

[Practicum: College Teaching for TAs \[CLAS:5100/RHET:5100\]](#)

Grad students preparing for careers in academia are increasingly seeking pedagogical training and professional development opportunities. This 1 s.h. course offers guidance for TAs in any field seeking to develop and advance their skills as teachers at the college level. We'll focus on practical pedagogical concerns such as planning and structuring courses, managing classroom dynamics, creating collaborative active-learning experiences, and evaluating student work. The final project is a statement of teaching philosophy, which invites TAs to devise and articulate an instructional approach based on personal strengths and current best practices in the field. We hope you can join us for this valuable professional development opportunity!

The course includes a pre-semester workshop (Friday, January 12 from 10:30-3:30), which provides the initial tools TAs need to make the opening days of the semester a teaching success.

Thursday class meetings (12:30-1:45, first 7 weeks of the semester) build on the workshop, equipping TAs to:

- plan a course and develop effective teaching materials;
- manage a range of classroom dynamics and formats (lecture, discussion, small-group, etc.);
- respond to and evaluate student work, and assess student learning;
- recognize a variety of learning styles and the diversity of student experiences and identities;
- create inclusive, learner-centered, collaboration-rich classroom environments; and
- devise a teaching approach based on personal strengths and current best practices in the field.

Have questions? Want more information? Please contact instructor Megan Knight: <mailto:megan-knight@uiowa.edu> or 319-335-0182