

**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**  
**TA Orientation**  
**International Student Portion -- August 2021**

**EVALUATION RESULTS**

[Total Respondents = 74]

[Total Comments: N=126    +(117)    +/- (6)    -(3)]

Welcome Session	Responses											
	Not		2		Somewhat		4		Very		Summary	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Total	Mean
Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5												
How <u>informative</u> was this session?	1	1	1	1	4	6	11	15	55	77	72	4.6
How <u>interesting</u> was his session?	1	1	1	1	3	4	15	21	53	73	73	4.6
<b>Total</b>	2	1	2	1	7	5	26	18	108	74	145	4.6

**Comments:** (n=23)

+(21)

+/- (1)

-(1)

- + Exciting
- + Excellent
- + Welcome session was great.
- + I thought this was a great introduction!
- + It was really great!
- + Great and short, efficient!
- + Great, very clear and approachable.
- + Very informative and comprehensive
- + Really great teaching mentors.
- + Really helpful (2)
- + I really loved it. If i was nervous, the session helped to calm my nerves and set me on a good pace.
- + It makes me relaxed.
- + Very good
- + Good!
- + Nice
- + Very informative and comprehensive
- + It was interesting, interactive and educative.
- + It was comfortable and inspiring.
- + It was warm and welcoming.
- + It was very welcoming and motivating.
- +/- Although it was brief, it set the tone for the rest of the day.
- Why was this event held in person while delta is spiking and it was successfully held online last year?

Small Groups	Responses											
	Not		2		Somewhat		4		Very		Summary	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Total	Mean
Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5												
How <u>informative</u> was this session?	.	.	.	.	1	1	6	8	65	91	72	4.9
How <u>interesting</u> was his session?	.	.	.	.	3	4	5	7	63	89	71	4.8
<b>Total</b>	.	.	.	.	4	3	11	7.5	128	89.5	143	4.85

**Comments:** (n= 29)

+(29)

+/- (0)

-(0)

- + Exciting
- + The best part for me; gives me a lot of confidence.
- + I loved every bit of it. The feedback from everyone is quite encouraging. It was simply beautify connecting in small groups.
- + Great

**Small Group Comments (cont.)**

- + My small group was great!
- + It was really great!
- + Great and informative!
- + Very good
- + Good!
- + Nice
- + Very informative and gave clear guidelines. The two teaching mentors were complementary.
- + Very interactive and leaders were very resourceful in giving guidance and answering questions.
- + It was interactive, interesting and educative.
- + Practical and fun!
- + Really helpful
- + Very useful answering all questions.
- + Since it was a small group session, one-on-one doubt-solving was possible. There was a lot of clarity. The information provided seems really interesting and helpful.
- + Mentors did a good job.
- + Very nice to meet them.
- + The two mentors Gemma Cooper-Novack, Seth Knievel have been very supportive, welcoming and encouraging throughout the sessions. The quality of feedback they gave me regarding the microteaching was exceptional.
- + Gemma and Seth are very great mentors for us. They helped us a lot.
- + Very intimate and inclusive. Our instructors, Phillandra and Caitlin are so helpful.
- + Very friendly, amicable atmosphere and a free space for discussion. The mentors - Philandra and Caitlin - were welcoming, informative and supportive. Microteaching was a new experience, but I don't think anyone felt very nervous simply because the atmosphere was so accommodative. That being said, I think it is important that graduate students both feel welcome and are made aware of the challenges of teaching American undergraduate classrooms. Discussions on how students perceive race, accent and origin were somewhat absent. How ITAs navigate this could be critical to their graduate experience, so the innate assumption that students are generally well-intentioned, willing learners needs to be challenged.
- + Katelyn and Matthew are very kind and they gave us a great support.
- + Fortune was a fantastic leader. Very informative and helpful. Knew how to answer all our questions, and an overall great person.
- + The Small Group sessions were very helpful and full of relevant discussion. I was also able to learn from my other peers on their own country context.
- + Good peer group. Helped me reflect on my flaws.
- + It let me know something more about TA and have a chance to try.
- + I could get very useful feedback from other students and mentors.

The American Classroom	Responses											
	Not		2		Somewhat		4		Very		Summary	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Total	Mean
Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5												
How <u>informative</u> was this session?	.	.	2	3	3	4	14	20	51	73	70	4.7
How <u>interesting</u> was his session?	.	.	2	3	2	3	19	27.5	46	66.5	69	4.6
<b>Total</b>	.	.	4	3	5	4	33	24	97	70	139	4.6

**Comments:** (n= 24)

+ (22)

+/- (1)

- (1)

- + Exciting
- + Great
- + It was really great to hear from experienced panelists.
- + Very good
- + Good!
- + Nice
- + It went through some critical points, awesome discussion!
- + A lot of things to know
- + Interesting
- + It was interactive, interesting and educative.
- + Well-explained
- + Really helpful
- + As an international student, I learn so many things about the US classroom policy which I do not know.

**The American Classroom Comments (cont.)**

- + As an international student, I am super grateful for this session as it was an expository session for someone coming from a different background.
- + The corner stones of the American classroom talk was the gist for me. The way I see the difference between the American Classroom and my country context is the learner centric approach of teaching and learning in the classroom settings.
- + I could learn how the American classrooms works. I also learned cultural differences that I should know beforehand.
- + It is really useful to know what a class looks like.
- + The content of the presentation is very informative.
- + Very informative
- + It was very informative and the information given was clear.
- + I got all the information that I wanted.
- + Some interesting information that I didn't know before.
- +/- I was already aware of some of this information, but hearing it again was comforting. The new information was very useful.
- I believe it needed more time and more practical demonstrations.

Succeeding as an ITA	Responses											
	Not		2		Somewhat		4		Very		Summary	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Total	Mean
Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5												
How <u>informative</u> was this session?	.	.	1	1.5	5	7	13	19	50	72.5	69	4.6
How <u>interesting</u> was his session?	.	.	4	6	3	4	13	19	48	71	68	4.5
<b>Total</b>	.	.	5	4	8	6	26	19	98	71	137	4.6

**Comments:** (n=24)

+ (20)

+/- (3)

- (1)

- + Exciting
- + Great
- + It was really great to hear from experienced panelists.
- + To know that you have a community you can share your experiences with as you journey as a TA means a lot to me and I appreciate it.
- + It was very nice to hear from other successful ITAs.
- + We can learn from others' experiences.
- + Thanks for their sharing.
- + I like the Q & A!
- + Very good
- + Good!
- + Nice
- + Very informative
- + It was interactive, interesting and educative.
- + This was a great section!
- + This is the most helpful section ever!
- + Really helpful
- + Helpful
- + I could learn main points of TA works at Syracuse University.
- + It does give an overall sense of the roles and responsibilities as ITA.
- + Really great small group! Learn a lot and look forward to the live session!
- + Gas for our goals.
- +/- Some overlap with "The American Classroom" made this somewhat less interesting than the previous presentations, although still informative.
- +/- Some ITA mentor talked too long for one question in this part. I appreciate that, but it's hard for me to focus sometimes. I think it may be better if they are told to have not too long answers in advance. Thanks! I totally appreciate their help!
- +/- These were useful perspectives, but they were more along the lines of simple experiences than actual pointers on how to navigate these issues. I don't think I came away with a clear idea of what sorts of issues I'll face at the very start of my teaching career.
- It could be a little shorter.

Introduction to Microteaching	Responses											
	Not		2		Somewhat		4		Very		Summary	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Total	Mean
Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5												
How <u>informative</u> was this session?	.	.	1	1	.	.	8	12	59	87.0	68	4.8
How <u>interesting</u> was his session?	.	.	.	.	2	3	10	15	55	82.0	67	4.8
<b>Total</b>	.	.	1	1	2	2	18	13	114	84	135	4.8

**Comments:** (n=26)

+ (25)

+/- (1)

- (0)

- + Excellent
- + Exciting
- + The best part of my training experience.
- + Very good
- + GOOD
- + Good
- + Nice
- + More insight!
- + Educating
- + It was interactive, interesting and educative.
- + Get a whole picture about it.
- + Very helpful
- + Really helpful
- + Really helped me. Got some good suggestions about improving my teaching
- + It was helpful to get a feedback of my teaching.
- + It was very helpful to start my Journey at SU.
- + It was a great exercise and encouraging feedback was received from the leaders and the ITA.
- + I could get great and useful feedback from the participants.
- + Some very important and practical advice was given, which I will be sure to implement in my future classes.
- + It was a brilliant exercise. The reviews and assessments post presentation were really constructive and useful.
- + It was a very good and comfortable session for me and I got really valuable feedback on my session. For me it was really useful.
- + Great experience with great instructors introducing us about the micro-teaching.
- + I would love to join this type of session more often if Gemma Cooper-Novack and Seth Knieval serve as a mentor again!
- + Gemma and Seth gave very constructive criticisms.
- + My mentors, Lei and Jared, are very nice and helpful. I think it's an excellent arrangement for assigning an ITA and an American TA for us.
- +/- Excellent first experience with very warm and welcoming mentors. As mentioned earlier, I think a Frank and open discussion about how to deal with perceptions of race, gender and identity in the classroom is important. Students don't necessarily have the maturity to filter or shape these thoughts in constructive ways, and our responses to them could determine our graduate experience. This is a complexity that needed to be addressed. However, the actual experience was pleasant, rich with excellent feedback and easy to engage with.

# AUGUST 2021 TA ORIENTATION

## Section 1 - Evaluation Results

[ Total Comments: N= 490 ]

+ (329) +/- (118) - (43)

### Welcome Session

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.21	1.02	1.03	150
2	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.10	1.02	1.05	150

#	Answer	%	Count
3	I did not attend or review the "Welcome Session."	100.00%	4
	Total	100%	4

COMMENTS: [N=40]

+ (29) +/- (10) - (1)

+ (n=29)

- ♦ Warm and informative!
- ♦ Very informative
- ♦ It was superb, informative and interesting.
- ♦ Organized and informative session.
- ♦ It was very friendly.
- ♦ It was very welcoming and a friendly atmosphere. Organization was very well done and were prompt.
- ♦ Welcome session was concise and had all the information needed.
- ♦ Cool profs
- ♦ Great!
- ♦ Great
- ♦ Great welcome. I appreciate the humor and history shared with us.
- ♦ The Welcome Session did a great job of acknowledging the work that we will be doing this academic year as well as providing clear logistics and expectations of the orientation.
- ♦ The tone was warm, friendly, and really promoted engagement between students. Additionally, the intent and schedule was clearly laid out.
- ♦ Really did impart a sense of value, warmth and reassurance to grad students. Very refreshing, open messaging.
- ♦ I did feel very welcome and as if the people in charge really cared about me and were willing to support me in any way that they could.
- ♦ The welcome session made me feel very welcome and it made me feel like I'm in the same boat as all the other grad students who were in the room. The advice was great and the speakers were very entertaining!
- ♦ This was a nice welcome.
- ♦ It was nice and inviting.
- ♦ Nice introduction to the school and letting us know what to expect this week.

