

University of Michigan
Winter 2026 Midterm Individual Response Report
EECS 498-012: Special Topics
Nicole Hamilton

43 out of 54 students responded to this midterm evaluation.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Neutral
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

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 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
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 - ◊ Disagree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Lots of freedom and responsibility
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ Needs better infrastructure (more GCP credits)
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
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9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Being a project based course is pretty nice, I think students learn the best when they're given free reign to work on their projects and then consult the instructor for advice when stuck.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ I would appreciate if the specs on the homeworks were either more clear so that it wouldn't lead to confusions in how the autograder is working.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ I would say that perhaps making 482 a prereq for this class would make it so that less time has to be spent on having to cover OS topics, and that could instead be used to start the search engine components earlier so that students can learn more about the components while they're building it instead of waiting for after the midterm.

Perhaps also making 489 a prereq, but I think that Computer Networking fundamentals, at least socket programming is taught in 482
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Writing the entire project from scratch and managing the entire repository. It's pretty fun seeing a giant project come together from pieces into a giant repo that functions properly.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ I think the the UTF8/16 encoding assignment will probably be the most helpful because it's a new topic that (from my knowledge) hasn't been covered in another class, and it's going to be very useful when it comes to building the indexer.

I do wish the spec was more consistent, because sometimes the wording can be ambiguous.
I would also appreciate it if the optimization compiler was turned on the AG because Compilers are pretty good, and having to do compiler optimizations like loop unrolling and static inlining to hit the runtime requirements is a bit tedious.

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9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ The major strengths are the emphasis on the project over everything else. I also like that it gives a good overview of essentially common EECS topic and does it better than 485.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ The only criticism I have is that we shouldn't be graded on our lines of code contributed, not all lines are equal (Ex. HTML vs Multithreading code).
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ Very, Very knowledgeable about all subjects related to search engines and C/C++ and can answer any question. Also very good at keeping us on track with the project.
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ The most fun part has been creating the engine.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ The HTML parser.

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8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ This is the only systems class at Michigan that teaches how to develop a large software system that interacts with low-level mechanisms from an application perspective. As someone who has taken other systems courses, I'm surprised this course is offered as a special topics and not a 400-level elective.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ She sometimes walks through complex topics pretty quickly. This is fine for most of the class, since a lot of us have experience from other EECS courses, but since those courses are not required, I think she could spend a bit more time walking through the details and solidifying fundamentals.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ Nicole is a great professor and clearly cares a lot about teaching the material effectively and helping her students learn.
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Working with low-level mechanisms from an application perspective, and gaining experience with system design challenges.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ All of the assignments have been helpful so far. They help build the fundamental approaches to tackling real problems in the project, and foster a deeper understanding of important concepts.

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8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ It introduces a wide range of knowledge.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
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 - ◊ [No Response]
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14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Learning the index file structure is interesting. It kinds of unfold the secret of the search engine.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

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 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ The group picture
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ The most helpful were ones that required minimal change to incorporate to the project. I wish some would excluded not allowed libraries for the main project if possible

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 - ◊ N/A
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 - ◊ Agree
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8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ I think the project and Nicole's experience with the topic are super interesting.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
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 - ◊ [No Response]
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9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ It accumulates knowledge from other areas, such as networks, OS pager/file system, distributed system, and web. I liked how we are back to achieving good performance because that motivates me to think harder about design.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ n/a
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ She treats students with respect and is very enthusiastic.
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Having a group of diverse people to tackle on a big coding project
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ all of them are pretty relevant

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9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Neutral
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ The system design behind a performant search engine. Also learning about a lot of C++ standard library tooling through implementing it ourselves.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Honestly a great class and one of my favorites, love the system design aspect of planning the search engine.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ Maybe make assignments more defined, get us to start making the engine earlier.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ Love this class!
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Making friends and learning about how search engines came to!
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ I think most of them have been helpful, though I think we could have done without the subsequence/leetcode one.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Neutral
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ project based
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ more technical exam
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ html parser is probably most helpful, though I did not work on it

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Most aspects of this course are major strength. The teacher is an eminent figure in search engine building, and the class gives extremely valuable industry-adjacent experience in building and maintaining a very technically complicated project while managing deadlines.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ N/A
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ Excellent
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Neutral
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Neutral
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ The overarching project, and system design concepts we are learning through building a search engine in a distributed context.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ Spend more lecture time discussing more search engine relevant content prior to when students should be beginning their search engines. Spending more time discussing potential approaches and tradeoffs with designing different components of the search engine in lecture would help so so much more.

