

**Certificate in College Teaching  
IDND30502 Practicum in College Teaching  
Spring 2008**

***INSTRUCTOR***

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***INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE***

The Practicum in College Teaching is intended to serve as a capstone experience for the Certificate in College Teaching. Participants enrolled in the Practicum will:

- participate in a mentored teaching experience;
- document the teaching experience by preparing a course portfolio.

Each student will have a pedagogical mentor (the Practicum instructor) and, as appropriate and possible, a content mentor (a faculty member in the discipline). Details of the Practicum are negotiable depending on the level of experience and particular circumstances of the student.

The goal of the Practicum is to provide students with peer and pedagogical mentorship through a teaching and/or course development experience. Your Practicum "product" will be a polished teaching portfolio.

## ***COURSE OBJECTIVES***

By the end of the Practicum, students will have:

1. engaged in “reflective practice” by
  - a. applying to classroom practice pedagogical techniques that they have learned in prior Certificate courses
  - b. receiving feedback and reflecting upon their teaching practice;
2. produced a polished teaching portfolio suitable for use in a job search or for promotion/tenure purposes.

## ***MEETINGS***

Course meetings will take place at Clark University, at a location TBD.

The course will begin the week of Jan. 14, 2008 and will end by April 25, 2008. Two-hour class meetings will be scheduled every two to three weeks based on the schedules of the participants.

Final portfolios will be due on May 9, 2008.

## ***REQUIRED TEXTS***

None, but please have available for reference both the portfolio preparation manual that you used in the Seminar in College Teaching, and the portfolio that you prepared in that course.

Course materials will be posted on the IDND30502 Blackboard site (<http://echalk.clarku.edu>). Please check the Blackboard site regularly, at minimum twice per week.

## ***GRADING PROCEDURES***

Your grade will be determined by individual contract, by some combination of the following. The particular grade weighting that will be used for your grade must be communicated in writing to Judy no later than Feb. 11.

1. Quality of teaching, determined jointly by Judy (using a rubric on the course web site) and your content mentor; if there is no content mentor, then the pedagogical mentor will determine the entire grade. This component must comprise at least 20% of your grade.
2. Quality of your final portfolio, determined by Judy (using a rubric available on the course web site). This component must comprise at least 20% of your grade. Portfolio due date is May 9.
3. Attendance and participation in Practicum activities, including participating in course activities listed below, and providing thoughtful feedback to other students. This component must comprise at least 10% of your grade.

## ***COURSE ACTIVITIES***

1. Practicum meetings, during which we will discuss:
  - Pedagogical issues that students bring to each meeting
  - Class observations
  - Portfolio preparation and feedback
2. Observe each other's classes and provide written feedback, using the feedback form provided.
  - Each student is expected to observe and provide written feedback on two classes for one other student.
  - Judy will observe and provide written feedback on two classes for each student.
3. Students, on a rotating basis, will lead the class meetings with appropriate agenda issues for discussion.

## ***ROLE OF CONTENT MENTORS***

Your content mentor will typically be either the professor who is teaching the course in which you are participating; or, if you are teaching a stand-alone course, a faculty member or department chair in the department in which you are teaching. Your content mentor may also be a faculty member from the discipline in which you are teaching, but affiliated with a different institution from the one at which you are teaching.

Content mentors are asked to

1. be available for consultation about the development of course materials. Please consult with your content mentor to review course materials before the course begins, and at regular intervals during the course.
2. observe you teach at least twice, and to provide you with written feedback. Please post the written feedback you receive from your content mentor in your group area on Blackboard.