

- | Welcome Session | Responses | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----|----|-----|----------|------|----|------|------|------|---------|------|
| | Not | | 2 | | Somewhat | | 4 | | Very | | Summary | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | Total | Mean |
| How <u>informative</u> was this session? | 5 | 3.3 | 9 | 5.9 | 28 | 18.3 | 33 | 21.6 | 78 | 50.9 | 153 | 4.1 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | 5 | 3.3 | 14 | 9.1 | 26 | 17.0 | 38 | 24.8 | 70 | 45.8 | 153 | 4.0 |
| Total | 10 | 3.3 | 23 | 7.5 | 54 | 17.6 | 71 | 23.2 | 148 | 48.4 | 306 | 4.0 |

Welcome Sessions Comments (cont.)

- +/- Dean Venable's comments were the most interesting part, and I appreciate that Mr. Loner was brief.
- +/- The dean's speech was helpful, I found the rest of it elementary.
- +/- It felt a bit long for a welcome session, and the check-in might've felt confusing if I hadn't had other students I knew to help guide me.
- +/- Generic welcome session. For people new to Syracuse University, maybe it is helpful to give a small map with notes where buildings used for orientation are and what building acronyms are. Providing a small map may also be helpful instead of relying on Google maps to find our way.
- +/- Good and encouraging, but pretty standard and did not encompass the experience that learning from peers provided
- +/- This wasn't supposed to be the most informative or interesting session, so I don't rate it as being high in such categories. Nevertheless, I think it was a nice introduction to everything that was to follow.
- +/- The welcome session was quick but very informative as it laid out the weeks events.
- +/- I'm a 3rd year grad student, so not super helpful for me, but it was probably helpful for the incoming students.
- +/- Not much relevant information outside of introductions but was a good welcome.
- +/- Very similar to the welcome session for the internationals.
- +/- I had a better sense of what I was doing but don't really remember much else about the session.
- +/- The Grad School could talk more about the FPP.
- +/- The speakers were enthusiastic, but I wish there'd been a very explicit goal stated for the three days and reviewed -- I'm still not sure if the goal of this week was to orient students to Syracuse, to prepare for teaching, to network, or all of the above. I wish this had been stated clearly on the schedule (and all documents TAs received) as well as across sessions.
- +/- I was in the creative writing group, separate from this orientation
- +/- N/A
- The Welcome Session was mostly intended for first-year students and seems to have overstated the effectiveness of the orientation.
- The welcome session, given by three white men in leadership who made no concessions to the values of accessibility, diversity, and inclusion (none introduced themselves with pronouns, or presented in alternate formats, or anything) undercuts the entire rest of the sessions. We had great seminars on UDL and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, but all of the material we discussed feels very performative if the principles aren't practiced by university leadership.
- I think this could have been shortened so we could get to our small groups earlier.

| 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? | 5 | 3.2 | 4 | 2.5 | 14 | 8.9 | 20 | 12.6 | 115 | 72.8 | 158 | 4.5 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | 3 | 1.9 | 7 | 4.5 | 12 | 7.6 | 26 | 16.5 | 109 | 69.4 | 157 | 4.5 |
| Total | 8 | 2.5 | 11 | 3.5 | 26 | 8.3 | 46 | 14.6 | 224 | 71.1 | 315 | 4.5 |

Comments: (n= 71)

+ (60)

+/- (6)

- (5)

- + Super Great!
- + Great! x4
- + Interesting!
- + Wonderful
- + Perfect for me
- + Super fun and super helpful! Answered all questions I had prior to coming to orientation.
- + Good information and guidance for the day
- + The small group meeting was very informative, we also had the opportunity to present, and we all gave opinions on how each presentation went, and also strength, weakness and how we can improve our teaching skills.
- + I love my group and I love how caring and informative everyone was. It is great to network and meet other TA's who will be doing similar tasks as me and balancing it all.
- + I think we all enjoyed talking with a TA who has been through the program. Additionally, it was good to meet other students not in my department.
- + Help us get to know each other and become friends
- + Nice people
- + Nice to connect
- + Nice to know different people
- + The small group setting was my favorite part of the day! It was well-paced and was the only part of the schedule where I felt I wasn't just listening to a lecture.
- + Of the first day of TA orientation, I think the small group meetings were the most helpful, informative, and engaging.

Small Group Comments (cont.)

