





University of New Mexico

2020 Fall Courses

Course: CS542001: Intro to Parallel Processing
Instructor: Amanda Bienz *
Response Rate: 12/14 (85.71 %)




1 - Please rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness:

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Highly Effective	(5)	9	75.00%		
Effective	(4)	2	16.67%		
Unsure	(3)	1	8.33%		
Ineffective	(2)	0	0.00%		
Highly Ineffective	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate				Mean	STD
12/14 (85.71%)				4.67	0.65
					Median
					5.00

2 - How comfortable do you feel approaching the instructor with questions or comments?

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Very Comfortable	(5)	10	83.33%		
Somewhat Comfortable	(4)	2	16.67%		
Unsure	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat Uncomfortable	(2)	0	0.00%		
Very Uncomfortable	(1)	0	0.00%		
				0 25 50 100	Question
Response Rate				Mean	STD
12/14 (85.71%)				4.83	0.39
					Median
					5.00

3 - What features of this course and of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Amanda Bienz

Response Rate	11/14 (78.57%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She is very understanding and her live coding demos really helped me learn the material in both a theoretical and practical way. • I like the mixed presentation style, i.e doing some flipped classrooms and some lectures. Also, I love piazza and how it fostered this community around the topic areas. I.e people were helping contribute to the understanding of the topic areas and assignments. Dr. Bienz is also extremely responsive. • Flexibility was a strong positive aspect of the course. The professor is really friendly, interested in the material and super knowledgeable. • Being very friendly with questions, even the silly ones I had I felt comfortable asking. • Slides and homeworks • I learnt many concepts about how to increase the performance of applications. This helped to understand what to do when my codes are running slow, and how I can make use of my process and memory. • The professor's enthusiasm for the topic and knowledge of the topic contributed most to my learning. The class felt they could ask anything and that made for a very interesting class. • The lectures were posted beforehand and during class we went over specific implementation examples helped solidify the material, the instructor's willingness to gauge the class and adapt the course if necessary, access to the code that was written as examples during class, and the in class questions contributed to my learning. The instructor had a great response time over email and was always ready and willing to help students. The instructor was very knowledgeable, helpful and very effective at teaching the material. She went above and beyond to make sure students had the best chance to learn the material and succeed in the course. I feel confident about my knowledge of the material taught in this course, and it was largely attributed to Professor Bienz's teaching methods. • Dr. Bienz did very well to provide examples of how to do everything. The additional short lectures between classes were very helpful. The piazza forum was also very helpful. • The instructor was very up front about the class was going to be run. There were no surprises. That makes it much easier to plan a schedule around getting the work done. The instructor covered just the right amount of material so the course was not rushed. The first couple of assignments were harder, but I prefer having the harder work up front, early in the semester when I still have enthusiasm and am not overloaded. Overall, I thought the course was well balanced, well paced, and well focused. I was very well taught for an introduction course. If there was a follow up next semester, I would take it in a heartbeat. • The hands on assignments 	

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4 - What specific suggestions do you have to improve the course and the instructor's teaching?


Amanda Bienz

Response Rate 9/14 (64.29%)


- Dr. Bienz is rocking it. One small suggestion would be to have some of the cheat sheet notes on using Wheeler and Xena available earlier...
- Separate tracks for the graduate level and undergrad level.
- Overall good. As a online student this semester I would have loved a collaborative platform like google collab to share code in real time and try MPI commands on the fly.
- Not to do the coding in class
- This was the first time through this class for Dr. Bienz at UNM. We ran into problems on the CARC platforms, through no fault of Dr. Bienz. By the end of the course she knew not to expect things to work correctly on the CARC machines and to check them out before making assignments.
- Making the answers to the in class questions visible after you submit, can help students know what they need help by the time next class comes around.
- For procrastinators, it may help to have strict deadlines, as long as you make it known that deadlines are strict from the beginning, and even send out email reminders when things are due. Personally, that would help me with time management, but it's hard to complain!
- Create more time so that we have more time to cover more topics! Just kidding. I thought the course was well sized for the time. Only thing I have to say to Dr. Bienz is that I hope the system doesn't change her. UNM and New Mexico have a tendency to make people jaded and burned out after a few years and I hope that Dr. Bienz keeps her enthusiasm and kindness. It is a rare combination in graduate school.
- More practical hands on stuff.

5 - How helpful, knowledgeable, and professional was your TA?

Amanda Bienz


Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Highly Effective	(1)	4	33.33%		3.17			
Effective	(2)	2	16.67%					
Unsure	(3)	2	16.67%					
Ineffective	(4)	0	0.00%					
Highly Ineffective	(5)	0	0.00%					
N/A	(6)	4	33.33%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
12/14 (85.71%)				3.17		2.21		2.50

6 - Were the problem sets/homework assigned helpful in learning the material in this course?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Very Helpful	(1)	11	91.67%		1.08			
Somewhat Helpful	(2)	1	8.33%					
Unsure	(3)	0	0.00%					
Somewhat Unhelpful	(4)	0	0.00%					
Very Unhelpful	(5)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
12/14 (85.71%)				1.08		0.29		1.00

7 - How many times did you visit the instructor during his/her office hours?

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
10 or more times	(1)	2	16.67%		2.75			
5-9 times	(2)	1	8.33%					
1-4 times	(3)	7	58.33%					
Never	(4)	2	16.67%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
12/14 (85.71%)				2.75		0.97		3.00

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8 - How many times did you visit the TA during his/her office hours?

