

Peer Observation

Due: Tuesday, 4:00pm

CS 375: Teaching Techniques for Computer Science, Fall 2013

Instructions

Before their section, get in contact with your partner and answer the questions in the “Before their section” part of the homework.

Immediately after their section, fill in the remaining blanks below. Use the following numbers to answer each of the questions:

4 = Yes, absolutely; 3 = Yes, mostly; 2 = Kind of, not really; 1 = No, needs improvement.

Before their section

What is main thing about their teaching that they want you to focus on during this class?

What are some additional things about their teaching they want you to focus on?

What, if any, contextual issues should you keep in mind for this class (e.g. some students dominate the conversation, it's early in the morning, etc)?

What activities will they do during class? (e.g. Group work? Pair work? Lecture?)

Immediately after their section

Use the following numbers to answer each of the following questions:

4 = Yes, absolutely; 3 = Yes, mostly; 2 = Kind of, not really; 1 = No, needs improvement.

Presentation

Did they:

- speak in a clear, strong voice that could be easily heard? _____
- make eye contact with the class? _____
- write clearly? _____
- listen carefully to students' comments and questions without interrupting? _____
- appear confident? _____
- appear enthusiastic? _____
- provide clear explanations? _____
- explain terminology? _____

Notes on their presentation:

Classroom Climate

Did they:

- call on/address male and female students equally? _____
- call on/address students of different ethnic groups equally? _____
- take time to learn students' names? _____

Notes on classroom climate:

Student Participation

- Are students comfortable interacting with the TA? _____
- Are the students comfortable interacting with each other? _____
- (Answer with percentages) How often were they talking? _____ The students talking? _____
- Did they encourage the students to ask questions? _____
- Are students comfortable asking “stupid” questions? _____
- Did the students seem willing to answer the TA’s questions? _____
- Did the students seem interested and engaged? _____

Notes on student participation:

Focusing on Students

(Answer with a percentage) How often did they answer a student’s question with a question? _____

Did they:

- try to find out what the students knew before giving an explanation? _____
- provide explanations to address both struggling and excelling students? _____

Did the students seem to understand the TA’s explanations? _____

Notes on how students were acting during class (engaged, enthusiastic, distracted, bored, etc):

Lab/1-on-1 Interactions

You may skip any questions that are not applicable.

Answer the following with a percentage:

- How often were they on their feet? _____
- What fraction of students did they interact with? _____

Did they:

- interact with the shy students? _____
- refrain from assuming manual control of the keyboard? _____

Notes on 1-on-1 interactions:

Miscellaneous

Any additional suggestions?