- + It was a nice and helpful meeting.
- + Our group was very cohesive through and through which I appreciated
- + Good for small introduction with small group members.
- + Was a nice way to converse one on one.
- + I really enjoyed getting to speak with fellow TAs in a smaller group setting.
- + The smaller group session was very effective because it encouraged collaboration amongst TAs.
- + I was able to meet new students from different departments.
- + Helpful information and space for questions involving microteaching and the format of the orientation.
- + Being able to ask questions in a small group was very helpful.
- + Small group meetings were really informative and constructive. It helped me understand my teaching style and also how to approach the students in the class.
- + Being in the small groups give me the opportunity, to be more open and comfortable for my presentation.
- + It was really nice being in small groups with different departments to branch out and meet other people. I also really liked having small group time with our TA mentor so we could learn more about them and their teaching experiences, ask campus questions, and help us find all the buildings.
- + The small group meeting was great it provided a way to get to know other graduate students who are not within our departments and even not in our schools. I think this was important because many times its hard to step outside of your comfort zone and meet new people, especially those who may not study in the same field as you. The TA mentor was especially helpful in trying to get us to know our group members better by having the classroom arranged so that we all faced each other and had a stronger interaction.
- + Teaching mentor was nice to introduce herself to us (new TAs). Interesting thing was meeting new people.
- + My teaching mentor is amazing, she did such a great job of addressing the main points of the meeting and facilitating our questions plus her energy and enthusiasm for teaching is contagious!
- + My leader was wonderful!
- + The leader was sooo great!
- + I love my teaching mentor 😊
- + My group mentor was great! provided very informative feedback
- + The "small group meeting" was great. Sadie, who was our mentor organized it well and shared a lot of information about the events of the day as well as general suggestions. I found it very useful.
- + Mmakgosi is very kind and helpful.
- + My teaching mentor was out sick, but group 28 took me in and Mmakgosi was a wonderful teaching mentor. She engaged us immediately, related to everyone's excitement and fears, and supported us in discussing strategies or solutions to address those fears.
- + Love Dustin leading our small group! Immediately put everyone at easy and created a safe environment. Feel like she cares and won't let us get lost.
- + Dustin Satterfield as a TA is wonderful. They listened to our concerns, answered our questions with care. They offered help and provided it. Making us all feel welcomed. It was our first session as a group with all members and it was refreshing to see that we all got along really well.
- + Amber was a phenomenal small group TM and made it a very welcome and comfortable environment.
- + I really enjoyed having Haley as my orientation leader. She was very helpful and easy to talk to.
- + Group 27 rocks!!!! I appreciate Haley being very frank and helpful with us, like locating the best dive bars. Really broke the ice right off the bat 😊 so then our later sessions were more personable!
- + The small group was great as it allowed me to meet other grad students in different programs, and ask questions to both existing grad students, as well as the TA assigned to our group. Haley was a great resource!
- + Great getting to know new people. Cagla was an AMAZING group leader!!!
- + Our Team mentors Alec and Cagla were very creative in order to teach us the basics of TA ship and how can we overcome various challenges being a TA. Overall, really enjoyed and loved the sessions
- + Mariah answered all of our questions and was forthcoming with both good and challenging experiences regarding interacting with the students. The icebreaker activity that she presented was engaging and got the group talking amongst itself.
- + Love discussing with the group especially with our mentor, Lei, she is great.
- + I've heard different stories from different people about how their small group meetings go, but mine was fantastic. My group leader Lei Wang was amazing. She made the experience informative and interesting, and she made it clear that she was there for us.
- + Qingyang is awesome! She was very enthusiastic and knowledgeable about many of the policies that are important for teaching.
- + Jenna was super helpful, provided a lot of info, and answered a lot of questions.
- + It was great to interact with a small group and Michael did a great job providing information that was helpful to us!
- + My small group leader, Caitlin Smith, was very knowledgeable, helpful, and eager to hear group members' thoughts on nearly everything. I felt that all my meetings with her were productive.
- + Jacob was extremely relatable and knowledgeable. He definitely adds tremendous value to the program.
- + We spent a lot of the time just asking questions about the orientation and about what it's like to be a TA
- + Good.
- + We learned about how to use the machine in classroom, which is helpful and fundamental to me.

Small Group Comments (cont.)

- +/- The meeting was informative; the ice breaker was a bit awkward.
- +/- My TA mentor was super nice, but it didn't seem like she was given any direction/guidelines/structure to follow during the small group meeting. We (the students) ended up deciding to do introductions and try to get to know each other a bit, which was really nice and helped me make friends. I think the purpose of this first small group meeting should be written out as a chance to meet the other people in your small group/complete icebreakers.
- +/- Should have been more structure on what the meeting should have entailed.
- +/- Same complaint as before...needed structure and detail...but it's nice to meet other students.
- +/- I think these spaces should have the expectation of being more structured. Overall, we made introductions and then asked questions to our TA Mentor. There is a learning arc from Wednesday-Friday which is, what do we know about teaching at the university level at present, what have we learned so far, and then apply that learning through a micro-teaching assignment. With this in mind, I think the first day could have been more collaborative, more reflective and a bit more informative about the micro-teaching or at least what makes a good lecture/class (i.e., observe a micro-teaching bit from YouTube and try to make connections with background knowledge - move forward with this same micro teaching video on day 2 and consider what has been learned at the orientation so far and how that changes how we see what the educators do/do not do.
- +/- I enjoyed being placed in groups with people I may not have normally gotten a chance to talk with. Our group leader was very kind and presented us with a good deal of information. It would have been nice if we got a bit more time in small groups before moving on to the other talks. It felt a bit rushed.
- There wasn't much to talk about during this initial meeting.
- Pretty casual and not overly informative, the time did feel a bit long
- Our Small Group Meeting was mostly silent after a couple minutes of introduction by the person in charge. We did not discuss much, aside from chatting with each other about the weather.
- The classroom was locked that we were going to be used, which took away time from the session.
- I'd rather have spent the time more focused on teaching in my discipline

| BREAK-OUT SESSION 1 'Universal Design' | 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? | 4 | 2.5 | 8 | 5.0 | 25 | 15.6 | 36 | 22.5 | 87 | 54.4 | 160 | 4.2 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | 7 | 4.4 | 12 | 7.5 | 35 | 22.0 | 33 | 20.8 | 72 | 45.3 | 159 | 3.9 |
| Total | 11 | 3.4 | 20 | 6.3 | 60 | 18.8 | 69 | 21.6 | 159 | 49.9 | 319 | 4.1 |

Comments: (n= 56)

