

Cases Teaching Assistant Day 2022

Introduction to the case discussions

You will be divided in groups of three to four PhD students for approximately 20-25 minutes. Start with a short introduction of yourself and your teaching. Discuss at least case 1 and case 2. If there is time left, you can discuss the other two cases.

The cases have been written based on the challenges reported in the registration form for the TA-day. All cases have a short description and explicit questions to discuss. There will be a plenary debrief after the group discussions. You can choose individually which case(s) you would like to debrief. Appoint one group member who writes a short summary of your discussion/answers that can be shared in the Chat during the debrief. A short summary of your discussion can also be given orally.

Note that the cases do not necessarily have one correct answer and that the main objective is the discussion, rather than the answer.

Case 1

Ten students are registered in the course where you teach exercise classes (on campus), but usually only two or three show up. The classes are not compulsory.

- i. Should you try to make more students show up?
- ii. What could you do to motivate more students to show up?
- iii. How could you organize exercise classes with only two or three students?

Case 2

You teach exercise classes in a course with ten students on campus. The students do not prepare the exercises before the classes. In class, they hardly ask any questions about the exercises. Usually nobody responds when you ask whether they have any questions.

- i. Is it problematic when you have hardly any interaction with your students?
- ii. What could you do to get more interaction with your students?
- iii. How can you make the classes more fun and giving for you and for the students?

Case 3

You are teaching a topic that is outside your main expertise. One of your students asks you a question to which you do not know the answer.

- i. Is it problematic if you do not know the answer to a question?
- ii. How could you react in such a situation?

Case 4

You have been assigned to teach in a course that starts in ten days. You have not met the course leader yet and she has not answered the email you sent a week ago.

- i. Should you try again to come into contact with the course leader?
- ii. What should you do to get more information about your teaching?