



ON-TRAC

The Organizational Network for Teaching as Research Advancement and Collaboration

Mentored Teaching Experience

What is a mentored teaching experience?

A mentored teaching experience is self-reflective experience where a mentee works closely with a faculty mentor to improve his/her teaching. Within the context of the ON-TRAC program, this experience will include developing and executing a Teaching-as-Research plan for a limited teaching and learning project. The project must include implementation of at least one aspect of the CIRTl Core Ideas: Teaching-as-Research, Learning Communities, and Learning-through-Diversity.

Additional information on the Core Ideas is available on the following website:

<http://www.cirtl.net/CoreIdeas>

The project should be limited in size but not in scope and should complete a full inquiry cycle with the following elements:

- critical analysis of the literature and existing knowledge associated with the teaching and learning project;
- realistic, well-defined, achievable, measurable, and student-centered learning goals for the teaching and learning project;
- measurement tool(s);
- a teaching plan or hypothesis;
- data (limited);
- analysis of data and evidence-based conclusions about the impact on student learning; and
- suggestions for improvement.

How do I Create a Mentored Teaching Experience?

Graduate students should approach a faculty person with experience and interest in teaching and ask if he/she is willing to serve as a resource and help a graduate student improve his or her teaching.

Some possible components of this mentorship can include:

- Observe and discuss the graduate student's teaching, either by visiting one or more class meetings or watching a videotape of the student's teaching.
- Discuss teaching styles and techniques.
- Discuss student assessment options and issues.
- Help the graduate student develop or revise a syllabus.
- Help the graduate student develop course materials and/or discuss enhancements to these based on teaching and learning theory.



The UT Arlington ON-TRAC program is a member of the NSF-funded CIRTl Network

Fall 2014v.



ON-TRAC

The Organizational Network for Teaching as Research Advancement and Collaboration

Mentored Teaching Experience

- Review and discuss the graduate student's teaching evaluations.
- Help the graduate student resolve problems encountered in the classroom.

How long should the mentored teaching experience last?

There is no minimum or maximum number of hours required for the mentored teaching experience in the ON-TRAC program. The only requirements are that the experience contains the following elements:

- Small-scale Teaching-as-Research project that included implementation of at least one aspect of the CIRTl Core Ideas
- Self-reflection
- Consultation with the faculty mentor

Students needing assistance with creating a mentored teaching experience can contact the ON-TRAC program PI – Dr. James Grover - grover@uta.edu - or the program coordinator – Lisa Berry - lberry@uta.edu.



The UT Arlington ON-TRAC program is a member of the NSF-funded CIRTl Network
Fall 2014v.