**Welcome Session (cont.)****Comments (cont.)**

- ♦ It was really cool. I felt so happy to join in this Session.
- ♦ Very good and made me excited for the rest of the day.
- ♦ GOOD
- ♦ Good!
- ♦ Good.
- ♦ Good session
- ♦ It was good, put me at ease.
- ♦ It was good, very to the point.
- ♦ It was fine, lots and lots of people.
- ♦ Enjoyed it.

**+/- (n=10)**

- ♦ Very good (but too early).
- ♦ I am glad it was relaxed, it was too early for any excitement.
- ♦ I liked how enthusiastic Glenn was. I did not like that so many students were kept in an enclosed room while we are dealing with the Delta variation.
- ♦ I feel like there should be more announcements, especially explaining in person that there will be an online component.
- ♦ Felt personal and like the leadership really cared. Would have liked to hear some more personal stories from TA Mentors.
- ♦ I enjoyed it well enough, it was just not super engaging.
- ♦ Pretty standard introductory session, nothing particularly unique about it.
- ♦ Was just standard admin welcome.
- ♦ It was fine.
- ♦ Average

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ Didn't receive this link 'til a few days after so it's hard to even remember.

**Small Group Session****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
4	How informative was this session?	1.00	5.00	4.53	0.86	0.74	148
5	How interesting was this session?	1.00	5.00	4.50	0.87	0.75	148

#	Answer	%	Count
6	I did not attend or review the "Small Group Session."	100.00%	3
	Total	100%	3

**Small Group Session (cont.)****COMMENTS: [N=59] + (52) +/- (2) - (5)****+ (n=52)**

- ♦ Perfect 10/10
- ♦ Just a nice opening chat!
- ♦ Very friendly and welcoming atmosphere
- ♦ Super helpful throughout the orientation to talk with and learn from experienced TAs about our roles on campus.
- ♦ This was helpful. I recommend the group leaders being able to provide a brief detail of what we might get from the learning sessions later in the day.
- ♦ This was much better and more helpful (and less people).
- ♦ It was super good, informative and interesting.
- ♦ Very informative, helpful
- ♦ Very informative. Answered all questions with ease and confidence. Gave insight to their own experiences in teaching, both the good and the bad.
- ♦ It is really helpful for me to know something really important about TAing.
- ♦ The small group session was very helpful to organize the rest of the event and have a network for questions and to contact in the future.
- ♦ Very useful and effective
- ♦ Very interactive
- ♦ Great
- ♦ Everything was great.
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Good!
- ♦ Good
- ♦ Good info source
- ♦ Glad to meet each other.
- ♦ Glad to know new friends in the group.
- ♦ Interesting, and we met and got familiar with some new friends.
- ♦ It was nice to meet a small group of other graduate students and much easier to get to know people in the small setting.
- ♦ Happy with my small group, both the size and diversity of subjects.
- ♦ My leader was super helpful. He was responsive to questions and gave a lot of good information about campus.
- ♦ I enjoyed a lot to meet new TA mates, and the mentor very clear and kind!!!
- ♦ TM set the tone for the group perfectly, relaxed atmosphere.
- ♦ Cool TA mentor
- ♦ My mentor TA is great and she offered a lot of great information about what we were going to do that day. She was really welcoming and I really like my group!
- ♦ I really appreciate my mentor TA's openness and personable nature. He's really helpful.
- ♦ Great session, Gemma was incredibly helpful with getting us up to speed on how the whole orientation was going to go.
- ♦ I absolutely loved my small group session and Gemma was an amazing leader.
- ♦ Kellan Head was doing great, being a good example of being a TA.
- ♦ It was nice being broken up into these “small groups” – it gave me a chance to meet people outside my department. My TA mentor, Kellan, was also super helpful.
- ♦ Teddy, my small group leader, was very welcoming and helping us get situated with training.
- ♦ Shewit was a great small group leader and offered us a lot of tips for our assistantships.
- ♦ Shewit Mikael created a great environment.

**Small Group Session (cont.)****Comments: (cont.)**

- ♦ Caitlin made an effort to connect with each of individually and was very helpful at answering any questions we had!
- ♦ Caitlin helped us a lot and provided valuable feedback. She is the best!
- ♦ I think Jacob was very well informed and helpful.
- ♦ Lauren did a great job answering questions.
- ♦ Rowan is great and accessible.
- ♦ Seth has done a great job and has been open and honest about what to expect.
- ♦ It was lovely to meet everyone and our TA mentor Phillandra was awesome!!
- ♦ My group leader Philla is great.
- ♦ Phillandra was very helpful and we managed to get along well.
- ♦ Phillandra is a great mentor. I connected with my fellow colleagues and that's my greatest take home.
- ♦ Jared made the session both informative and interesting.
- ♦ Jared was great and made me feel welcome!
- ♦ Our group's teaching mentor (Subhasree Sengupta) was great! She was respectful, thoughtful and provided excellent examples and tips!
- ♦ My leader was Subhasree was very welcoming and set a comfortable tone for the rest of the orientation.
- ♦ Sree is a very friendly and kind individual. She's very attentive to everyone and always makes sure we understand the content. She's highly informative and always is willing to help, assist, and makes sure everyone is comfortable.

**+/- (n=2)**

- ♦ We spent 30 minutes talking about how the schedule works. This was necessary for some people in the group but moved quite slow for others.
- ♦ It was as informative as possible. I think the time block was too long though.

**- (n=5)**

- ♦ Should have more specific content for small groups to cover.
- ♦ We just needed something to do for this time. The questions people didn't fill up the whole time given.
- ♦ I would have liked a couple more icebreakers or to sit in a circle.
- ♦ My group was very quiet and didn't want to interact with each other much. It was hard to break the ice.
- ♦ The small group session was interesting due to my leader however did not seem like much to do; maybe provide icebreaker games or something similar for leader to utilize this first session.

**Universal Design for Learning****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
7	How informative was this presentation?	1.00	5.00	4.52	0.81	0.66	147
8	How interesting was this presentation?	1.00	5.00	4.29	0.98	0.97	147
#	Answer					%	Count
9	I did not attend or review "Universal Design for Learning."					100.00%	4
	Total					100%	4



**Universal Design for Learning (cont.)****COMMENTS: [N=43] + (30) +/- (7) - (6)****+ (n= 30)**

- ♦ Interesting concept
- ♦ It was interactive, informative and interesting.
- ♦ I found myself wanting the presentation to be longer because it was so interesting and helpful.
- ♦ Great! (2)
- ♦ Great (2)
- ♦ It was extremely helpful at making me more mindful of my students' differences and what they may be facing. It offered good solutions to possible problems, and I feel better equipped to think through student issues and how to resolve them.
- ♦ Very informative
- ♦ Lots of effort. Very helpful and informative
- ♦ Very well done -- I appreciated the ways the leaders provided multiple modalities for interacting with the content and were deliberate in their attempts to make their presentation accessible. Dustin and Phillandra did an excellent job introducing/reminding TAs of the disparity in access to disability diagnosis, treatment, and services, underscoring the need to design our courses with UDL in mind.
- ♦ Very good (2)
- ♦ Good (3)
- ♦ Nice
- ♦ Glad to have it.
- ♦ This was a very important reminder that we are responsible to be proactive about accessibility for all students rather than only reactive to specific needs.
- ♦ This was very insightful and thought provoking.
- ♦ Made me think about my contributions to the film industry in Botswana. I thought about set designs and inclusive productions.
- ♦ Informational
- ♦ This session was very eye opening and informative for me.
- ♦ Very informative and a great job of explaining how to bring about accessibility in the classroom.
- ♦ It is very important to support students who had limited access to the resources.
- ♦ I really appreciate how this session was presented using UDL to show us exactly what the presenters meant. It was like they were teaching us about UDL while also modeling it for us which was very helpful.
- ♦ I really valued how the presenters were practicing what they were teaching making the act of implementing UDL in my own classroom settings very organic and natural from their examples. Also very inclusive of TA responses and commentary.
- ♦ Thought it was very informative and it used its own advice when presenting, such as having captions.
- ♦ The worksheet we completed was a helpful exercise.
- ♦ I learned a lot, universally.
- ♦ I learned a lot about the UDL framework and it was presented in a way that was engaging and interactive. We all learned a lot during the session, and it was probably my favorite of the day!
- ♦ I especially liked the part on the limitations of universal design. It really got me thinking.
- ♦ Incredibly useful. I think that the key takeaway is that it takes very little additional effort to make students feel welcome, so teachers can really reach out to students without having to 'change' their mindset or completely modify their teaching styles.
- ♦ Cool TA mentors
- ♦ I liked how they would bring the mike close to someone to speak

**Universal Design for Learning (cont.)****Comments: (cont.)****+/- (n= 7)**

- ♦ This was my favorite session of the day. I just wish we had been granted more time to speak with our groups.
- ♦ Maybe a little confusing. Interesting concept.
- ♦ A useful topic, but maybe a little vague on implementation. I would have benefitted from more concrete examples of proactive design.
- ♦ May be improved by hard copy memo handout.
- ♦ Could be more enlightening if there was more insight into how to effectively practice UDL in different settings, such as in a social science course vs an engineering course.
- ♦ It would be good to replace some of the definitions with examples of individual people's stories to show how people with disabilities or learning challenges have overcome obstacles. Ex: Mona Moniker at Northeastern, or other leaders in accessible education.
- ♦ There was a lot of info covered, it was informative and helpful. However, there were many times it felt rushed and I found all the info and pace a bit overwhelming which made it hard to stay on the same page.

