

# Graduate Pedagogy

FALL 2012

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## Course

In Graduate Pedagogy we will explore elements of good teaching through discussion, observation, and presentation. The course is designed to expose you to the policies and teaching methods used at Wesleyan. Interspersed will be readings and discussions of how to succeed in graduate school generally and how to make the most of your time at Wesleyan.

## Materials

There is no official textbook for this course. However, reading materials will be distributed throughout the semester. Readings will be taken from the following three sources:

1. *How to Teach Mathematics* by Steven G. Krantz
2. *Teaching Mathematics in Colleges and Universities: Case Studies for Today's Classroom* by Solomon Friedberg et al
3. Various essays drawn from the internet. These can be found on Moodle.

Readings will be discussed at the beginning of each class. Please come prepared with 3 specific things from each reading which you would like to discuss, e.g. pieces of advice you plan to follow, things you disagree with, questions, etc.

## Grading

This course is graded Pass (P) or Fail (F). In order to pass this course you must attend and participate in each meeting and complete all assignments. A passing grade is at least 70%

Class Participation: 50%	Each Unexcused Absence: -10%
Five Assignments: 30%	Long Presentation: 20%

## Meeting Schedule

We will meet every Wednesday from 11:50-1:10 on the 6th floor of Exley in room 628 (seminar room). NOTE: This is subject to change, and will be discussed on 9/5.

Meeting	Topic	Homework (more details will be provided)
8/29	Overview & Honor Code	Case Studies, Reading Assignment
9/5	Running a TA Session, Using Moodle	Observe a class. Pay particular attention to board-work and participation. Write a one page paper connecting your observations with the readings. Reading Assignment.
9/12	Teaching Methods	Prepare the solution for a homework problem for the class you are TAing. You will present this solution during our next meeting. Reading Assignment
9/19	Short Presentations & Discussion	Select 5 questions from a list to make a quiz. Write 2 additional questions. Type it up using LaTeX or another technical writing editor. Reading Assignment
9/26	Discuss Quiz Questions & Grading Exercise	Prepare a 20 minute lecture to be presented in one of the next three meetings
10/3	Long Presentations	Make a CV. Reading Assignment.
10/10	Long Presentations	Make a website. Reading Assignment.
10/17	Long Presentations	Reading Assignment
10/24	Making Syllabi & Hand-outs. Using Technology	Reading Assignment
10/31	Difficult Matters & Case Studies	Reading Assignment on Alternatives to Lecturing, Moore Method, Problem-Based Learning
11/5	Joint Session on Alternatives to Lecturing	This will take place at 4:15pm. The location will be announced. Please save the date.
11/7	Alternatives & Problem-Based Learning	Reading Assignment
11/14	The Role of Assessment & Expectations	Reading Assignment on Reform Curricula
11/28	Reform Curricula	Reading Assignment on the role of teaching and reaching students.
12/05	Wrap-up	

## Support Network

This course serves as a support network for new graduate students. You should feel comfortable discussing problems and asking questions (pedagogical and otherwise). Class will always begin with time for you to bring up issues you have faced over the past week.

## Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of Wesleyan University to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students are responsible for registering with Disabilities Services: see <http://www.wesleyan.edu/deans/disability-students.html>. If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential.