Principles of Good Practice in Teaching
Draft by The Academic Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning
March, 2022

The Committee is currently asking for feedback. You can respond anonymously here.

Although understanding of instructional efficacy is ever-changing with new information, the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee offers "Principles of Good Practice in Teaching at Youngstown State University" via the five values below, with the realization that some criteria are limited by mode of instruction. Good practices in teaching help our students learn, persist, and achieve their educational goals.

Teaching at YSU Aspires to be…

- **T**ransparent
- **E**vidence-Based
- **A**spirational
- **C**ommunicative
- **H**umanized

- **T**ransparent: The instructor…
    - Provides and follows the course syllabus
    - Clearly defines grading and attendance policies
    - Posts syllabus and grades
    - Offers a clear and organized course structure (calendar, consistent expectations)
        - YSU common syllabus
    - Promptly returns student work with at least one grade by midterm
    - Connects course activities and learning goals
    - Explains what success looks like, (e.g., gives examples, rubrics)

- **E**vidence-Based: The instructor…
    - Uses a variety of student-centered strategies such as
        - active learning,
        - high impact practices, and/or
        - other evidence-based teaching strategies
    - Helps students see connections to prior understanding
    - Helps students apply metacognition to their learning

- **A**spirational: The instructor…
    - Participates in professional development related to teaching and learning

- o Stays current in their field of study and its pedagogies
- o Reflects on and continuously improves own teaching
- o Engages in course/dept. assessment of student learning
- o Stays up to date on YSU teaching/classroom policies

- **C**ommunicative: The instructor…
  - o Is available during scheduled weekly office hours
  - o Effectively presents information and checks for and responds to student understanding
  - o Is approachable to students outside the classroom
  - o Gives regular and meaningful formative feedback
  - o Is an active listener and open to diverse viewpoints

- **H**umanized: The instructor…
  - o Recognizes students' lives impact their role as learners
  - o Relates subject matter to life outside the classroom
  - o Inspires and motivates students to learn
  - o Is encouraging, supportive, and approachable
  - o Believes that all students can succeed
  - o Is welcoming and accommodating to all students
    - ▪ e,g, [Inclusive teaching strategies](#)
    - ▪ [YSU Accessibility Services](#)

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