**- (n= 6)**

- ♦ I think the activity was carried out too quickly and did not give the TAs enough time to absorb the information or complete the exercise.
- ♦ As an education major I learned nothing and was not engaged. This was not an effective use of time for someone who has already received an undergraduate degree in teaching.
- ♦ This session did not inform me on anything I did not already know. These practices I believe are already being employed and taking effect across the country.
- ♦ A lot of the UDL session described scenarios that pertain more to course design and falls primarily upon the professor or instructor rather than the TA.
- ♦ Group work in an auditorium is kind of awkward but it wasn't okay.
- ♦ Could have been more exciting

**Diversity and Inclusion in the Classroom**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
10	How informative was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.51	0.79	0.63	143
11	How interesting was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.40	0.87	0.76	143

#	Answer	%	Count
12	I did not attend or review "Diversity and Inclusion in the Classroom"	100.00%	7
	Total	100%	7

**Diversity and Inclusion in the Classroom ( cont.)****COMMENTS: [N=49] + (32) +/- (11) - (6)****+ (n= 32)**

- ♦ Great!
- ♦ Great (2)
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Good!
- ♦ Nice
- ♦ Very well done.
- ♦ This was well done -- I appreciated the emphasis on co-constructing definitions to start the session. In particular, the suggestion to be very clear in the syllabus about the expectations for language use was extremely helpful for me. Lerie, Sadie, and Kim (even in her absence) did a great job! I also appreciated the live captions.
- ♦ Great usage of group discussion and classroom interaction. Engaging and informative.
- ♦ The presenters did a good job keeping up the energy, and created a really interesting and engaging presentation!
- ♦ This one was much more interesting and engaging.
- ♦ It was informative and interesting.
- ♦ Very informative
- ♦ Good use of engagement and warm atmosphere. Informative and non-judgmental while discussing serious topics.
- ♦ Definitely an informative and relevant panel.
- ♦ Was very informative, felt like I learned a lot.
- ♦ This was well presented and had very important information in it.
- ♦ I really liked the activities they had us work on, the creativity of the slides, and how the material was presented.
- ♦ Fun
- ♦ Fun times
- ♦ Good to know
- ♦ Many of the terms we covered I had never heard of, and it made me realize that many students face hidden problems that we as teachers need to be on the lookout for so that we can support the student as a whole person.
- ♦ It is interesting to know these and it is useful for me to know more about the classroom.
- ♦ Great use of example scenarios.
- ♦ 3 scenarios, make us think a lot.
- ♦ The terms were very helpful and the situations were especially eye opening.
- ♦ The terms explanation was important, I think.
- ♦ I really enjoyed how clear the terminology was defined and how the presenters offered our participation so we could hear different definitions as well.
- ♦ Cool TA Mentors
- ♦ Great presenters. Great topic. Did not expect to be talking about the concept of intersectionality in my TA Orientation, kudos!
- ♦ I learned some new concepts.
- ♦ I enjoyed this presentation. It is vital that all teachers be conscious of DEI in the classroom.

**+/- (n= 11)**

- ♦ Great speakers and participation. A lot of review, but new insights.
- ♦ Was a great session but the sound was not so good.
- ♦ Most topics were fairly familiar, especially to international students. However, the group exercises were stimulating, and it felt more hands-on to be placed in a hypothetical situation that would require an active intervention.
- ♦ May be improved by hard copy memo handout.

**Diversity and Inclusion in the Classroom ( cont.)****Comments: (cont.)**

- ♦ Could be multiple sessions, good intro though.
- ♦ I think this session should have taken a chance to address potential hot button topics that could arise in the classroom and how to deal with them.
- ♦ The definitions were helpful although I wished the presentation focused more on scenarios involving sensitivity to and considerations for diversity and inclusion.
- ♦ One recommendation, if asking participants to define a word, don't show the definition on the screen. Overall great.
- ♦ For not having the easiest room location to talk about diversity and inclusion I think the facilitators did a very good job at getting needed feedback for this topic. I think everyone could have benefited from this session being longer and having more time for small group exercises.
- ♦ This was an okay session. There were quite a few things that were problematic such as when the presenters said “society needs people who are highly educated.” I thought that was incorrect to say, because it de-values and diminished those who cannot continue their education for varying reasons.
- ♦ This was a nice basic session but I guess I was expecting it to be more like the later session I attended (globalized/multicultural classroom) that addressed a little better how to handle tough situations in diverse environments.

**- (n= 6)**

- ♦ Given this session dealt with almost similar issues or cross cutting issues, clear differences should have been more useful.
- ♦ It felt like too much info for the short length of the presentation. I would have liked more depth and less breadth. Like maybe just making it an implicit bias training session instead of just listing many terms and moving on.
- ♦ Difficult to hear at times.
- ♦ It was disappointing to experience universal design issues in this presentation; the mic was not loud enough and the presenters' voices were not clear from the back, speech-to-text technologies were used but the text was too small to be seen from the back as well.
- ♦ One of the presenters talked too fast, so I couldn't keep up with her.
- ♦ Lerei spoke too quickly and we moved too quickly through definitions without focusing on how they were related or why they were important.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Work-Life Balance****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
13	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.23	1.23	1.51	90
14	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.22	1.25	1.55	90

#	Answer	%	Count
15	I did not attend or review "Work-Life Balance."	100.00%	56
	Total	100%	56

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Work-Life Balance (cont.)****Comments: [N=40] + (27) +/- (11) - (2)****+ (n=27)**

- ♦ The best presentation I attended.
- ♦ Great
- ♦ I LOVED this session; so fun and relaxing. Really reassuring and welcoming.
- ♦ A nice break from all the "seriousness" and more relatable topic.
- ♦ Relatable and informative! Especially putting names and importance to seemingly obvious things that can get lost in the shuffle of work/life.
- ♦ The information provided will be very useful for our journey in grad school. They gave us valuable studying tips and great recommendations on free time activities.
- ♦ I appreciated the transparency of the presenters in discussing their journeys towards a work-life balance that supports their unique needs.
- ♦ Very cool TA mentors
- ♦ I feel like this had the best "insider" graduate student information.
- ♦ It was nice to see how some of the graduate students dealt with work-life balance.
- ♦ Very well done.
- ♦ Helpful and useful. It gave me some really good ideas.
- ♦ Very helpful tips.
- ♦ Good suggestions
- ♦ Great presentation! Loved the ideas for scheduling and information on activities in Syracuse you can do.
- ♦ Presenters provided great examples and tips on managing time and creating to-do lists.
- ♦ The 3 presenters were really interesting and a kind of motivational persons. They taught us that how to make our work effectively and simultaneously enjoy the life.
- ♦ Great presenters. Talked us through their own struggles and the importance of taking much needed breaks throughout your studies without having GUILT, which definitely applied to me.
- ♦ I thought this presentation was very helpful and it made me feel as though this job, while a significant time commitment, is certainly manageable.
- ♦ This session was super insightful in reinforcing that I can and should have a life beyond my academics and that my own well-being is a crucial part to my work.
- ♦ Ways of finishing the abundant work without making life so interrupted.
- ♦ I enjoyed the presentation and felt the suggestions they provided were both practical and attainable.
- ♦ It taught me why and how I should maintain work-life balance.
- ♦ I enjoyed learning about what there is to do in Syracuse as well as the resources available to us as students/TAs (i.e. the Barnes Center).
- ♦ Good!
- ♦ So good.
- ♦ This is something I wish was presented as a topic for everyone because it's such a big topic and very relevant to all of our well-beings as TAs and students.

**+/- (n=11)**

- ♦ I Did enjoy this session, however I felt that there were times where the presenters got a little off track and that I had points where I felt that the presentation was a little unbalanced between the presenters and with the information given. I wish we had gotten more concrete information on how to get involved with things on campus instead of just being told that things existed! But overall it was informative and energetic.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Work-Life Balance (cont.)****Comments: (cont.)**

- ♦ I really liked the information about the avenues that we can access to let off steam. However, I think a key portion that was missing was a frank discussion about how grad school is at the start, and the kind of churn we might expect as we try to initially adapt. The presenters were very frank about listing the challenges they faced, but it might help to have a 2nd year grad student or even a first year to come share some perspective on how exactly they dealt with the immediate pressure of grad school to begin with.
- ♦ Pretty useful but not enough detailed.
- ♦ I appreciate everything I learned but I was expecting more tools and best practices.
- ♦ Helpful for getting to know the area. Would be nice to have a Q/A panel about struggles and how others adapted.
- ♦ Maybe more time could have been allotted to tips and pieces of advice about establishing a good schedule/routine.
- ♦ A lot of the information in this session was kind of obvious, but the presenters were awesome so I enjoyed it. I wish they talked more about the area of Syracuse and the different organizations that we can get involved with on campus.
- ♦ Knew a lot of it.
- ♦ Concurrent session
- ♦ Did not attend.
- ♦ N/A

- (n=2)

- ♦ The presenters did not offer any new or unique information on work-life balance or on how to better manage one's time as a graduate student.
- ♦ More tools and info please.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Technology in the Classroom**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
16	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.07	1.20	1.43	82
17	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.01	1.21	1.47	81

#	Answer	%	Count
18	I did not attend or review "Technology in the Classroom."	100.00%	58
	Total	100%	58

**COMMENTS: [N=30]**

+ (10) +/- (13) - (2)

+ (n=10)

- ♦ Great! (2)
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Good!
- ♦ One of my favorite sessions! It was very engaging and the tips were great!!!

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Technology in the Classroom (cont.)****COMMENTS: (cont.)**

- ♦ It gave an overview of the use of technology that can be used in the classroom.
- ♦ Gave a lot of helpful ideas and resources to use.
- ♦ Good info about software programs that can be used.
- ♦ This session also I like and got more information regarding the use of different technology that will help in teaching assistant duty.
- ♦ Very informative

**+/- (n=17)**

- ♦ I had thought that this session would provide us with some more practical and more applicable knowledge. While I appreciate the information provided, I do not feel that this session met my expectations based on what was described in the program.
- ♦ I overall really enjoyed this session. It may have been more helpful for the instructors to have used some of what they were teaching us about within their presentation.
- ♦ I liked that the presenters got us to play Kahoots but I wish it had focused more on how to use Blackboard as TAs.
- ♦ This session was advertised to go over how to use blackboard. I definitely think this session could have taken the opportunity to show us how to use the projector and actual technology that is in the classroom, as well as give a tutorial on how to use blackboard.
- ♦ A demonstration of blackboard would have been nice.
- ♦ A tad dry, but with the help of charismatic presenters, I was able to pull through. I wish there was more talk about using the actual equipment will be working with in our own classrooms, and some problems we may come across and how to resolve them.
- ♦ This session provided a lot of really valuable resources for technology in the classroom but I wish we would have had a session where we learned how to apply these technology skills in the classroom. Examples not just stating to use Youtube, but showing how this is done, how to record and utilize zoom functions, how to navigate blackboard tools, etc.
- ♦ It was great hearing from the facilitators personal experiences using technology in the classroom, but I could have benefited from more step-by-step examples of integrating technologies as I still feel undirected in how I can better incorporate this in my teaching environments.
- ♦ Session offered some useful ideas but did not actually explain how to use provided technologies and programs.
- ♦ Again, lots of breadth not enough depth. I attended the session hoping to learn how to use certain tech programs, but they just listed like 20 programs and moved on. It made me feel a bit overwhelmed instead of informed and capable. One of the speakers was very monotone and not engaging.
- ♦ I enjoyed this presentation; however, I had attended in hopes to learn more about how to operate the technology in the classroom, not how to implement outside technological resources to engage students.
- ♦ The presentation was good, I was just expecting more specific comments on how to use the platforms. But this might have been a wrong expectation on my part.
- ♦ Not my cup of tea normally but I learned a lot and was engaged.
- ♦ Concurrent session
- ♦ I did not attend. (2)
- ♦ N/A

**- (n=3)**

- ♦ I wish this had been a demo of the technology, and not an overview of what technology we'd be using. As far as I understand it, the technology we will use is mostly up to the professor; and, teaching us how to use blackboard would have been infinitely more useful than this session currently.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Technology in the Classroom (cont.)****Comments: (cont.)**

- ♦ Thought it would be more about how to actually use the technology in the classroom, but it just talked about tools like YouTube and Kahoot.
- ♦ Not much new information.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Motivating Students**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
19	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.02	1.47	2.17	63
20	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	3.92	1.41	1.98	63

#	Answer	%	Count
21	I did not attend or review "Motivating Students."	100.00%	78
	Total	100%	78

**COMMENTS: [N=20] + (14) +/- (5) - (1)****+ (n=14)**

- ♦ Great
- ♦ It was very informative and very engaging.
- ♦ Presented some really valuable information!
- ♦ Emphasized intrinsic motivation and a growth mindset which resonated with me.
- ♦ I appreciated how informative and interactive this panel was. I definitely learned a few new ways to keep students motivated!
- ♦ I especially liked the parts about raising intrinsic motivation, though the whole thing was informative.
- ♦ Interactive, motivating and interesting.
- ♦ Cool TA Mentors
- ♦ Lei and Brian did a stellar job of presenting evidence-based strategies for motivating students while modeling these same techniques. I took a lot of notes and would love to talk with each of them further!
- ♦ Presenters were very good about proposing many different ways to help motivate students.
- ♦ I appreciated breaking down extrinsic vs intrinsic motivation and the student suggestions for how to motivate students.
- ♦ The discussion of specific ways to extrinsically motivate students as well as ways that we can engage with intrinsic motivators was really insightful!
- ♦ I loved this presentation because the presenters weren't only telling us how to motivate students, but were also modeling how to motivate them by motivating us throughout the session. There were a lot of great concepts and methods explained and I will definitely be using some!!
- ♦ Lots of well-done work. Very helpful.