Things like discussing hashmap design is cool but I think is material that is more appropriate for review on our own time (as opposed to doing that in lecture, and reviewing the search engine papers you've given us on our own).
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ Thank you for being so enthusiastic about the course!
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Disagree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Disagree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Neutral
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Neutral
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ The project. Having to build lots from scratch and starting from a blank slate where we are forced to make our own design considerations while balancing various tradeoffs is incredibly educational and rewarding. It's nice that there's no right answer or predescribed design. We're free to experiment with what we want, and ultimately it'll either payoff in the engine's final performance or fall short.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ I think lectures are largely a waste of time. A lot of the examples we go through are unnecessary and feel a lot less important than learning about the core of a search engine. I would rather spend a lot more time with in-depth lectures on how to build an index, what different approaches are, what considerations to have in mind, etc. We spent like 10 lectures on things like how to open a file in C and how to do network calls, all of which students either learned in other classes or can easily learn on their own. It would be far more valuable to have multiple in-depth lectures on each section of the engine. This was especially frustrating at the start of the semester, because it felt like we had to write a project proposal and start work on a project that we hadn't been taught how to do. Other than a brief, ~10 minute introduction/overview of the parts of the search engine in both lectures 1 and 2, we had had no introduction to the actual meat of the project before we had to start it.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Neutral
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ The project.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ They're all fairly helpful. HTML parser seems like the most helpful, followed by hash map probably.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Neutral
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ N/A
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Autonomy and allowing you to really get deep into this project; not shielding you from the realities and hardships of working on a team towards something that actually needs to get shipped
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ The lab lessons are not super helpful; if anything, there isn't really a need for them. It seems like the time should just be dedicated to group discussion and work time
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Neutral
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Working on stuff I've never seen before; being forced to actually figure it out and make a somewhat airtight final product so we end up with a working search engine
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ I liked the LinuxTinyServer assignment (one of the ones I personally did) since I hadn't done that kind of content in any other class

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

2. Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

3. Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

4. Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

5. Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

6. Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

7. Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

8. Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)

- ◊ Strongly Agree

9. What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)

- ◊ The overall scheme of this course is fantastic. Designing such a large project with this scale and constraints is not something that is done in any other CS course (save for EECS 470, but that's more electrical engineering). I think just working on the project teaches a lot of valuable skills and ways of thinking that are really not covered anywhere else. I think the breadth and complexity of this class and what it covers is amazing.

10. How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)

- ◊ I think many of the first 10ish lectures are too basic. 281 is a prerequisite for this class, and while 482 isn't and probably shouldn't be, many people have taken it, so half of the first 10 lectures covering very basic things, most of which everyone should have already seen (hash maps for example) is somewhat of a waste. Particularly because we are expected to start planning and working on the project during this time. It would have been helpful to start discussion in depth on how to build and design the index and crawler immediately so that we could plan accordingly. I do think that the breadth of this class (covering systems programming, networking, distributed systems etc) is a major strength, I think leaning a little more heavily on 281 being a prerequisite as well as the extensive experience and seniority of the majority of the class would be helpful and let the class be somewhat more in depth.

I think the exams test for the wrong thing. Short answer questions are someone unique among CS classes and I think their strengths is their ability to be open ended and allow people to express their understanding of subject matter rather than just memorizing facts or answers. However the way these are graded are not for obvious understanding of the question or subject matter but rather tests the ability to reproduce the exact answers already given to us. Not that I'm one to complain about being given the answers to 70% of the test ahead of time, but I'm not sure what that tests for other than memorization of the given answers.

11. Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)

- ◊ [No Response]

12. I think this class may help me get a job.

- ◊ Neutral

13. Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.

- ◊ Strongly Agree

14. Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.

- ◊ Strongly Agree

15. What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?

- ◊ I think working on the project itself and thinking about it has been the best part by far.

16. Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?

