Learning Outcomes Assessment (LOA)

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3) Determine if the course achieved its Learning Outcomes.

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4) The report itself has to be in a certain format which (IMHO) constrains it to much. I do not think it is particularly helpful.

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Since we are better informed, we are sharing some of what we learned so you are better informed.

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(2) what advice we gave,
(3) and the friends we made along the way.

CMSC/WGGS 115: Gender, Race, and Computing

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WGSS is the dept of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Taught by Alexi Lothian (from WGGS) and Elias Gonzales (one of our lecturers). Evaluated by Bill Gasarch and Clyde Kruskal.

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AI The course is self-selective and easy so students don't need to cheat. Some of the students are anti-tech so they don't want to use AI (that won't last). The papers that students write have to say how THEY got interested in the topic, which is hard for AI to do. The teachers realize that AI-cheating may be a problem in the future

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Opinion and Advice The class at 50 students. Clyde and I read 10 papers each. They were interesting but sometimes not well organized. We gave Alexis and Elias advice on making the assignments more structured.

CMSC 132. Object Oriented Programming II

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Caveat Her dilemma is not unique and, as you know, is being discussed and may be part of what the new intro-sequence will deal with.

CMSC 216. Introduction to Computer Systems

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Caveat Nelson's ideas might be part of the overall changes to the intro sequence that are coming.

CMSC 416 Introduction to Parallel Computing

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Taught by Abhinav Bhatele. Evaluated by William Gasarch and Alan Sussman.

We Learned There is a real-world ugrad course on parallelism (Alan Knew that, I didn't).

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Advice Some of the early assignments were to hard, and some of the later ones were to easy. He will rethink the order of things.

CMSC 422 Introduction to Machine Learning

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AI If a student gets $\leq 60\%$ on the exams they get an F in the course. Of the 300 students, 13 got F's for this reason.

CMSC 452. Elementary Theory of Computation

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Advice There is a small programming project in the class. All the students got 100 on it. Not from cheating—it is just too easy and, more important, it probably doesn't teach them much. Rethink the project. (Gasarch will do that in Spring 2027.)