

Student Experience of Learning and Teaching (SLET)

Selected Comments from Various Courses (2021 – 2025)

Feedback on Compulsory Courses

"Genuinely the best course I have taken yet - the content was really well structured, eg. the transition from circuits to then assembly coding just made so much sense. There was a real sense of satisfaction at the end of assignment 1, looking at how I could understand every individual part of the CPU we built. The lectures expanded on the knowledge that was taught in labs, which helped to solidify the concepts. Also, I liked how the assignments built upon the labs, as it gave a lot of incentive to stay on top of course work. The content is fun too, looking forward to comp2310."

"How the course starts from scratch and progressively abstracts and builds upon concepts to build strong intuition in complex topics. The high quality of explanations in lectures, and the support from tutors and the course conveners on Ed and in labs. The assignment tasks were awesome, especially for the opportunity they provided to take on extension tasks. The exam was excellently designed. Everything about this course is great."

"I really liked how the lecture material followed / was supported by a textbook. This made studying confusing topics a lot easier and provided an alternative place to find feedback. I think that the labs were quite interesting (although some did take a while) and helped develop useful skills."

"I really loved everything about how this course was taught and structured. The tutorials that built up to assignments and the quizzes allowed me to stay on top of the content. The tutorials were especially good as I feel they were designed very well to understand the theory in practice. I also think that Shoaib was a very clear and informative lecturer who seemed very knowledgeable about every aspect of the course content. Every slide felt like it was backed by in-depth explanation and after watching every lecture I felt like I fully understood concepts."

"Out of my many years at ANU, this course is definitely in my top 3 favourite courses. The content was taught in a well thought out manner that structurally built upon itself at a reasonable pace. Additionally, the content was taught in an engaging manner, I particularly liked how the assignments were done. Shoaib's explanations in the lectures were really good, he took an appropriate amount of time explaining concepts and even explained the same concept in different styles which greatly helped with my understanding of a complicated topic."

"The first assignment gave me childlike levels of joy. Assignment 2 was also very fun to complete. Whilst I didn't participate in-person for labs, they were very well-structured and I thoroughly enjoyed them to the point that I did them all back-to-back like you would binge watch Breaking Bad. Assignment 1 was the epic finale of the first half of the semester I was waiting for."

"The first half of the course is amazing. The interplay between the lectures, labs and the assignments is extremely engaging, and pushes students like me to excel past the given content, encouraging me to explore outside the course. The tutors were engaging and evidently knew the content well, and weekly x86 assembly facts were fun."

"This course provides students a deeper understanding of computers - students know how computers work and what factors might make programs slow on a low-level aspect."

"This is definitely the best course for me this semester, thanks Shoaib and tutor team. The lecturer did an excellent job explaining possibly abstract concepts in an intuitive and humorous way. The lab tasks are very engaging and have a suitable difficulty (not overly easy but approachable). The tutor team is in general helpful, they provide help and feedback quickly."

"This is easily the best, most interesting and well-structured course I have done in the two years I've spent at ANU. I definitely have learnt a lot about computers and how they execute programs under the hood. The assignments were quite interesting and I particularly enjoyed making my own CPU and building a snake game on the microbit. I couldn't emphasise any more about how great this course was in my experience, Shoaib was great he often swiftly replied on Ed and emails and seemed to actually care about student wellbeing and how students were interpreting the material."

Feedback on Special Topics Courses

"He had very clear explanations of concepts and put in extraordinary effort into creating the course materials such as the slides. He took so much care with explaining all concepts from a very high level to the smallest details so I left every lecture with a very thorough understanding of the topics. Also made sure to answer questions on the course forum and spent a very long time after class to answer students' every question."

"Explained technical concepts well. Clearly a strong grasp of the topic and was able to pass this on to students."

"Very good communication - Shoaib clearly cares about whether the students understand what's being taught."

"Did an amazing job of teaching the content in a way that I found easy to understand and interesting."

"Shoaib was clear and explained things well in lectures. His lecture slides provided simulations and visual explanations that were helpful in breaking down how things work in practice, and how things look, such as the logic involved in the more complex ARF+ROB pipeline. He responded often on the Ed forum and was responsive to questions in lectures, sometimes providing detailed and insightful answers. In my experience, during and after lectures, he was quite approachable."

"I think Shoaib's passion and knowledge are really clear."