**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Motivating Students (cont.)****Comments: (cont.)****+/- (n=5)**

- ♦ This presentation provided entry level information and was geared toward someone who has not taught before. It would have been nice to have alternatives for more experienced educators.
- ♦ Overall good. I would have liked to hear more about how to encourage intrinsic rewards from learning.
- ♦ Did not attend (2)
- ♦ N/A

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ Very hard to understand the speakers. Speakers did not employ many other ways of conveying information like closed captioning or videos or games. Very lecture-focused and not engaging.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Assessments/Rubrics**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
22	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.55	0.99	0.98	93
23	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.52	0.80	0.65	91

#	Answer	%	Count
24	I did not attend or review "Assessments/Rubrics."	100.00%	55
	Total	100%	55

**COMMENTS: [N =28]      + (19)    +/- (8)    - (1)****+ (n = 19)**

- ♦ Great
- ♦ Great presentation and awesome tools shared. These are a great starting point for me. I look forward to applying these lessons when my classes begin.
- ♦ Good
- ♦ SUPER helpful
- ♦ Very helpful to ease anxiety about grading and testing.
- ♦ Useful
- ♦ It was informative and interesting.
- ♦ This was highly informative! The presenters were very thorough about their content. I felt I learned the most from this presentation in particular.
- ♦ This was my favorite session. Very informative and well-structured. Lots of useful tips on creating rubrics!!!
- ♦ This was a very well-done presentation with a lot of practicality!

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Assessments/Rubrics (cont.)****COMMENTS: (cont.)**

- ♦ For being a session on grading and assessment the facilitators were very engaged and passionate about doing this well and gave / presented many great examples making it feel natural to practice these myself in the classroom.
- ♦ Very interactive and helped greatly in my understanding of the purposes for these two things in the classroom setting.
- ♦ This was a fantastic refresher of my undergrad Assessment/Rubric class - just what I needed before jumping into teaching again.
- ♦ Did not want to attend this class but thought it would be useful. Glad I did! Their discussion on informal assessments were highly enlightening and provided great tools and approaches on keeping student's attention and measuring their progress. Rest assured, I will be keeping my notes from this lecture!
- ♦ This was my last session of the day, so I was definitely lower energy, but I also think I learned a ton and the presenters did a great job engaging the room while having the slot at the end of the afternoon and knowing that everyone was tired. As someone who hasn't had a lot of formal assessments or grading in the last many years, I found this session really helpful in re-familiarizing myself with this part of academia.
- ♦ This was surprisingly helpful - I didn't even realize the full extent of what informal assessment is.
- ♦ I learned a lot from this session and feel like I have more tools I can deploy in the classroom.
- ♦ Gave me a new idea for my TA assignment.

**+/- (n=8)**

- ♦ This was very informative and theoretical. It was an average presentation. We could have talked more about unique and different types of assessments and brainstorm what could work best.
- ♦ I like the part that we are not therapists for students...we should provide suggested methods in SU for them.
- ♦ Very useful for any teacher/assistant. Clear and frank discussion on the need for assessment and rubric-making. Maybe something to cover here is the link between implicit biases and grading, and how instructors can correct for this or justify grades to students who feel like their grades reflect bias.
- ♦ It was a well-prepared and interesting presentation, moreover, the presenters were enthusiastic about what they are doing, which made it even more entertaining. However, there was a huge chunk of information that was impossible to be covered in such a short time, so I felt like sometimes the presenters had to rush the things. I wish we had more time to go over the whole topic in the way we were supposed to.
- ♦ As engaging as it could be.
- ♦ Did not attend (2)
- ♦ N/A

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ This session was a bit dry. I know it's not the most interesting subject, but I was nearly falling asleep by the end.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS I – Introduction to the Globalized and Multicultural Classroom**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
25	How informative was this presentation?	4.00	5.00	4.70	0.46	0.21	20
26	How interesting was this presentation?	4.00	5.00	4.74	0.44	0.19	19

#	Answer	%	Count
27	I did not attend or review "Introduction to the Globalized/Multicultural Classroom."	100.00%	95
	Total	100%	95

**COMMENTS: [N=5] + (5) +/- (0) - (0)****+ (n=5)**

- ♦ This presentation was very well done and informative. I feel more aware of issues that may occur related to race that may come up in my teaching.
- ♦ The globalized classroom session was great.
- ♦ Intro to the globalized/multicultural classroom was fabulous! Not only did they take us through real scenarios that I could encounter in the classroom, but the provided specific and useful examples for designing syllabi and handling sensitive situations.
- ♦ This session was good. (2)
- ♦

**SECTION 1 – Amenities [N=181] + (116) +/- (47) - (18)**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
37	Continental Breakfast	2.00	5.00	4.17	0.88	0.78	131
38	Lunch	1.00	5.00	4.56	0.79	0.62	140
39	BBQ	1.00	5.00	4.35	0.98	0.96	82

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - HBC-Patio COMMENTS: [N = 57] + (37) +/- (14) - (6)****+ (n = 37)**

- ♦ Excellent
- ♦ Great (5)
- ♦ Great food
- ♦ The breakfast was great! (2)
- ♦ It was lovely and more than I expected.
- ♦ Great options

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - HBC-Patio COMMENTS: (cont.)**

- ♦ Great quality
- ♦ I loved the bagels. (2)
- ♦ YAY-bagels
- ♦ It was a delicious and healthy breakfast which I liked it so much. Thank you.
- ♦ Very nice, rounded breakfast.
- ♦ This was very well put together in my opinion.
- ♦ Super good
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Very good for a continental breakfast!
- ♦ Good!!
- ♦ Good (5)
- ♦ This was good. (2)
- ♦ Good food and refreshments
- ♦ Good coffee and excellent pastry!
- ♦ Delicious pastry and the coffee was good.
- ♦ Coffee was appreciated.
- ♦ O.K. (2)
- ♦ It was okay. (2)

**+/- (n =14)**

- ♦ Breakfast had a decent selection.
- ♦ Adequate
- ♦ Just what I expected for a continental breakfast!
- ♦ It was fine but crowded for COVID.
- ♦ Okay wish the food was separated and everyone wasn't touching everything
- ♦ I'm thankful for the water. Would of loved more grab and go kind of food.
- ♦ Basic, but sufficient! Something warm would've been nice, but no complaints.
- ♦ As described - being lactose intolerant, jam/jelly for bagels would be appreciated.
- ♦ More options for gluten free/ celiac individuals would be great!
- ♦ I thought the breakfast was okay. I did hear some others comment on how it wasn't very gluten-free friendly.
- ♦ I just had coffee!
- ♦ Average
- ♦ Pretty good
- ♦ Humid outside

**- (n = 6)**

- ♦ There should have been more gluten free and healthy food options.
- ♦ Minimal Dietary Restriction Options
- ♦ It would have been nice if the food was served indoors, since it was rainy and miserable out. Also, there was no hot food, which was disappointing to say the least.
- ♦ Not many spreads for breakfast.
- ♦ Nowhere to sit and eat. Hard to stand and eat in the breezeway.
- ♦ I didn't know there would be food and stressed to pack snacks and lunch. A heads up would have been helpful.

**SECTION 1 – Amenities (cont.)****LUNCH - Schine Student Center** COMMENTS: [N = 46] + (34) +/- (10) - (2)

+ (n =34)

- ♦ Great!
- ♦ Great (2)
- ♦ It was a really great experience.
- ♦ Perfectly balanced meal
- ♦ Was great! Food was good and easy to obtain. Lots of options.
- ♦ Great food options
- ♦ A lot of possible options
- ♦ I loved!!
- ♦ Pretty cool
- ♦ Delicious!
- ♦ Delish! Thank you
- ♦ Very good (3)
- ♦ Good (5)
- ♦ Good food
- ♦ Good food, nice variety and a generous lunch coupon. Much appreciated.
- ♦ Good choices of different types of cuisine.
- ♦ Thank you for lunch money!
- ♦ Many options
- ♦ There were many options and they were also very good at handling my food allergy! I enjoyed the food and sitting with my small group and TA mentor.
- ♦ It was really cool to get to see Schine and to eat with my cohort.
- ♦ Thankful for vegetarian and vegan options! The comped ticket provided enough money for me to purchase food that fits my dietary restrictions. Thanks!
- ♦ I went to Corelife and thoroughly enjoyed my meal.
- ♦ I tried Corelife for the first time and it was very good - the workers were very friendly.
- ♦ Efficient process and delicious food
- ♦ Free food is always good.
- ♦ Free panda 🐼🐼🐼🐼
- ♦ Appreciated the voucher!

+/- (n =10)

- ♦ The lines were very long but the Halal Food was good.
- ♦ It was good, definitely a bit confusing and very crowded
- ♦ Little crowded and chaotic, but there was plenty of time to get food and have a break.
- ♦ Delicious but need to wait in the line.
- ♦ Long line good food
- ♦ The voucher was generous. However, the logistics were horrible.
- ♦ The vendors (Panda Express was the exception) were caught by surprise and couldn't handle the numbers.
- ♦ It was just okay.
- ♦ N/A (2)

**SECTION 1 – Amenities (cont.)****LUNCH – Schine Student Center Comments (cont.)**

- (n=2)

- ♦ I guess I choosed a wrong menu and so I didn't like it.
- ♦ Panda Express tastes bad.

