

UW Math New Faculty Teaching Workshop

Sept 1, 2022



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

FACULTY OF
MATHEMATICS

Schedule

- 9:00 – n Things to Know about Teaching Math at UW
 - Diana Skrzydlo, Math Teaching Fellow
 - Monica Vesely, Centre for Teaching Excellence
- 9:45 – Igniting Our Practice
 - Cecilia Cotton, Statistics and Actuarial Science
 - Zack Cramer, Math Undergraduate Group
- 10:30 – Micro-teaching Sessions
- 12:00 – Lunch



n Things to Know About Teaching Math at UW

Surprising Things About UW Math

- Amount of support and control can vary widely
- Class size can be challenging
- Students are motivated and keen, keep on your toes
- Others?

Before Your First Class

- Create your course syllabus
 - Use outline.uwaterloo.ca for accessibility
 - Include grading scheme, schedule of topics, your policies
- Pre-requisite material
 - Find out what students know from previous courses
 - Talk to previous instructor and/or survey students
 - May want to post review material
- Check out your classroom
 - Make sure technology works, check visibility of writing



In Your First Class

- Introduce yourself
- Introduce the class to each other
- Review course syllabus and roles/expectations
- Introduce students to resources to support learning
- Choose material that allows interaction – brainstorm orally on background material or do a review problem
- Don't stop early! Your first class sets the tone for the remainder of the term
- EEQT (Early Engagement Quick Tips)



During Classes

- Present an outline of the class on a slide or board
- Start and end on time, be consistent
- Get to know your students' names
- Incorporate interaction to break up lectures
- Ask and welcome questions
 - Consider types of questions and how to phrase
 - Wait long enough and repeat the question
 - Thank students for their contribution
- Practice cultural sensitivity



Outside of Class

- Assessment is curriculum – should be aligned
 - Can use more than just assignments and tests/exams!
 - Diagnostic, formative, summative
 - Check out [WAI](#) for ideas or talk to [Diana](#) or [Dan](#)
 - Have a colleague look over tests to catch typos
 - If possible, provide flexibility
- Office hours
- Course discussion board vs emails
- Managing TAs



Getting Feedback

- Have yourself videoed (week 3)
- Ask a colleague or CTE staff to observe your class and give you feedback both early on and later in the term
- Do a midterm course evaluation (week 4 or 5)
 - Stop/Start/Continue
- Don't wait until the end-of-term evaluations to find out what went wrong/well

CTE Teaching Tips

Search for tips

Containing all of the words

Containing any of the words

Containing the phrase

Containing none of the words

SEARCH



<https://uwaterloo.ca/centre-for-teaching-excellence/resources/teaching-tips>



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

FACULTY OF
MATHEMATICS

Examples of CTE Programming

LEARN self-enroll short courses:

- Independent Blended Course Design (iBlend)

Online synchronous workshops:

- CTE6550 LEARN for TAs

In-person programming:

- CTE6603 Teaching Squares

Recorded events:

- CTE1267 Universal Design for Learning

<https://uwaterloo.ca/centre-for-teaching-excellence/upcoming-workshops-and-events>



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

FACULTY OF
MATHEMATICS

Centre for Teaching Excellence
home

About CTE >

Workshops and Events >

Support for... >

Resources >

INFORMATION FOR

Faculty and staff >

New faculty >

Graduate Supervision
Series for Faculty >

University of Waterloo
Teaching Fellows

Chairs and directors

Postdoctoral fellows

Graduate students >

CTE Support for New Faculty

Highlights:

- Core programming and timeline
- Teaching Development Plan (TDP)
- Graduate Supervision Series

<https://uwaterloo.ca/centre-for-teaching-excellence/support-faculty-and-staff/support-new-faculty>



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

FACULTY OF
MATHEMATICS

Math Teaching Support

- Math Teaching Seminar
 - Meets bi-weekly on Teams - guest speakers and discussion
 - Contact [Zack Cramer](#) to get on mailing list and/or Team
- [Math Teaching Website](#)
 - [Guidelines for instructors](#)
- Math Teaching Fellow [Diana Skrzydlo](#)
 - [Teaching Development Fund](#)
 - [Teaching Textbook Lending Library](#)



Key Takeaways

- Ask for advice and help
- Don't try and do everything on your own
- Get feedback during the term