

Defining, Supporting & Valuing
TEACHING EXCELLENCE
At Purdue University

New Faculty & Lecturer Orientation | August 18, 2025

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Past Chair of the Teaching Academy

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AGENDA

- Teaching Academy
- Framework for Teaching Excellence
- Application of Framework
- Tips & Advice from Teaching Academy Members



ENHANCING & STRENGTHENING TEACHING

To enhance and strengthen the quality of teaching and learning at the undergraduate and graduate levels and to provide leadership for outreach efforts to improve K-12 education.

Through facilitated programming, development of networks, recognitions, and input on teaching-related topics.



TEACHING
ACADEMY

RECOGNIZING
TEACHING

Become a Teaching Academy
Fellow or Associate Fellow by
demonstrating excellence in:

Impact of Teaching
Service & Mentoring

Innovation

Scholarship

Contributions to the Academy

446

TEACHING ACADEMY ALL-TIME MEMBERS

183

TEACHING ACADEMY CURRENT MEMBERS

14

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

1

VOICE FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

FRAMEWORK FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Excellent teachers create an environment and adopt pedagogies that allow students to meet learning outcomes and achieve their full potential as learners. All instructors strive for excellence as Exemplars, Enthusiasts, and Educators. Instructors whose research encompasses teaching and learning should additionally strive for excellence as Experimenters and Explorers.

EXEMPLAR

- Caring
- Student-centered
- Approachable
- Personable
- Empathetic
- Motivator
- Mentor (personal)
- Listener
- Trustworthy
- Accessible
- Humorous
- Empowers students
- Academic honesty
- Integrity

ENTHUSIAST

- Subject matter expert
- Passionate about subject & student learning
- Enjoys teaching
- Inspires life-long learning
- Provides career guidance
- Engages in trans-/interdisciplinary collaborations

EDUCATOR

- Communicates learning goals
- Sets realistic expectations
- Applies student-centered pedagogy
- Connects to real world
- Engages & challenges learners
- Promotes creativity, critical thinking & problem-solving
- Uses evidence-based instructional strategies
- Relates theory to practice
- Provides constructive feedback
- Open to feedback

EXPERIMENTER

- Continuously improves course instruction & pedagogy
- Implements innovative instructional methods to improve the process of learning, e.g., to enhance instruction via instructional strategies, activities, use of technology, applying learning theories, interdisciplinary collaborations, assessment & collaborative learning
- Adapts to rapidly changing instructional needs

EXPLORER

- Enhances undergraduate educational experience
- Creates scholarly contributions to teaching & learning
- Shares teaching effectiveness
- Engages in professional development
- Initiates educational development opportunities
- Applies knowledge to societal challenges

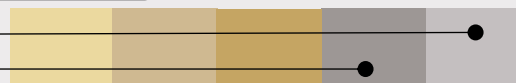
FOUNDATIONAL

ADVANCED

EVALUATION TOOLS

TEACHING PORTFOLIOS

STUDENT RATINGS, PEER OBSERVATIONS, ALUMNI REVIEWS



TEACHING
ACADEMY

DEMONSTRATING TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Strategies for demonstrating
the foundational elements—
Exemplar, Educator,
Enthusiast

FRAMEWORK FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

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Arrive a few minutes before and stay a few minutes after class

Learn students' names and use them in class

Walk around the room and chat with students

Outline expectations in syllabus and adhere to those guidelines

Respond to email in a timely way

Use student input in creating activities or assessments

Create opportunities for individual or small group meetings

FRAMEWORK FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

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- Engages in trans- and interdisciplinary collaborations

Provide guidance on how subject matter can be used in career

Discuss personal experience(s) with subject matter and its relevance

Share personal examples on applying expertise to the real world

Use student feedback to modify course in future offerings

Update course annually and as subject matter changes

Outline how subject matter has evolved and how to stay current

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Outline learning objectives at the beginning of class