**LUNCH – Ernie Davis Dining Hall COMMENTS: [N = 39]      + (24)      +/- (10)      - (5)**

+ (n=24)

- ♦ !!!
- ♦ Great!
- ♦ Great (2)
- ♦ Great food
- ♦ Impressive
- ♦ The food was really good.
- ♦ Pretty good!
- ♦ Fantastic food options.
- ♦ A lot of choices and good
- ♦ Nice that there was many options.
- ♦ I loved the variety and quality of food offered.
- ♦ Diverse options
- ♦ It had been a long time since I had been in a dining hall - it was nice 1) not having to cook and 2) having a multitude of options to choose from.
- ♦ Good (4)
- ♦ Sweet and enjoyable
- ♦ Dining with group members is a lot of fun.
- ♦ I liked being able to explore a new place on campus and eat with my small group.
- ♦ Our mentor ate with us and it was a great meal and conversation.
- ♦ Very easy to sit with group and get to know people better.
- ♦ It's like the food I cook so it's okay.

+/- (n=10)

- ♦ Attended
- ♦ It was super crowded, which is fine, but it made some choices for lunch a little difficult if you had to stand in line for an extended period.
- ♦ Tasty food just not enough seating to sit in our small group
- ♦ Busy, but staff was very helpful and the food was good.
- ♦ Very busy, but good options.
- ♦ Did not attend (2)
- ♦ N/A (3)

**SECTION 1 – Amenities (cont.)****LUNCH – Ernie Davis Dining Hall Comments: (cont.)**

- (n=5)

- ♦ More protein options. Bigger salad bowls.
- ♦ Lots of options but quality not that good.
- ♦ Not great
- ♦ Very busy
- ♦ Kind of too salty.

**BBQ – The Inn Complete COMMENTS: [N = 39]      + (21)      +/- (13)      - (5)**

+ (n=21)

- ♦ !!!!!!!
- ♦ Great!
- ♦ Great (2)
- ♦ Nice event!
- ♦ Lovely!
- ♦ So sweet
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ BBQ was good.
- ♦ It was good!
- ♦ Good (2)
- ♦ Good food
- ♦ Good food and entertaining environment
- ♦ Free food free beer
- ♦ Excellent food and setting. The free alcohol was befitting a graduate school.
- ♦ Super cool amenity on campus, hope to come back more throughout the semester.
- ♦ Very organized
- ♦ Fun event, plenty of food and space
- ♦ This was a really fun way to end the day and to spend some purely social time with folks I met at orientation!
- ♦ The food was good, and it was nice to see the TAs I'd met earlier.

+/- (n=13)

- ♦ The BBQ was fun, although I would suggest having it on the last day of training (Friday) sort of as a reward for finishing orientation.
- ♦ Good food and beer, though I hope organizers can verify age via records beforehand, because it feels risky to carry a passport around in the rain!
- ♦ The food was okay but I appreciated that the graduate school offered the food and drink for free and it's a great space!
- ♦ I loved the potatoes and company. The burger patties weren't so good.
- ♦ Beer is good, food is average.
- ♦ I hope there are more beer choices.
- ♦ Maybe add some ice breakers?
- ♦ Attended
- ♦ Did not attend (2)
- ♦ N/A (3)

**SECTION 1 – Amenities** (cont.)

**BBQ – The Inn Complete** Comments: (cont.)

- (*n* =5)

- ♦ It seemed as though the space was not as well equipped to handle the mass onslaught of people and I felt that it was hard to mingle with other individuals who were not seated at my table (though covid restrictions probably contributed to this as well).
- ♦ Few options and not great quality
- ♦ No vegetarian options for sandwich.
- ♦ Not very interactive beyond people I already know.
- ♦ Burger was bad. More options and better quality food needed.



# AUGUST 2021 TA ORIENTATION

## Section 2 - Evaluation Results

[ Total Responses: N=246 ]

+ (168) +/- (60) - (18)

### Small Group Session

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How informative was this session?	1.00	5.00	4.53	0.85	0.72	137
2	How interesting was this session?	1.00	5.00	4.48	0.88	0.78	137

#	Answer	%	Count
3	I did not attend or review the "Small Group Session."	100.00%	1
	Total	100%	1

Comments: [N=47]

+ (37) +/- (4) - (6)

+ (n=37)

- ♦ Favorite part
- ♦ Small group was always the best!
- ♦ The small group session was the most useful session.
- ♦ It was open, interactive, informative and interesting.
- ♦ Informative and thorough
- ♦ Informative, getting to know people better.
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Nice
- ♦ Nice friends
- ♦ Glad to talk with them.
- ♦ Loved my small group sessions! Group 8.
- ♦ Like my small group.
- ♦ Gets me prepared for the day.
- ♦ Reflecting on Day 1 and going over the day's events was informative.
- ♦ Small group session was helpful - we were able to get all our questions answered, whether they be about being a TA, life in Syracuse, etc.
- ♦ Because there was a lot of stuff mentioned previously from the day before, there was much for us to talk about.
- ♦ Nice opportunity to debrief and clarify things from the previous day and also just additional chance to ask our mentor questions we hadn't had a chance to cover. Also great time to figure out what concurrent sessions to go to.
- ♦ The small group session was mostly going over the schedule for the day's events, but it was nice to have extra time for questions.
- ♦ Very Helpful
- ♦ Helpful to discuss TAing with a current TA.

**Small Group Session (cont.)****Comments (cont.)**

- ♦ Super helpful for all sorts of random questions about being a TA and being a student at Syracuse.
- ♦ Gave us some useful suggestions.
- ♦ Small Group leader made themselves available to respond to any questions or concerns.
- ♦ Went over microteaching and were offered great tips.
- ♦ Briefly shared what we had got from sessions yesterday.
- ♦ This was better because we spoke a little bit about our classes from the previous day.
- ♦ Cagla #1
- ♦ Morgan is awesome.
- ♦ Kellan was great, headed the group perfectly.
- ♦ Our TA mentor was thoughtful and we had a great group dynamic!
- ♦ This was a joint session with Teddy's group and it gave insight into how to manage the TA life.
- ♦ We did good interaction with each other and Ipshita Ghosh used to tell us about each session in a brief which is a good thing for us. Thank you Ghosh.
- ♦ I love the experience of learning from my peers and our mentor Phillandra was so generous with her time and knowledge.
- ♦ Phillandra was great.
- ♦ Jared was engaging and informative.
- ♦ My group leader was again very helpful. He facilitated discussions on yesterday's sessions and also gave us a virtual tour of campus via a campus map to help us find our ways more independently today.
- ♦ Seth is doing a great job, and we had a productive discussion.

**+/- (n= 4)**

- ♦ Not much covered in small group, but an informal time to get to know other students better.
- ♦ There weren't many questions so it was not super engaging but that's not the fault of the group members or the TM. Just a slow day!
- ♦ It was helpful to attend, just basic information though.
- ♦ Ended up being kind of a lot that was needed to be covered in one session.

**- (n=6)**

- ♦ Respecting what we have learned during this session, I expected to learn more about microteaching. As international TAs, we had presented once before and knew about the expectations but I do not think that was the case for domestic TAs.
- ♦ Today's small group session was more clunky and did not feel as well planned out. I particularly did not enjoy the activity where Lei asked each of us to share our worst experience in college thus far. It felt awkward because it came out of nowhere and it was not appreciated that we were forced to answer. The answers shared were potentially re-traumatizing for some and overall I do not recommend she do this activity again the same way. I recommend she reevaluate this activity and ask herself why she's asking us this question. What is the purpose? What does she gain?
- ♦ Should provide more direction to small groups.
- ♦ I don't think we needed the full time for these topics and could have done 30 minutes of another topic.
- ♦ Was not really necessary in the morning.
- ♦ I don't think this session is necessary.

**Academic Integrity for TAs**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
4	How informative was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.58	0.65	0.42	135
5	How interesting was this presentation?	1.00	5.00	4.11	1.03	1.06	135

#	Answer	%	Count
6	I did not attend or review "Academic Integrity for TAs."	100.00%	2
	Total	100%	2

**Comments: [N=47] + (36) +/- (6) - (3)****+ (n=27)**

- ♦ Nice
- ♦ It was interactive, informative and interesting.
- ♦ Informative
- ♦ Quite informative
- ♦ Gave information needed.
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Good
- ♦ Good basic stuff.
- ♦ Good and useful.
- ♦ The different levels of academic integrity was particularly useful for me. I was not aware of this before.
- ♦ It had good examples.
- ♦ Well led and informative. The case studies were helpful here.
- ♦ The case studies were excellent and applied directly to situations that many of us (unfortunately) will probably have to face.
- ♦ Very informative and helpful to understand the AI rules at Syracuse. Feel more confident when it comes to handling these types of situations as well as what resources are available.
- ♦ Very informative and helpful
- ♦ Very helpful (2)
- ♦ Helpful and clarified the process at SU.
- ♦ Helpful resources provided.
- ♦ Important
- ♦ Important info.
- ♦ Very helpful information for what to expect in our respective placements.
- ♦ Very important.
- ♦ It was helpful to be reminded of this important topic.
- ♦ Very Important session. I think having notes before and after presentations can really be helpful for information retention.

**Academic Integrity (cont.)****Comments (cont.)**

- ♦ As a former undergraduate from SU, this was super helpful in clarifying the specific academic violations to look out for, as even as an undergrad the policy was quite dense.
- ♦ The presenters were very thorough and emphasized their availability and how to reach them which I appreciated.

**+/- (n= 6)**

- ♦ Was okay.
- ♦ It's hard to get jazzed regarding academic integrity presentations but I recognize the need for them, the presenters did a good job presenting.
- ♦ A lot of quality content was covered. Slightly overwhelming not having to have dealt with any situations yet but I feel better prepared for facing future situations.
- ♦ I felt like a lot of this information could have been condensed. It is good and essential information, but it just felt too long.
- ♦ The information was helpful, but wasn't an incredibly engaging presentation. But I think the presenters did a great job!
- ♦ Much of this was information I already knew but it is certainly important to be reiterated.

**- (n= 3)**

- ♦ There was a lot to cover in the presentation and I think the presentation could've been made slightly longer to cover everything.
- ♦ Should have briefly gone over what generally constitutes an AI violation first before the scenarios-- since this varies by school and we all come from different backgrounds.
- ♦ Providing more resources for FERPA would have been helpful and showing the process of how to complete an academic integrity form.

