

G-700: EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Designed to provide theoretical and pragmatic foundations for teaching in a variety of educational environments in higher education, this course is open to all graduate students eager to investigate their identities as teachers, understand their students, correlate instructional techniques with tasks, and enrich their teaching abilities and satisfaction. Topics include:

COURSE PREPARATION

Defining objectives, choosing a textbook, compiling course material, writing a syllabus, shaping the first day of class.

LEARNING THEORIES

Psychological theories of development, learning styles, learning strategies, motivational theories.

COGNITIVE ASPECTS OF LEARNING

Stages in comprehension, retention and retrieval, heuristics and biases, attention, metacognitive skills, naive theories and misconceptions.

TEACHING STYLES AND TECHNIQUES

Lecture design, discussion, teaching large classes, collaborative learning, student-centered learning, problem situations, "out of the box" active learning techniques, civility in the classroom.

DIVERSITY

Understanding and benefiting from students diversity in age, gender, ethnicity, economical background, educational preparation.

ASSESSMENT

Testing, grading, student evaluations, self-assessment, course-portfolio, peer review.

Course materials include a packet prepared by the instructor and a recommended book: *TEACHING TIPS* by Wilbert McKeatchie. Course grade is determined by performance on micro-teaching and a freshmen workshop; review of syllabi, five short application papers, daily preparation; group presentation, topic presentations; treasure hunt; a final paper/project. For more information contact Leah Savion, lsavion@indiana.edu.