+ (29)

+/- (18)

- (9)

- + Great! x2
- + Great presentation
- + Very informative
- + Informative!
- + I thought this session was informative and useful for developing my intuition on what makes a presentation clear and engaging.
- + It was very engaging.
- + A lot of information presented; appreciate the handout
- + Interesting and some opportunities for thought.
- + Very well presented with strong infographics.
- + The speakers did a good job of talking about the topic. There were many instances where the information that was shared were things that I was not previously aware of.
- + Love that the speakers demonstrated the principles in how they gave the presentations
- + Helped me realize all the different ways in which a class can be formatted.
- + It was informative about engaging students from different backgrounds
- + I enjoyed this session, and I am definitely going to use this topic to transfer into how I teach this semester.
- + Very informative session- taught me more about enhancing engagement as well as accessibility in the classroom.
- + Nice idea and informs elaboration
- + I liked how they not only showed us but also demonstrated what this looks like in a PowerPoint presentation.
- + I liked how they employed accessibility features from UD in the presentation.
- + Really complex topic that I'm just starting to wrap my head around.
- + Nice
- + Good x2

BREAK-OUT SESSION -1 (cont.)

Universal Design (cont.)

- + Good information presented on the different aspects design of presenting content, and assessment
- + The universal design program was incredibly informative as it went in-depth on things we should consider when in a teaching setting. I appreciated the presenters including examples of how they used these specific techniques in their teaching settings, the challenges they faced, and the ways in which they are capable of overcoming these challenges. It is always a daunting task standing in front of a group of students and wanting to ensure their engagement and understanding of what is being presented, and I believe this session did an excellent job of explaining its importance and ways in which we can ensure that we as TA's accomplish this.
- + I've taken many classes that focus on UDL in the past and this did a good job of summing up the most important points.
- + I was not familiar with much of the content covered in this session and appreciate its importance and the need for my curriculum design to reflect UDL principles. Mariah and Amber are both good presenters.
- + The concept of Universal Design itself is quite intriguing and I felt that if applied seriously to my teaching style in the classroom, then I would become a good teacher.
- + I appreciated this one, especially for a developing a pedagogical practice that is inclusive.
- + Universal design had great material and I would love to get more time to work with the concepts presented.
- +/- Did not know about this before.
- +/- I took a semester long course in UDL so this was all review.
- +/- As a previous music education major, I took a whole class on this. It felt like that but packed into one hour. It felt kind of rushed.
- +/- I wish there had been more concrete examples of Universal Design but I enjoyed it overall!
- +/- It was somewhat informative, but I had already heard most of the information presented.
- +/- The slides were easy to understand, however, the session was a little bit long so I couldn't keep the attention for a while.
- +/- The slides were too similar, so I had a hard time distinguishing some of the layers to the topic but was otherwise informative and helpful.
- +/- I learned a lot, but I felt as though the presentation were designed for younger age groups. I attended this session after the Diversity and Inclusion session, and it was difficult to stay focused when the presenters were reading rather than speaking.
- +/- There was a lot of information in this session that will take some time to digest, but I think that is just the nature of the material. I am looking forward to incorporating these guidelines.
- +/- While very important to cover, I was already personally familiar with the topic so it felt more drawn-out than it needed to be from my perspective.
- +/- It was an interesting session. I found it somewhat hard to conceptualize how to use the concepts within the classroom session, but I do not think this was a reflection on the speakers.
- +/- It was interesting, although I'm not sure how much I can truly implement in a laboratory setting.
- +/- The UD session made some very good point but was a little too vague. It also assumed that all TAs knew which courses they were going to be teaching, which we established in the welcome session wasn't true.
- +/- This session was great and I look forward to trying to apply these principles to my TA course. I only wish we had more information about our own courses to have applied in the moment.
- +/- Good information and examples from presenters; felt a bit impersonal.
- +/- I wonder if more small group activities can be implemented in this session. The information is very important, yet it was hard to keep focused.
- +/- The presenters were knowledgeable and great. I appreciated the scripts and how the presenters stuck to the scripts. But reading the scripts made the presentation feel stiff and somewhat monotonic. It was difficult for me to stay engaged.
- +/- I appreciated the enthusiasm and knowledge of the presenters as well as the accessibility of the presentation. Of course, SU's unwillingness to protect its vulnerable and disabled students by not having an indoor mask mandate is a failure at the highest level.
- This lecture was rushed, and the students did not seem to engage with the topic.
- Maybe just a little too scripted of a session.
- Not so interesting
- Seems not too much distinctive by the way topics were introduced
- This session was much longer than it should have been. The "think pair share" was unnecessary.
- Way too much information to process. Someone will have to look at slides later.
- I'm a career educator, so this session was not particularly helpful.
- I did not appreciate being treated like I was in kindergarten.
- Very little useful information provided. The presenters were somewhat too obsessed with talking about the academic terms and aspects of UDL. It appeared to me that they forgot it's not a scholarly conference. It would be much more useful if they could simply share actual scenarios or examples they had coped with.

| BREAK-OUT SESSION 2 'Diversity and Inclusion in the Classroom' Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5 | Responses | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----|---|-----|----------|-----|----|------|------|------|---------|------|
| | Not | | 2 | | Somewhat | | 4 | | Very | | Summary | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | Total | Mean |
| How <u>informative</u> was this session? | 2 | 1.3 | 4 | 2.6 | 12 | 7.7 | 35 | 22.4 | 103 | 66.0 | 156 | 4.5 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | 3 | 1.9 | 3 | 1.9 | 12 | 7.8 | 36 | 23.4 | 100 | 65.0 | 154 | 4.5 |
| Total | 5 | 1.6 | 7 | 2.3 | 24 | 7.7 | 71 | 22.9 | 203 | 65.5 | 310 | 4.5 |