- ◊ I think the implementation for the autograded assignments should be left more up to the person doing it. Since 281 is a prerequisite, we really shouldn't need a stub or schema to implement string or vector or hashmap, just a desired interface.

Otherwise I think the assignments overall we're great for getting us familiar with some of the specific technical skills needed for the project.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Neutral
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ There is a lot of new topics I'm being introduced to in this class, but I feel like I lack the prerequisite knowledge to fully understand it all. I've taken 485, so for the few topics from there that are also covered here, I feel like I'm learning more details about it; but for the topics I've never covered before that others have done in 482, I struggle to understand them and learn them as in-depth as others are, and it feels like they're speeding through it.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ I think it might be helpful to have a bit more guidance on building the projects, like little checkpoints throughout the term we're supposed to reach instead of having a bunch of autograder assignments with due dates that are technically "upper bound dates" because everyone ends up completing them way ahead of the deadline (sometimes even before we've covered the relevant content in class), but I wouldn't have known to do that if I hadn't known everyone was doing that too).
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ 482 should be at least an advisory prereq – I didn't take it, but all of my group members and it feels like 97% of the rest of the class has, and for me, it makes it very hard to keep up with the topics and my group members when we're working together because they've had so much experience with these topics, whereas many of the things we're covering are new to me. I think it'd be helpful to have had 482 knowledge (or at least know I may need it greatly), because that would allow me to focus on the search engine specifics instead of learning the entire concept for the first time.

I know I won't fail the class (because only 1 person has), but I'm worried I'll get an B+ or below just because everyone else is way ahead and I'm not sure what I should be doing to keep up, as in they'll be better at exams, and way better at understanding the stuff we need to do the project, hence writing more LOC etc.
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ I think getting to build a whole search engine and actually understanding each part of it is really cool!
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ HTML parsing instructions could be a little clearer on how we're supposed to do it – I understand in the real world we can

choose how to make it work, but since we're checking this against an autograder it'd be a lot easier if we knew what we were supposed to do.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Neutral
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Neutral
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Disagree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Neutral
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Neutral
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Learning the build and design a whole system greenfield.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Big project based, lots of work on own with low guidance, but guidance kind of comes from lecture and HW you have to put it together
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ Not exactly sure
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ N/A
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Neutral
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Working by yourself and combining parts with teammates
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ Well I worked on the HTML Parser and Expression parser, the Expression parser was good bc it prepared me to write the query language and parse tree, The html parser was tough bc would pass locally with diff checker but for some reason was not correct on auto grader and had no idea how to solve so took a while.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Neutral
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Neutral
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Neutral
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Neutral
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Neutral
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Neutral
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ Would help to have more concrete deadlines on the project.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Neutral
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Building the crawler
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ Probably the hash table assignment. The others didn't seem very useful.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Disagree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Neutral
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Neutral
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Neutral
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ I really enjoy the freedom to build a large-scale project from scratch. It's also very interesting to be exposed to many different topics of computing at once in my classes. I'm learning mostly from doing my own research and working with partners on the project to discuss system design.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ I think that there should be a higher level of prereqs for this class. After taking EECS281 I don't feel like I'm fully prepared to learn all of the content in the class and I feel a little overwhelmed since I have never been exposed to any topics before. In my opinion having a 400-level CS class requirement would make be more suitable. So far the class has felt a little inaccessible to me since I have realized that I have to put in significantly more time than my peers to understand the networking, OS, and distributed systems principles as well as writing a large-scale project in C++ for the first time. I definitely liked having some lectures review previous material, but I noticed many students chose not to engage in lecture, likely due to the fact that the course tries to appeal to too wide of an audience (anywhere from post-EECS281 students to grad students who have taken 482, 491, etc.). Shrinking down the intended student body of the course would likely make it easier for course lectures to be more engaging for students.

