CSE599A - TA Training Seminar

Session 01: Introduction

Valentin Razmov

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 Us (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