Comments: (n= 62)

+ (51)

+/- (9)

- (2)

- + Great x4
- + GREAT session
- + Very informative
- + Very well done
- + The diversity and inclusion in the classroom session did well in the fact that it tackled a very sensitive subject, especially in recent years. It pointed out ways in which we can handle these difficult topics and make the classroom a safe space for all students regardless, of their race, gender, sexual orientation etc. The use of the prompt activity was also smart as it gave potential situations that one may come across during their time as a TA
- + The presentation was very informative and covered a diverse number of real-world situations.
- + This was helpful and gave me some issues to prepare for and to remember when I TA.
- + I learned a lot of new definitions. Slight differences between terminologies. I felt like that is really important.
- + Learnt different things about this.
- + Communicative and proactive
- + I enjoyed this a lot! It opened my eyes to situations that I will potentially be put in and gave me insight on how I may handle them.
- + One of the most important sessions, in my opinion. Opened the floor to important talks and informative for those who may have needed to learn more about these important talks or just supplement already existing knowledge.
- + Loved the presentation, thought the presenters were extremely knowledgeable and talked about such important info. I was really glad this was part of the orientation and prioritized on Day 1
- + This session showed me what scenarios may occur and possible solutions.
- + This was so interesting and the case studies were challenging and thought provoking. I'm glad these were brought up because I hadn't considered some of these scenarios happening/how I would respond
- + This session was helpful mostly as a reminder to keep in mind the intersectionality of our students, as well as to remember to be sensitive to our students and open to their feedback.
- + Good balance of content and participation, unique among diversity trainings I've had before.
- + Loved the discussion format here. Very engaging! The scenario conversations were awesome and super interesting!
- + Liked the way sharing words and the examples
- + Significant session with a lot of engagement from the audience- topics were intriguing and informative.
- + The students who prepared this talk had worked really hard on it. The students seemed to engage with the topics. The scenarios that were proposed were well-discussed.
- + The discussions surrounding the scenarios were very helpful.
- + The group discussions were very helpful and the whole room was engaged. Appreciate the emphasis on critical diversity.
- + The questions was very interesting, I enjoyed hearing other people opinions.
- + I really liked the scenarios!!
- + I like the scenarios that were presented in the session. Those situations happen frequently in real life so those gave some guidelines for the new TA to react.
- + The presenters were amazing. Two people who are probably at the receiving end of the topics covered did very well with continuing to do the labor to help the university become a safer space for all students.
- + The speakers were good at raising awareness of how all students in the classroom can be made to feel included and respected. The speakers were very interactive, and the questions that were asked and responses from the audience were thought-provoking. The discussions during this session have made me understand the importance of using teaching methods that do not alienate people, which is something I will be cognizant of during my role as TA.
- + I liked the conversational aspects.
- + One of the best diversity and inclusion seminars I've attended. Brava to the presenters.
- + I have been in 12 DEI courses over the past 3 years. This was by far the most fleshed out and most informative of them all.
- + I did attend the session. Cannot unselect. It was the best DEI workshop I've ever been to at Syracuse University.
- + This was the best session by far and this comes from a previous institutional gender equality expert- thank you so much!

BREAK-OUT SESSION – 2 (cont.)

Diversity and Inclusion in the Classroom Comments (cont.)

- + Well-presented and very interesting
- + It was well-presented and helpful.
- + Great presenters
- + They did a great job.
- + The presenters did a fantastic job. The PowerPoint slides they used were fantastic. They really knew how to get people interested and interacting.
- + The presenters did an amazing job of explaining important terms and getting students to consider various issues without students feeling attacked or acting defensive, which is hard to do.
- + The presenters did an exceptional job of approaching the topic in a way that went beyond corporate / superficial definitions of diversity and toward a genuine anti-racist framework which included a critical lens toward the institution we are part of.
- + The presenters did a wonderful job!
- + The presenters did a fantastic job of addressing this immensely important issue and the thought pieces were very helpful for thinking about situations that could arise that we should be prepared for. It was great to get actionable items for before and during the semester as well.
- + I did attend, I accidentally clicked that I did not attend. The session really opened my eyes to what kinds of scenarios concerning matters of inclusion could happen in the classroom. I am better prepared because of this session.
- + Always good to brush up on what it means to have a diverse group and how to make sure we as TAs make our students feel included.
- + So good!
- + Good! X2
- + Good information presented on inclusion in the classroom and diversity.
- +/- Pretty good
- +/- An excellent session that was interesting and informative. The presentation felt rushed, but I believe it was just because of the volume of material that needed to be covered.
- +/- It was a bit rushed, but this was due to a misunderstanding on the speaker's part regarding the time. Otherwise, it was nice to talk with peers about how they may handle complex situations.
- +/- Brought up new points I hadn't heard of before (what a PWI is). I thought this was a good first day event. Caroline and the other girl spoke really well and were super engaging! A little rushed.
- +/- The small exercises were relevant and interesting and generated a lot of thoughtful discussion. One note: I think Adrienne Rich is a TERF (Trans-Exclusionary-Radical-Feminist). Perhaps find a different person to quote?
- +/- I do understand the issue that was being addressed but I feel like most of graduate students are aware of the diversity in SU at various fronts so I think the session could have been more oriented towards addressing diversity in the classroom rather than acknowledging it.
- +/- The scenario discussions at the end of the presentation were quite informative and interesting. They should have allocated more time to the scenario discussions.
- +/- I wish the themes of this session had carried across others and not been relegated to one hour of the three days.
- +/- There was some great information in this session however it seemed more like common sense. Though other students coming from different parts of the country or world may have benefited more from the content.
- The presentation was politically charged using leading phrases and statistics taken out of context to make a group of people feel alienated and victimized. I felt that the message delivered was that only white people can be privileged/racists/bigots and that they all need to feel guilty and subservient to nonwhites. I felt this wasn't a diversity and inclusion session rather that a minority empowerment session. For instance graphs shown broke down "minority" groups, yet lumped all heritages of "whites" into one category, White. I am all for equality, and inclusion but the current narrative is far from that in my opinion.
- This presentation seemed somewhat divisive; for instance, they pointed out that Syracuse is a predominantly white institution and I kept asking myself "why is that necessary to point out?" I would anticipate a follow-up answer, based on the presentation, along the lines of 'it's important because there are barriers to other groups of people based on this fact.' However, these generalizations felt too broad and devoid of proof, so I was not convinced why it is important to isolate groups of people based on their skin color. Moreover, I felt that upon isolating these groups, I don't think it's appropriate to scold them because of the existence of injustice for some individuals in society; this would constitute a parts-to-whole fallacy. I did like the idea of making students feel welcomed and encouraged to express themselves, but I believe this goes beyond skin color, gender, and other social constructs.

| CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 'Creating and Effective Work-Life Balance as a TA' Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5 | Responses | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----|----|-----|----------|-----|----|------|------|------|---------|------|
| | Not | | 2 | | Somewhat | | 4 | | Very | | Summary | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | Total | Mean |
| How <u>informative</u> was this session? | 1 | 1.1 | 5 | 5.4 | 5 | 5.4 | 23 | 24.7 | 59 | 63.4 | 93 | 4.4 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | . | . | 7 | 7.5 | 7 | 7.5 | 19 | 20.5 | 60 | 64.5 | 93 | 4.4 |
| Total | 1 | 0.5 | 12 | 6.5 | 12 | 6.5 | 42 | 22.5 | 119 | 64.0 | 186 | 4.4 |

Comments: (n=40)

+ (29)

+/- (10)

- (1)

- + Great! x3
- + Greatttt session
- + Awesome
- + It was an excellent presentation. It was so helpful because is very important to balance the work and the life.
- + Well-presented
- + Very inspiring
- + Very informative
- + Really great strategies!!
- + Loved the various tips and strategies, especially not feeling alone.
- + They reminded us to set boundaries very frequently and that boundaries are a good thing to have as a not only an employee but a student of the university.
- + I love the fact that they made use know our rights, and that if there is too much pressure on us we have the right to speak up.
- + I really appreciated the reminder to stop working at 20 hours each week since there will always feel like there's more to do.
- + Really helped me learn helpful and healthy ways in which i can manage my time and work especially with going into my first year of grad school and working during the school year for the first time.
- + As someone who struggles with this, they offered great tips that I will carry into this school year and I enjoyed the conversation.
- + I got great tips and ideas for enforcing and supporting my work-life balance that I haven't tried before as well as support for things I already do.
- + Was helpful in getting expectations set!
- + I really needed this!
- + This session was most interesting for me.
- + A great and enjoyable session where both presenters offered tips on how to organize our free time and how to not be overwhelmed by our responsibilities as TA and studies. Well organized presentation with a lot of interaction. I did not want it to end.
- + Helpful
- + Very helpful with real life examples and suggestions.
- + This was extremely helpful in preparing for the beginning of the semester.
- + Nice that it was not just time management.
- + Great job going over more than just the basics of time management.
- + Great instruction on time and location management and using resources appropriately
- + Good
- + I learnt time management skills, including how to balance my work-life. the concept of choosing a good work environment was also emphasized and knowing what best befits me as a TA.
- +/- The work/life balance session was great, it did however make me a little bit worried on all the expectations grad students are held to.
- +/- This session was very informative on a concept that seems very simple however it is something that many times graduate students seem to neglect. It provided pointers and techniques that can be applied in order to help maintain a proper work-life balance which is nice. I think a bit more examples could be useful to show how to properly demonstrate a work-life balance would have been useful.
- +/- The presenters did a great job of explaining the content, but I felt like the content was pretty basic (which is fine) but I'd hoped for some new creative or lesser-known techniques.
- +/- I wish there had been more concrete examples but overall the session was helpful and gave some good tips/built a feeling of solidarity.
- +/- Some of the information here is not possible for everyone due to disability or neurodivergence. Otherwise, the advice was helpful.
- +/- Always important. Maybe also include more topics of out-of-school activities and resources that we can use as graduate students.
- +/- This session was well-organized and the speakers were great. However, the content was not as engaging or useful as I'd hoped.
- +/- I DID attend.
- +/- Some things felt common sense but it was well presented and organized.
- +/- N/A
- It seems this is more geared towards people who have too much LIFE and not enough WORK. This was misleading in terms of my own expectations, since I have the opposite problem, thus the low "informative" score.

