Software Engineering Large Practical: Mid-semester feedback

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Keep doing this!

- Great idea for project; exact kind of thing I've been wanting to do on the course (three times).
- Good description of the coursework.
- I like that we are very free on how our app should look like.
- Lectures and lecture slides are good and useful (six times).
- Lectures are up-to-date.
- Examples and code snippets on the slides (eight times).
- Explaining Android concepts, showing how to get started (two times).
- Mentioning websites and resources for further info during lectures (three times).
- Video tutorial suggestions on the course webpage (two times).
- Answering our questions fast (on Piazza).
- Office hours and the possibility to come ask a question.

Start doing this! (1/2)

- Open Android Studio during the lecture to show us where things go (five times).
- Having a lab or tutorial for this course (four times).
- Two lectures a week (three times).
- I would like to know more (sooner) about what the design and implementation stages of coursework will look like (three times).
- More links to online tutorials and useful reading materials (two times).
- Setting benchmarks so people know at what stage their app should be at (two times).
- Recommending additional/alternative resources with each lecture (two times).

Start doing this! (2/2)

- ▶ I've have preferred more broad content lectures and been left to research Android nuts and bolts myself.
- ▶ More detailed instructions and examples of how to implement various Android things.
- ▶ More examples on mapping data.
- ▶ Complement slides with complementary knowledge.
- ▶ Showing how to build things up from bits of code seen so far.
- ▶ Upload slides the day before the lecture.
- ▶ Focussing more on the requirements of the coursework in the lecture.
- ▶ Allow more time for questions to be asked by students.

Stop doing this!

- Re-iterating slides.
- Not spending time in Android Studio.
- Don't show YouTube tutorials during the class.
- Less technical talk in the lecture.

How can you improve your own learning?

- ▶ Starting to actually work on the app.
- ▶ Reading/watching more Android tutorials and documentation (eight times).
- ▶ Work harder. Deal with stress.
- ▶ Ask more questions; work more each week on the assignment.
- ▶ Following course concepts in more depth, trying various things on my own.
- ▶ Try to build several smaller apps to get accustomed with the environment.
- ▶ Do research on Android development as I still don't feel confident enough to execute this project (two times).
- ▶ Refresh my Java skills.
- ▶ Spend more hours on the course (two times).
- ▶ Spend more time working in Android Studio.

Which statement best describes how you feel?

- I would prefer a more challenging course.
  - ▬▬ (2)
- I am happy with the level of challenge in this course.
  - ▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬ (19)
- I would prefer a slightly less challenging course.
  - ▬▬▬▬▬ (6)
- I have found this course much too challenging for me.
  - ▬▬▬ (3)

— ◇ —

Received 30 responses (out of a class of 69).

Implementing some changes

- Starting tomorrow, we will have an *optional drop-in lab session for SELP* in Room 1.B31 in Forrest Hill every Thursday from 15:10–16:00.
  - Attendance is completely optional. Just come along if you have questions/concerns.
- Starting next Tuesday, my *office hour for SELP* will move to Tuesdays from 15:10–16:00 in my office (Room 3.47 of the Informatics Forum).
  - Attendance is also optional. Just come along if you have questions/concerns.
- Starting now, using Android Studio in the lectures.
  - Live demo. Expect segmentation faults.

Links

- https://developer.android.com/studio/intro/
- https://codelabs.developers.google.com/codelabs/material-design-style/
- http://www.vogella.com/tutorials/android.html