Past Workshops

2018-2019

Fall

Strategies for Teaching in a Multilingual Classroom
This workshop will provide practical suggestions on how to make use of your students' different languages and cultures within your teaching. We will also discuss how to effectively teach a group of students with various languages in a classroom setting.

Active Learning
In this session, we will discuss the spectrum of active learning methodologies, educational research supporting its effectiveness, and tips for incorporating active learning techniques into your classrooms including resources available at Rutgers.

Crafting Useful and Appropriate Learning Goals
Learning goals are the driving force behind any university course, and effective learning goals can be endlessly helpful to both you and your students. This workshop will teach you how to interpret, utilize, and, most importantly, craft useful and appropriate learning goals for any class.

Integrating Instructional Methodologies for Engaged Learning
During this session, we discuss how instructors can vary teaching methods to help focus student efforts in learning. We’ll provide tips about breaking up your lectures, engaging students with discussion, using problems and case studies to relate content to the “real world,” and more.

Spring

Bolstering Your Confidence as an Instructor
Having confidence in your abilities as an instructor is a key component for successful teaching. In this session, we discuss strategies for boosting your teaching self-efficacy: for example, through preparation, student interaction, peer observation, affirmation, and more.

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.

Differentiated Instruction
In this workshop, we will discuss differentiated instruction, or, in other words, on how we can utilize various teaching methods to create an effective learning environment for a diverse student population. How can we adapt our teaching style to the needs and strengths of our students? How can we support students but also achieve general learning goals? How do we plan a class in a differentiated fashion? And when does it actually make sense to use differentiated instruction?

Time Management as a Graduate TA
In this session, we will discuss concrete strategies for setting priorities and attainable goals, methods for keeping track of tasks and projects, and tips for dealing with digital clutter such as how to clean out your email inbox.

Leading Effective Classroom Discussions
Navigating classroom discussions often presents challenges. For example, some students dominate discussions, while others shy away from participation. This session will explore strategies for overcoming these challenges to ensure that conversations help students meet your learning goals.

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.

2017-2018

Fall

Developing Classroom Technology Policies
This session will explore what instructors should consider when designing their courses on issues related to the use of technology and related policies. TAs who are in the midst of classroom management decisions will benefit greatly from attending this session.

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.

Group Work: Building Classroom Engagement with Accountability
This session will focus on how to design effective group projects that provide appropriate mechanisms for assessing student’s contributions.

Providing Feedback that Matters
All students need to know how they are doing in their coursework. How should instructors provide that feedback and how can you make feedback an integral part of the educational experience to help students learn and grow. This session will address these critically important 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.

**Dealing with 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.

**Strategies for Working with Difficult Students**
Having trouble with a student? This session will discuss ways of dealing with students who disrupt class, dominate discussions, and/or try to usurp authority.

**Online & Hybrid Teaching: An Overview**
This workshop will look at the different ways in which pedagogy can be adapted to suit the online framework.

**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.

**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.

Spring
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.

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.

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.

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.

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.