| CONCURRENT SESSIONS: 'Utilizing Technology in the Classroom' Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5 | Responses | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|
| | Not | | 2 | | Somewhat | | 4 | | Very | | Summary | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | Total | Mean |
| How <u>informative</u> was this session? | 10 | 11.9 | 5 | 5.9 | 13 | 15.5 | 13 | 15.5 | 43 | 51.2 | 84 | 3.9 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | 10 | 12.0 | 10 | 12.0 | 15 | 18.1 | 10 | 12.0 | 38 | 45.9 | 83 | 3.7 |
| Total | 20 | 11.9 | 15 | 9.0 | 28 | 16.8 | 23 | 13.8 | 81 | 48.5 | 167 | 3.7 |

Comments: (n=29)

+ (9)

+/- (16)

- (4)

- + Useful
- + Really useful if I'm gonna teach in this semester
- + Very informative
- + Helpful
- + It was helpful to see all of the resources we have as a TA.
- + This was definitely helpful to me because I realized how technology can make it easy in the classroom yet cause difficulties when relied upon too much. It is definitely something I will consider during my preparation for classes.
- + I liked the balance of information and explanation in this course.
- + Technology is all over the classroom now. I enjoyed learning about the technology and the ample resources available to me as a TA. I plan to use technology to actively teach my class this year.
- + Good
- +/- I thought this would have more of an introduction on how to use the technology in the classroom.
- +/- This presentation had little new information that it covered, but it was good to hear about some new resources for when the TA is in the classroom.
- +/- Very useful information, but again, more discussion and small groups?
- +/- I wish this session would have been more of an exploration of specific programs, rather than an overview of the benefits of using tech in education.
- +/- I wish they spent more time on blackboard.
- +/- This could have been two sessions because there was so much to get through and there was not enough time for it.
- +/- Pointed us to a lot of resources but crammed too much in for the time duration. We stayed overtime and attention waned.
- +/- I really liked some of the game and resource websites that the presenters shared with us, but I learned very little new information.
- +/- The session was a bit rushed, so I feel like we missed out on some of the key resources near the end of the presentation. It was interesting to hear about privacy and the rights afforded to us as students. I was only expecting to hear about what tech options SU has so this session exceeded expectations in that regard.
- +/- The session was most helpful when it offered concrete technical resources for us to utilize when teaching. The presenters were well-informed and did a good job despite running out of time at the end.
- +/- The mentors were great, but most if not all of the content was review of the modules we did online. I think everyone was expecting to learn how to use the projectors and document cameras, etc. in the classrooms.
- +/- This session covered basics of Zoom, blackboard, etc. that felt very low-level. The speakers were great and enthusiastic; however, the content did not feel particularly engaging.
- +/- I would have liked to have seen how to use the physical technology in the classroom, the computer, projector, tablet, etc.
- +/- I would like more concrete examples of specific technology to use and how to use it in different ways.
- +/- A little more about the specific technologies would have been great.
- +/- I thought it was going to be about how to actually use the physical technology that comes in each classroom. I wish there had been some sort of description somewhere so I knew beforehand.
- Did not really provide useful information. Seemed to have more of an emphasis on the Education field, which is not helpful for me.
- Expected more from this session.

CONCURRENT SESSION (Cont.)**Using Technology in the Classroom Comments (cont.)**

- A huge irony was that session's lead instructors themselves could not make the technology work for first 15 minutes of the session. Apart from that, session was quite monotonous though towards the end of it, there were some useful points.
- Very little useful information provided. The presenters were somewhat too obsessed with talking about the academic terms and approaching this topic from a scholarly perspective. I came to this session, expecting to know how former TAs used technologies to handle what classroom situations, what software they would recommend and how to use it. Instead, the presenters were talking about "digital citizenship" and other trivial things. It appeared to me that they totally forgot it's not a scholarly conference.

| CONCURRENT SESSIONS 'Motivating Students' | 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? | . | . | 4 | 5.1 | 6 | 7.7 | 19 | 24.4 | 49 | 62.8 | 78 | 4.4 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | . | . | 3 | 3.9 | 5 | 6.5 | 11 | 14.3 | 58 | 75.3 | 77 | 4.6 |
| Total | . | . | 7 | 4.5 | 11 | 7.1 | 30 | 19.4 | 107 | 69.0 | 155 | 4.5 |

Comments: (n=25)

+ (24)

+/- (1)

- (0)

- + Great presentation. I liked.
- + This session is interesting.
- + Interesting and entertaining
- + A very interesting and useful topic. Presenters showed us an example on how to motivate our classrooms by motivating us themselves. Great interactive session.
- + Very informative
- + Loved learning about the psychology of learning and how I can take advantage to really reach my students.
- + Students have different ways of studying and assimilating, it's important to also know that they express themselves differently, it could be by writing, by presenting, or by working in groups.
- + This was my favorite of the larger sessions of the day.
- + This was one of my favorite sessions because it was very informative in a very useful manner. I came out with the confidence of knowing how to engage students with my recitations, and this presentation convinced me how important this knowledge is.
- + Great Session where I learned about different forms of motivation that I can apply for my own studies as well as to the studies of my future students.
- + The presentation itself utilized motivation strategies they presented about, which I thought was good.
- + The session demonstrates how the teacher or TA can motivate students by allowing creativity and self-expression.
- + Gave helpful tips on how to engage with student to help them achieve their goals in the classroom but also helped myself learn what I can do best for myself for my own academic work as well.
- + Good
- + Good session
- + Very well-presented; instructors were good examples to follow.
- + This was so motivating as a TA! I really liked how this information was presented and it really made me consider why I should bother motivating my students.
- + This session was one of the more useful ones for me, as it provided a lot of specific and easily-applied ideas for increasing student engagement. Lei and Waleed are both great presenters who were fun to hear from.
- + Speakers were very engaging! One of my favorite concurrent sessions.
- + The presenters were engaging and knowledgeable.
- + Loved the speakers!!

