PLAN 2014-2015 Teaching Workshops

The Teaching Toolbox
Wednesday, August 15th 2014 at 9am-12 pm in Houchens Building, Room 105.

Are you a GTA who will be leading a class for the first time this fall? Want to make sure you've remembered everything you need to get started? Worried about how to help students learn what they're supposed to learn? Come to this practical 3-hour workshop that will help you think through your checklist of "to dos," active learning and classroom assessment, and plan to reach your class goals. Grad students interested in attending can register and find more info on the PLAN website.

What GTAs Need to Know about Blackboard
Wednesday, August 27th at 11am - 1pm and 3pm - 5pm in Ekstrom Library, Room 117A.

In "What GTAs Need to Know About Blackboard", students will learn the essential functions of Blackboard. The 75 minute course will cover basic functionality such as login, navigation, and document uploads and will also cover the Control Panel, in particular the basics of Blackboard's Grade Center. This is a must for any GTA who will be grading and/or teaching using Blackboard. Graduate students interested in attending can register and find more information on the PLAN website.

Teaching Students Research and Information Literacy Skills
Tuesday, September 16th 2014 at 2pm - 3pm in Ekstrom Library, Room 117A.

Many fields have now identified "literacies" for their practitioners and students. How is information literacy similar to or distinct from other types of literacy? What is information literacy in the context of academia? This session will answer these questions, discuss current scholarship on information literacy and research practices, and outline how research instruction can be scaffolded. Graduate students interested in attending can register and find more information on the PLAN website.

Why You Need a Statement of Teaching Philosophy and How to Develop One
Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm in Houchens 105.

Teaching philosophy statements offer an opportunity for self-reflection, provide a means of communication with one's students, and are increasingly a requirement in academic job applications. This workshop will allow you the opportunity to reflect upon your philosophical approach to teaching and learning by comparing and responding to sample teaching philosophy statements. Graduate students interested in attending can register and find more information on the PLAN website.

Diversity in the Classroom: How to Notice and Navigate Subtle Discrimination
Friday, October 24th, 2014 from 2pm - 3pm in Houchens Building, Room 105.

Teachers often struggle with addressing culturally insensitive comments, or microaggressions, in the classroom. This workshop introduces teachers to the concept of microaggressions and how it impacts students. You will reflect on your own cultural identities and assumptions about diversity and will be provided with empirically based strategies for how to address microaggressive statements. Graduate students interested in attending can register and find more information on the PLAN website.

"I Just Treat Everyone the Same": Moving from Equality to Equity in Teaching
Friday, November 7th, 2014 from 12pm - 1:30pm in Houchens Building, Room 105.

Educators have an obligation to treat students fairly, so it is natural to think that this means treating everyone the same. This workshop will explore the many ways the assumptions teachers make can privilege certain groups while disadvantaging others. We will see that when we fail to critically examine these assumptions, treating everyone the same will not lead to an equitable learning environment. Grad students interested in attending can register and find more info on the PLAN website.

Rolling in the Deep: Ways to Think Critically about Diversity in the Classroom
Wednesday, January 14th, 2015 from 12pm - 1:30pm in Houchens Building, Room 105.

This intermediate/advanced workshop will take a case-study approach to exploring issues of power dynamics in the classroom, handling conflict, and negotiating social identities.

Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs) and Formative Assessment
Tuesday, January 20th, 2015 from 2pm - 3pm in Houchens Building, Room 105.

In this interactive and engaging session, participants will learn methods for getting quick, easy feedback from their students using Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs) as described by Angelo and Cross (1993). The presenter will provide a basic overview of formative and summative feedback to serve as a framework for understanding the power of CATs. Participants will use CATs actively as a part of the session, review several CATs strategies, and share ideas for how they will incorporate CATs into their own classroom.

More Than a Discussion Board: Best Practices and Effective Applications for Teaching Online
Wednesday, March 25th, 2015 from 2pm to 3pm in Houchens Building, Room 105.

Graduate teaching assistants are often recruited to teach online, even without prior experience teaching or in the online environment. While many instructors simply put their face-to-face class into a Blackboard shell, there's much more to effectively teaching online. With an innovative approach, this session will introduce best practices in teaching online as well as share how to implement those best practices through hands-on experience with various applications.

Technology for Effective Teaching
Thursday, April 9th from 2pm-3pm in Ekstrom Library, Room W102.

Are you a graduate teaching assistant wanting to learn more ways to use technology effectively in your classes? Are there goals and outcomes you have set for your students that you think certain technologies could help students reach? The "Technology for Effective Teaching" workshop is designed to help GTAs learn about, choose, and integrate classroom technologies that will help them teach more effectively. This workshop will provide GTAs with an understanding of how using various technological platforms can enhance students' knowledge of research skills, group collaboration, and in-class discussion, in addition to offering resources that are helpful for teachers in responding to student work. The presenters will demonstrate, through hands-on activities, how to integrate a range of technologies in order to enhance the goals and process of teaching.