

LA 301 METHODS OF TEACHING IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Fall Semester, 2010

Location: Wurster Hall Room 315D

Units/Credit: 2 units, S/U only

Office hours: by appointment

Instructor / GSI: David de la Peña

Time: Thursdays 6-8pm

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DESCRIPTION

This course fulfills the pedagogy course requirement for all first-time GSIs in any discipline in the College of Environmental Design and is open to GSIs in the wider UC Berkeley community. The primary goal of this course is to provide a constructive environment for GSIs to succeed in their teaching assignments. We will review basic teaching methods, techniques, and challenges; we will work on developing confident presentation skills; and we will conduct peer-observations of each others' teaching sections.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

For course credit, students must attend all of the weekly meetings. Only one absence is excused during the semester. Arriving to class more than 15 minutes late, or leaving early, will be considered an absence, unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor well in advance. Out of respect for your classmates, please come on time (6:10 pm).

In addition, students must attend sessions offered by the GSI Teaching and Resource Center (calendar below). Select the sessions that you feel are most appropriate to your teaching appointment and goals. All workshops are held in Dwinelle 370 and require advance registration. Register online at: http://gsi.berkeley.edu/conf_wkshop/workshops.html

Each week, students are responsible for completing the readings, webcasts, or other assignments in the syllabus. Readings and online links will be provided on the course's bspace folders. Students will be responsible for leading the class discussion for one of the meetings. This will be an opportunity to practice leading a successful discussion section and to get input on your developing teaching skills.

We will also conduct peer observations and critiques of fellow students' teaching, and each student will submit a statement of teaching philosophy by the end of the semester.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Provide a supportive forum for GSIs to discuss their teaching assignments.
2. Improve teaching skills such as leading discussions, giving design crits, and facing stage fright.
3. Learn how to structure a course, from writing a syllabus to grading a final exam.
4. Set a solid foundation for future teaching assignments and careers in academia.
5. Provide resources for dealing with difficult situations.

MATERIALS

Recommended Books: While there is no required book for the class, I recommend the following as resources:

Davis, Barbara Gross. *Tools for Teaching*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1993.

Palmer, Parker. *The Courage to Teach*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 2007.

Online Materials: Required readings are available on bspace. I recommend that you print these out so you can better read them, mark them up, and have them handy for class discussion. In addition to these readings you should find the following webpages helpful:

Berkeley's GSI Teaching Resource Center website is full of resources for GSIs:

<http://gsi.berkeley.edu/teachingguide/tghome.html>

Berkeley's Office of Educational Development has resources for teaching in general:

<http://teaching.berkeley.edu/teaching.html>

Cornell Center for Teaching Excellence:

<http://cte.cornell.edu/>

Tomorrow's Professor Blog, a Stanford and M.I.T. joint project by Rick Reis.

<http://tomprofblog.mit.edu/>

GRADES

This course is set up with a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading system. To pass, you need to accumulate at least 55 points from the activities and deliverables listed below. Points shown are those possible.

Actual points will depend on quality of work. Absences (first one free) will result in a loss of 10 pts.

Assignments turned in late will receive 10% reduction in points per day up to a maximum of 50% off if turned in by December 9th.

Participation in Discussions	20 pts
Lead Discussion	20 pts
Observation Form 1	10 pts
Observation Critique	20 pts
Teaching Statement	20 pts
Attend GSI Workshops	5 pts each

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Any test, paper or report submitted by you and that bears your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course unless you obtain prior written approval to do so from your instructor.

Please refer to the UC Berkeley Code of Student Conduct for additional information:

<http://studentconduct.berkeley.edu>

COUNSELING

At times, we can all use help with our mental health. I am available at any time if you need someone to talk with. Even better, please take advantage of the campus services at the Tang Center. The Tang Center's Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CPS) office is Room 3300, 2222 Bancroft Way.

Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5:30 pm, except Thursdays 9 am - 5:30 pm

Emergency Counseling, Monday - Friday, 10 am-12 and 1-5:30 pm

If you are in crisis and need urgent care, come to CPS at 3300 Tang and inform the receptionist. You will be seen by the next available counselor. When Tang is closed, call After Hours Assistance at 643-7197 for referrals.

<http://uhs.berkeley.edu/students/counseling/cps.shtml>

GSI Teaching & Resource Center Workshop Schedule:

All workshops will be held in 370 Dwinelle. [Please pre-register](#) for each workshop you plan to attend.

Creating Effective Lesson Plans

Wednesday, September 1, 2010, 3:00–4:30 p.m.

[Pre-Register](#)

Grading Student Writing

Thursday, September 16, 2010, 12:00–1:30 p.m.

[Pre-Register](#)

Fostering Student Participation

Monday, September 27, 2010, 2:00–3:30 p.m.

[Pre-Register](#)

Developing a Teaching Portfolio

Tuesday, October 12, 2010, 12:00–1:30 p.m.

[Pre-Register](#)

Designing Course Syllabi

Monday, October 25, 2010, 2:00–3:30 p.m.

[Pre-Register](#)

Peer Exchange and Feedback on Statements of Teaching Philosophy

Wednesday, November 10, 2010, 12:00–1:30 p.m.

[Pre-Register](#)

LA 301 CLASS SCHEDULE

Aug 26	Topics: Introductions, course overview, goals and objectives	Assignments Due: You should have attended the GSI conference on August 19 (int'l students) and August 20 (all students)
Sept 2	Theories of Learning, teaching methods, techniques	Complete online ethics course . Read "Theories of Learning," "What Good Teachers Say," and "VARK Learning Styles." Complete VARK online questionnaire at http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=questionnaire
Sept 9	Stage Presence, Lecturing (Discussion Session 1)	View Nancy Houfek Video (42 min) Readings: "UCB Speaking Tips," "UCB Delivering a Lecture," "Change-up in Lectures," and "UCB Prep Time"
Sept 16	Leading Discussions (Discussion Session 2)	View Chris Christensen Video (30 min) Readings: "Using Class Discussion," "Keeping Discussion Going," and "UCB Asking and Answering Questions"
Sept 23	Career Development Teaching Portfolios (Note Topic Change)	Readings: "Creating a Teaching Portfolio," "Components of a Teaching Portfolio," "Preparing or Revising a Course," "Writing a CV," and "CV and Letter"

Sept 30	Student health (Guest: Matt Goodman, Tang Center)	Readings: "Assisting the Emotionally Distressed Student," and "Spotting Depression"
Oct 7	Peer Observation and Critique	Review Assignment and Observation Forms on bspace
Oct 14	Assignments, Exams, Grading, Plagiarism (Guest: Steven Tollefson)	Readings: "Encouraging Student Writing," "Things You Could Start Doing Today...," "Responding to Student Writing," and "Responding to Response Papers"
Oct 21	Diversity in the Classroom (Discussion Session 5)	Visit Cal Poly's Asian Name Pronunciation Guide Readings: "Tools for Teaching – Diversity," "Teaching with Culture in Mind," "Walking on Eggs," and "Gender and Racial Bias in Design Juries"
Oct 28	Using Technology (Discussion Session 4)	Review GSI Teaching Guide on Using Instructional Technology Readings: "Email Old People," "Digital Native (1 & 2)," "A Brain and a Book," and "Teaching Naked"
Nov 4	Teaching Philosophy (Discussion Session 6)	Readings: "Writing a Statement of Teaching Philosophy," and "Teaching Philosophy Statements" Observation Form 1 Due 11/3
Nov 11	No Class – Veteran's Day Holiday	
Nov 18	Design Education Issues (Discussion Session 3)	Readings: "Conductors vs. Soloists," "Models of Design," "Practical Discourse," "The Review Process," "Gender and Racial Bias," and "Blowfish" Observation Critique Due 11/19
Nov 25	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday	
Dec 2	Closing	Teaching Philosophy Statements Due 12/1

