



Post-Observation Report

I (Terri Billeisen) observed Barry Peddycord's CSC 230-C and Software Tools on 11/21/13 as part of the PTP peer observation process. The class was learning about company cyber security issues and the class activities included lecture, discussion and an interactive demonstration at the end of class. I took notes in the form of an observation log on this class.

There were several very effective moments in Barry's class. Barry was very enthusiastic and engaging for the duration of the lecture. He maintained eye contact with the students and was constantly gauging student comprehension to ensure that the lecture material was being absorbed. Students in Barry's class are encouraged to participate as often as possible and he creates an environment that facilitates lively discussion. One particularly successful moment occurred when, during a discussion, a student proposed a solution that Barry had not yet considered. Barry acknowledged the student's creativity and, after the original solution was discussed, revisited the student's contribution and praised him for his ingenuity. The examples utilized in class were relevant and seemed to appeal to the students. Barry also incorporated humor into his lecture in order to further engage the entire class. In fact, several students included jokes of their own which added to the easy, open atmosphere of the classroom. Overall, the lecture was very successful.

Following the observation, Barry and I discussed the class in a meeting on 12/5/13. Our discussion focused on the classroom environment, lecture questions and the facilitation of discussions. During that meeting, Barry identified two goals for his future teaching. To evoke a response in his students, Barry will often pose questions with the affirmation word "right?" on the end. As he continues to develop his pedagogical techniques, he wants to eliminate this habit so that the students can come to whatever conclusion they choose. He has also been advised by his PTP mentor to minimize his hand gestures while lecturing. However, Barry uses this technique to keep himself from talking too quickly so although these may diminish with time, he does not anticipate eliminating hand gestures completely.