

Statement of Teaching Interests

Prasenjit Mitra

I have greatly enjoyed the teaching opportunities I have had and look forward to teaching as part of my academic career. I want to teach because I like the opportunity to share my knowledge with my students and love the satisfaction that results from making them understand a difficult but interesting concept. Discussions with students have also enhanced my understanding of computer science.

I would like to develop and teach an advanced course on database systems that focuses on topics like data mining, database security, distributed databases, information extraction, and information integration. I am also interested in teaching another advanced course on the theory of database systems. I would enjoy the opportunity to teach an undergraduate or graduate course in computer science, preferably, on topics like data structures and programming languages, algorithms, databases, software engineering, operating systems, compilers, artificial intelligence, theory of computation and computational logic.

I enjoyed teaching a course in India on designing and analyzing computer systems – a first course where the students learned about introductory computer architecture along with programming and data structures. I was a teaching assistant at the University of Texas in two courses on computer organization and architecture, in one of which I lectured one day a week during the discussion session. At Stanford, I was a co-instructor for the database seminar. I enjoyed mentoring Alex Carobus, a graduate student who worked with me on the OntoAgents project. I found the experience enjoyable and gratifying.

In summary, I believe teaching is an integral part of an academic career and I look forward to teaching a university course. As a teacher, I hope to advance the intellectual development of my students to the best of my abilities. I am confident that my past teaching experiences, strong academic background, and communication skills coupled with thorough preparation and enthusiasm for the subject will make me an excellent teacher.