Demonstrate how topic can be used in a given scenario

Collect feedback throughout course

Provide opportunities for guided practice

Utilize strategies to provide immediate feedback on performance

Link assessments to course goals and learning objectives

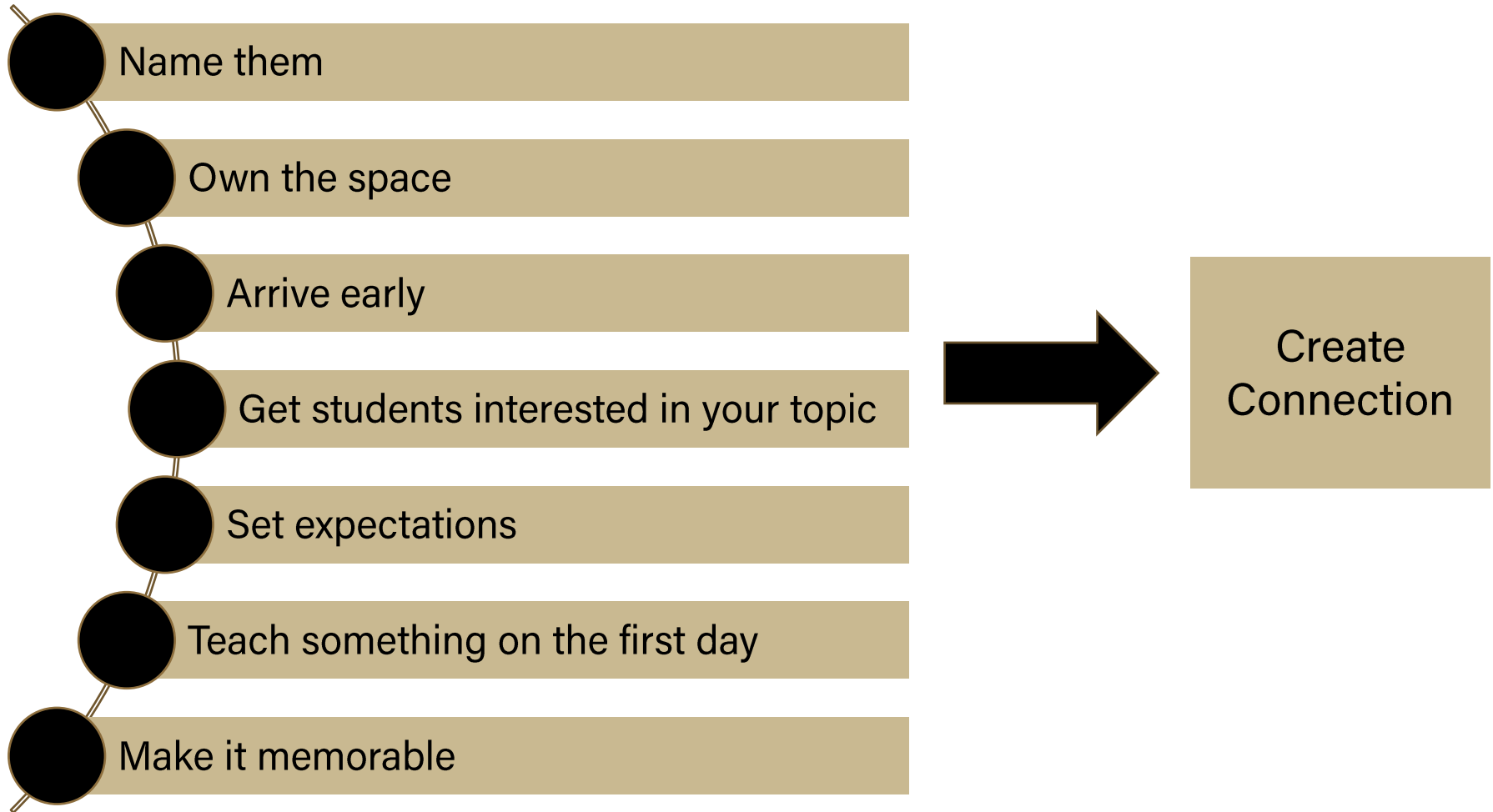
TIPS & ADVICE

FROM MEMBERS OF THE TEACHING ACADEMY

- What is at least one thing you wish you had known when starting at Purdue as a faculty member?
- What are some strategies that you have used to engage students in the classroom?
- What are your teaching tips for course organization, student communication, and/or assessments?
- What lessons have you learned over your time as a faculty member at Purdue?
- What teaching and learning resources have you used or would recommend?

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

FIRST WEEK TEACHING TIPS





TEACHING
ACADEMY

THANK YOU!

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