

## Teaching Notes from the GTC

January 28, 2011

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## Fundamentals of Teaching in the Sciences

January 20, February 3, 10, and 17 (note the change due to this week's snowstorm); 12:00-1:30 pm in KGL 116 (lunch served at 11:45)

Are you preparing to teach section for the first time or just looking to improve your teaching skills? This four-workshop series will help you learn how to lead a successful section for science courses and refine your skills as a Teaching Fellow. We will cover topics essential for teaching in the sciences, such as: structuring your class time, effectively engaging students, providing and collecting useful feedback, and tips for grading efficiently and fairly. The workshops will provide a valuable opportunity to discuss strategies and approaches for issues common to science courses. Armed with valuable ideas and knowledge of Yale's teaching resources, you'll be equipped for your first day of class and those to follow! For more information or to register, email [elizabeth.fry@yale.edu](mailto:elizabeth.fry@yale.edu) or [sarah.vorhies@yale.edu](mailto:sarah.vorhies@yale.edu).

## Fundamentals of Teaching in the Humanities

Jan 24th, Jan 31st, Feb 7th, and Feb 14 from 4:30-6pm in HGS 119

Are you teaching a section in the Humanities or Social Sciences? This workshop series will help you lead a successful text-based section and refine your skills as a Teaching Fellow. Topics to be covered include clarifying academic expectations, planning the goals, activities, and time allocation of sections, nurturing student engagement in the learning process, and evaluating student work with equity and efficiency. For more information, email [damian.blattler@yale.edu](mailto:damian.blattler@yale.edu) or [monica.martinez@yale.edu](mailto:monica.martinez@yale.edu).

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## Advanced Teaching Series

This spring, the Graduate Teaching Center is offering fifteen workshops on advanced teaching topics. These workshops are designed for TFs and PTAs interested in enhancing their efficacy in the classroom. They will provide valuable tools and strategies for enriching the Yale classroom experience, and they will also benefit those getting ready for the academic job market. Come to one session, or attend all eleven! Light snacks provided.

Graduate students who attend five ATS workshops receive a transcript notation recognizing their participation. Graduate students in the Certificate of College Teaching Preparation program are required to complete eight advanced pedagogy workshops. Of those, at least one must be about instructional technology and one must be about diversity. For more information, please email [mcdougal.teaching@yale.edu](mailto:mcdougal.teaching@yale.edu) or visit our website at [www.yale.edu/mcdougal/teaching](http://www.yale.edu/mcdougal/teaching).

**All sessions meet in HGS 119 unless otherwise noted.**

### Media Literacy for Classroom Presentations: Finding, Using, and Citing:

Monday, January 31, 4:00-5:30

Whether you want to use a single image or film clip to prompt discussion during section, show data from a recently published journal article, or create a PowerPoint presentation for a lecture, it's important to know where to find digital resources and how to properly cite sources. While using media can increase student engagement levels, few teachers start out with a clear understanding of guidelines for practical (and legal) use. Participants will analyze several case studies designed to uncover common mistakes and misunderstandings, and they will increase their media literacy by understanding guidelines for incorporating images and other media into their teaching. Topics will include managing large files, when and how to obtain permission, and practical tips for effective presentations. Throughout the session, many of Yale's digital collections will be mentioned as a rich resource for teachers and students. Support staff from the Instructional Technology Group and the Graduate Teaching Center will facilitate the session to help you incorporate technology in your teaching in a pedagogically sound way. \*This session meets the technology workshop requirement for the GTC certificate program. Questions? Contact Jenny Frederick ([jennifer.frederick@yale.edu](mailto:jennifer.frederick@yale.edu) or 203-432-1198).

### Diversity in the Classroom: Interactive Case Studies:

Tuesday, February 1, 4:00-5:30

How can you make the most of the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of your students in the classroom? This workshop will explore how to use diversity in the classroom as an asset for your teaching. It will involve group discussion of case studies and scenarios, resulting in practical advice and tips for your teaching. For more information, please email [maureen.canavan@yale.edu](mailto:maureen.canavan@yale.edu) or [monica.martinez@yale.edu](mailto:monica.martinez@yale.edu).

