Sessional Instructors

A sessional instructor is an instructor who holds a short-term teaching contract for a term of teaching (January to April, May to August, or September to December). The standard rate of pay is $7622.16, which includes 4% vacation pay, per section of a course, per term. The David R. Cheriton School of Computer Science gives preference to students currently studying in the PhD or Master's program, assuming that the students’ supervisors and the Director of Graduate Studies have given their permission.

The duties consist of:

• preparing and giving lectures,
• developing assignments, midterm examinations, and final exams, as well as solution sets and marking schemes
• supervising a team of undergraduate ISAs, graduate student IAs, and graduate student markers
• answering course-related questions
• submitting final grades
• attending 1-2 hour weekly meetings with course staff (other instructors, ISAs, IAs)
• supervising development of tutorial material
• holding regular office hours (1-2 hours per week depending on course)
• may be responsible for handling final exam remark requests at the beginning of the following term if the sessional is still around

When teaching a first- or second-year course, the instructor will usually be co-teaching with other instructors. Where possible, at least one other instructor will be experienced. Co-teaching may occasionally occur in third- or fourth-year courses.

Applicants may find teaching at the first- or second-year level more desirable from a level of support perspective. All first- and second-year courses, including CS350, are supported by the Instructional Support Group (ISG). The Instructional Support Coordinator (ISC) assigned to a course handles the administrative aspects of the course and helps coordinate multiple instructors, graduate students, and undergraduate coop students assigned to the course. Since there are usually multiple instructors, the work load in developing the assignments and examinations is shared among the group.