CONCURRENT SESSION (Cont.)**Motivating Students Comments (cont.)**

- + This was amazing! Both speakers were so kind and funny. Really good tips and discussions. Thank you two!
 - + The group leaders for this session were high-energy and had the students engaged in the topic.
 - + Teaching mentors for this session were nice. They showed a lot of ways to motivate students. I absolutely loved intrinsic motivation section.
 - + Presenters were excellent and used laughter to keep us all engaged. I would like to offer the category of parental status as an addition to the diversity discussion and about setting expectations in the classroom to ensure TAs are not discriminating against parent-students because they are designing their course for the “traditional” student of early twenties and unattached.
- +/- N/A

| CONCURRENT SESSIONS 'Effective Assessment Strategies and Creating Rubrics' Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5 | Responses | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----|---|-----|----------|------|----|------|------|------|---------|------|
| | Not | | 2 | | Somewhat | | 4 | | Very | | Summary | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | Total | Mean |
| How <u>informative</u> was this session? | 1 | 1.4 | 2 | 2.8 | 7 | 10.0 | 15 | 21.4 | 45 | 64.3 | 70 | 4.4 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | 1 | 1.5 | 1 | 1.5 | 14 | 20.6 | 16 | 23.5 | 36 | 52.9 | 68 | 4.3 |
| Total | 2 | 1.4 | 3 | 2.2 | 21 | 15.2 | 31 | 22.5 | 81 | 58.7 | 138 | 4.3 |

Comments: (n=33)

+ (19)

+/- (11)

- (3)

- + Great! x2
- + Great presentation
- + Helpful
- + Very informative
- + It's very practical and helpful.
- + Went through difficulties that are likely to face, I found it potentially useful.
- + I thought this was an enlightening session because it showed the importance of language in a rubric. It emphasized how crucial communication is - even beyond the classroom discussion. I learned how to create effective rubrics and I feel confident with this ability moving forward.
- + I learned effective skills for rubric creating, including what not to include when assessing students' work.
- + Extremely helpful information on assessment and creating rubrics.
- + This topic was new to me. Learned about rubrics consistent grading. It was helpful before doing the grading duty.
- + Learned good tips for being adaptable in the classroom.
- + This session showed me the importance of setting clear rubrics so that the students understand the task and it would make it easier for the TA to grade fairly.
- + Nice structure to let us chat in group.
- + Engaging session
- + Good
- + Best small session. Gabbi is a natural teacher.
- + The speaker was effective in pointing out how assessment may be ambiguous and how as a TA we can make it less ambiguous so that assessment is fair.
- + Presenter did a fantastic job, despite the fact that her co-presenter was missing. I liked that she had each student draft their own rubric.
- +/- This seemed aimed at humanities and social sciences' TA's. A lot of the information does not apply to STEM, and most universally applicable advice was a little vague. Some of the information was helpful overall.
- +/- The presenter did incredible and thorough work despite having to cover for her partner who couldn't be there. The example rubric was a bit specific to social sciences/humanities, but it was useful for me as someone in that discipline.
- +/- This session did give me an insight on how to design the grading policies although I did not like the fact that examples provided were only from Arts and Social Sciences rather than having some for STEM as well which could have personally benefited me more.
- +/- The presenter did a great job. But I would've specified in the description that this wasn't really for math/sciences assessments.

CONCURRENT SESSION (Cont.)**Assessment and Rubrics Comments (cont.)**

- +/- Good talk and interesting material to come up with other ways to engage students' interests and check in with progress outside of just classical assessment methods. Maybe split topics for more focus.
- +/- The mentor was fantastic, especially considering her presenting partner was ill and she did the whole thing herself! It was informative and interesting. However, as most students are not the instructor of record, many won't be tasked with making a rubric or designing an exam...
- +/- We covered a lot in a short amount of time but it was helpful, especially for me as an instructor on record.
- +/- Great but the presentation was very long and couldn't fit into a 1h session.
- +/- A very useful topic. The presenter packed too much stuff into the slides.
- +/- This session as a whole was quite informative on processes that we might encounter as a TA. Though it may have been a bit more specialized towards individuals who would be Instructors of Record, it provided information that is applicable to all TA-related duties. The only thing was the session was very fast-paced so it was hard to retain and get a better grasp on the material that was being presented, it is beneficial that the information is still available for us to access on our own free time.
- +/- NA
 - Went very fast and wish there was more information on what goes into a good rubric instead of what makes a poor rubric.
 - This time would be better spent focused on the discipline I am going to teach.

| CONCURRENT SESSIONS 'Introduction to the Globalized/Multicultural Classroom' Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5 | Responses | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----|---|---|----------|-----|----|------|------|------|---------|------|
| | Not | | 2 | | Somewhat | | 4 | | Very | | Summary | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | Total | Mean |
| How <u>informative</u> was this session? | 1 | 2.0 | . | . | 2 | 3.9 | 6 | 11.8 | 42 | 82.3 | 51 | 4.7 |
| How <u>interesting</u> was his session? | . | . | . | . | 2 | 3.9 | 4 | 7.8 | 45 | 88.3 | 51 | 4.8 |
| Total | 1 | 1.0 | . | . | 4 | 3.9 | 10 | 9.8 | 87 | 85.3 | 102 | 4.8 |

