

GRSC 7770: Seminar for Graduate Teaching Assistants
An Introduction to Teaching History

Class time and location: Mondays, 5:45-7:40. LeConte Hall, room 102
Instructor: Robby Lockett
Email: robbyms@uga.edu
Office hours: By appointment
Office location: LeConte Hall, room 133

This course syllabus is a general plan for the course: deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Course Description

This course serves primarily as an introduction to teaching history as a TA at the University of Georgia, but it also aims to develop teaching methods for potential careers at other institutions. It is a discipline-specific equivalent to the GRSC 7770-Level 3 course required for all new graduate TAs.

Grading

This course is graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. To earn an S for this course, students are required to attend each class, prepare for each session by reading the text, complete all assignments, and participate in class discussions.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend each session. *If you have an excused absence, notify me well before the scheduled class time.* Unexcused absences on a presentation day will result in a U for the course. Two unexcused absences (i.e. without documentary evidence of a medical or family emergency) will result in a U for the course.

Disability or Health Related Issue

Students with a disability or health related issue who need a class accommodation should make an appointment to speak with me as soon as possible.

A Culture of Honesty

All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” Each student is responsible for becoming informed about those standards before performing any academic work.

Required Texts

Wilbert L. McKeachie, *Teaching Tips: Strategies, Research, and Theory for College and University Teachers*, Twelfth edition, 2006.

You may purchase this at the UGA bookstore, the Off Campus and FTX Bookstores, or online. Half.com is one of my personal favorites.

Another good resource is UGA’s TA Handbook, which can be found online at:

http://www.isd.uga.edu/teaching_assistant/ta-handbook/handbook06.pdf

Class Requirements

There will be four written assignments:

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| 1. Teaching Philosophy | DUE DATE: August 27 & December 3 |
| 2. 1 st Peer Observation | DUE DATE: September 24 |
| 3. 2 nd Peer Observation | DUE DATE: October 22 |
| 4. Lesson Plan | DUE DATE: November 12 |

Schedule		
August 20	Introduction	
August 27	Preparing to teach McKeachie: Chs. 1 & 3	Teaching Philosophy due
September 3	NO CLASS, Labor Day	
September 10	The Basics: testing, grading, and facilitating discussion McKeachie: pp.94-104, 205, 208, Chs. 5, 10, & 11	
September 17	Teaching with technology McKeachie: Ch. 18	
September 24	Dealing with diversity at UGA McKeachie: Ch. 13	1st Peer Observation due
October 1	Problematic students McKeachie: Ch. 14	
October 8	Getting your discussion to read and write McKeachie: Chs. 4, 23	
October 15	How award-winning history TAs do their jobs	
October 22	Teaching thinking and ethics McKeachie: Ch. 21	2nd Peer Observation due
October 29	Interactive teaching McKeachie: Ch. 16, pp. 225-228, 258	
November 5	Active and experiential learning	
November 12	Lesson plans	Lesson Plan due
November 19	A career in teaching McKeachie: Ch 26	
November 26	Documenting your teaching	
December 3	Conclusion	Teaching Philosophy due