

Reflection Summary

Throughout the process of achieving my Certificate of Accomplishment in Teaching, I have improved my teaching and enhanced my ability to critique my own work in the future. By participating in workshops hosted by the CoAT program, I have discovered many teaching methods and concepts that have already proven useful. For example, discovering how to write learning outcomes has made me a more effective communicator to my students and has also helped me become better at grading and course planning. In addition to workshops, having a faculty advisor from my own department has given me a mentor whom I can ask for general teaching guidance as well as advice specific to teaching economics. For instance, I have asked my advisor for her opinion on generic topics, such as an attendance policy, but I have also asked questions about how to spur interest in a graphical concept among students who do not enjoy math. The latter type of question is one that may not be covered in teaching workshops, but is important in my field. Finally, from creating a teaching portfolio, I have been challenged to evaluate, plan, and reflect on my past and future teaching. This has been especially useful to me as I have filtered all of my thoughts and materials into a streamline document that most efficiently and fully represents my teaching philosophy and the journey I have gone through in establishing that philosophy. This document will help me plan courses in the future that are true to my underlying teaching objectives. In the future I would like to incorporate more evaluation techniques and continue to emphasize my philosophy of helping students relate economics to their own lives. My participation in the CoAT program has helped me learn new teaching techniques, learn how to evaluate my teaching, and helped me identify and state both my short term and long run teaching goals.