

Mentorship Program for Summer Teaching Associates

In recognition of the importance of Teaching Associates in the teaching mission of the campus, the Executive Vice Chancellor, David Marshall, is requesting the continuation of the Summer Teaching Associate Mentoring Program. All Associates teaching in Summer will have the opportunity to partner with an experienced faculty member and with a peer group to share experiences, insights and knowledge related to successful teaching at the university level. Summer Sessions and Instructional Development are pleased to facilitate this benefit to the campus, its undergraduate students and UCSB graduate student instructors. We are proud to say that UCSB remains the first UC campus to offer such a program.

Why participate?

Here is what some recent summer associates said about their mentoring experience in the Summer Teaching Associate Mentoring Program:

The most useful part of the mentoring meetings? Touching base with other associates, seeing what worked and what didn't, and being able to talk in depth about our teaching as it went along.

I liked that we were in a group of 5-6 teaching associates. We had good discussions around assigning readings, facilitating discussions, planning lectures, managing conflicts and balancing our workload.

Just the advice, from someone that's been in our shoes as new instructors, that was particularly useful; especially the feedback on my syllabus.

When you have completed the entire mentoring program, you will receive:

- a certificate of completion suitable for inclusion on your CV;
- credit toward UCSB's STIA* program (Summer Teaching Institute for Associates), and
- credit towards the Certificate in College and University Teaching (CCUT)*, subject to satisfactory completion of all participation and documentation requirements,

There is no question that, in this increasingly competitive job market, participation in this mentoring program will make a demonstrable and important contribution to your professional development as a university instructor and be an experience that will appeal to potential employers.

What's involved?

You will meet with your mentor and peer group (up to 7 other Associates) once before the start of the session and two times during the session. Before the term begins, your mentor will work with you to refine and polish your course syllabus. During the term, the mentor will lead discussions on teaching strategies and pedagogies, and participants will be able to address issues as they arise in the classroom.

What's next? We highly encourage you to take advantage of this worthwhile opportunity. If you have not done so already, please get in touch with your department to let them know that you wish to participate in the Summer Associate Mentoring Program.

*<http://oic.id.ucsb.edu/ta-development-program>