CoAT Participant’s Name: Dr. Danu Towane
Course observed: CSC 401 Computer Networks
Date of observation: Many classes
Time of class: 3:15 - 4:05
Observed by: Dr. Danu Towane

Teaching characteristics – Comments

1. Planning and start of session
   Appropriateness of aims and outcomes (where it is possible to evaluate this). Communication of these to students. Continuity with other sessions and students’ prior knowledge made explicit. Coping with any unexpected occurrences, e.g. latecomers, missing equipment.

   Good outline of the material to be covered.
   Material related to previous lecture by Dr. Towane. Referred what the students should know.

2. Presentation
   Structure. Relevance and organization of content. Attitude to subject matter. Clarity of presentation. Emphasis of key points. Pace of session (time management). Tone, volume, clarity of speech. Links made to other aspects of course (e.g. lectures, seminars or tutorials). Summary (end and/or interim).

   Clear enjoys the secure system concepts and teaching them. Presentation was clear and the class did ask some questions.

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3. **Student participation**
Question and answer technique. Exercises/activities. Class management (appropriate level of control and authority). Instructions to students. General class atmosphere. Level of participation between students (excessive? lacking?). Attention and interest. Attitude to students. Awareness of individual needs. Student-teacher rapport.

Also sec 2. Easily maintain control. Class was a little dead due to last week's classes. Good class atmosphere. Most students were attentive and interested. Desks have a good attitude toward students.

4. **Methods and approaches**
Choice/variety of teaching/learning methods. Use and design of instructional materials (board, technology, handouts etc.) Use of appropriate reinforcement. Examples and analogies. References and links to research, other resources. Handling problems/disruptions.

Methods are good. Materials were very good. More examples would be helpful. There was no difficulty with directions. There was no difficulty with directions. Questions were both sought out and handled very well.

5. **General**
Were the aims and outcomes achieved? Appropriateness of teaching/learning methods. Was effective communication achieved? Awareness of needs of learners and differences in approach.

Aims were nicely given at the beginning of the class and were restated throughout the class and summarized at the end very well.
REFLECTION QUESTIONS for the CoAT PARTICIPANT

Complete this section after your class has been observed and you have met with your observer. Attach your comments to this observation form.

1. What did you feel went well in this class session?

2. What would you like to change about this class session if you had to teach it again?

3. In the light of the observer’s comments, what aspects of your teaching approach will you look at changing in the future? How will you do this?

4. What have you found useful/not so useful about the observation process?

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REFLECTION QUESTIONS for the CoAT PARTICIPANT

1. What did you feel went well in this class session?

The students seemed to understand the material and didn’t seem to get lost at any point of the lecture. The topics were interesting to the students and some of them have had a little exposure to the subject matter before, so they asked a number of good questions.

2. What would you like to change about this class session if you had to teach it again?

First, I wouldn’t do my evaluation in the final week of classes. Students know that this material will only be lightly covered in the final exam so they are more apt to not pay attention. Also, knowing that I would have incorporated a lot more real world examples into the lecture to keep them interested and point out why this material is useful to know.

3. In the light of the observer’s comments, what aspects of your teaching approach will you look at changing in the future? How will you do this?

With such an interesting topic for the students and myself, I would have expected more enthusiasm from both parties. Unlike most lectures in the course this one had the opportunity to be more interactive, with more real world examples, but I maintained the same format as the more formal lectures. I am planning on updating the format of this lecture and other lectures like it to include more examples and questions that are entertaining and give the students perspective on how the subject matter is used in the industry.

4. What have you found useful/not so useful about the observation process?

As a mentored TA I have been observed all semester long and having a senior faculty member watching your lecture is a bit intimidating no matter how many lectures they sit in on. For this particular observation I found asking them to specifically look for areas of improvement was helpful. It brought to light a few things that we had not discussed before, such as how I can present the material more like a story.