TEAK/TA Teaching Workshop

Session 1: Introduction and Classroom Management

Dr. Elizabeth DeBartolo, Mechanical Engineering
Dr. Margaret Bailey, Mechanical Engineering
Sarah Cass, RIT Teaching and Learning Center
Introductions...

• Take 1 minute to write down:
  • Your name
  • A topic you’d like to practice teaching
  • A list of things you know about teaching and a list of things you’d like to learn about teaching

• Meet the class...
  • Name, year, major, why are you here, etc.
  • Teaching topic
Session Activities…

• Introduction to TEAK and this teaching workshop, basic classroom management

• Objectives:
  • Be aware of the objectives of TEAK and this workshop
  • Know your audience
  • Learn some techniques for setting the stage in your classroom
What is The TEAK Project?

- Provide opportunities for KGCOE students to enhance their understanding of engineering by teaching others
- Provide opportunities for KGCOE students to improve their communication skills and confidence
- Create a series of portable kits and web-based activities to introduce middle school students to engineering.
Why this workshop?

• Provide participants basic teaching skills
  • Apply in middle school classrooms (TEAK)
  • Apply in RIT classes/labs (TA)
  • Apply in outreach events
  • Apply in your career

• Practice teaching exercise(s) and get feedback from an audience of your peers
  • Record and watch video of yourself teaching
Expectations

• Everyone participates – small groups and full class
• Ask questions
• Be respectful
• Be constructive
Setting the Stage

- Planning the event
- Room setup
- Warm-up Activity
- Introduce Yourself
Setting the Stage

• Setting the classroom environment
  • Attitude
  • Presence
  • Voice
  • Tone

• Setting expectations/classroom behavior
  • Traffic Light (how to stop and ask questions)
  • Parking Lot (what happens to questions)
Warm-ups

• How did we start this morning?
• What did it achieve? (hopefully…)
• Why bother?
• Some ideas...

For more ideas:
http://www.residentassistant.com/games/icebreakers
Activity: Applying Techniques to Your Lessons

**Directions:**

- List some expectations you have for your class and ideas for conveying them?
- How can you get your class “warmed up” and ready to learn?
Know Your Audience!
Who is your audience?

• Take 30 seconds to write down your potential audience(s).
• Based on the title of your chosen topic/field, are there any words in there that your audience won’t recognize? How about…
  • …a middle-school student?
  • …a high school student?
  • …a 1st or 2nd year RIT student?
• Have we used any terms in this session that you don’t understand?
How much time do you have?

• Not time in class…time when you’ve got your group’s attention!
• Varies by age and interest in the subject.
• Not too long for any group!
• Discuss more in a later session…
Activity: Applying Techniques to Your Lessons

Directions:

• Come up with a list of words you shouldn’t assume your audience already knows. (2 min)
• Get input from a neighbor once you’ve done your own assessment.
• Share with group.
Support for this work was provided by the National Science Foundation's Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) program under Award No. DUE-0737462. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.