The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research is hosting a series of teaching sessions open to the entire UAlberta campus community. Please RSVP for each session you plan to attend. All sessions are free.

Several sessions may be used towards Ethics Credit. Please review with your department Graduate Coordinator/Chair if they will accept these sessions for this purpose.
Sessions
Session 1: Graduate Teaching and Learning Program Information Session – not for GTL Credit ........................................... 3
Session 2: How to Teach Fish When You Are a Penguin ........................................................................................................... 3
Session 3: The ‘ism’s In Teaching: How to Deal with Sensitive Issues Such as Racism, Genderism, Sexism and so on in your Classroom (Ethics Credit) .......................................................................................................................... 3
Session 4: Leading Discussions ...................................................................................................................................................... 4
Session 5: Motivating Students ...................................................................................................................................................... 4
Session 6: Aligning Learning Objectives with Assessment .......................................................................................................... 5
Session 7: Creating Safe Zones for Student Engagement: Lessons from the Law School ............................................................ 5
Session 8: Peer Training Session – Required for Level Two GTL Program ..................................................................................... 5
Session 9: What Sets a 3M Teaching Winner Apart From the Rest? .............................................................................................. 6
Session 10: Ethics in Teaching (Ethics Credit) ............................................................................................................................... 6
Session 11: Session Planning ......................................................................................................................................................... 6
Session 12: Leaving Your Mark: Grading the Essay ........................................................................................................................ 7
Session 13: How to Prepare a Teaching Dossier ............................................................................................................................ 7
Session 14: Who is in Your Class? The Mental Wellness of Your Students ..................................................................................... 7
Session 15: Code of Student Behaviour (Ethics Credit) ..................................................................................................................... 8
Session 17: Teaching in the Large Classroom ................................................................................................................................ 8
Session 18: Identifying, Helping, and Referring Students in Distress .............................................................................................. 8
Session 19: Using Your Voice in the Classroom ............................................................................................................................... 9
Session 20: Gamify Your Course ..................................................................................................................................................... 9
Session 21: Peer Training Session – Required for Level Two GTL Program (Repeat of Session 8) .................................................. 9
Session 22: HMM: How Humour, Music, & Movement Enhance Student Engagement ................................................................. 10
Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Session 1: Graduate Teaching and Learning Program Information Session
– not for GTL Credit
Date: Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: This session will present the details of the Graduate Teaching and Learning Program offered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research. The program is open to all graduate students for free, and will eventually have three levels. This session will discuss the different components of Level One and Two and how you can begin the program. We will answer as many questions as possible in the time allowed.

Presenter: Renee Polziehn, PhD, Director, Professional Development and Outreach, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

Session 2: How to Teach Fish When You Are a Penguin
Date: Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Student learning styles are not quite the same as their professors or Graduate Teaching Assistants. Learning styles refers to the different ways students retain, understand, process and absorb their course content. What does that mean and how does it impact our teaching? Do we need to change our teaching methods? How can we assess our students?

Presenter: Suzanne Kresta, PhD, professor of Department of Chemical & Materials Engineering and recipient of the U of A 2010 Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and the 2014 Engineers Canada Medal for Distinction in Engineering Education.

Session 3: The ‘Ism’s In Teaching: How to Deal with Sensitive Issues Such as Racism, Genderism, Sexism and so on in your Classroom (Ethics Credit)
Date: Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017
Time: 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: What are some best practices when dealing with these topics in class? How do you keep your class respectful? What if you say something incorrect? How do you support your students? Join our panel discussion on these and other related questions.

Presenters: Panel members from across campus: Wade King, Advisor, Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights, Alexandre Da Costa, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Policy Studies, and Rebecca Blakey, Sexual and Gender Minority Equity Advisor, Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services (iSMSS).
Thursday, January 5, 2017

Session 4: Leading Discussions
Date: Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017
Time: 9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Discussion can be a fundamental part of how students process and integrate new information, build communication skills, and develop critical thinking. Classroom discussion, however, necessitates that the instructor surrenders a degree of control over the flow of information and requires students take responsibility for their own learning. The unpredictability of this environment can feel very intimidating for any instructor. In this session, you will learn how to overcome barriers to discussion and develop strategies for inspiring and facilitating a climate for effective classroom discussion.

Presenter: Deanna Davis, PhD, Professional Development Instructional Designer, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Instructor, Graduate Teaching and Learning Practicum Course.

