

G.A.T.E.

G.A.T.E. is a program designed to enhance the graduate experience by providing a thoughtful and thorough preparation in the art of teaching.

The sessions are interactive and innovative, and an experienced team of WCU faculty will model many of the practices that they use in their own classrooms.

The 2007-2008 program is organized around the moebius strip as a symbol of lifelong learning. It is a continuous band with only one side (you) and one boundary (your dreams) on which you can travel forever.

Graduate teaching assistants will participate in one session and those in sponsoring departments will attend 3 of the 5 sessions. If you choose to attend all 5 workshops over the academic year, you will receive a certificate of program completion in recognition of your achievements and training.

Levels of Achievement

Apprentice	One session
Journeyman	3 out of 5 sessions
Master	All sessions—Certificate

“The confidence that graduate teaching assistants and graduate students with teaching and lab responsibilities have gained from participation in the G.A.T.E. program has been immeasurable. The G.A.T.E. program serves as a valuable complement to department training, and, for some departments, participation might be the only formal classroom training the student receives during their first semester of teaching. The opportunity to network with other teaching assistants and share common issues and problems with their G.A.T.E. mentors is very fulfilling for the student teacher and...their students”.

Dr. Scott Higgins
Dean of WCU Graduate School

“We now accept the fact that learning is a lifelong process of keeping abreast of change. And the most pressing task is to teach people how to learn.”

Peter F. Drucker
(American educator and author, b. 1901)

WCU Graduate School
109 Cordelia Camp Building
Cullowhee, NC 28723
Phone : (828) 227-7398
Fax: (282) 227-7480
<http://www.wcu.edu/43.asp>

Coulter Faculty Center
166 Hunter Library
Cullowhee, NC 28723
Phone: (828) 227-7196
Fax:(828) 227-7340
<http://www.wcu.edu/facctr>

Western Carolina University

Graduate Assistant Teaching Experience



Quilt by Dinah Prentice, 'Maenads on a Moebius Strip'
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Lifelong Teaching & Learning:

Continuous,

Expanding,

Infinite Variety,

Constantly Challenging

Hosted by WCU Graduate School in
conjunction with Coulter Faculty Center

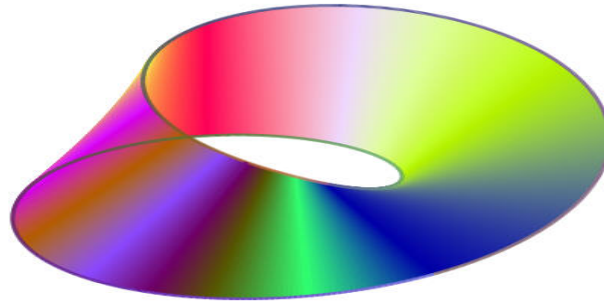
First Job

Career Ladder

Dreams

Graduation

Away we go!



LIFE

Change

New Start!

Workshop 1:

How To Make It Interesting:

An introduction to major innovations in learning in higher education, including tips and tricks on running effective discussions, choosing meaningful assignments and building interest and engagement in your subject matter

Time: 3:00—5:00

Date: September 13 and 14, 2007

Place: McKee 103

Workshop 3:

How To Be An Effective Manger:

Role-playing exercises on how to handle frequently encountered classroom situations with questions and answers from experienced teachers

Topics include plagiarism, sexual harassment, teamwork, leadership and personality conflicts

Time: 3:00—5:00

Date: October 18 and 19, 2007

Place: McKee 103

Workshop 4:

How Technology Can Enhance What You Do:

Hands on experience with using technological tools to achieve scholarly outcomes

Time: 3:00—5:00

Date: November 1 and 2, 2007

Place: Hunter 156 (CATA)

Workshop 5:

How To Tell How Well You're Doing And How Well They're Doing:

A critical evaluation of a variety of formative and summative assessment methods including frequently asked questions (and answers) on grading policies

Time: 3:00—5:00

Date: November 15 and 16, 2007

Place: McKee 103

Workshop 2:

How To Do Effective Planning:

An interactive session on new methods in course design, creating learning-centered syllabi, and integrating course elements towards pedagogical goals

Time: 3:00—5:00

Date: September 27 and 28, 2007

Place: McKee 103