**AREA-SPECIFIC SESSIONS: STEM****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
7	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	3.98	1.69	2.84	90
8	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	3.93	1.67	2.78	89

  

#	Answer	%	Count
9	I did not attend or review the "Humanities and Social Sciences" area-specific session	100.00%	57
	Total	100%	57

**Area-Specific Sessions: STEM (cont.)****Comments: [N=24] + (19) +/- (4) - (1)****+ (n=19)**

- ♦ I really appreciated that there were sessions for each specific area. The STEM session gave a great overview of the different roles we could play as TAs and was super informative.
- ♦ Most of the speakers were in the humanities, so it was helpful and more applicable to hear from someone in a STEM major.
- ♦ This was the most helpful presentation I have attended so far. Super applicable, great examples, and very well presented. Helped me understand the expectations for my role as a TA.
- ♦ This was the best presentation out of all the ones I attended. The presenter was really good and the content was concise yet informative.
- ♦ This was especially helpful for me. The presentation went over all the duties of all the TA positions in the STEM field and the presenter gave great examples.
- ♦ Loved this, great information about situations we may face.
- ♦ Very helpful
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Was great, very informative.
- ♦ Very informative
- ♦ Informative
- ♦ It was informative and interesting.
- ♦ Some specific roles of TA of STEM.
- ♦ Useful
- ♦ Yes, this session helped me a lot knowing that what are the duties we should perform while doing TA. The presenter was really interesting. Thank you for providing all information.
- ♦ TA was entertaining and engaging.
- ♦ Worked hard to provide examples of topics within his presentation to relate with his own experiences TAing. Very helpful.
- ♦ Well done Michael.
- ♦ Nice presentation.

**+/- (n=4)**

- ♦ I attended the STEM session.
- ♦ Did not attend.
- ♦ Accidentally rated, did not attend STEM session.
- ♦ A lot of generic info but that probably can't be helped just do to the facts of the situation.

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ I didn't find this very helpful because STEM is still so many departments, the information is not very specific.

**AREA-SPECIFIC SESSIONS: Humanities and Social Sciences**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
10	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.20	1.24	1.54	64
11	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.16	1.24	1.54	64
#	Answer					%	Count
12	I did not attend or review the "Humanities and Social Sciences" area-specific session					100.00%	57
	Total					100%	57

**Comments: [N=21] + (11) +/- (9) - (1)****+ (n=11)**

- ♦ This was probably my favorite session I've attended yet. All the mentors gave very helpful advice that I found to be extremely relevant to the types of classes I will be TAing.
- ♦ Most helpful session i attended so far-- helped to give me an idea of what to generally expect for my duties etc. and how to address things like grading subjective work etc.
- ♦ I thought this was a good presentation, I took a lot of notes and it felt very applicable to what my TA assignment will look like.
- ♦ This session was great for thinking about ways that my identity and background can motivate and cultivate a good classroom environment through the conversational style of the social sciences teaching. Very informative, speakers were very engaging and conversational with the audience. The content definitely eased some of my anxieties.
- ♦ I liked the diversity of the presenters' topics even though they obviously had similar themes. I especially liked the point of remembering not to get stuck in the classics or ancient political thought etc. and to be utilizing contemporary thought and events, as well as the need to be aware that I need to think outside of references which are more relevant to my identity for class presentations.
- ♦ Very good slides and informative. Will be used.
- ♦ Insightful (2)
- ♦ Very Helpful
- ♦ The presenters did a great job!
- ♦ They were all incredibly well spoken.

**+/- (n=9)**

- ♦ It was a good session but by day two some of the information was repetitive.
- ♦ The grading objectively content was fantastic, but a practice exercise would have been great with this. It was all quite redundant if you went to the grading rubrics session on the first day. But the facilitators were fantastic!!! They did a great job.
- ♦ I attended the social science session with the assumption that public health program will be on of social science. I think mentioning the name of program in the respective category or somewhere else in a list would be useful to avoid confusion.

**Area-Specific Sessions: Humanities and Social Sciences (cont.)****Comments: (cont.)**

- ♦ I was not sure which session to attend as an ENL teacher, but I enjoyed the topics introduced by these presenters.
- ♦ All the presenters spoke eloquently and clearly. I wish the presentations focused a bit more on how to foster discussions on difficult topics and general tips/ideas for getting students engaged in social science/humanities topics during group discussions.
- ♦ Still don't fully understand my own department's expectations but the info was good.
- ♦ Did not attend. (2)
- ♦ N/A

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ There was nothing interesting or particularly unique about this session.

**AREA-SPECIFIC SESSIONS: Architecture****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
13	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.31	1.49	2.21	16
14	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.25	1.64	2.69	16

#	Answer	%	Count
15	I did not attend or review the "Architecture" area-specific session.	100.00%	89
	Total	100%	89

**Comments: [N=9]      + (5)   +/- (4)   - (0)****+ (n=5)**

- ♦ Architecture was very helpful in understanding my role, the expectations that come with it, and good icebreaker in meeting cohort.
- ♦ This session was highly informative and a lot of my department specific questions and responsibilities were outlined and experience was shared.
- ♦ Ammoury kept the audience engaged by being informative and interactive.
- ♦ It was great to finally get to speak about what my TA experience will entail as it pertains to my studies.
- ♦ Very Helpful

**+/- (n=4)**

- ♦ Did not attend. (3)
- ♦ N/A

**AREA-SPECIFIC SESSIONS: Education**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
16	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.00	1.75	3.07	15
17	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.29	1.44	2.06	14

#	Answer	%	Count
18	I did not attend or review the "Education" area-specific session.	100.00%	91
	Total	100%	91

**Comments: [N=9] + (3) +/- (4) - (2)****+ (n=3)**

- ♦ This was an excellent session and it pushed my thinking and I appreciate that.
- ♦ Very eye opening and informative. Loved the atmosphere created.
- ♦ I loved how much the session covered and I wish we had more time to discuss more. The scenarios that we talked about were especially very informative.

**+/- (n=4)**

- ♦ Did not attend. (2)
- ♦ I attended the STEM session.
- ♦ N/A

**- (n=2)**

- ♦ I really appreciated having this session. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know others in the School of Education, however our facilitator did not allow nearly enough time for the small groups to thoroughly speak through the case studies given. I would've appreciated longer amounts of time to speak with one another, and less case studies. I also did not find it very accessible or inclusive to only be able to access the case studies via scanning the QR code. She should have also had another slide with the study written out.
- ♦ The presenter had too much information to go over and it was presented in multiple essays and lengthy slides. It did not leave us time to talk about the topics even though we went over by 15 minutes. I also did not feel I gained much insight into why it would be like to TA for this department. Instead it seemed better suited for the other trainings we had in diversity and inclusion. We didn't learn about expectations or what to expect while TAing at all. While the presenter was knowledgeable about the subject she spoke on, I was very disappointed.



**AREA-SPECIFIC SESSIONS: VPA/Arts**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
19	How informative was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.27	1.12	1.26	15
20	How interesting was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.36	1.11	1.23	14

#	Answer	%	Count
21	I did not attend or review the "VPA/ARTS" area-specific session.	100.00%	90
	Total	100%	90

**Comments: [N=5] + (1) +/- (4) - (0)****+ (n=1)**

- ♦ The instructor did a great job on this presentation. It was a lot of information and I was interested in possibly extending the session.

**+/- (n=4)**

- ♦ Some of the information, like where the buildings are, which buildings we would use the most, and what online resources we would use the most were very helpful, and I would have liked to go into some of that in greater detail instead of hearing about the history of the school.
- ♦ The beginning was interesting when explaining the history, but when she began explaining how we should teach our area specific content it was evident she didn't understand what she was talking about.
- ♦ I attended the STEM session.
- ♦ N/A

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – "Teaching Online"**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
22	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.17	1.29	1.67	59
23	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	3.98	1.32	1.74	58

#	Answer	%	Count
24	I did not attend or review "Teaching Online."	100.00%	68
	Total	100%	68

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – “Teaching Online” (cont.)****COMMENTS:** [N=13] + (7) +/- (4) - (2)**+ (n=7)**

- ♦ A super relevant panel - it was helpful for introducing/explaining some tools (such as Blackboard) we can use should we have to transition to online teaching.
- ♦ Useful tools that made us get through the last academic year.
- ♦ This was very helpful. I learned various ways to utilize online programs to apply to online classrooms.
- ♦ I loved the introduction to blackboard and Kaltura, since I haven't used either of those before, and I really liked that they went through some of the most used and most useful features of each.
- ♦ It was informative and interesting.
- ♦ Very Helpful
- ♦ Very good

**+/- (n=4)**

- ♦ I know it was really hard to cover how to effectively use technology when teaching online, but I expected to learn things that I do not already know.
- ♦ The only thing I would have liked to see more is online resources that can be used for online teaching like Kahoot.
- ♦ Did not attend.
- ♦ N/A

**- (n=2)**

- ♦ Repetitive, not useful.
- ♦ There wasn't any unique or particularly interesting information offered.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – “Creating a Teaching Persona”****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
25	How informative was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.65	0.59	0.35	99
26	How interesting was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.67	0.62	0.38	99

#	Answer	%	Count
27	I did not attend or review "Creating a Teaching Persona."	100.00%	26
	Total	100%	26

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – “Creating a Teaching Persona” (cont.)****COMMENTS: [N=34] + (30) +/- (4) - (0)****+ (n=30)**

- ♦ I found this session really interesting and helpful!
- ♦ Awesome 😊
- ♦ Very informative and useful for how to handle the classroom setting.
- ♦ By far the most helpful concurrent session.
- ♦ Very helpful (2)
- ♦ Very helpful and reassuring - loved the video.
- ♦ Very cool concepts and helpful Information.
- ♦ It was informative and interesting.
- ♦ Interesting
- ♦ Interesting and relevant
- ♦ Some good advice, this session was more specific and helpful than a lot of them were.
- ♦ I received a sense of how my teaching personality should be developed and presented in the class.
- ♦ Let me think about my own persona.
- ♦ Best session I attended during the entire orientation. Really really good presenters.
- ♦ Good information and funny/entertaining presentation.
- ♦ So good! Use of visuals was funny and engaging. A lot of ground covered while still keeping it interesting. I have a better idea of what kind of teacher I aspire to be.
- ♦ Enjoyed the three different perspectives provided by the presenters. Appreciated the open discussion within their presentation as well.
- ♦ Nice to hear graduate students' experiences with teaching styles and how they choose what to implement in the classroom.
- ♦ Presenters were very enjoyable and brought up many good points to consider.
- ♦ Great tips and suggestions! Fantastic icebreaker ideas!!!
- ♦ The tips and tricks to creating a teaching persona were helpful- identifying a medium to use, being consistent, choosing what students will call you, how to dress, etc.
- ♦ Very engaging, and also was very well timed.
- ♦ As someone who has never taught before, I liked going to this panel. Each of the mentors had a different teaching style/way they presented themselves and they helped me start to think about how I'd like to present myself.
- ♦ The session leaders did a great job of introducing new/new-ish teachers to the concept of a teaching persona. I loved how they each modeled their own (different, yet effective) teaching personas during the session. Even though I've taught for 7 years, I came away with several new ideas to try. Yay!
- ♦ The facilitators were all special in their contributions and we witnessed three different teaching personas unfold before us.
- ♦ Good
- ♦ Good things to think about.
- ♦ Really good info that helped me start to plan out how to interact in the classroom as a TA.
- ♦ This gave me so much to think about, and I believe that I will be much better prepared for my first day of teaching now that I have some certain things to prepare.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – “Creating a Teaching Persona” (cont.)****COMMENTS: (cont.)****+/- (n=4)**