Session 5: Motivating Students
Date: Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Concerned that your course content may not be the most interesting to students? Want to keep your students not only awake but interested, engaged, and enthusiastic? In this session I will present a motivational profile of students, suggest ways to enhance student motivation, and highlight common motivational pitfalls.

Presenter: Lia Daniels, PhD, Associate Professor and Associate Chair Undergraduate in the department of Educational Psychology and Director of The Alberta Consortium for Motivation and Emotion (ACME).
Session 6: Aligning Learning Objectives with Assessment

Date: Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017  
Time: 1 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.  
Room: SAB 325

Overview: This workshop will introduce the idea of aligning educational objectives with assessment. When written properly, learning objectives clarify the specific knowledge, skills, and/or attitudes that instructors can expect at the completion of their class/course. At the end of this session, participants will be able to determine if learning objectives are robust and measurable; and whether the learning objectives set you up to deliver assessments that students will find fair and relate to the course content.

Presenters: Deanna Davis, PhD, Professional Development Instructional Designer, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Instructor, Graduate Teaching and Learning Pedagogy and Design Course, and graduate students who have completed the course.

Session 7: Creating Safe Zones for Student Engagement: Lessons from the Law School

Date: Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017  
Time: 2 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Room: SAB 325

Overview: This presentation will focus on 5 sure-fire techniques for encouraging class participation in mid-size classes (of 30 to 70 students). The focus will be on techniques that are amenable to adoption in a non-law school setting. Low and high-tech methodologies will be described and employed. Audience participation will form a central feature of this presentation. Come prepared to be highly reluctant to take part (at first).

Presenter: Bruce Ziff, PhD, Professor, Faculty of Law and Associate Director of folkwaysAlive!

Friday, January 6, 2017

Session 8: Peer Training Session – Required for Level Two GTL Program

Date: Friday, Jan. 6, 2017  
Time: 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Room: SAB 325

Overview: If you participating in the Level Two GTL Program, one requirement is to do peer observations and to be peer reviewed. Join our panel who will share their insights into preparing to be the observer and to be observed. This session is a requirement for students who wish to participate in peer review.

Presenters: Renee Polziehn, PhD, Director, Professional Development and Outreach, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Cristian Badiu, Graduate Student Coordinator, Graduate Learning and Teaching Program
Session 9: What Sets a 3M Teaching Winner Apart From the Rest?

Date: Friday, Jan. 6, 2017
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: 3M Teaching Awards are a national recognition of excellence in post-secondary teaching. The UofA has more 3M recipients than any other institution. We have asked Olenka Bilash, recipient of University and National teaching awards, to share some tips about teaching that can help make your teaching more rewarding in your teaching career.

Presenter: Olenka Bilash, PhD, Professor, Department of Secondary Education and recipient of the 3M Teaching Award.

Session 10: Ethics in Teaching (Ethics Credit)

Date: Friday, Jan. 6, 2017
Time: 1 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Situations arise in teaching that sometimes test us on conflict of interest, conflict management, and where ethical boundaries may lay. Using a few case scenarios, we will look at different ways that people may interpret what has happened and how as teachers you may want to handle these situations.

Presenters: Chris Hackett, Discipline Officer, Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Renee Polziehn, PhD, Director, Professional Development and Outreach, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

Monday, January 9, 2017

Session 11: Session Planning

Date: Monday, Jan. 9, 2017
Time: 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Why are some instructors able to create engaging classes that always seem to perfectly fill the time allotted? Experience is certainly one factor, but creating a lesson plan is a critical step to having a positive teaching outcome and for students to have a good learning experience. Session will cover principles to consider in making your lesson plan.

Presenter: Renee Polziehn, PhD, Director, Professional Development and Outreach, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.
Session 12: Leaving Your Mark: Grading the Essay
Date: Monday, Jan. 9, 2017
Time: 3:10 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Now that you've given an essay assignment and a stack of papers is on your desk, what can you do that will be meaningful to the students and yourself? In this session, we will consider the construction, implementation, and grading of writing assignments and how each phase will enhance student learning and instructor satisfaction.

Presenter: Stephen Kuntz, Associate Director, Writing Resources and Student Success Centre.

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Session 13: How to Prepare a Teaching Dossier
Date: Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017
Time: 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Learn how to effectively prepare a teaching dossier, which may be required for future job applications, and is an effective tool to keep track of all of your teaching experience. This session will answer the questions what is a teaching dossier and what is it used for?

