

# 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

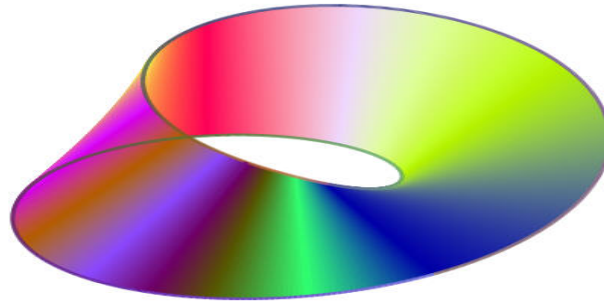
First Job

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

Date: January 24, 3:30—5:00  
January 25, 3:00—5:00

Place: Hunter 245

### 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

Date: February 14, 3:30—5:00  
February 15, 3:00—5:00

Place: Hunter 245

### Workshop 3:

#### How To Be An Effective Manager:

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

Date: March 13, 3:30—5:00  
March 14, 3:00—5:00

Place: Hunter 245

To register go to: <http://www.wcu.edu/it/workshops/>  
and click on each Graduate Assistant Training workshop.

### Workshop 4:

#### How Technology Can Enhance What You Do:

Hands on experience with using technological tools to achieve scholarly outcomes

Date: April 10, 3:30—5:00  
April 11, 3:00—5:00

Place: Hunter 245

### 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

Date: April 24, 3:30—5:00  
April 25, 3:00—5:00

Place: Hunter 245