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
10 or more times	(1)	1	8.33%	■	4.17			
5-9 times	(2)	0	0.00%					
1-4 times	(3)	2	16.67%	■				
Never	(4)	2	16.67%	■				
N/A	(5)	7	58.33%	■				
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
12/14 (85.71%)				4.17		1.27		5.00

9 - Were the quizzes, midterm, and final exam representative of the material presented in this course?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Very Fair	(1)	8	66.67%	■	1.33			
Somewhat Fair	(2)	4	33.33%	■				
Unsure	(3)	0	0.00%					
Somewhat Unfair	(4)	0	0.00%					
Very Unfair	(5)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
12/14 (85.71%)				1.33		0.49		1.00

10 - Have you learned new concepts/topics in the course?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Yes, Many	(1)	11	91.67%	■	1.17			
Yes, Some	(2)	0	0.00%					
Yes, a Few	(3)	1	8.33%	■				
No, none	(4)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
12/14 (85.71%)				1.17		0.58		1.00

11 - If the course has prerequisites, did they adequately prepare you for the course?

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Well prepared	(1)	7	58.33%	■	2.08			
Somewhat prepared	(2)	1	8.33%	■				
Ill prepared	(3)	0	0.00%					
Not applicable	(4)	4	33.33%	■				
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
12/14 (85.71%)				2.08		1.44		1.00

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2020 Fall Courses

Course: CS442001: Intro to Parallel Processing
Instructor: Amanda Bienz *
Response Rate: 4/9 (44.44 %)

1 - Please rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness:

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Highly Effective	(5)	3	75.00%	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div>4.75</div></div>			
Effective	(4)	1	25.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
Unsure	(3)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
Ineffective	(2)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
Highly Ineffective	(1)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median		
4/9 (44.44%)				4.75	0.50	5.00		

2 - How comfortable do you feel approaching the instructor with questions or comments?

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Very Comfortable	(5)	3	75.00%	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div>4.75</div></div>			
Somewhat Comfortable	(4)	1	25.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
Unsure	(3)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
Somewhat Uncomfortable	(2)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
Very Uncomfortable	(1)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>				
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean	STD	Median		
4/9 (44.44%)				4.75	0.50	5.00		

3 - What features of this course and of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Amanda Bienz

Response Rate	4/9 (44.44%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amanda, Thank you for helping us one on one with the research. Thank you for caring and making effort to answer every single one of our question or guide us in the right direction. Lectures were very thoughtful and discussion were beneficial in learning. The in-class assignments are very useful. Unlike many other professors here in the CS department at UNM Amanda was great at keeping the students updated on the coursework and any changes along the way. Very receptive to feedback and willing to adjust timeframes/schedules depending on where the class was. Her helpfulness while solving homework. Leniency and a good understanding of the problems that students face. Helpful in Research. 	

4 - What specific suggestions do you have to improve the course and the instructor's teaching?

Amanda Bienz

Response Rate	3/9 (33.33%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We were not taught C++ at UNM. If we were given general overview of C++ syntax we would use in the class, that would be great. Although this course was very communicative, it was a little intimidating if you fell behind at all because you had to go through and catch up on lectures/notes, but also on a large amount of Piazza posts. It also felt unsatisfactory having to dedicate time to study for an exam if the exam is only 5% of the grade. Reduction in Number of Topics. Less topics but more time to study and analyze. 	





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5 - How helpful, knowledgeable, and professional was your TA?

Amanda Bienz





Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Highly Effective	(1)	2	50.00%					
Effective	(2)	1	25.00%					
Unsure	(3)	1	25.00%					
Ineffective	(4)	0	0.00%					
Highly Ineffective	(5)	0	0.00%					
N/A	(6)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
4/9 (44.44%)				1.75		0.96		1.50

6 - Were the problem sets/homework assigned helpful in learning the material in this course?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Very Helpful	(1)	3	75.00%					
Somewhat Helpful	(2)	1	25.00%					
Unsure	(3)	0	0.00%					
Somewhat Unhelpful	(4)	0	0.00%					
Very Unhelpful	(5)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
4/9 (44.44%)				1.25		0.50		1.00




7 - How many times did you visit the instructor during his/her office hours?

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
10 or more times	(1)	1	25.00%					
5-9 times	(2)	0	0.00%					
1-4 times	(3)	1	25.00%					
Never	(4)	2	50.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
4/9 (44.44%)				3.00		1.41		3.50

8 - How many times did you visit the TA during his/her office hours?

Amanda Bienz





Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
10 or more times	(1)	0	0.00%					
5-9 times	(2)	0	0.00%					
1-4 times	(3)	0	0.00%					
Never	(4)	2	50.00%					
N/A	(5)	2	50.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
4/9 (44.44%)				4.50		0.58		4.50

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Instructor: Amanda Bienz *
Response Rate: 4/9 (44.44 %)

9 - Were the quizzes, midterm, and final exam representative of the material presented in this course?




Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Very Fair	(1)	2	50.00%			2.00		
Somewhat Fair	(2)	1	25.00%					
Unsure	(3)	0	0.00%					
Somewhat Unfair	(4)	1	25.00%					
Very Unfair	(5)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
4/9 (44.44%)				2.00		1.41		1.50

10 - Have you learned new concepts/topics in the course?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Yes, Many	(1)	3	75.00%			1.25		
Yes, Some	(2)	1	25.00%					
Yes, a Few	(3)	0	0.00%					
No, none	(4)	0	0.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
4/9 (44.44%)				1.25		0.50		1.00

11 - If the course has prerequisites, did they adequately prepare you for the course?

Amanda Bienz

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means			
Well prepared	(1)	0	0.00%			2.50		
Somewhat prepared	(2)	3	75.00%					
Ill prepared	(3)	0	0.00%					
Not applicable	(4)	1	25.00%					
				0 25 50 100	Question			
Response Rate				Mean		STD		Median
4/9 (44.44%)				2.50		1.00		2.00