

Hi, my name is {your name here}
and I am an awesome TA

Bryce Boe

Fall 2009

<http://cs.ucsb.edu/~leadta>



Who are we?

- Bryce Boe – bboe@cs
 - 2009-2010 Computer Science Lead TA
 - Second Year Ph.D. Student
- Dr. Tobias Höllerer – holl@cs
 - Associate Professor
 - Co-director of Four Eyes Laboratory
 - Graduate Affairs Committee



What is the lead TA?

- Train first year TAs via CMPSC 501 seminar
- Provide TA consulting, if needed
- Schedule winter quarter video consultations
- Run following year's Graduate Student Workshop on Computing (GSWC)



Discussion Outline

- TA Responsibilities
 - Expectations
 - The TA Union / teaching contract
 - Your first discussion
 - Other important information
-
- Please interrupt and ask questions



TA Responsibilities

- Discussion Section
- Grading
- Office Hours
- Other Responsibilities



What are discussion sections?

- 50 minute period lead by TA
- Optional student attendance (typically)
- Requires coordination with professor on what to cover



Grading

- Fast and equitable
- Petitions
- Late policies
- Cheating



Office Hours

- Time periods in which you must be available to the students
- Be on time
- Don't leave early



Other TA Responsibilities

- Answering emails
- Attending lecture
- Review sessions
- Providing feedback to instructor
- Being available until grades are submitted
- Handing out TA Evaluations



Expectations

- TA of Students
- Student of TAs
- TA of Professor
- Professor of TA



TA Expectation of Students

- Lack of attendance
- Eating, sleeping, reading, texting in class
- Asking for answers
- Requests for extensions
- Requests for grade changes
- Cheating



Student Expectations of TAs

- Leadership
- Respect
- Timeliness
- Approachability*



TA Expectations of Professor

- Knowledgeable
- Weekly meetings
- Busy
- Approachable



Professor Expectations of TA

- Promptness
- Communication
- Contract fulfillment

TA Union - UAW Local 2865

- www.uaw2865.org
- Represents over 12,000 ASEs in the UC
- Negotiates contract for wages and benefits
 - All TAs paid the same across the university
 - GSHIP provides some vision and dental
- Fees
 - All TAing pay 0.89% fair share fee
 - Members pay 1.15% for dues

TA Rights

- 50% TA Cannot be asked to work more than
 - 8 hours per day
 - 20 hours per week (on average)
 - 40 hours in any one week
 - 220 hours per quarter
- Time includes:
 - All TA responsibilities including attending lecture, preparation time, and TA training (CS 501)



Teaching Contract

- Agreement between you and professor on your responsibilities
- Review to ensure you wont be overworked
- Revise if necessary



Your first discussion

- Preparation
- The first discussion tips
- Content



Pre-preparation

- Find the room
- Does it have a projector?
- What keys do you need?
- Allot ~2 hours for preparation of material



The first discussion tips

- Be confident, you're awesome
- Introduce yourself
- State your expectations
- Write outline on board, if appropriate
- Lectures are boring (yawn)
- Make eye contact



Content

- Coordinate with professor on content
- Prepare notes in advance
- Outline objectives

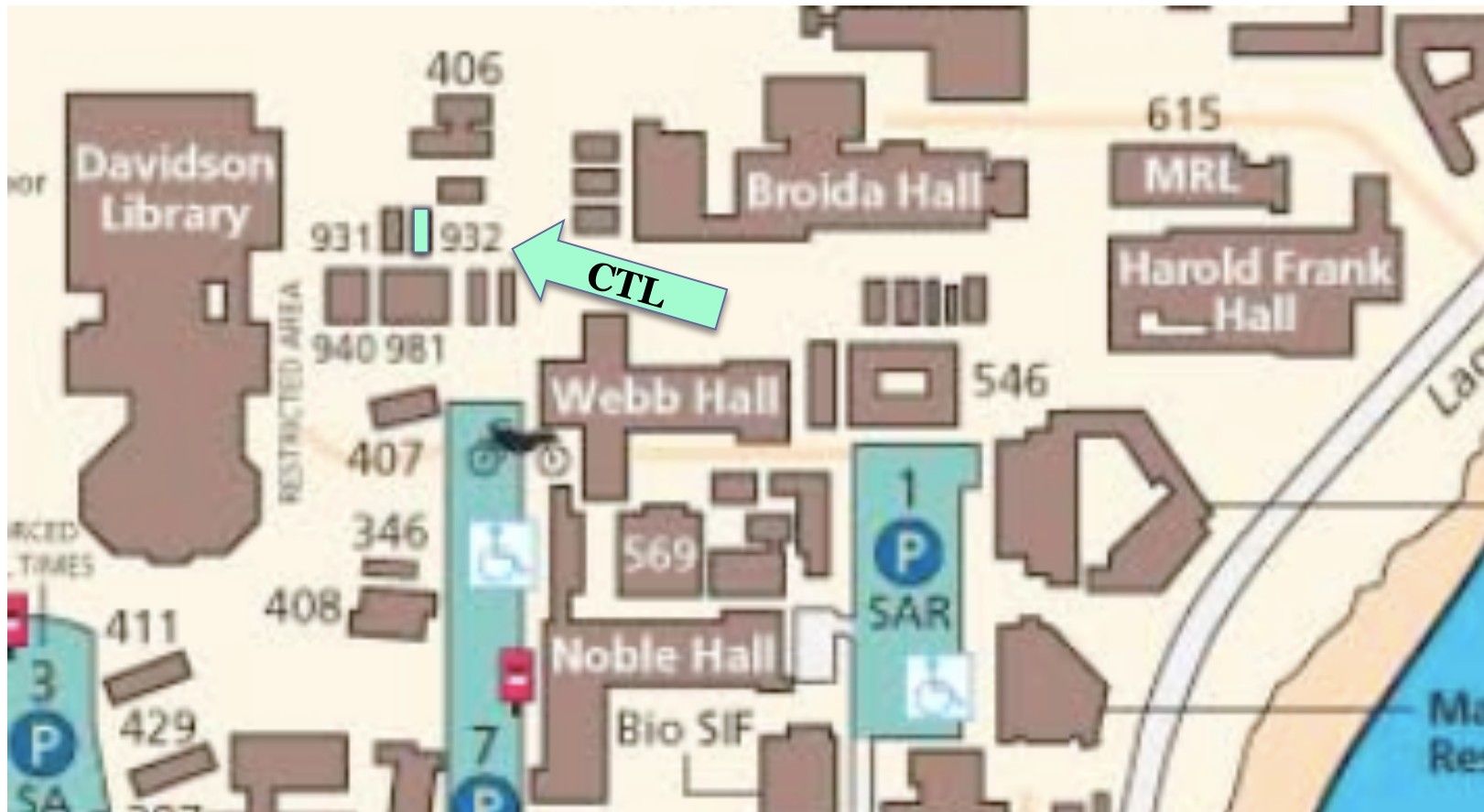


Other Important Information

CMPS 501

- Wednesday 5-5:50 – 932 101 (CTL)
- TA Training Seminar
- Potential Topics:
 - Grading methods
 - Motivating students
 - Presenting material
 - Maintaining authority

CTL -- 932 101





TA Evaluations

- Self evaluations
- Mid-quarter evaluations
- Quarterly evaluations
- Winter quarter video consultation



Incentives to be an awesome TA

- Personal satisfaction
- Student appreciation
- TA awards
- Lead TA position



Where to get help

- Each other
- Me -- bboe@cs
- Graduate Affairs Committee



Questions?