topics that can be covered. I feel like the instructor spent too much time trying to jam in a bunch of topics. I understand that they are essential, but I feel like I would have gotten more out of the course by having less topics and instead going more in depth. At the end, the course felt more like a survey course. This made it difficult sometimes to do projects or homeworks because I felt like no foundation was built. I was kind of disappointed to just have a shallow version of everything taught.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Cover less topics, but go more in depth with the ones that are being covered. I wish we had worksheets that weren't graded to use as practice. Students could complete the worksheets in their own time and refer to an answer key to check answers. This would give extra practice that could make projects/assignments less confusing. I dont think this class had us do enough practice. The jump from each project/hw felt to steep since I dont feel like a core understanding was taught.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - I feel like the instructor spread the course way too thin by trying to teach too many topics. I wish we got to more in depth with a few topics rather than learn a bunch of things in a shallow format. I also wish we had more ungraded practice/work.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - I did enjoy being able to access and view questions through campus wire. I found the professor's website organized as it contained all information, slides, and assignments needed for class.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Overall, I feel that the instructor is truly passionate about the topic he was teaching. He really cared about students well being; however, I feel that the professor doesn't always know how to connect to a student's knowledge level rather than someone who has been studying the field for years. The professor didn't have a good understanding of the student's perspective in the sense of knowledge. There were ways things were taught/implied to be easy, but in reality weren't. I think the more times needs to be spent understanding how much students prior knowledge is. Also maybe uploading more supplementary detail of varying knowledge.

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - [No Response]

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - [No Response]

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - [No Response]

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - [No Response]

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - I did not like the divergence from blackboard in favor of two separate websites.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - The instructor cant change this but i felt as if this course was a rehash of stuff i had already learned and so it did not keep my interest.

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
    ◦ The beginning because it was easier to understand everything

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
    ◦ The pace and conceptualization of the material

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
    ◦ N/A

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
    ◦ Pace

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
    ◦ Nothing online other than work would help me as a student

6. **Other Comments.**
    ◦ N/A

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - the instructor was receptive of criticism

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - not include so many topics in one class so students can digest more from less information.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - humor

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - should call on random people to explain topics

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - [No Response]

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - I enjoyed going further in depth about AI. Previously I had taken ML so this had helped to reinforce some of the concepts from then alongside new concepts.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - None. I think the structure of the class was fine

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - I liked the time interval gaps in between homeworks. They had allowed for me to focus on other classes while focusing on this one as well

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - None

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - N/A

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Great professor. Even better this semester!

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - I enjoyed the variety of hw's and how we used real libraries.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - I was not a super fan of having 4 different locations to find materials, blackboard, campuswire, course website, gradescope, oh my. Either post them all on each or use less websites, would be my suggestion.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Slides were very good. I think maybe it would be nice if you did some code demos in class to show us how the hws are supposed to work.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - [No Response]

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - I guess I appreciate that instead of canceling class there was virtual class.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - I think the textbook was very good. Also the notes were very precise and well explained and always easily accessible. It is often difficult to understand this stuff at face value and you have to go back multiple times. Going back multiple times to review lectures was very easy. Notes, recorded lectures, and the textbook were all easily accessible which made it easy to review. Not to say that the teaching was bad it was just the material requires review for me to understand it properly and that was easy to access materials to do so.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - The 2nd Programming Assignment was very difficult. Even though it was graded fairly it was discouraging struggling with the assignment. Even with office hours and explanations or asking questions it was still difficult to understand the problem. However, the problem was also difficult to give help because the professor can not give help without just giving away the answer. This made it difficult and a frustrating assignment. Also on homeworks I would like better feed back or a solutions to look at and understand more. Maybe they were there and I could not find them.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Very good at teaching and lecturing friendly and energetic throughout the whole class and semester.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - N/A

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - Github webpage was very easy to navigate and was great.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - Relatable professor

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - It seems like there is too much material that the professor wants to cover, I would say prune the slides ahead of time so that they represent what is being taught better. This will also help with the main issue in the class which is that taking notes is very difficult.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Student engagement

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - I think you need to be more consistent with language/word choice, you use multiple words to mean the same thing, but you never say "x" means "y" and people are learning these topics for the first time so they get confused

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - Na

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Thanks!