Presenter: Renee Polziehn, PhD, Director, Professional Development and Outreach, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

Session 14: Who is in Your Class? The Mental Wellness of Your Students
Date: Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017
Time: 3:10 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (1.5 hrs.)
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Who is in your class? Why are some students not handing in their assignments? Come learn what a recent study of the student population on campus has to say about the wellness of our student body and how it may impact when you distribute your assignments and exams over the term.

Session Objective: To learn how to assist your students and yourself when faced with students under stress in an academic and teaching/learning setting.

Presenter: Helen Vallianatos, PhD, Interim VP and Dean of Students, past Chair, and professor in Educational Psychology.
Session 15: Code of Student Behaviour (Ethics Credit)
Date: Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017
Time: 2 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Knowing the “ins and outs” of the Code of Student Behaviour can enhance your ability both as a Teaching Assistant and as a student. This session will go through the Code of Student Behaviour, providing explanations and examples along the way.

Presenter: Deborah Eerkes, Director, Student Conduct and Accountability.

Session 17: Teaching in the Large Classroom
Date: Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017
Time: 2 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: What challenges arise when you have a large classroom, and, consequently, a large class? Dr. Alex Brown will share practical advice in dealing with large classes and about how to engage students in the large classroom environment.

Presenter: Alex Brown, PhD, Professor and Associate Chair, Department of Chemistry and Rutherford Award recipient.

Session 18: Identifying, Helping, and Referring Students in Distress
Date: Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017
Time: 3 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Do you think a student might be struggling? Not sure what to say or do? This workshop will help you learn about common indicators of distress and what you can do to help students.

Presenters: Richard Dietrich, MC, R. Psych and Suman Varghese, MEd, R. Psych are registered psychologists with Counselling and Clinical Services.
Friday, January 13, 2017

Session 19: Using Your Voice in the Classroom
Date: Friday, Jan. 13, 2017
Time: 2 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Learn how to warm up your voice before class and gain confidence in projecting yourself and your message in the classroom. The focus will be to encourage expressive and healthy vocal technique in the classroom with practical applications of voice in the context of teaching [breath, nervousness, etc.].

Presenters: David Ley, Associate Professor, Department of Drama, and graduate supervisor, MFA Theatre Voice Pedagogy.

Session 20: Gamify Your Course
Date: Friday, Jan. 13, 2017
Time: 3 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: In 3dGameLab's webtool for Quest-Based Learning, the student picks the path through the course contents. It works like a computer game. The course content is turned into a series of quests; small assignments. Each completed quest rewards the student with experience points, where the final grade is determined by the total number of accumulated points over the entire term. If a quest submission is found wanting, it is returned to the student with feedback on what to do to complete the assignment.

Presenter: Mikael Hellstrom, PhD, Department of Political Science.

Monday, January 16, 2017

Session 21: Peer Training Session – Required for Level Two GTL Program (Repeat of Session 8)
Date: Monday, Jan. 16, 2017
Time: 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (1.5 hrs.)
Room: SAB 325

Overview: If you participating in the Level Two GTL Program, one requirement is to do peer observations and to be peer reviewed. Join our panel who will share their insights into preparing to be the observer and to be observed. This session is a requirement for students who wish to participate in peer review.

Presenters: Renee Polziehn, PhD, Director, Professional Development and Outreach, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and Cristian Badiu, Graduate Student Coordinator, Graduate Learning and Teaching Program.
Closing Session

Session 22: HMM: How Humour, Music, & Movement Enhance Student Engagement

Date: Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2017
*NEW TIME: 3:30 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.
Room: SAB 325

Overview: Have you heard the saying: “If they’re laughing, they may be listening”? Humour and laughter are associated with many positive learning outcomes. Humour builds teacher-student connection and engages students in the learning process – these are two of the most important ingredients in teaching. Humour sparks creativity and improves problem-solving. With humour, students learn better and remember more. People absorb information more quickly and retain it longer. This session explores supporting evidence for using humour in teaching and provides several strategies for including humour in course outlines, class sessions – everything from opening quotations to closing music – and exams.

Note: You don’t have to be funny. I’m not.

Presenter: Billy Strean, PhD, Professor, Faculty of Physical Education & Recreation and 3M National Teaching Fellow for excellence in teaching and educational leadership.

Information about the Graduate Teaching and Learning Program
Contact Information:
Program Director: Dr. Renee Polziehn – renee.polziehn@ualberta.ca
Course Instructor: Dr. Deanna Davis – deanna.davis@ualberta.ca
Admin Assistant: Charity Slobod – charity.slobod@ualberta.ca

Join the Facebook Teaching Circle