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Invitation to help others in Python Data Science

Christopher Brooks <brooksch@umich.edu>   Mon, Oct 9, 2017 at 3:41 PM
Reply-To: mentor-academy@umich.edu
To: phdatdt@yahoo.com.vn

Hi Dat Pham,

I hope you've been enjoying the Applied Data Science with Python courses we've put together. One of the most commonly requested improvements I have received for are for more worked examples -- programming problems that a learner can attempt and then see a known good answer. Learners tell me that they really start to identify as a data scientist as they work through the specialization, and want to go beyond the course and demonstrate further mastery of their skills. This fall I'm working on a project to try and combine these two ideas through what we're calling the **Mentor Academy** – a place where interested and motivated students who have demonstrated skills can come together to help improve the course and at the same time develop and hone their own skills.

We're limiting participation in the Mentor Academy to a handful of talented learners this fall, and are choosing potential members based on their performance in the course as well as a few other criteria. Your name came up in our data pull, and I would like to extend an invitation to you to participate.

By joining, you will be committing to participating for 3 to 5 hours each week for two weeks in the fall, with the understanding that the position is voluntary and you can stop at any time. And since you would be in the first cohort of mentors to be involved in this, you may have to put up with any little bumps that get in the way – but I promise, no autograders will be involved! :)

I know there is high demand both for more practice exercises and for staying active in data science, and as a top performer (and active user) in the class I'm hoping you'll be willing to volunteer some of your time to have an impact on the next 100k learners who come through our specialization.

One more pitch -- there's an old Latin proverb "*Docendo discimus*" or, "by teaching, we learn". I know this has been true for me throughout my life – that mastery of content comes in practicing and sharing that knowledge with others. I hope you'll join our first **Mentor Academy** cohort and see if this holds true for you too. If you're interested, just reply to this email, and our team will send you the particulars.

Best regards,

Chris
–
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