CSE599A - TA Training Seminar

Session 01: Introduction

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Learning Objectives

Two categories:
• What you need to know
• What you need to be able to do

(Look at the items on the large sheet I brought to class.)

Activities To Choose From

DOING:
• Be a Tutor
• Mentor a New TA
• Lead (Part of) a CSE599A Session
• Practice Teaching U (a.k.a. Micro-teaching)
• Organize a Role-Playing Session
• Be Observed and Discuss Experiences with Peers and/or the Instructor
• Observe a Fellow TA and Provide Feedback

READING:
• Read a Book and Write Your Reaction
• Do a Literature Review

WRITING:
• Keep a Teaching Journal
• Reflect on Your Teaching Practice
• Write a Learner's Autobiography
• Write Your Teaching Philosophy Statement
• Write a Short Research Paper

Topics That You Are Interested In

Session Themes I Have in Mind

• How people learn; learning styles and personalities; diversity in the classroom
• Team-based and active learning
• Techniques for leading effective discussions and classroom activities
• Managing challenging classroom situations
• The different stakeholders -- students, professors, staff, advisors -- and their expectations for TAs, in general and in CSE specifically
• Effective grading techniques
• Developing homework and exams
• Techniques for effectively gathering and giving feedback (in and out of the classroom)
• In-class simulation / practice of teaching (micro-teaching)
• Time management in teaching
• The CS curriculum and how it evolves over time
• Job prospects for teachers