



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN CENTER



Spring 2008 Teaching Assistant Orientation Friday, January 11, 2008, 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, HSC Capitol Room

The purpose of this orientation is to cover topics of interest suggested by the participants of the fall 2007 Teaching Assistant Orientation, and provide new and experienced TAs an opportunity to network with each other once again. The interactive sessions by faculty and teaching assistants will address effective methods to make courses motivating and engaging, lecture techniques using theatrical elements, strategies for leading effective classroom discussions, and lesson planning from the perspective of experienced TAs. The sessions will include time for questions and answers from the audience. Both new and experienced TAs will benefit from this orientation. Below is the tentative agenda.

MORNING SESSIONS

- 8:00 am Check-In, Refreshments
- 8:30 am Welcome and Overview of the Orientation – Chigozie Achebe (Faculty Development)
- 8:45 am **Preparing to Teach a Motivating and Engaging Course** – Faculty Panel: Brad Cripe (Accountancy), Michael Day (English), Lisa Yamagata-Lynch (Educational Technology, Research and Assessment). Moderator: Tim Griffin (Ombudsman)
- 10:15 am Break
- 10:30 am **Teaching Truths from the Theatre** – Alex Gelman (Theatre and Dance)
- 11:45 am Lunch



AFTERNOON SESSIONS

- 1:00 pm **Presentation Strategies for Leading Classroom Discussion** – Linda O’Neill (Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations)
- 2:15 pm Break
- 2:30 pm **TA Reflections on Lesson Planning** – TA Panel
- 3:30 pm Evaluation and Certificate Presentation

Sample of Participants’ Feedback from Fall ‘07 TA Orientation:

Very good timing...overall, great presentations and organization.

Excellent presenters, great speakers.

I enjoyed it!!

Registration Information

This orientation is open to all graduate teaching assistants, research assistants, and staff assistants at NIU. Registered participants will receive orientation materials, refreshments, lunch and a certificate of participation. Pre-register online, by email or fax, or by completing and returning the form below. After sending in the registration form if you do not receive confirmation within two working days, please contact the Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center.

Registration Deadline: Friday, December 21, 2007

Please return the completed form below to

Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center, 313 Adams Hall, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115

Online: <http://www.niu.edu/facdev/ta/orientation> ■ Email: tadev@niu.edu ■ Fax: (815) 753-2595

Due to the expensive nature of the program, limited seats available, and advance notice required for arrangements, please register by the deadline and attend the entire orientation. After registering, if you are unable to attend, please notify us by Wednesday, January 9, 2008 so that those on the waiting list could be given the opportunity to attend or program costs could be reduced.

Spring 2008 Teaching Assistant Orientation Registration Form

Please return the completed form to Faculty Development by December 21, 2007

Name (as it should appear on the certificate) _____

Department _____

Phone _____

NIU Email _____

I plan to attend lunch: Yes No

Special Accommodations (if applicable) _____