- ♦ It is that topic that I didn't know I needed. Great mentors and fun topic. Maybe we could do a think, pair, share for discussing our own desired teaching persona in the next session?
- ♦ This was my favorite session and I think should be used for everyone. The only thing I would add is giving us a "list" of things we should consider prior to our first day so we can brainstorm in each of these categories.
- ♦ A lot of the same material has already been covered and seems very common sense stuff. Presentation was still interesting given the content.
- ♦ The leaders really tried to make the content interesting but the content itself was rather banal and did not offer much insight.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – "Introduction to the Globalized/Multicultural Classroom"****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
28	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.20	1.52	2.32	25
29	How interesting was this presentation?	3.00	5.00	4.68	0.57	0.32	19

#	Answer	%	Count
30	I did not attend or review "Introduction to the Globalized/Multicultural Classroom."	100.00%	84
	Total	100%	84

**COMMENTS: [N=5]****+ (4) +/- (1) - (0)****+ (n=4)**

- ♦ I attended this session yesterday. It was so helpful! I felt like the scenario they presented was very challenging and helped me a lot in imagining what my classroom could look like. Both of the mentors also gave very specific advice using examples from their own experiences that I found to be more engaging and made more sense than generic advice or quotes.
- ♦ Presenters were particularly charismatic and worked well together.
- ♦ Excellent mentors and good use of case studies. I would have enjoyed a comment toward the student that made the inappropriate remark about Taiwan, as it is most definitely a country separate from China, but I also understand that it was the end of the session and caught people off guard. A learning moment for sure!
- ♦ Glad to attend

**+ (n=1)**

- ♦ Did not attend.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – “Dealing with Challenges in the Classroom”**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
31	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.29	1.08	1.17	87
32	How interesting was this presentation?	1.00	5.00	4.34	0.86	0.74	86

#	Answer	%	Count
33	I did not attend or review "Dealing with Challenges in the Classroom."	100.00%	29
	Total	100%	29

**COMMENTS: [N=27] + (18) +/- (6) - (3)****+ (n=18)**

- ♦ This presentation was well done and helped us to think through what could potentially happen in the classroom.
- ♦ It gave me clear sense of the checkpoints and issues that I should keep in mind.
- ♦ The session leaders did an excellent job addressing very real and likely challenges that might come up. I appreciated the way each of them shared specific examples from their experiences in a way that illuminated possible responses.
- ♦ Great advice and presenters were fun, engaging and welcoming - loved their dynamic.
- ♦ Useful suggestions and interesting.
- ♦ Gave great examples.
- ♦ Good to know the cases.
- ♦ Provided a lot of methods of dealing with challenges.
- ♦ Provided insight into the classroom setting as well as solutions to possible problems that may arise.
- ♦ Informative and engaging.
- ♦ Presenters gave unique pointers and commanded the classroom well, keeping us engaged.
- ♦ The facilitators had a lot of wisdom and information to share, this was one of the few sessions I wish could have been extended.
- ♦ This session also helped us to know the challenge occurring while performing TA duty. I found this very helpful.
- ♦ Very good work. Very important info.
- ♦ Important info
- ♦ Very helpful
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ OK

**+/- (n=6)**

- ♦ Helpful but a bit disjointed.
- ♦ I felt like the session informed me that there would be challenges in the classroom, and it gave me a broad sense of what to do, but I felt like I'm still lacking an understanding of what serious challenges are and how to specifically deal with certain challenges.
- ♦ My only real complaint is that we have received no training and very little info on being mandatory reporters.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – “Dealing with Challenges in the Classroom” (cont.)****COMMENTS: (cont.)**

- ♦ Was informative about the challenges someone might face in TAing, however I would have liked to see more examples on how to approach said situations.
- ♦ Did not attend. (2)

- (n=3)

- ♦ I didn't feel like there was a lot of memorable information shared during this session.
- ♦ This was not helpful and didn't really go over how to handle challenges related to controversial topics. I really think that this should be included so that TAs as a whole have some sort of general "protocol" or what would "cross the line" and how we can address that and intervene in the conversation.
- ♦ My least favorite presentation from the orientation thus far. The presentation felt very broad in focus and did not provide a lot of examples nor how to handle them in a memorable manner.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – "Classroom as Community"**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
34	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.40	0.97	0.94	40
35	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.33	1.00	0.99	39

  

#	Answer	%	Count
36	I did not attend or review "Classroom as Community."	100.00%	71
	Total	100%	71

**COMMENTS: [N=16]                      + (6)   +/- (10)   - (0)**

+ (n=6)

- ♦ This was my favorite presentation. The presenters were energetic and provided helpful tips/suggestions I had not thought of or considered. I appreciated that I felt like I could see myself implementing these techniques in my teaching.
- ♦ Very interesting and interactive presentation. I learned a lot about helping my students build community and my interactions with them.
- ♦ A very engaging presentation!
- ♦ Good
- ♦ Had some really good tips and suggestions and examples.
- ♦ I really liked the part on Day 1 because I feel like during my undergrad at SU, “syllabus week” was just repeating the same thing for each different class and I really gained some insight on how to make the introductory session both informative and engaging!

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS II – “Classroom as Community” (cont.)****COMMENTS: (cont.)****+/- (n=10)**

- ♦ There were some good ideas presented. The presenters could have thought more about the specific presentation to help it be more engaging. They asked us to reflect on many things but never had the students answer any questions, they only shared their own experiences.
- ♦ It was a good presentation but I found it a bit repetitive with the Social Sciences presentation and the Teaching Persona presentation.
- ♦ Similar to creating a teaching persona, a lot of this content has already been covered.
- ♦ Similar info
- ♦ It was informative but again some of the information was repetitive from day one.
- ♦ It seemed to have a lot of overlap in knowledge with previous sessions, but still a good session.
- ♦ Again, this material felt redundant. The presenters did a good job but the material wasn't anything new to take in.
- ♦ I was hoping there would have been more experiential learning tools to use in the classroom for this session.
- ♦ Did not attend.
- ♦ N/A

## AUGUST 2021 TA ORIENTATION

### Section 3 – Evaluation Results

[ Total Comments: N=220 ]

+ (160)    +/- (41)    - (19)

#### Orange SUccess

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How informative was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.66	0.62	0.38	127
2	How interesting was this presentation?	2.00	5.00	4.42	0.86	0.73	127

#	Answer	%	Count
3	I did not attend or review "Orange SUccess."	100.00%	3
	Total	100%	3

Comments: [N=40]

+ (28)    +/- (7)    - (5)

+ (n=28)

- ♦ It was the most informative session of the TA orientation for me. I really liked how engaging it was, thank you!
- ♦ It was very informative.
- ♦ I've only ever received messages from Orange SUccess before, and honestly I never really knew what the point of the program was. This presentation definitely explained Orange SUccess and why it should be utilized by professors/staff/TAs.
- ♦ Interesting
- ♦ Very interesting
- ♦ It was informative and interesting.
- ♦ Very informative and helpful for navigating Orange SUccess.
- ♦ This session was also very much informative and her explanation was quite well. Thank you.
- ♦ Very Good
- ♦ Excellent presenter
- ♦ Kal did a good job in the presentation.
- ♦ Presenter was very clever and information is very important.
- ♦ I enjoyed the screenshots and the explanations.
- ♦ Very thorough! I enjoyed this in-depth walkthrough of Orange SUccess
- ♦ Very useful presentation. Helpful to learn about all the resources available and the evolution of the department.
- ♦ Important system.
- ♦ I think this was arguably the most important presentation for me in this new chapter. I've used Degree Works in my first year and I understand it's value but this presentation was on a whole different dimension because I was taught how to use the system, the limits and ways I could monitor students' progress. I think it's a great system and student oriented.



**Orange SUccess Comments (cont.)**

- ♦ As an undergrad starting in 2016, I was still kind of unaware at how Orange SUccess works, but now that I actually understand it, I find it is incredibly valuable and a great tool that I am excited to use.
- ♦ This was one of my favorite presentations because of its directness, supportive language and clear objectives and expectations.
- ♦ Was good to see that the university had a program like that for students.
- ♦ Good to see
- ♦ Helpful
- ♦ Cool ways to help students.
- ♦ Some good resources were shared.
- ♦ Very resourceful for both students and TAs.
- ♦ Useful technology will be effective.
- ♦ The Orange SUccess session was very useful for me to understand the course advising and academic reporting practices.
- ♦ I have a much better understanding of this resource after this presentation. I feel like I know what I will be getting into when I use it.

**+/- (n= 7)**

- ♦ I have mixed feelings on the program as a whole, as I'm not sure such involvement in students' affairs is very conducive to their success outside the education system.
- ♦ I understand a run-through of using this program wasn't possible but it would have been very helpful.
- ♦ Maybe abbreviate it a bit more and try to incorporate some sort of activity or group exercise.
- ♦ Seems like a fairly straightforward program. Parts of the presentation felt data heavy and repetitive.
- ♦ A lot of information, but very helpful in navigating how to use Orange Success and its expectations.
- ♦ It seemed kind of a lot of information. I will try my best to use the system but I feel like there might be a learning curve.
- ♦ I think having us follow along on computers would be helpful, a lot of information was covered.

**- (n=5)**

- ♦ A little overwhelming
- ♦ Could have been online, or just give slides. Not much gained from the presentation outside of the slides.
- ♦ Unclear what we were obligated to do and what would be nice of us to do (or going the extra mile).
- ♦ Really long and not entirely clear on what situations we should flag a student. Needs to be more focused on how we as TAs can use this feature.
- ♦ A demonstration would have been helpful.

## Utilizing Technology in the Classroom

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
4	How informative was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	4.28	0.95	0.91	141
5	How interesting was this presentation?	0.00	5.00	3.91	1.07	1.14	140

#	Answer	%	Count
6	I did not review "Utilizing Technology in the Classroom."	100.00%	37
	Total	100%	37

**Comments:** [N=26] + (14) +/- (9) - (3)

+ (n=14)

- ♦ Clarifying foundational information for our current circumstances.
- ♦ Gave a lot of helpful resources.
- ♦ Lots of great resources I didn't know existed! Thank you.
- ♦ A lot of the tools are well-integrated, and the tutorials were clear.
- ♦ This was very helpful in working with new technologies in the classroom.
- ♦ Exposed to new tech that could be implemented for class.
- ♦ Always appreciate 'how to' videos on technology in the classroom.
- ♦ Learned a lot.
- ♦ Good (2)
- ♦ Just the right length and laid out all the resources available.
- ♦ I think it was helpful to get new ideas on different types of technology to use and how we can use it in the classroom.
- ♦ Very useful presentation, especially now that we are doing a lot of online teaching due to COVID-19.
- ♦ I was introduced to a number of technology resources, and have been given ideas to make teaching and learning far more learner centered and interactive for students. This was a relevant module for me, a person who is a strong academic of book and pen approach.

