

Teaching Statement

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Teaching Philosophy

My teaching philosophy is to train students to become independent thinkers and to teach them problem solving ability for real world problems. I emphasize principles and concepts rather than specific skills, within modern contexts so that students can see how the principles fit into the real world.

I was an instructor of one undergraduate database courses in Fall 2007. My teaching responsibilities include classroom lectures; grading assignments, projects and exams; holding regularly scheduled office hours; administering independent studies; and advising students. I encourage student participation and attempt to make them feel comfortable about asking any questions. During office hours, my emphasis is on leading a student to the correct answers, rather than giving answers to them. I try very hard to help students solve problems in their own way so that in the end, they would understand the solutions. I also served as a teaching assistant of an undergraduate database class in Summer 2007. These valuable experiences and my strong research background make me highly confident in teaching both undergraduate and graduate level courses.

I believe teaching style should vary with the course and the level at which it is being taught (undergraduate or graduate). In general, I think undergraduate courses should contain both conceptual learning as well as the application in the form of individual or group projects. My undergraduate courses will mostly consist of lectures, use a textbook and a few related reference books, as well as have many small graded homework assignments and projects in addition to mid-term and final exams. The graduate courses should provide students a comprehensive view of the state of the art techniques and direction of the research topics, and possibly help them to find research areas that interest them. I will assign the reading of selected research papers and have students create presentations and projects based on those readings. I require that class projects be significant in scope and highly relevant, so the students can learn skills useful to their eventual research work.

Teaching Interests

My specific teaching interests cover the following areas:

- Information Retrieval
- Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining
- Database Management Systems
- Data Structure
- Programming Languages (Java, C++, Web Development)

My strong research background in information retrieval and data mining make me very comfortable to teach the course of *Information Retrieval* and the course of *Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining*.

Database Management Systems is also one of my favorite courses. I was the teaching assistant of this course in summer and now I am teaching it. In addition, I am capable of teaching object-oriented programming languages and data structure courses. In 2001, I was hired as an instructor of Microsoft Certified Solution Developer (MCSD) Program and gained the experience of teaching technical courses. Besides, my research involves heavy programming which gives me valuable practical experience of how to be an excellent developer.

Teaching Experiences

- Instructor of Database Management Systems, College of IST, Drexel University, Fall 2007
- Teaching Assistant of Database Management Systems, College of IST, Drexel University, Summer 2007, Instructor: Peter Grillo (peter.grillo@ischool.drexel.edu 215-895-0492)
- Instructor of Microsoft Certified Solution Developer (MCSD) Program (In Chinese)
Nan Yang Computer Training Center, Shanghai, China, Feb. 2001– Aug. 2001
Wisenet Education Center, Shanghai, China, July 2001– Oct. 2001