Teaching Assistant Orientation

Fall 2018

William Eiers

cs.ucsb.edu/~leadta
Teaching Assistant Orientation

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Who Are We?

William Eiers
2nd Year PhD Student
Verification Lab
Lead TA for Academic Year 2018-19

Elizabeth Belding
Professor and Vice Chair
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

Teaching ≡ Explaining complex subject matter in easy to understand, intuitive ways

Responsibilities
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

Teaching ≡ Explaining complex subject matter in easy to understand, intuitive ways

Responsibilities

- Leading Discussion sections / Labs
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

Teaching ≡ Explaining complex subject matter in easy to understand, intuitive ways

Responsibilities

- Leading Discussion sections / Labs
- Other Responsibilities
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

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Responsibilities

Discussion Sections

- 50 mins lecture-type setting
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

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Discussion Sections

– 50 mins lecture-type setting

– Review lectures, additional topics solve examples and in-class exercises
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Responsibilities

Discussion Sections

– 50 mins lecture-type setting
– Review lectures, additional topics solve examples and in-class exercises
– Group Attention
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  solve examples and in-class exercises
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Labs

- 50 mins, 5-10 mins explanation
# TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

**Teaching** ≡ Explaining complex subject matter in easy to understand, intuitive ways

## Responsibilities

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<td>- Help students with a structured assignment</td>
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[Image of Computer Science logo]

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**UC SANTA BARBARA**

**Computing, Reinvented.**
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

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Discussion Sections

- 50 mins lecture-type setting
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- 50 mins, 5-10 mins explanation
- Help students with a structured assignment
- Individual Attention
**TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB**

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**Responsibilities**

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TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

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Responsibilities

Discussion Sections
- 50 mins lecture-type setting
- Review lectures, additional topics solve examples and in-class exercises
- Group Attention
- Upper Div Courses > 100

Labs
- 50 mins, 5-10 mins explanation
- Help students with a structured assignment
- Individual Attention
- Lower Div Courses < 100

Coordinate with course instructor!
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

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Other Responsibilities

Office hours
TA’ing CS Courses at UCSB

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Other Responsibilities

Office hours

✦ Typically 2-4 hours per week
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Other Responsibilities

Office hours

➢ Typically 2-4 hours per week
➢ Don’t be late or leave early!
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Other Responsibilities

Office hours

➢ Typically 2-4 hours per week
➢ Don’t be late or leave early!
➢ Ask Benji for locations and key
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Other Responsibilities

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Answer questions on Piazza, Gauchospace etc
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Attend lectures (if needed), meet with instructor regularly
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➢ Typically 2-4 hours per week
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➢ Ask Benji for locations and key

Answer questions on Piazza, Gauchospace etc
Attend lectures (if needed), meet with instructor regularly

Be available until grades are submitted!
Why Should You Care..

- Personal Satisfaction of “doing your job well”
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- Makes you a better at giving talks  

  Industry or Academia
Why Should You Care..

- Personal Satisfaction of “doing your job well”
- Makes you a better at giving talks
- Student Appreciation

Bragging Rights :-)
Why Should You Care..

- Personal Satisfaction of “doing your job well”
- Makes you a better at giving talks
- Student Appreciation
- Department Appreciation: TA Awards
  - Certificates, Cash Awards
  - Nomination for campus-wide awards
Why Should You Care..

- Personal Satisfaction of “doing your job well”
- Makes you a better at giving talks
  - Enough said :-)
- Student Appreciation
- Department Appreciation: TA Awards
- Lead TA position
How to Be a Better TA...

CS 501 : Teaching Assistant Seminar
How to Be a Better TA...

CS 501 : Teaching Assistant Seminar

-Taught by the Lead TA-
How to Be a Better TA...

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- Mandatory : everyone must register
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- Meets every Wednesdays 5 and 6 pm
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- Tips and tricks for CS courses, closely follows UCSB TA handbook
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http://oic.id.ucsb.edu/ta-handbook/
Your First Section
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Preparation → Confidence
Your First Section

Preparation ➔ Confidence

- Prepare your lecture notes / slides well in advance
Your First Section

Preparation ➔ Confidence

- Prepare your lecture notes / slides well in advance
- Specify your plan for the lecture
Your First Section

Preparation ➤ Confidence

- Prepare your lecture notes / slides well in advance
- Specify your plan for the lecture
- Try not to fit too much material!
Your First Section

**Preparation**

- Prepare your lecture notes / slides well in advance

- Specify your plan for the lecture

- Try not to fit too much material!

**Confidence**

Coordinate with instructor
Your First Section

Preparation ➔ Confidence

- Prepare your lecture notes / slides well in advance
- Specify your plan for the lecture
- Try not to fit too much material! Coordinate with instructor
- Make it interactive but not too interactive
Your First Section

Preparation ➔ Confidence

- Prepare your lecture notes / slides well in advance
- Specify your plan for the lecture
- Try not to fit too much material! Coordinate with instructor
- Make it interactive but not too interactive

Work out Logistics such location of your room, projector, keys etc
Teaching Contract

An agreement between the course instructor and you
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- Review to insure you are not overworked
- Revise if necessary
- Get it signed by the instructor
Teaching Contract

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› Review to insure you are not overworked
› Revise if necessary
› Get it signed by the instructor

TA Rights (50 % TA)

› 8 hours per day (Max)
› 20 hours per week (Average)
› 40 hours (max) in any week
› 220 hours per quarter
Teaching Contract

An agreement between the course instructor and you

- Review to insure you are not overworked
- Revise if necessary
- Get it signed by the instructor

TA Rights (50 % TA)

- 8 hours per day (Max)
- 20 hours per week (Average)
- 40 hours (max) in any week
- 220 hours per quarter

Time includes all responsibilities such as attending lectures, TA training (CS 501), preparing notes etc.
We are UAW 2865, the union of over 16,000 student-workers across the University of California system, including TAs, GSIs, Readers, and both undergraduate and graduate tutors.

http://www.uaw2865.org/
Negotiates contract for wages and benefits

Same minimum wage across the university
TA Union – UAW Local 2865

- Negotiates contract for wages and benefits
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Membership for life, but fee needed if you are working as ASE

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Membership for life, but fee needed if you are working as ASE

To join, you pay a one-time Initiation Fee (currently $10). All ASEs pay a percentage of their wages in Fair Share Fees (1.20% as of Aug. 1, 2016, or about $26/month for a 50% TA position), but for approximately $5 more a month (1.44% as of Aug. 1, 2016) you can be a member (and part of a strong student-worker movement).
Things to do Next
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CS 501

- Enroll in CS 501 (on GOLD) asap
- Be at Phelps 2510 next Wednesday (5 or 6 pm)
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- Enroll in CS 501 (on GOLD) asap
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For the course you are TA’ing

- Meet with the instructor
- Review your TA contract and get it signed
- Establish good communication pattern: weekly meetings etc
- Your first section!
Always pass on what you have learned.

Yoda
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Yoda

Questions?