Comments: (n=19)

+ (19)

+/- (0)

- (0)

- + Excellent!
- + Great
- + Great examples! Super helpful.
- + Very informative
- + As a white, male who was born in the US, I needed to hear how I can step out of myself to be a better TA.
- + This talk was super engaging and informative; my partner and I really enjoyed the thought exercises as well. The presenters were very prepared and I feel like I learned a lot.
- + Presenters did a great job!
- + I enjoyed this presentation and the useful information it provided. Jenna and Qingyang are both excellent speakers.
- + The way they presented and cooperated with each other was awesome.
- + Great perspectives and tips to keep in mind while teaching international students.
- + The presenters did a great job of explaining various ways of creating a welcoming environment and communicating to students that you care about them, their backgrounds, their cultures.
- + Loved the presenters and the idea of reflecting on linguistic identities.
- + By far my favorite part of Day 1. Qingyang was engaging, informative, and succinct.
- + The presenters were absolutely wonderful. This was the most engaging of the day for me, and helped me look for ways to create a much more conscious classroom.
- + I worried this might be a repetition of the diversity discussion from the morning, but it was very informative. I really enjoyed the speakers who talked at this session.
- + It was totally fun.
- + Good x2
- + Good scenarios given; appreciated the information.

| FOOD Rating Scale: Not=1 Somewhat=3 Very=5 | Responses | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----|----|-----|----------|------|----|------|------|------|---------|------|
| | Not | | 2 | | Somewhat | | 4 | | Very | | Summary | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | Total | Mean |
| How <u>satisfying</u> was the DAY 1 Continental Breakfast? | 5 | 3.8 | 9 | 6.8 | 26 | 19.5 | 23 | 17.3 | 70 | 52.6 | 133 | 4.1 |
| How <u>satisfying</u> was the DAY 1 Lunch? | 3 | 2.0 | 4 | 2.7 | 9 | 6.2 | 28 | 19.2 | 102 | 69.9 | 146 | 4.5 |
| Total | 8 | 2.9 | 13 | 4.7 | 35 | 12.5 | 51 | 18.3 | 172 | 61.6 | 279 | 4.3 |

Comments: (n=45)

+ (20)

+/- (14)

- (11)

- + Excellent
- + Great x3
- + Fantastic!
- + Extremely Good
- + Good, I appreciated the breakfast and lunch.
- + Good
- + Nice
- + I had lunch at Ernie Davis, there were varieties of yummy foods, to pick from . I had a really good time.
- + Gluten-free options were good.
- + Both meals were great and really appreciated. Thank you!
- + Both were enjoyable.
- + Very thorough meals.
- + The food provided is fine.
- + I enjoyed both breakfast and lunch and have no suggestions for improvement.
- + Enjoyed the food very well.
- + The fruit 😊
- + Breakfast was amazing.
- + Very yummy and convenient. Loved having the option of going to either of two places for lunch.
- + I liked having the option between two places and the money allotted was more than enough for both places.
- +/- The continental breakfast looked amazing, although I didn't have anything. The lunch was very good though.
- +/- Breakfast could have been better.
- +/- Breakfast was okay.
- +/- Less sweets, more healthy options if possible. Ernie Davis dining hall rocks!
- +/- Pretty much what I expected.
- +/- I prefer hot breakfast, but was satisfied with options presented.
- +/- Was disappointed in the continental breakfast - it did not offer many options. Lunch was great, I loved that we were able to use the lunch tickets at a variety of locations.
- +/- They were both great, although some of the food offered at the Dining Hall was not my favorite (but that really boils down to personal preference.
- +/- This was the best breakfast of the 3 days (I wish there had been bagels every day!) and the lunch at the Ernie Davis Dining Hall was great, so many options.
- +/- Continental breakfast was good, I would like other drink options. For both breakfast and lunch (in the dining hall) there wasn't ingredients labeling which made it difficult to discern what I could and couldn't eat (I have a food allergy)
- +/- The breakfast and lunch were fine and satisfactory, although there was too much time given for lunch.
- +/- The breakfast food was good, I wish that they have it there for a while so that students can take a break and still enjoy tea/coffee.
- +/- Do something with the flies.
- +/- Lots of flies.

DAY-1 Food Comments (cont.)

- I did not eat in the dining hall as it was indoors. I was disappointed in the continued lack of support for students at high risk from COVID.
- My dietary restrictions were not accommodated for breakfast. I emailed ahead of time to find out if they would be or not and did not receive a response.
- Coffee served on breakfast was not good.
- The coffee ran out pretty quickly 😞
- Only sweet breakfast options and no dairy-free alternative for the yogurts.
- The food services staff at the dining hall seemed completely unaware of the number of attendees, lines were very long without few options, very disappointing.
- There were not enough options open for the influx of people getting to the lunch options. This made it a lot harder to eat with enough time to get to the next session.
- Lunch was a bit hectic, seating was a bit of an issue in food hall.
- Missed Indian food.
- I do not like sweet stuff and almost everything in the menu was sweet in the breakfast so it would have been nice if there were some sandwiches in the breakfast or scrambled eggs.
- The catering food for breakfast was terrible. Very limited food options and they were very sugary. Why can't they provide more filling food such as panini or burgers? For the lunch, there was a specific and small window of time put on the coupon, which should be removed.