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
    - The homeworks were mostly fun and very informative

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
    - Move announcements and assignments to Blackboard. Having to check 4 different websites to find everything you need is a massive hassle.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
    - Examples in class were gone over thoroughly and accurately

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
    - Some pronunciation issues every so often. The one that comes to mind is "Naive Bayes" was pronounced as "Knave Bias" which are two valid and completely different words

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
    - Having everything scattered about through 4 different websites was a huge pain, as mentioned above. The use of Gradescope also made homework feel very unforgiving and rigid, as if you did a multi–point problem mostly correctly, but there wasn't a field on the Gradescope rubric for the exact thing you did wrong, you lost all points on that problem.

6. **Other Comments.**
    - None

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - Honestly, the best part of the course was how easy KMA Solaiman made it to understand. At a glimpse, a lot of the material this course presents appears impossible, but Solaiman walking us through how we get to a lot of end results made it so much easier to digest and he made it easy to not feel overwhelmed.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - We have discussed this with the professor before but a lab may be nice.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - KMA Solaiman expects a response from his classroom as he's walking us through how things work, class time is a collaborative process where we are reasoning our way through things together.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - No, if anything the only loss was to the students if no one answered him, which didn't happen often or only for REALLY confusing things hahaha.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - The only online component I can think of is the recorded lectures which I thought was extremely helpful and I hope more classes did.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Thank you so much!

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - The court materials have lots of valuable information for the homework

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - I would recommend to highlight the important and main idea of each lecture. Since the lectures usually cover a lot of information.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - The instructor provides a lot of example, and frequently let everyone ask question

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - None

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - The online lecture going well

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - KMA Solaiman was clearly a driven instructor who is engaged in the material and wants to make it enjoyable.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - I would recommend discussing code a little more in class, especially related to the CSP homework problem, but that is just closer to my interest.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - KMA Solaiman tries to include humor and pop–culture references. He does his best to simplify the material to make it digestible and strait–forward.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - The general material hinders the instructor from being and effective teacher. In my opinion the subject is just not super interesting.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - I liked the benefits provided by gradescope, I just wish blackboard worked similarly so I didn't have to manage 3 different sites for 1 class.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - The material is not particularly interesting which is at no fault of the professor. He is clearly interested and engaged in the material and does his best to make it interesting.

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - [No Response]

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - The directions in the assignments could be clearer

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Being able to answer questions and give more info on different subjects

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - Being late to class
     The directions in the assignments weren't always clear, lectures had formulas without stating what every variable was and how to use it

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - [No Response]

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - I enjoyed the first programming assignment. It was challenging and accomplishing to complete it.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - Materials were a bit scattered and I didn't feel like I could take proper notes due to jumping around the slides. I think there were too many topics trying to be taught. Hypothetically, I'd rather have 6 topics and absorb them all rather than have 10 topics and absorb only 4 due to confusion.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - The chalkboard was extremely helpful when it came to drawing diagrams. The enthusiastic approach to teaching was engaging!

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - Sometimes topics were repeated. We would spend one class learning something and I thought we would move on but then the next class we would go over the same thing with no change of pace. Things felt too fast.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - I do not benefit much from online classes so when we had them I felt lost. I think the ability to draw would be useful for future online classes.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Thank you for your knowledge!

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - Open note exams, late days for homeworks

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - More assignments that deal with actually using the AI tools (like the google collab notebooks).

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Professor is very enthusiastic about the course

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - Professor was sometimes unprepared to teach the subject at hand; there were multiple classes where he repeated the same lecture from the previous class for about the first ~30 minutes of class as he usually missed something important in the previous lecture.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - The two online WebEx lectures were not the greatest, the professor is much better teaching in person. These lectures felt unorganized. The professor really likes to use the chalkboard in class, maybe they could improve on using something similar digitally?

6. **Other Comments.**
   - n/a

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - The best concept was the different methods for an AI agent to determine an action. This shows what is happening "behind the curtain" of what is going on behind the agent and it's rational thinking process.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - I believe more drawings on a device instead of the board would make note taking and comprehension better.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - The professor consistently asked students if there are any question. Despite the lack of response, the professor was able to determine that students did not understand the topic and did not know what questions to ask for that material. Revisiting the materials improved students understand them.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - The drawings and demonstrations on the blackboard were sometimes unreadable or confusing to understand. Another was the inconsistent recordings of lectures. When drawing on the board, the recordings do not show it which makes the viewer unlikely to understand.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - N/A

6. **Other Comments.**
   - N/A

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - This course is really applicable in the current situation.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - I think he is very good, I am recommended him to give hard assignment and project than exam.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - I know this course is very hard and a lot of course material he has to cover in the class, if there is more TA they will help about course in background.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - He put his effort a lot to make a class more effective.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - He put a lot of course material online as well beside the class lecture.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Overall, He is the young, energetic, enthusiastic lecture.

