Graduate Student Instructor: P. Kessler
Course: E 77 –103: Introduction to Computer Programming   Teaching Effectiveness: 4.7
                                    for Scientists and Engineers   Enrollment/Responses: 288/113
Instructor: J. Rector & M. Mauch

Very prepared by having notes and knowing how much time to spend on each topic. Encourages class discussion and goes over problems. Gets back to emails quickly and is very helpful.

Very great in discussion, no improvement needed, PATCH = PERFECT

Patch is a chill buddy.

Very good.

Great job.

Good sections. Well paced, good prep for labs and exams.

Doesn't have office hours but is very often to setting appointments.

He really made an effort to help the students understand.

Very organized lecture and discussion on material.

Patch is pretty cool.

Helps a lot without giving out answers like other TA's.

One of the best GSI's I've had at Berkeley.

Should demand more feedback during discussion.

Patch is definitely one of the top TA's I've had in 4 years here. He is extremely knowledgeable, helpful and a really nice person too. Discussion session is the hour where I learn the most, its amazing how much material he crams In without making it seem boring or too intensive, its as close to perfect as possible.

I wouldn't be able to do any of my labs without Patch's discussion and notes. He is super awesome!

He kicks ass! Thanks for being so helpful even out of discussion / office hours and in the diseased bowels of Etch (2105)!!

Patch is a great TA, he effectively teaches and knows what he is doing. I hope to get Patch again for another course.

Patch brings an unparalleled enthusiasm to the subject. Obviously understands all the material and has a passion for helping others. My most beneficial TA of the semester!

Patch rocks.

Very helpful on labs, goes over material covered in class well.

He was really nice. Every GSI was nice.

Seems perpetually nervous, but extremely knowledgeable. Did I mention he seems very nervous?

Patch's ultra smart and awesome.

Patch does a great job of making the abstract concepts of programming more concrete by providing visual examples and other metaphorical methods. He was super – helpful and has a very deep understanding of the topics in this course. I'm pretty sure he also has psychic abilities, too.
A haiku for Patch
Patch is pretty cool
He teaches programming
Why is he so smart!?

Patch is extremely thorough in his discussion and works hard to cover all relevant material.

Patch = God

Patch is great.

An amazing TA. Really top notch. Patient, intelligent, descriptive, really wants you to learn the material. Adorable, exceedingly, unabashedly nerdy. I'm completely enamored.

Goes above and beyond, creating extra handouts to help with the labs and posts online notes to further clarify the course material.

Very good help in lecture and in lab. Overall great.

He's awesome. I couldn't think of anything he could improve on. He wanted suggestions anyway. My suggestions: Provide more quizzes during classes. (but they're not graded)

Notes (→ discussion (online) and class) are very helpful.

I think his discussion is very helpful.

Patrick is very rushed in his discussions. He seems to be trying to cover a lot of material in too short a time period. Patrick knows how to use Matlab well and has been able to answer my questions more often than not.

You do a good job answering questions in lab and discussion. You're a nice guy too, which is very helpful.

Very helpful. I like the way he did his discussion sections; going through key concepts that need to be known for the weekly labs. The weekly labs is where you learn everything you need to know for he midterms, so concentrating the discussion on that is very helpful. During lab, Patch was helpful. Rather than give answers away, he would explain concepts in order for me to figure it out. Overall all, great GSI!!!

Very thorough and effective use of time during discussion. Provides in depth answers to questions. Enthusiastic about material despite dull, bored students. Learned more in discussion than lecture. Not related to GSI. It would be more effective with more discussion time. 2 hours lecture + 2 hours discussion. 3 hours lab. Possible?

Patrick stands out by coming to discussion with meticulously organized lecture plan. He works hard to ensure that all concepts discussed in lecture will be sufficiently reviewed. With such an exhaustive

discussion, sometimes there isn't time to ask questions, but he happily answers them after class. It's hard to know everything in Matlab, but he answered a vast majority of the questions this semester.

I like the way you have sample problems in discussion. It also really helps that you attend lecture because you know what we are talking about and can correlate your discussion accordingly. The shortcuts that you show us save us time on the midterm. You are really helpful when asked questions.

Maybe try to relate discussion to lecture a little better – it seems like lecture is always confusing and the professor is doing something different than what we do in section.

I like how Patch goes over basic concepts and builds up to new material; it helps our understanding of new material. His diagrams are especially helpful visual aids.

He brings an unparalleled enthusiasm to discussion rarely seen at Berkeley. He has tremendous insight, is quite courteous and helpful. By far my best GSI at Berkeley yet. He has a passion for helping others and should be emulated.

Improvements: When an esoteric question is asked, don't be afraid to move on in the interest of the class and attend to that question individually at the end of class.

