## Certificate of Accomplishment in Teaching Program
## Classroom Observation Form – Option 2

CoAT Participant's Name:   Titus Barik
Course observed:   CSC 517, Object-Oriented Languages and Systems
Date of observation:   September 7, 2011
Time of class:   12:50–2:05
Observed by:   Edward F. Gehringer

| | Needs Improvement | Satisfactory | Well Done | Not Observed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Introduction:** The lesson was introduced in an interesting and effective way, and the goal or purpose of the lesson was clear. | | | √ | |
| **Level/Audience:** The lesson was presented at an appropriate level for the intended audience. The instructor seemed to know his/her audience. | | | √ | |
| **Content:** The content was developed in an organized manner, emphasizing important points. Examples or applications helped students relate material to familiar concepts. | | | √ | |
| **Purpose of learning activities:** The learning activities had an appropriate place in the lesson, and the purpose of each activity was clear. | | | √ | |
| **Student participation:** The instructor effectively involved the students in the lesson. | | | √ | |
| **Climate:** The instructor established a positive climate of approachability, setting an appropriate tone for the instructor-student relationship. | | | √ | |
| **Enthusiasm:** The instructor showed enthusiasm for the subject and introduced interesting aspects of the content. | | | √ | |
| **Questions:** The instructor checked for student understanding and invited student questions. When questions were asked, the instructor responded clearly. | | | √ | |
| **Visual aids:** The instructor used visuals effectively. Visuals may include the board, handouts, PowerPoint presentations, content projected on a screen, etc. | | | √ | |
| **Time management:** The pace of the lesson was appropriate, and the instructor managed the time well and brought the lesson to a logical conclusion. | | | √ | |

**For the OBSERVER:   Please answer the three discussion questions on the next page.**

**QUESTIONS for the OBSERVER:**

1. What were the strengths of this lesson?
   Examples done on the computer with explanation. Progression in an accessible fashion. Good time management. Student response to his in-class exercises (to his two exercises, 73 and 76 students, respectively, responded). This is a very high response rate, and indicates that the students were following the material well.

2. What suggestions do you recommend for this instructor?
   He did quite a good job of covering the topic. On the last exercise (testing Roman numerals), he did not pause for long enough to allow the students to figure it out. He did have sufficient class time left for this.

3. Are there any additional comments you would like to share with the instructor?
   He has a very good rapport with the class. Sometimes no one responds to his questions, however. I would suggest more use of think-pair-share exercises, to get the students involved in discussing among themselves before they try to answer aloud.


**REFLECTION QUESTIONS for the CoAT PARTICIPANT**

**Complete this section *after* your class has been observed. Attach your comments to this form and submit online. If possible, it is best to meet with your observer to discuss this observation experience before completing the questions.**

1. What did you feel went well in this class session?

This was a technical topic with a lot of real-time programming. I felt that this went quite smoothly and that, overall, there were relatively few technical glitches. Students also seemed to enjoy the lecture and were engaged. This is also the second time that I have given this particular lecture, so I was much more comfortable about the topic that was to be presented to the class. Because of this, I also felt that I did a good job on time management, and covered the necessary material without having to go too quickly.

2. What would you like to change about this class session if you had to teach it again?

Class participation was sometimes difficult to illicit, but I think this was at least in part due to the fact that I was a guest lecturer and that the students were not familiar with me. In re-watching the recorded lecture, I also noticed that, at times, I did not pause long enough for students to reflect on the question and answer it. This is one area of improvement.

3. In the light of the observer's comments, what aspects of your teaching approach will you look at changing in the future? How will you do this?

One of items that the observer also noted was that, though the class was engaged, class participation was sometimes low. In the future, I would try to use more group activities for questions, such as think-pair share, in order to make students more comfortable with a new lecturer.

4. What have you found useful/not so useful about the observation process?

For this lecture, the observation was useful because the lecture was also recorded on video. This allowed me to discuss the observation with the observer, while simultaneously having access to the lecture itself for review.

For this observation, I used Observation Form Option 2. This form is easier for the observer to complete, but unfortunately, provides fewer insights into how to improve your lectures. In the future, I will instead continue to use Observation Form Option 1, which has many more short answer questions that allow the observer to provide details above and beyond simple checks.