Peer Instruction

In this course we award up to 3% bonus for students who either give, or receive, peer instruction. The bonus is calculated at term's end, there is no feedback (other than the mark), and there is no opportunity for a re-mark.

Here's how peer instruction is organized. Students who achieved at least 19/21 on the first term test may send email to csc236-2018-09@cs.toronto.edu, stating their tentative availability between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. in the Bahen, and asking that their University of Toronto email be listed as a potential mentor. I will post a list this weekend, and perhaps update it later.

Any student is eligible to be a mentee, and approach one or more mentors, subject to the rules below.

general rules

- 1. Study sessions are initiated by a mentee sending email from a University of Toronto email address to a mentor, and copying csc236f18peer@cs.toronto.edu. All other communication must also be conducted from UofT email, and also copy csc236f18peer@cs.toronto.edu.
- 2. Each study session involves one mentor and from one to three mentees, if they have similar questions.
- 3. Study sessions are 2 hours, and a maximum of one session per week is eligible for up to 0.5% bonus for each participant (mentor or mentee) fully involved. A maximum of 3% bonus may be accumulated altogether.

mentee-specific rules

- 1. Mentees initiate a session by suggesting a time slot, based on the mentor's availability, by putting in the subject line "CSC236: Peer Instruction, [day/time]," where of course [day/time] is replaced by the proposed time slot.
- 2. Mentees, in the body of the email, must specify very specific topics they want to cover.
- 3. Mentees must indicate whether they require a one-to-one session or are willing to share a session.
- 4. Within 24 hours of the session, each mentee must send a one-page report explaining, in her/his own words, the topics he/she has learned during the session, by email, to csc236f18peer@cs.toronto.edu. The first lines of the report must list the name of the mentor and other mentees (if any). There is no bonus for mentees who don't submit a report, or who submit a report that is strangely similar to another mentee's report.

mentor-specific rules

- 1. Upon receiving an initiating email a mentor should reply-all (make sure csc236f18peer@cs.toronto.edu is included) indicating whether the session is do-able or not. It is quite possible that a given mentor finds the notice is too short, or they have already been booked by other mentees. If the session is do-able, the subject line must indicate a location in Bahen.
- 2. Mentors are expected to prepare the specific topics mentioned by the mentee. They are also required not to give solutions to assignment questions, but rather to provide hints or approaches that might help.
- 3. A mentor may book up to 3 mentees for a given session, if the topics they ask about are compatible.