# Teaching and Learning at UNL:
## 27th Annual Campuswide Workshops for Graduate Teaching Assistants

**Tuesday, August 15, 2017**  
City Campus Union & Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center

### 7:45 – 8:15 a.m.
**Check-in and Continental Breakfast**  — Centennial Room

### 8:30 a.m.
**Welcome**  
Auditorium  
Timothy Carr, Ph.D., Interim Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Graduate Education  
Donde Plowman, Ph.D., Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer  
Lisa Rohde, Ph.D., Associate Director of Graduate Student Development

### 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.
**Keynote**  
Signal, Not Noise: Becoming a Better Teacher By Listening to Student Resistance  
Anton Tolman, Ph.D., Professor of Behavioral Science, Utah Valley University

### Skill Development Sessions

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### 11:30 a.m. – Noon
**Academic Integrity and Introduction to CIRTL**  
Neal Bryan, Associate Director of Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Development  
Auditorium

### Noon – 1:00 p.m.
**Lunch**  — Hosted by the Office of Graduate Studies — Centennial Room

### Disciplinary Breakout Sessions
Join new and experienced TAs in your discipline and learn about effective teaching methods relevant to the teaching you’ll be doing as a TA—for example, holding office hours, grading papers, running a lab, or teaching a recitation.

### 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
**Life Sciences & Natural Resources**  
John Markwell (Biochemistry)  
Chad Brassil (Biological Sciences)

**Physical Sciences**  
Rick Hartung (Chemistry)

**Social Sciences, Business & Education**  
Cal Garbin (Psychology)

**Studio Courses in Art & Music**  
Aaron Holt (Art)  
John Bailey (Music)

**Math and Statistics**  
Christine Kelley  
Jess De Silva (Mathematics)

**Engineering & Computer Science**  
Chris Bourke (Computer Science & Engineering)  
Naji Albakay (Electrical & Computer Engineering)

**Humanities**  
June Griffin (English)

### 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
**Wrap Up Session**  
Advice for New and Returning TAs  
Adam Blood (Communication Studies), Erica Miller (Mathematics), and Seema Pande (Chemistry)
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Session Descriptions

Whether you’re a new graduate teaching assistant or an experienced, senior-level TA, you’re sure to find something in our campuswide TA workshops to get you energized about teaching. The day also offers an opportunity to get to know other TAs who’ll eventually become your friends and colleagues.

Skills Sessions 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Assessing and Intervening to Reduce Student Resistance to Learning in the Classroom
Anton Tolman, Ph.D., University of Virginia
Every instructor encounters student resistance to learning, even from the very best students. This workshop will focus on exploring an Integrated Model of Student Resistance, the first systemic understanding of the origins of student resistance. We will then use this model as a framework for exploring effective assessment and intervention methods to reduce resistance and improve student learning.

Creating & Maintaining a Positive Classroom Environment
Brandon Bosch, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Practice, Sociology and Political Science
Part of effective teaching is setting up an environment where students are able to learn and feel comfortable to participate. We’ll discuss how you can share expectations and establish norms in class. In this session, you’ll also learn specific strategies to help you establish rapport with your students and create a classroom where all students can actively participate in class.

Designing & Delivering Effective Lectures
Samuel A. Nelson, Ph.D., Associate Director, Center for Entrepreneurship
Lectures are a predominant method of transferring information in university classrooms yet they tend to be instructor-centered and can have a bad reputation among students. In this workshop, we’ll focus on how to engage students in the current age of smart phones and information overload.

Developing Materials for Hands-on/Active Learning
Nathan Wakefield, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Practice, Mathematics
A important step in successful teaching is successful preparation. However, preparing materials for Hands-on/Active learning can be a difficult task. In this workshop, we will discuss strategies and techniques for preparing materials to be used in a Hand-on/Active classroom.

Grading Lab Reports and Essays
Cory Forbes, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Diane Lally, Ph.D., School of Natural Resources
This session presents important considerations for assessing student work, including: grading consistently; communicating your grading criteria to students; giving constructive feedback; and managing your time when grading large amounts of student work. Because grading practices vary widely, we will also discuss strategies for learning more about grading in your specific TA assignment.

Teaching as Research: Professional Development Session for Experienced Graduate Students
Cal Garbin, Ph.D., Professor, Psychology
Teaching-as-research involves the deliberate, systematic, and reflective use of research methods to develop and implement teaching practices that advance the learning experiences and learning outcomes of students. In this session you’ll learn how to approach your teaching from a research perspective: 1) identifying a teaching issue or question; 2) translating theory to hypotheses, 3) action research design, 3) collecting data; 4) analyzing and interpreting results; 5) translating results to practice, and 6) planning the next study

Using Technology to Promote Student Learning
Guy Trainin, Ph.D., Professor, Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education
This session will focus on how the use of technology (from simple to more advanced technologies) combined with effective teaching strategies can positively impact student learning.

Disciplinary Breakout Sessions 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Join new and experienced TAs in your discipline and learn about effective teaching methods relevant to the teaching you’ll be doing as a TA — for example, holding office hours, grading papers, running a lab, or teaching a recitation. Each session will focus on applying what you’ve learned about the principles of learning and effective teaching within the context of your discipline. Sessions will be facilitated by experienced faculty and award-winning teaching assistants.

Wrap Up Session: Advice for New and Returning TAs 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Adam Blood (Communication Studies), Erica Miller (Mathematics), and Seema Pande (Chemistry)
A panel of experienced TAs will answer questions, offer strategies and describe “best practices” based upon their teaching experiences at UNL. This session is a great opportunity to explore what makes an effective teaching assistant.