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**WAKE FOREST**  
UNIVERSITY

**Teaching and Learning Collaborative**

Welcome back! We hope your Spring semester is off to a great start! As a TA or Postdoc here at Wake Forest University, we want to make you aware of specific opportunities available to you through the Teaching and Learning Collaborative.

This semester, we are offering a number of workshops, including a two half-day series at the Wake Downtown campus. We are also available for individual consultations as well as observations or student feedback during your classes. And for those of you wishing to continue on in academia or looking to develop your teaching skills, we encourage you to sign up for our College Teaching Preparation Program.

#### Want to Hear from Us More (or Less) Often?



By default, you will only receive two e-mails from us at the beginning of each semester (one general newsletter, and one targeted to TAs and Postdocs). If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, to receive messages about relevant events as they arise, or to remove yourself from this list, please update your e-mail preferences below.

[Update E-mail Preferences](#)

#### Spring Workshops for TAs and Postdocs on the Reynolda Campus

##### **Concept Maps as Teaching, Writing and Productivity Tools**

Thursday, January 24, 3:30PM-4:45PM

Concept maps are powerful learning tools but can be tricky to use. We will discuss their benefits and the drawbacks, using examples. We'll also talk about how you might use concept maps to organize your teaching, students' learning and a variety of other projects in your life and spend some time working through the mapping process.

[Register here](#)

##### **Learning and Learner-Centered Teaching**

Thursday, February 7, 3:30PM-4:45PM

In this workshop, we'll discuss principles of learning and how we can apply those principles to engage students and make them more responsible for their own learning.

[Register here](#)

##### **Active Learning: Designing Your Own Active Learning Experience**

Thursday, February 21, 3:30PM-4:45PM

Spend some time thinking about how you can apply active learning ideas and strategies to your own classroom experience. You will identify a class session or experience that you would like to make more engaging for your students and then develop a plan for doing so!

[Register here](#)

### **Grading with Rubrics**

Thursday, March 7, 3:30PM-4:45PM

Let's talk about how rubrics can help you clearly communicate your expectations to students, provide better feedback, and streamline your grading process. We'll also outline a process you can use to create rubrics for future assignments in your courses.

[Register here](#)

### **Free (and Easy!) Technology Tools to Enhance Your Classes**

Thursday, March 21, 3:30PM-4:45PM

Join us for a sampling of online tools designed to help you better engage students. We'll explore options such as concept mapping, games and quizzing, animation and comic strips, and tools that allow you (or students) to synthesize content. Bring your laptops and a creative mind!

[Register here](#)

### **Writing a Teaching Philosophy 2: Getting Feedback on Your Philosophy**

Thursday, April 4, 3:30PM-4:45PM

During this second session, we'll refine our teaching philosophies through the use of peer feedback from other attendees. You'll also have the added benefit of viewing a variety of different types of philosophies through this process. Bring your completed teaching philosophy and a keen eye!

[Register here](#)

## **Spring Workshops for TAs and Postdocs on the Wake Downtown Campus**

We are also offering a 2 half-day series of workshops (3 per day) at the Wake Downtown campus. Attending these sessions may be particularly helpful for those interested in completing our [College Teaching Preparation Program](#). Lunch will be provided on both days.

### **Wednesday, January 30, BGCME 1206 (Bowman Gray Center Medical Education)**

- ***Writing a Teaching Philosophy 1: Writing Your Philosophy, 12:00-1:15***  
If you intend to apply for academic positions, it is likely that you will be asked to submit your philosophy of teaching statement as part of your application. During this session, we'll discuss format and style expectations and you will begin articulating your ideas and values around teaching. This will assist you in crafting a teaching philosophy that effectively communicates who you are as a teacher.  
[Register here](#)
- ***Active Learning, 1:30-2:45***  
All of the recent research into learning and how learning occurs, points to the effectiveness and necessity of actively engaging students in the classroom. It is not enough for instructors to 'show and tell' information, answers, processes, etc.; students must engage with the material and come up with their own interpretations, answers, steps and understandings. In this workshop we'll learn some basic techniques to promote active learning in the classroom.  
[Register here](#)
- ***Teaching Inclusively, 3:00-4:15***  
The pedagogical choices we make as instructors can have a major impact on the climate for learning in our classrooms. Join us as we explore instructional strategies that promote learning success through intentional course design. Inclusive teaching strategies strengthen the performance of all students and also function to lessen the generational divide in academic expectations.  
[Register here](#)

### **Wednesday, February 13, BGCME 1402 (Bowman Gray Center Medical Education)**

- ***Writing a Teaching Philosophy 2: Teaching Philosophy Review, 12:00-12:45***  
Let's refine our teaching philosophies using peer feedback. You will also have the added benefit of viewing a variety of different types of philosophies through this process. Bring two copies of your completed teaching philosophy and a keen eye!  
[Register here](#)
- ***Writing Effective Learning Objectives, 1:00-2:15***  
Let's talk about how focusing on student learning can save you time both in and out of the classroom. Clearly articulating what you want students to learn in your courses helps you target your efforts and design learning experiences to ensure students are meeting those expectations.  
[Register here](#)
- ***Syllabus Design, 2:30-3:45***  
This session focuses on helping you to create an effective syllabus that reflects your learning

objectives, expectations, and university policies. We will identify appropriate syllabus components and explore strategies to help your students be more successful by creating a learner-centered syllabus.

[Register here](#)

## The College Teaching Preparation Program

The Teaching and Learning Collaborative invites Postdocs and Graduate Students to enroll in our College Teaching Preparation program. Being a new instructor is both an opportunity and a challenge. Participating in this program will prepare you to meet teaching-related challenges and provide you with the opportunity to work with professional educators to learn and practice new teaching skills.

For more information about the program, download our [College Teaching Preparation Information and Checklist](#) and visit our [model ePortfolio page](#) for more information on setting up your own ePortfolio (a major requirement to complete the program).

You can enroll in the program [here](#). If you have any questions, please email Anita McCauley at [mccaalak@wfu.edu](mailto:mccaalak@wfu.edu).



## Other Services

In addition to workshops, the TLC offers a variety of other services for TAs and Postdocs, including: [confidential individual consultations](#), [teaching observations and/or feedback from students](#), [course design assistance](#), and much more.

You are also welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled workshops. [View a full list of our workshop offerings here](#).

We encourage you to [explore our website](#) and get involved! We are here to support you!



**Betsy Barre**  
Executive Director



**Kristi Verbeke**  
Director



**Anita McCauley**  
Assistant Director



**Deborah Snyder**  
Administrative  
Coordinator



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