+/- (n= 9)

- ♦ So much to gather in here. I feel this particular could have been more detailed.
- ♦ Very nice, in-depth presentation! It did get a little daunting towards the end, but I'll blame that on the sheer amount of content covered in this presentation. Very informative!
- ♦ I'd seen some of this material during the TA training on July 28th, but it was good to get a fast review of the material.
- ♦ Already knew this info from other orientations.
- ♦ This was not new info for me, so I feel that I may not be very objective in my rating of this. Others seemed to benefit.
- ♦ This presentation though informative was fairly uninteresting but helpful with the materials that it provided.
- ♦ It was a little boring but I found it very helpful. They went through different applications and how to utilize them to make your life easier when teaching, organizing, and managing.
- ♦ The tools presented in this course were interesting but not commonly used in some areas. The course could have included some training in Kaltura and Playposit, for example, as well as classroom technology.

**Utilizing Technology in the Classroom** Comments: (cont.)**+/- (cont.)**

- ♦ This module provided a good overview of the different technologies available to TAs, but did not go much in depth about how/when to use them most effectively. It would seem almost better to focus on different technologies in different modules.

**- (n= 3)**

- ♦ A lot of information to absorb at once.
- ♦ Not at all relevant to my area of expertise or subject.
- ♦ It felt very similar to other modules and things we talked about in our small groups or in department orientation.

**Small Group Session/Microteaching**

RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
7	How informative was this session?	3.00	5.00	4.82	0.40	0.16	128
8	How interesting was this session?	3.00	5.00	4.81	0.45	0.20	127

#	Answer	%	Count
9	I did not attend or review the "Small Group Session/Microteaching."	0.00%	0
	Total		0

**Comments: [N=53]                      + (45)   +/- (7)   - (1)****+ (n=45)**

- ♦ Loved this activity - learned new techniques.
- ♦ It was informative and interesting.
- ♦ It was the most useful session for me.
- ♦ Microteaching was a lot more helpful than I expected.
- ♦ Loved the microteaching. Was super helpful.
- ♦ The review and assessment that happened at the end of the session was really helpful.
- ♦ Helpful
- ♦ Really helpful
- ♦ Was the most helpful portion of the TA orientation in my opinion.
- ♦ This was by far the most helpful thing this week. It was great to watch everyone as, as well as our recordings, and the groups were the perfect size to get a good amount of feedback. It was perfectly placed in the week as well.
- ♦ It was very helpful. Got to see several styles of teaching. Got to assess my performance.
- ♦ Best part of orientation...enjoyed being able to get informative feedback on teaching.
- ♦ Great exercise to go through!
- ♦ Had a great time.
- ♦ Everyone did great and it was a very supportive environment!

**Small Group Session/Microteaching Comments (cont.)****+ (cont.)**

- ♦ Perfect part where everyone was doing great.
- ♦ Everyone did good.
- ♦ Very good, nice friends and great experience.
- ♦ It was nice to have mini presentations on different topics.
- ♦ Good
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Fun
- ♦ Fun and interactive
- ♦ Fun interactive session, informative. Great use of time.
- ♦ Learned a lot
- ♦ Enjoyed working with and learning from the group.
- ♦ Good to learn various knowledge and how others teach.
- ♦ The feedback I got were very helpful. Also, seeing myself teaching was a great opportunity to learn more about myself.
- ♦ Gave me a lot of useful suggestions and I can learn a lot from other members in the group.
- ♦ It was a great exchange learning from each other. I was able to learn something new from every presentation.
- ♦ This was a really helpful exercise, especially to build confidence and learn from other group members' teaching styles.
- ♦ Microteaching session definitely has served its purpose, at least for me. I not only was able to hear about my strengths and weaknesses when teaching, but also see it myself and think about it.
- ♦ The opportunity for feedback on my personal teaching personality and method was super useful for modifying my particular style of teaching for a better learning environment.
- ♦ Very helpful! It was extremely helpful reviewing the videos so that I could also watch how I performed. I could look at myself objectively and takes notes on what I want to change in my teaching approach, style and persona. Microteaching was very much interactive and informative. We got to know our mistakes while performing it with the feedback from every student in the group. Thank you everyone for your feedback and good participation. Thank you.
- ♦ Watching my peers present exposed me to different skills and practices. I thoroughly enjoyed learning from all of my peers. I appreciate having the opportunity to do the micro teaching activity and get constructive feedback from our mentor, Phillandra and my peers. I love teaching but I'm also teachable. This was the moment when these two converged for me.
- ♦ I had a lovely time and Seth did a great job!
- ♦ Cagla #1
- ♦ I really enjoyed the small group discussion this day and our leader was fantastic. Rowan clearly knew what they were discussing and had key points to work on and key points to compliment for each individual, even after comments from others in the room.
- ♦ The microteaching sessions were very insightful into how I can improve as a teacher and learning about some of my mannerisms while I teach. Caitlin was a fantastic TA mentor!
- ♦ The microteaching session was very helpful - not only in getting to practice and receive feedback for myself but also in watching what other TA did and taught. I think I probably learned more from watching the other TA use good techniques than I did by receiving review myself. Caitlin was a very helpful mentor. She broke down in great detail things we are doing well and things that need improvement - providing us with both examples and theory of teaching.
- ♦ Caitlin did a great job and the microteaching exercise resulted very exciting. A lot of interaction and feedback.
- ♦ Morgan (my TA mentor) provided me with great feedback and it was much appreciated. I learned a lot and hope to improve as a TA.
- ♦ Gemma is really supportive.
- ♦ I learned a lot from Jacob about the nitty-gritties of working as a TA.

**Small Group Session/Microteaching Comments (cont.)****+ (cont.)**

- ♦ Our facilitator was great! She was thoughtful, provided guidance and great feedback!
- ♦ Sree was very encouraging and supported us through this anxiety nerve-racking experience. It will really inform my teaching.

**+/- (n=7)**

- ♦ A little nerve-racking but very helpful overall. I feel more confident knowing what I can work on and how to better the strengths already present.
- ♦ I've never been one for public speaking so it was kind of stressful, but once I finished presenting and we reviewed my video, it wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. I appreciated the feedback from my group.
- ♦ Getting feedback was helpful and despite how much it hurts to see yourself on film, making us see ourselves is the only way we can know our own mannerisms.
- ♦ It's amazing how much you can learn just by watching your peers and being forced to watch yourself! Though it felt like a long process going through everyone's microteaching video recording again I know I really benefited from this session.
- ♦ Microteaching was helpful to point out things we might not notice about how we teach. However, it would have been very helpful to have a session on how to teach-- common tips, general advice, etc.-- so we would have been better prepared for how to do a microteaching presentation better.
- ♦ This was arguably the most important part of the three days. It might have been helpful to have a general session to give an overview of tips for this on the first day for those who don't have any teaching experience. Individual sessions had great tips and techniques for various aspects of teaching, but a companion session to the UDL one that just looks at the planning for a brief lesson could have helped. (I come from a teaching background. Some of my small group members commented they knew the subject but not necessarily how to present it in a classroom. We talked about it with our mentor TA who was incredibly supportive and helpful, but a session that codifies general avenues for planning and presenting would have probably made many feel more at ease.)

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ The reviewing of videos after is pointless.

**Section-3 Amenities****RATING SCALE: 1 = Not; 3 = Somewhat; 5 = Very**

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
10	Continental Breakfast	1.00	5.00	4.32	0.89	0.80	111
11	Lunch	3.00	5.00	4.71	0.54	0.29	122

**Comments: [N=101] + (73) +/- (18) - (10)****CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST – HBC Patio****+ (24) +/- (6) - (8)****+ (n=24)**

- ♦ Free
- ♦ Excellent! (2)
- ♦ Awesome

**Amenities (cont.)****CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST – HBC Patio Comments (cont.)****+ (cont.)**

- ♦ Great! (2)
- ♦ Enjoyable
- ♦ Really good and healthy
- ♦ Very good and delicious
- ♦ Very good options!
- ♦ Great selection, glad it changed each day.
- ♦ Good food
- ♦ Good (7)
- ♦ Pastries and yogurt were good.
- ♦ Breakfast was good. Nice pastry and fresh fruits.
- ♦ Good, plenty of coffee
- ♦ Good one, enjoyed a lot.
- ♦ Same

**+/- (n=6)**

- ♦ I didn't eat. But I grabbed a water.
- ♦ Standard continental breakfast
- ♦ O.K.
- ♦ Fairly okay.
- ♦ N/A (2)

**- (n=8)**

- ♦ If the fruit could be more divided during pandemic times that would probably make many people feel more comfortable.
- ♦ The water for the tea started to smell funny by the third day.
- ♦ Limited options
- ♦ Could have more options.
- ♦ More vegan options please.
- ♦ There should have been more vegan and gluten-free options.
- ♦ If you may add a few more vegetarian options the next time.
- ♦ Day 2 is better...

**LUNCH: Schine Student Center [N=36]****+ (28) +/- (7) - (1)****+ (n=28)**

- ♦ Great food
- ♦ Food - Whoo-Hoo!!
- ♦ Great food, fast lines.
- ♦ Great food for cheaper than I expected.
- ♦ Great (2)
- ♦ Very good
- ♦ Good (8)
- ♦ Good food (2)

**Amenities (cont.)****LUNCH: Schine Student Center Comments (cont.)****+ (cont.)**

- ♦ Good food and delicious.
- ♦ Food and crowd management were both good.
- ♦ Delicious and I enjoyed a lot.
- ♦ Delicious! Perfect amount of money too.
- ♦ Delicious!
- ♦ Became friends with group members.
- ♦ I ate at the Halal place and it was very nice.
- ♦ Halal shack is delicious.
- ♦ Liked the options at Schine Student Center.
- ♦ Good variety of options and good value with our meal ticket.
- ♦ Thank you!

**+/- (n=7)**

- ♦ Same
- ♦ Not bad
- ♦ Great; maybe a few more \$\$ to get food AND drink.
- ♦ Felt a little crowded but food was good.
- ♦ Did not go
- ♦ N/A (2)

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ Too salty

**LUNCH - Ernie Davis Dining Hall [N=27]****+ (21) +/- (5) - (1)****+ (n=21)**

- ♦ Excellent
- ♦ Excellent options!
- ♦ Delicious
- ♦ Amazing food
- ♦ Great! (2)
- ♦ Great place for lunch. I like that I could control my food portions!
- ♦ Great options for a dining hall!
- ♦ The options were amazing!
- ♦ New things to eat
- ♦ Lots of choices
- ♦ So many choices at this dining hall.
- ♦ Very good (3)
- ♦ Good (4)
- ♦ It was nice.
- ♦ I think I'll come here once in a while because it's got good food.

**Amenities** (cont.)

**LUNCH: Ernie Davis Dining Hall** Comments (cont.)

**+/- (n=5)**

- ♦ Attended
- ♦ Not as good of food but less crowded.
- ♦ Amazing options at Ernie however a few more vegetarian options would make it perfect.
- ♦ N/A (2)

**- (n=1)**

- ♦ A little chaotic, maybe try to alternate days for small groups if you have to plan another orientation in a pandemic.