

Dept: Computer Science

Alumni Survey 2014

June 9th 2017, 4:00 pm EDT

Q162 - What single change in the CSE program would you most like to see? Explain briefly. If you would like to be contacted about your comments, please include contact information (e-mail preferred):

What single change in the CSE program would you most like to see? Explain b...

More focus on the current trends in the field. More and more companies are shifting towards web development, Agile practices, and building automation testing frameworks. The CSE program lacked these types of courses while I was attending OSU.

More availability of web classes and languages. For example, RESTful web services.

Two changes: - required capstone working on an industry-sponsored inter-disciplinary project over multiple semesters - required use of a version control system (git, CVS, subversion, etc.) on all class projects

Up to date coding tools and languages

not sure

Add an extra capstone, and add labs and take away from exams in most classes. Most of my learning was done in the practical completion of labs and writing of computer programs. Studying for exams made me learn a lot as well, but nothing made me understand the material quite like sitting down and figuring it out by using the techniques, languages, and algorithms taught in class.

More actively reach out to socially introverted students. Stop pretending like you give a shit about the people and actually start to.

Teach your students how to truly use a debugger. There were many in my classes that hardly knew how to use one and it would have saved them so many headaches.

I wish a class on web programming had been required. Understanding today's web architecture would have been useful at the start of my career.

Advising Office was absolutely no help at all. The folks working here seemed like they did not want to have any contact with students. They gave me the impression that I was causing agony and anguish as soon as I stepped into the office. Please fix the Advising Office before you attempt to change the program. As for a change in the program... The world of technology moves fast. It would be helpful to learn some of the newest tools, technologies, and practices that are used in the real world today. Most of the course content made me feel like I was taking a history of computing class... Now that I have a professional career and am working with a number of college grads from other top universities, I feel like my experience at OSU has left me in the dust. I do not feel that I have the same level of knowledge of the current technology and trends as compared to my colleagues.

There wasn't enough hands on stuff. A lot of the stuff was covered in theory and not carried out in practice. This is great in theoretical mathematics of a course on string theory, but in CSE theory MUST be supplemented with hands on projects. More specifically. I believe I personally would have greatly benefited from small projects given BEFORE the accompanying material was covered in lecture. (Blasphemy right? Unorthodox? But we're CSE majors. We will spend out entire lives figuring out stuff for ourselves. Lecture is much more valueable if it's used to fill in holes instead of introduce the material. I believe if you tried this, material comprehension would drastically increase)

I have two: Make internships required or a part of the curriculum. This is a must. I cannot stress how important my internship helped me in my career and how much it taught me. It gave me a year of experience in the field and led to a job straight out. It gave me practical applications to the things I was learning. The internship I found was through the ECS which was very helpful, but still all my own initiative. I would really like to see them integrated or even pushed from the major more. The only people from my major I saw complaining about not finding jobs, were those without an internship. Second: More up to date material. I mean we had just introduced a java course when I was in the program. Java is "old news" in the occupation now. OSU was very far behind the times in terms of technology. Another thing was the lack of web work. I would say 90% of the jobs in this area are around web development and yet the closest thing in my program was an intro to the internet course (can't remember the name, but it taught basic http protocols and such). Anything with a web app, how they work, how http servers interact with one another, intro to frameworks would have been extremely helpful.

I like that OSU had a focus on theory/foundationals. Stay away from the 'hype' courses that just teach me tooling / specific application. (LAME: Ruby class, Facebook app course, iPhone app development, so on..)

The overall core curriculum was not thorough or advanced enough. Fundamental topics such as Turing machines, parallel computing, thread models, and the memory pathway, among others, were either skipped over or not taught to the necessary level (in informal discussions with peers from other universities, their curricula were more robust and in-depth). Contact: rabuch2@illinois.edu

A bigger focus on data (in particular SQL) and web technologies (client side programming) to match the skills many companies are looking for. Obviously we can't learn everything but I felt like the program lacked the fundamental knowledge needed.

An intro to UNIX-flavored operating systems desperately needs to be taught.

Eliminate any resolve programs such as C++ resolve and Java resolve. They do absolutely nothing for the students and almost made me switch majors because of how terrible it was. I was afraid that's how the entire program would be. Teaching students normal C++ and Java would be a much better use of their time as that will be what they'll use after they graduate. Nothing translated from the resolve sequence even inside the CSE program, I never used anything from those classes.

Programming language specific best practices and open source project contributions. jerodfritz@gmail.com

I would like to see more use of C++ and memory management in the curriculum. While I was familiar enough to be able to reason through working with the language and managing pointers, anything more than a basic problem could take me a while to figure out. I love the concepts that were taught through the RESOLVE set of classes, but the C-like language didn't feel quite as useful to learn along with those concepts.

Database programming at zhang.555@buckeyemail.osu.edu