Also think that mandatory project check-ins (outside of the project proposal, where I wasn't super familiar with how anything worked at the time) will be helpful. I feel a little uneasy with my system design skills which is likely due to my lack of experience programming.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Disagree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ working with my team and learning about new concepts when i'm designing my search engine components
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ parser and hashtable/blob have been very helpful since they are the most useful for the Index, which is what I am working

on. Didn't love assignment 1 since I don't think it a good job at characterizing the rest of the course. I remember Prof. Hamilton mentioned that the goal of the assignment was to test students' competency in C++, but I think that a smaller-scale system design project would have been more helpful

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ implementing stl
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ we should implement more features of the stl and maybe make this class more focused on stl implementations and optimizations
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Neutral
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ implementing stl
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ vector, hashmap, utf8

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Disagree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ The major strengths of this class are that they expose the students to many different subtopics in computer science and provide a sampling that a student could expect in industry. I think these are valuable for learning, but they differ in nature a lot from the principled way in which we learn different subjects at the school and in the excellent CSE department.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ I think Nicole could improve the class by requiring additional prerequisites that ensure students have the necessary material to avoid being swept away by the pace of the class, so that these students can stick with the fast-pace of the course. For example, paging gets a significant amount of hand-waving, even at lower-level primitives used by a machine's paging system, but this leaves students unfamiliar with operating systems (EECS 482) deeply confused. I agree that this material could be incorporated, but without extensive background support, students would struggle to get what they need from the course.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ Nicole Hamilton is a brilliant instructor overall and a valuable addition to the University of Michigan's faculty.
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Neutral
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Lecture is full of lots of energy, so I think that wins for me. Students should be attending class in person.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ UTF8 optimization could use some improvement, it expects very unusual optimizations from the author that are otherwise nearly impossible to come up with without using some type of assistance.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ I think this class really gives you a chance to be truly independent and do something grand.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Disagree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ I think this class has gotten me the most amount of real programming experience of any class I've taken so far.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ I think this class should have a 400 level CS class such as a 482 or 491 as a prereq. Coming into this class with only 281 and 485, this class has a very large step up in programming ability and knowledge even outside of just the search engine information. EX multi threading and processes and networking. I feel like this class is teaching a lot but I am far behind students who have taken classes like 482 or 491 in terms of foundational knowledge.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ I love the freedom associated with designing a system from scratch. It's a freedom unlike any class I've had so far.
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
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 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ Professor Hamilton is extremely knowledgeable about the course content, and this course fills a critical role in the University's systems curriculum that I don't believe any other course does. The assignments are very applicable to the project and feel genuinely meaningful. Building a search engine is obviously a very unique opportunity, and it's incredibly cool to design such a system.
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ When covering new topics, we often dive straight into code and bypass significant conceptual discussion; I would appreciate more of the latter. Exam questions and assignment descriptions sometimes lack the specificity needed to obtain the correct answer.
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ Truly a great course!!!
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ Large(ish) scale system design and the tradeoffs therein. Learning about the techniques used to optimize different components of the search engine and evaluating these tradeoffs within our own design. Also love the t-shirts!
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ All of the assignments have felt relevant and useful, but my personal favorite has probably been Utf-8 as it made us approach code optimization/performance in a novel fashion.

Course Name: EECS 498-012: Special Topics

Instructor Name: Nicole Hamilton

1. **I am learning a great deal in this course. (Q966)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
2. **Nicole Hamilton is enthusiastic. (Q114)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
3. **Overall, Nicole Hamilton is an excellent teacher. (Q965)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
4. **Nicole Hamilton acknowledges all questions insofar as possible. (Q968)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
5. **Nicole Hamilton uses techniques to foster class participation. (Q972)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
6. **Nicole Hamilton is willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q975)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
7. **Nicole Hamilton keeps students informed of their progress. (Q977)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
8. **Overall, this is an excellent course. (Q964)**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
9. **What are the major strengths of this class? What is helping you to learn? (Q979)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
10. **How can Nicole Hamilton improve this class? If possible, give specific examples. (Q980)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
11. **Please enter any additional comments you have for Nicole Hamilton. (Q981)**
 - ◊ [No Response]
12. **I think this class may help me get a job.**
 - ◊ Agree
13. **Splitting things up as a team, I don't code everything myself but I'm still learning how everything works.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
14. **Working on a team of 6 or 7 is really cool and not like any other class.**
 - ◊ Strongly Agree
15. **What's been the most interesting or fun part of the class so far?**
 - ◊ [No Response]
16. **Which of the autograded assignments have been most helpful? Any that could be improved?**
 - ◊ [No Response]