Teaching Patrice Koehl Computer Science, UC Davis

What is teaching?

- ➤ Communicating information
- ➤ Promoting reasoning
- >Assessing acquisition of knowledge and ability to use it
- >Learning from the students

What is good teaching?

- >The teacher must be knowledgeable
- ➤The teacher must have good communication skills
- >The teacher must be passionate / interested in what she teaches
- >The teacher must be respectful
- ➤The teacher must go beyond knowledge (inspiring)

Being a TA

- ➤ Know the class material
- >Lead discussions, labs, or quiz sections
- >Evaluate and grade assignments, projects, and exam questions
- >Report problems to the instructors
- ➤ Be available to the students

In the Classroom

- >Assess understanding and clear confusion if needed
- ➤ Encourage questions
- ≻Try to understand their way of thinking
- ➤ Assess what is the best support for teaching
- ➤Be respectful to all students

During office hours

- ➤Show interest
- >Don't solve problems/exercises for the students... lead them to the solution
- ➤ Ask if they have any concerns
- \succ Ask if they have any questions even if unrelated to the specific problem they came to discuss
- ≻Be respectful

Grading

- ➤ Grade according to guidelines...use your own judgment!
- >Add comments: students love comments
- ≻Be clear
- ➤Be consistent
- ≻Be prompt
- ➤Be respectful

Rules

- ➤Know the rules about cheating: honesty and ethics
- >Know the rules about harassment
- $\succ\!\mbox{Be clear}$ to the students about what you can, and cannot do
- ➤In case of doubts...talk to the instructor
- ≻Be respectful