UW Math New Faculty Teaching Workshop

Sept 1, 2022
Schedule

- 9:00 – 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
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
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
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
Math Teaching Support

- Math Teaching Seminar
  - Meets bi-weekly on Teams - guest speakers and discussion
  - Contact [Zack Cramer](mailto:zack.cramer@uwaterloo.ca) to get on mailing list and/or Team

- [Math Teaching Website](https://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/teaching/)
  - Guidelines for instructors

- Math Teaching Fellow [Diana Skrzydlo](mailto:diana.skrzydlo@uwaterloo.ca)
  - [Teaching Development Fund](https://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/teaching/fund/)
  - [Teaching Textbook Lending Library](https://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/teaching/library/)

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[University of Waterloo](https://www.uwaterloo.ca/) | [Faculty of Mathematics](https://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/)

Key Takeaways

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