



Friday @ the Center: December 9, 2005

Ten Things to Do or You can Kiss Your Class Goodbye

Alert readers may remember that we skipped #3 earlier, but it seems timely at this point: **“Your syllabus should be organized, substantial, thesis-driven, and relevant.** That is to say, it should provide students with a clear sense of the shape of your course and with specific assignments for each day (or week) of the quarter. It should require students to spend a couple of hours outside of class for each hour within. It should seek to move students from A to B—towards a new understanding, a re—evaluation, a discovery. And, last, it should be, implicitly and yet fundamentally, for and about them. Not that your course need be hip or trendy. But one of the best compliments students might pay you is to say that they never knew before that a course could have anything to do with their lives. It should.”

Teaching 101

Several spots are still available for the Teaching 101 seminar, which provides a general overview of teaching and will be held on Saturday, January 7, from 9 until 2. The seminar is especially appropriate for newer teachers, but old hands may find this review useful, too. Both full-time and adjunct instructors are welcome. Topics to be covered include

- What is good teaching?
- Who are your students?
- Facilitating Learning through Course Planning
- Achieving Rapport
- Facilitating Active Learning
- Lecturing and Learning

Contact me to register. There is a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 participants. Lunch and coffee will be provided.

Thinking about Grants?

Applications for all internal SPU grants the support work during the 2006-007 academic year are due **Feb. 1, 2006**. This includes Faculty Research Grants, Senior Faculty Grants, Lilly SERVE Faculty Grants, and Women’s Studies Grants. See <http://www.spu.edu/depts/csfd/scholarshipops.asp> and <http://www.spu.edu/depts/csfd/programs/womensstudies.asp> for more information and to download application forms.

The December edition of *The Grant Advisor* can be accessed through on-campus computers at <http://www.grantadvisor.com/tgaplus/>. This monthly newsletter contains 20-25 full program reviews and over 300 listings of grant and fellowship programs, organized into eight academic

divisions (fine arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, education, international, health, and other).

And remember, if you apply for a grant from a source external to the university, you must follow the process outlined at <http://advance.spu.edu/corporations/externalgrants.asp>.

May the glory of the Lord surround you and your loved ones this Christmas season!



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