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - The professor was excited to teach and would crack jokes occasionally.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - Sometimes, the instructions for the assignments were unclear, but I appreciate the professor sending out emails and going over them in class to clear up any confusion.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - The professor constantly checked in to see if students followed along, asked what we didn't understand, and tried to explain it differently, which was very helpful.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - There was a lot of information in the course, and some lectures felt rushed or too compact.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - [No Response]

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - I enjoyed some of the conceptual analysis of the different subjects, just wish we did more.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - It feels like the course lacks structure. We are expected to use Blackboard, Gradescope, Campuswire, and the Github page for information which at points has made me unsure of if I was missing assignments/content or not. Condensing it to even just Github and Blackboard would do wonders.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - He seems to understand the culture behind us CS students more than most other professors right now. He will mention games and the like that would emphasize some knowledge of these things. I do not think they make him any more effective on their own though.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - 1. It does not appear that he writes his own slides of what I have seen, but he does cover information in his own structure. By making slides to reflect how he wants to teach the subject, I think he could get greater results, especially given that I have found mistakes in some of the current slides.

     2. Highlighting the intended things we would be expected to learn in each chapter would be useful as well (like learning objectives). He knows a lot of information about the topic and wants to share it, but it can get confusing with what we are expected to know vs. what is being told to us as extra information.

     3. More concrete examples when teaching. He often will give examples, but they are still fairly abstract (filling a tree with values instead of connecting it to a concept we can understand/visualize). One of the times I remember something like this being done was with Naive Bayes talking about cancer and smoking, but I think something that is more connected to our personal experience would be better (not to mention that things like cancer can be stressful/hard for some people).

     4. The homework felt a little unreasonable at points given that we covered the conceptual information in class and were then expected to implement it in code outside of class. I think a more conceptual based homework or covering more code in class could remedy this.

     I like what my one professor in another class a while ago did in that he would propose a problem that needed to be solved, he would mention a new concept that could solve this problem and explained it in terms of the problem, and then finally generalize the important information of the concept. This always worked for me and many others and so I thought it would be relevant to write here.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - I wish there were less places I needed to go to for the course. 4 places felt like too much to handle.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Given the professor's work experience he seems very knowledgeable in the field, but at points it feels like he misunderstands what teaching is and can be. He has expressed in the past that he cannot make us interested in the topics being covered, but with the use of concrete examples mixed with his understanding of the culture of the students I am certain that he could. At points it feels like he thinks challenge/struggle is a part of learning, and sometimes it is, but it does not need to be. When a topic is broken down into small enough pieces, it should be intuitive and come naturally without struggle.

     There has been a lot of literature on how learning works and in turn what can be done in order to teach/structure courses more effectively and as someone who has researched it myself I cannot recommend it enough. A lot of the suggestions I made above are grounded in what I learned. I think with improvement of this area he could be a good professor, but with things the way they are now I would have to recommend other students to stay away from his classes.

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - The professor was pretty chill

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - It was good

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - He was cool

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - Not really

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - Not really

6. **Other Comments.**
   - N/A

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - Honestly, going into this class, the concept of Artificial Intelligence was pretty cool and hammed up. I was hooked in when we had that talk about fictional AI in movies, and it made it more fun to engage with the actual concepts.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - Prooooobably add more emphasis on how to... make... the AI, rather than just using it. It feels like we're just given slides and such and aren't really much application for it.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - He's relatable, he's chill, he has expertise and he knows what he's doing.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - The general... vague answers sort of made it hard to engage with the content. It felt like we needed to sit through explanations of the content, became dispassionate about the confusion and complexity of the content, and more or less just shouldered through most of it.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - Honestly? Having an entire class website and CampusWire was pretty awesome. The thing that hindered online wise just hinders every class in general: boring online meetings that just aren't engaging.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Have a good summer and all lol

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - Putting everything together to understand how AI works as a whole and see how it works where I've seen it before

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - Maybe more examples and walkthroughs of certain problems near the end of the course with a lot more machine learning topics

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Not only using the information slides but also writing things out on the blackboard to explain further

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - Some topics were not explained as in depth as they should have for when they appear on tests

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - Using campuswire to allow students to chat with the professor and TA as well as each other to help work through problems and topics is very effective

6. **Other Comments.**
   - Thank you for a great semester!