This discussion section was extremely helpful to me throughout the class. Without it I would have been completely lost. Patrick's style was perfect and made this class understandable.

Great, well prepared discussion material.
Good integration of lab topics into discussion.
Helpful, clear examples.

One of the best discussions I've had: Discussions very helpful. I like how you go over the material we need to know for labs and give summaries of the topics we go over in lecture.

The notes should be more detailed.

Don't change anything except give candy out after midterms.

Doesn't have available office hours outside of class; we have to go to his lab sections. Good lectures, I like how he addresses what students find confusing in lecture. Friendly and approachable.

Good energy/enthusiasm.

He's a great GSI and should just continue doing what he is currently doing. I have no criticism to offer.

Great job, you could be a teacher someday.

Very knowledgeable. Seems unconfident, however good overall.

An outstanding GSI and TA. I can't think of anything more horrific than hours of correcting other people's code; Patch, however, is extremely patient, kind, understanding, and informative while doing so. He emphasizes learning over rote corrections, gets excited about derivations, encourages questions, and will never condescend to you. As a senior, I was very surprised to find a GSI of this caliber tending to a lower division class.

It also doesn't hurt that he has a great sense of humor and is overall an unbearable sexy beast. Hottest nerd ever.

I'm not actually in his lab section, but ask him for help more than the GSI's of my actual section...

Patrick is by far the most helpful, enthusiastic and knowledgeable TA I've had in any engineering course at Cal. He is always eager to teach and help when needed (I am not even in his lab or discussion, but I attend anyway) His enthusiasm for the material is infectious and his method should be a model for all other instructors.

At the very least this man deserves a raise or an award of some sort. -- David Mourra

Made discussions helpful, liked how he explained the labs before the lab was due.

Overall good discussions, would help to spend less time on the easy stuff induction etc. and more on the more harder stuff (the stuff towards the end of the year)

Patch!!! Funniest GSI I ever had in his cute nerdiness and the way his brows furrow when he's worried we're not getting something – he's the only reason I'm not failing E77.

Please add some more effects on constructing Matlab codes.

You are awesome! My favorite TA; you make the hour of discussion go by quickly.

Patch is an amazing GSI. He is very helpful to all students, whenever he realizes they need help. He is very helpful out die of class and is a very helpful person in general. I learned a lot from Patch and think he is a very good GSI.

Patch is a good GSI and he is very patient with student.

He was very prepared, organized, and helpful.

Good teaching.

He has very organized presentation with very good visual drawings.

His notes are very helpful. He's very aware of student's difficulty. He treated students as individuals.

Very thorough explanation of material handout or interpolation. Very helpful – would be nice if there were handouts for the more difficult topics.

I like the use of pictorial and otherwise concrete examples. Also, going over the current and future labs is an enormous help. Thanks!

Spectacular GSI! Unsure how I could have survived E77 without him as a GSI. Next years class would be extremely lucky to have him.

Your help was great!

Whenever I had trouble with labs, going to Patch's discussion was helpful and helped me finish labs.

Goes through lecture very thoroughly. Answers any questions and very well organized.

You should go over the lab stuff more.

Patch is very clear and helpful. I learn or I understand more in discussion than in lecture.

Only improvement would be to discuss / go over more of the Matlab code in the discussion. Instead of theory → this would help in lab.

Patch did an excellent job covering a large volume of material in a short amount of time.

As a second semester freshman, he is the best GSI I have had yet.

Going over lab parts during discussion was helpful. Very organized...almost like having another, easier to understand more helpful, lesson. Prepared with good examples. Keep up the good work.

Great GSI. Very helpful. Encourages students to ask questions and participate by assigning mini-questions on the board. Good job!

EN 77-103 KESSLER,P (ta)	115 RESPONDENTS									SPRING 2005		
		FREQUENCIES										
	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[N/A]	[Omit]	Average	Std. Dev.	Median
1. Helpful in understanding material			3	29	83					4.7	0.5	5
2. Is well prepared			2	16	97					4.8	0.4	5
3. Communicates ideas effectively		1	6	32	76					4.6	0.6	5
4. Appears to have a good knowledge of the subject matter			2	27	86					4.7	0.5	5
5. Answers questions accurately			4	32	79					4.7	0.5	5
6. Encourages questions and/or class discussion			15	31	69					4.5	0.7	5
7. Is aware when students are having difficulty		5	18	40	51			1		4.2	0.9	4
8. Is accessible during office hours	1	2	8	10	34			59	1	4.3	1	5
9. Rate the T.A.'s overall teaching effectiveness			2	35	78					4.7	0.5	5

NA = not applicable. Omit = zero or multiple answers.

1 is a low rating; 5[7] is a high rating.

Data processed: 06 June 2005