### How to Grade a Humanities Paper:

Wednesday, February 2, 5:00-6:30

This session will address the issue of objectivity and efficacy when grading papers in the humanities. Participants will receive sample grading rubrics and strategies for better assessing student writing. For more information, please email alexandra.seggerman@yale.edu or monica.martinez@yale.edu.

**Student Film-Making as a Teaching Tool:** Tuesday, February 8, 4:30-6:00

**Preparing to Lecture:** Wednesday, February 9, 4:30-6:00

**Delivering a Lecture: Speak Don't Squeak:** Tuesday, February 15, 5-6:30

**Teaching at the Galleries:** Wednesday, February 16, 4:00-5:30 Yale Center for British Art, 1080 Chapel St.

**Using Media and Visual Sources in the Classroom:** Monday, February 21, 4:00-5:30

**Tactics for Effective Discussion:** Wednesday, February 23, 4:00-5:30

**Using Technology as a Teaching Tool:** Monday, February 28, 4:00-5:30

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## Teaching Quantitative Reasoning in the Sciences

Wednesday: January 26, February 2, and 9

9-10:15am Engineering Student Center-Dunham Lab 1st floor (breakfast served at 8:45am)

Are you preparing to hold office hours or teach a section, lab, or lecture where you will be presenting quantitative concepts? This three-workshop series will help you learn how to effectively present quantitative ideas to your students. We will cover topics including: the role of visualizations, demonstrations and examples and how to make abstract ideas seem more concrete; active learning as strategy for conveying quantitative ideas; and problem-based learning and how different levels of instructor interaction affect students' learning. For more information, email maureen.canavan@yale.edu or merideth.frey@yale.edu.

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## Learning to Mentor the Next Generation of Scientists

Wednesday: January 26, February 2, and 9 □ 9-10:15am Engineering Student Center-Dunham Lab 1st floor (breakfast served at 8:45am)

Are you preparing to hold office hours or teach a section, lab, or lecture where you will be presenting quantitative concepts? This three-workshop series will help you learn how to effectively present quantitative ideas to your students. We will cover topics including: the role of visualizations, demonstrations and examples and how to make abstract ideas seem more concrete; active learning as strategy for conveying quantitative ideas; and problem-based learning and how different levels of instructor interaction affect students' learning. For more information, email maureen.canavan@yale.edu or merideth.frey@yale.edu.

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## Teaching Resource Alert

Creating an effective lesson plan requires you to juggle a multitude of considerations. The Eberly Center at Carnegie Mellon breaks down this complex activity into manageable steps that can serve both as a planning checklist and as manageable opportunities for focused improvement. <http://www.cmu.edu/teaching/designteach/index.html>

-Jay, Music

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## Teaching Tip of the Week

Is the silence deafening when you ask your students a question in section? Don't fear the silence. Instead, just count to eight. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. Someone will answer, but they need time to think!

- Alexia, Italian

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## Consultation Services

Our individual teaching consultation service is now available for the Yale community. Do you want define your teaching style? Receive personal feedback? Learn new teaching strategies? For more information or to set up a consultation, contact Sam Schaffer, our consultation coordinator, at [samuel.schaffer@yale.edu](mailto:samuel.schaffer@yale.edu). Note that teaching consultations by the GTC fulfill a requirement for the CTP certificate program.

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Our mission at the Graduate Teaching Center is to promote excellent teaching at Yale University. Do you have a question or need related to teaching? Visit our web site: [www.yale.edu/mcdougal/teaching](http://www.yale.edu/mcdougal/teaching), give us a call: 432-7702, or drop us an email: [mcdougal.teaching@yale.edu](mailto:mcdougal.teaching@yale.edu).

*To request a subscription or to be removed from this email list please contact Kristi Rudenga ([kristin.rudenga@yale.edu](mailto:kristin.rudenga@yale.edu)).*

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