

Lessons about Excellence in Teaching:

- Hands-on active learning
- Teacher Immediacy
- Connect content to students lives
- Less is more—don't try to teach everything about your content
- Connect content to the larger world
- Connect to students as people
- Allow students to bring in their own perspective to connect as a community of learners
- Put students in the position to participate in order to discover content
- Apply the content to the real world
- Help students to work together and use technology to communicate
- Show students that we are human beings and let students know us= immediacy
- Encourage students to connect emotionally with our content

How to Get students to read texts?

- Give discussion questions... use these as a guide to comprehend and think critically about materials
- Discuss good reading strategies... IN ALL CLASSES & IN ALL CONTENTS
- Build an in class activity around the reading.
- Use the content of the texts in your classroom- engage students in class with content
- Create assignments that you must read the text in order to complete the assignment
- Give a quiz... that helps students to reflect and respond to text... helps all students respond
- Assign different student a role to play
- Offer some writing to help students to structure their discussions
- Setting a clear purpose for reading
- Teach students how to engage in critical reflection about the reading
- Don't assign too much
- Create a reading guide that helps student to respond appropriately to texts
- Share/articulate How we read as content experts... help students to understand the strategies, enjoyment , perspectives, background that they will need to be successful with a reading
- How to talk about books we haven't read
- Talk to your students about their reading and their book buying habits... Use quizzes as pressure?
- Blackboard—testing and assessment—interactive exercises—use highest score as a grade.
- Create a sense of buy-in rather than be punitive
- Use a reading guide to display the types of critical reading expected of the primary text
- Make reading relevant... they can't complete an assignment without doing the reading... the reading can empower success on assignments
- Use technology to engage students with the reading (i.e. wikis, wikipedia)

- Help student be critical about their reading rather than just decode it.
- Sell students on writing first and then on reading as a way to support writing

How do we figure out the balance with teacher immediacy?

- You can be friendly with students but NOT Friends!!!
- The cultural issues affect how student's view us.
- Response to students (i.e. e-mail, phone calls, IM) timely, and student's expectations about promptness of replies
- Be authoritative but not authoritarian
- Set ground rules about classroom environment
- Establish what students can expect from you up-front! Set clear boundaries
- Use some authentic artifacts to help students know us
- Use writing to help the teacher—student relationship (private, public, personal types of writing)

Facebook: To FB or not to FB?

- Be aware about sharing/posting private issues about you?
- Don't respond to student's FB--- know your boundaries
- Use the FB boundaries to keep worlds separate
- Technology is designed for specific purposes...social network sites are there to socialize.
- Invite students to meet at a social type of place... coffee shop... a place to act as an advisor
- Delicious? Tagging material... Try using wikis??
- Establish the type of identities, relationship, rapport, persona you want to have with your students
- Our technology that we have today allows us to communicate with our "network" and may make life easier. The information should be relevant to the class you teach.
- IDD & ITD is amazing! They will help us know what technology will aid and enhance our assignments.