Effective Teaching and Class Management

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About this session

- Organization:
  - Interactive
  - Topics chosen by you
- Effective teaching
- Class management
- Wrap up
- Q & A
Effective Teaching: Possible Issues for Discussion

• How to best use class time
  – How to actively engage all
  – How to encourage participation
  – Effective use of technology
• Possible teaching techniques
  – Interesting lectures
  – Group problem solving
  – Think-Pair-Share
  – Flipping the classroom
  – Class discussion
  – Other?

• Considerations for planning
  – Dealing with large classes
  – Matching teaching style to class size and material
  – Teaching students with special needs
• Teaching evaluations
  – Responding to feedback
  – What to do about low evals
• Others topics?
Class Management: Possible Issues for Discussion

- **Syllabus**
  - How to plan topics and pace
  - How to distribute workload among HW, quizzes, etc

- **Discussion**
  - How to incorporate discussion
  - How to manage so all students participate comparably

- **Team Projects**
  - How to set up teams?
  - How to manage teams?

- **Grading**
  - How to grade efficiently
  - How to work with TAs
  - Dealing with complaints

- **Student Preparation**
  - How to work with students with different prior experience
  - How to understand and respond to student needs

- **Other topics?**
Burning questions

- How to engage all students
- Differing student backgrounds, how to pitch level
- How to make theory courses more popular with students
- Recorded lectures can lead to low attendance
- How to promote collaboration in the classroom
- How to get students to think more deeply about topics in class
- How can I best share what I learn with colleagues?
- How to handle student complaints
- How to handle large student enrollments; want all to feel included
Questions?

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Summary of discussion

- Student engagement, especially in larger classes.
- Student attendance – problem or not?
- Learning student names is worth it.
- How to call on students? Ideas: share in pairs, whiteboard apps

- Large enrollment classes, grading.
- Managerial structure.
- Piazza or course space email address, so instructor doesn’t need to process all emails.
- TA training, getting TAs to e.g., how to help students feel comfortable in office hours.
Summary of discussion

• How to pace course with students possibly falling behind.
• Group projects, peer mentoring with students who took course previously.
• Videos can help support students, e.g., giving them a chance to review a proof.
• Cheating is an issue.

• How to encourage students to think more deeply and how to manage student complaints.
• Provide in-class assignments that give students a chance to think and reflect.
• Incrementally give different parts, have students work towards milestones.
• Be explicit about learning objectives.
• Include estimate of how much time assignment will take.
• Give rubrics.
• Midterm course assessment can help.