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - He was willing to help outside of class. The questions on the homeworks were not out to get you, but sometimes they were needlessly difficult.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - He needs to be better prepared.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - To be honest very little.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - He's just not interesting to listen to. There's nothing he says that makes me interested in the material. I'm already interested in the material, but he made me dislike the class and the material.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - Campuswire is the worst and I don't think I've met anyone who wouldn't prefer discord. Also everything should run through blackboard. Having gradescope is annoying and unneccesary.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - He needs to be better prepared for his lectures. I'm pretty sure he doesn't make his own slides, and that contributes to him not knowing them all that well so it seems like he's reminding himself of the material as he's teaching it.

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
    - The professor is nice, and he is open to feedback. Also we were given study guides which helped during the midterm.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
    - I think the course just has too much material. I understand that all of it is essential to the course, but there are also other cmsc classes that we are dealing with. Some of the assignments were heavy. The coding assignments were not very fun, especially because umbc's other cmsc courses are mainly c++ and c. Having to relearn python just for this class was a bit tiresome.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
    - The professor is very active when it comes to responding to issues/concerns on campuswire.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
    - I think there are just too many slides in the lectures. I often found myself getting lost because of how much material there was in each class.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
    - [No Response]

6. **Other Comments.**
    - KMA is a good professor. His RMP ratings were very low, and I was very skeptical about taking this course. However, I believe that he has improved as a professor, and I have recommended him to my other friends who considered taking a course that he teaches next semester.

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - The best part of the course is the accessibility of course materials such as slide and recording, because it is very helpful to find resource to learn when I feel confuse on a topic.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - No change recommend.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - Have class website and lecture recording make this instructor an effective teacher.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - I don't think there are any classroom approaches that hinder this instructor.

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - The course have online website, and I feel that is very helpful.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - No other comment.

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - I liked the Games chapter (minimax, alpha–beta pruning, etc) I found that topic to be very interesting.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - Using Blackboard instead of Gradescope. Yeah Blackboard isn't the best software to be honest, but it's the university standard. For cohesiveness, I'd recommend using it over Gradescope. I actually liked Campuswire, but consider setting up a class Discord instead.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - It felt like the instructor was very self–conscious when he was teaching. I think working to shed that anxiety and increasing his confidence would improve his lectures

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - [No Response]

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - [No Response]

6. **Other Comments.**
   - [No Response]

Student Responses (continued)

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - Learning about the origins of artificial intelligence and the course it is taking right now

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - Schedule more than one set of office hours in the case that students are unable to make it to the primary one

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - He engages the students with humor and understandable content that makes it easier to understrand what is going on in the course

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - N/A

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - N/A

6. **Other Comments.**
   - N/A

Courses Name: CMSC 471 02 Artificial Intelligence
Instructors Name: KMA Solaiman

34/34

1. **What was the best part of the course and why?**
   - He is willing to teach a concept until every single student understands it. Even though students are usually tired and not active in his class, he tries to add humor and engage students.

2. **What changes would you recommend in the course and why?**
   - I wish we had more hands–on experience and working with different libraries.

3. **What classroom approaches or actions make this instructor an effective teacher?**
   - He explains concepts clearly and makes sure everyone understands them.

4. **Were there any classroom approaches or actions that hinder this instructor from being an effective teacher? If so, what?**
   - No

5. **If this course had an online component, please provide feedback to the instructor about what you feel was effective as well as suggestions for future improvements.**
   - I liked how we used gradescope for grading and regrading.

6. **Other Comments.**
   - I feel like this course has a lot of material to cover in a short period of time. We went through concepts quickly and with little hands–on experience. Professor Solaiman gave his best effort in order to cover as much material as we could while making sure we understood the concepts. He also made many things simpler so that we could focus on understanding and not worry about grades. Thank you for a great semester!