Past Workshops

2016-2017

Fall

Role of the Instructor
Have you considered the multiple challenges you will face as an instructor? Is it your job to be a friend and confidante, disciplinarian, attendance monitor or even a parental figure? In this session we will examine the various roles of the instructor and the many issues you should consider.

Teaching a Lab
This program is designed to help new TAs adjust to teaching a lab.

Teaching Non-majors
It can be difficult enough to keep the attention of students who have an active interest in your field, so how do you keep non-majors interested? Ways to do so will be discussed in this session.

Preparing & Grading Practical Exams
This session will discuss ways of using practical exams in your classroom.

Academic Integrity in the Classroom
Designed to answer questions about how to deal with plagiarism and cheating, this program will focus on academic integrity issues.

Spring

Developing a Teaching Portfolio
Designed to help TAs prepare teaching portfolios, this program helps graduate students to consider their own goals as a future faculty member. The three major parts of a teaching portfolio will be covered, including teaching responsibilities, teaching philosophy and goals, and evidence of effective teaching.

Working with Students with Disabilities
This workshop will discuss the resources available to students with disabilities and how TAs can work with these students to help them succeed.

Strategies for Discussing Controversial Topics
The workshop provides tips on generating discussion on difficult issues when students seem unwilling to speak, dealing with a situation in which a student says something offensive, and creating a classroom atmosphere that's conducive to open discussion of sensitive issues.
Designing a Syllabus
This workshop will focus not only on the types of information that should be included in a syllabus, but also on ways a syllabus can be used to provide an introduction to the course, set the tone, and explain to students what you want them to learn and why.

Teaching a Summer Course
Summer classes present TAs with different challenges and opportunities. Because these courses have both a compressed time period and longer classes, instructors need to find different ways of presenting their material. This workshop will present ways to teach effectively during the summer.

2015-2016

Fall
Teaching Your Own Class for the First Time
This session offers advice and practical tips for new instructors.

Effectively Managing Groups of Students
This session will explore methods for instructors to consider when working with groups of students.

Engaging Students in the Lab
This session offers advice and tips to help instructors actively engage students in a lab.

Academic Job Interview
Ways to prepare for an academic job interview will be discussed.

Designing & Grading Writing Assignments
This session offers tips for designing effective writing assignments, as well as tips for evaluating student writing.

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Helping Struggling Students in the Sciences
As an instructor, you will have students who will have difficulty grasping concepts of the class. This session discusses various ways of helping students who are falling behind or not getting the material.
Dealing with Different Levels of Academic Preparation
How can a teacher challenge the most prepared students without leaving unprepared students behind? This session is designed to offer TAs some ways to manage classes that have students of diverse levels of knowledge and training.

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2014-2015

Fall

Time Management Tips for TAs
This workshop will provide practical suggestions to help TAs balance their multiple duties throughout the semester. If you are wondering how you will complete your own assignments and research while teaching and grading, and find the time for your friends and family, this session is for you.

Dealing with Controversial Topics in the Classroom
The critical analysis of controversial topics in the college classroom can yield anger and inappropriate comments from students who may not wish to inform their thinking with empirical evidence. This session will help TAs to consider ways to examine issues with responsible academic discourse.

Creative Teaching & Active Learning
Today’s undergraduates expect to be involved in their own learning processes by actively participating in classes—regardless of the size. You should plan on attending this program if you want guidance on how to organize your classes to provide for active learning and enhanced engagement.

Feedback and Assessment
Have you ever wondered how to assess whether your students have met your learning goals? Do you think about the best way to provide feedback to students to help them learn in the most effective fashion possible? This program will address all of these issues and more.
Spring

Recitation Planning Across the Disciplines
This session is designed to help instructors consider the goals of the recitation section and how to accomplish those goals in multiple settings across the disciplines. Special attention will be given to engaging students in active learning experiences.

Being Confident in the Classroom
Have you ever wondered how the best teacher you have ever had learned how to be confident in the classroom? Do you feel confident as you prepare to teach undergraduates? This session will help you consider strategies to conquer your nervousness about teaching.

Helping your Undergraduates Learn How to Study
How do you teach undergraduates to use their time and skills to be successful in your course? If you want help answering these questions, this program is for you.

Media for Teaching Purposes
Media such as videos, images, audio books, etc. can be used effectively in class to bolster the teaching process. This workshop will discuss ways of applying media in the classroom to enrich the learning experience.