

UNM Taos

Teaching Effectiveness Lunch & Discussion

Topics

Come to the orientation with questions pertaining to:

1. Teaching tips- best practices
2. Teaching success
3. Most memorable way to engage a students
4. Assessment best practices
5. How to foster disagreement on controversial issues in the classroom and manage civility
6. Small groups in the classroom
7. Non astounding teaching tips
8. Myths and reality of online teaching
9. Critical thinking
10. Jaded with time: Realizing and dealing with the loss of idealism in teaching successes
11. College Confidential: real life anecdotes from the classroom

Questions:

1. What to do if no one responses to your question:
 - a. Ask the student by name, what is there response
 - b. Say something shocking/humorous in order to get a response
 - c. Rephrase, use a sill answer
 - d. Create a rapport with the class before asking the question
 - e. Call on student by name; use flash cards with the student names and call on one whose name turns up.
 - f. Rephrase the question.
2. How do you jump start a class?
 - a. Use movement, music humor
3. What do you do when a student disagrees with the instructors?
 - a. Agree to disagree
 - b. Encourage objectivity
 - c. Discuss outside of class
 - d. So not make a big deal of it.
 - e. Cut them off if the disagreement becomes unreasonable.
 - f. Reinforce disagreement; see it as a chance for them to have a voice.
4. How do you increase class participation?
 - a. Assign a topic before hand so that the students can prepare and be ready to discuss
 - b. Put students in small groups,
5. How do you increase attendance:
 - a. Give rewards for attendance
 - b. Realize that “life issues” affect attendance
6. How does a teacher “know” if the student comprehends the material being presented?

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- a. Ask the student to paraphrase the information that was presented
 - b. Minute paper wherein the student explains what was presented
 - c. Ask the student to write down the “muddiest point” which remains after the material has been presented.
 - d. Pay attention to facial expressions
 - e. Use short quizzes to assess comprehension.
7. What do you do when a student comes unprepared?
- a. Use groups wherein the prepared students help those that are unprepared
 - b. Treat them as adults/ they need to be responsible.
 - c. Use personal examples to encourage preparedness
8. How does one handle a student who uses profanity in class?
- a. Explain the meaning of the word(s) used
 - b. Encourage respect
 - c. Kick them out of class
9. How do you improve retention in an online course
- a. Require some face to face meetings.
 - b. Require on line participation; give points.
 - c. Keep the course structure
 - d. Keep the students active
10. How do you prevent cheating in an online class?
- a. Proctor the exams
 - b. Submit papers through a software program that checks for plagiarism
 - c. Used timed exams
 - d. Use random exams
11. How does one deal with students who continue to talk after they have been asked to stop talking?
- a. Ask the talking student a question about the topic.
 - b. Use silence
 - c. Speak with the student outside of class.
12. How does one handle a student who dominates class discussion?
- a. Find a point and redirect the conversation
13. How does a teacher handle a student who is inattentive in class?
- a. Call on the student to answer the question
 - b. Have the student sign a contract concerning appropriated class conduct.
14. How does one jump start a class that appears “out of it”?
- a. Use jokes
 - b. Put them in groups
15. Other Interesting comments/ ideas:
- a. Ask the student to evaluate the class midway through the semester
 - b. It is important to build a student’s confidence
 - c. The military corporate model of teaching students alienates students
 - d. Given the changing nature of the world/internet; what is cheating
 - e. Teach students you have, not the students you wish you had.
 - f. Be aware of cultural differences amongst students and between students and teachers.

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References

Southwest Seminar for great teaching, & Villademoros, J. (2004). Unpublished raw data, El Paso Community college.