

## ***Assignment #4***

### **In-Class Presentation**

This seminar is turned over to you, the students, for classes on April 4, 11, 25, and May 2 and 9.

*Your Task:* Select a work partner and a topic related to teaching science or engineering at the college level that has not been covered in the first half of class and present it to your colleagues in the seminar. Some suggested topics include:

- Teaching in the laboratory
- Distance learning
- Getting and using feedback in your teaching
- Using technology in teaching
- Teaching large lectures
- Evaluating and assessing students
- Creativity in the science classroom (using art, popular media, analogies, etc.)
- Active learning
- Groupwork (in and out of the classroom)
- Ethical/interpersonal dilemmas (e.g., academic honesty cases, student-professor relationships)
- International approaches to teaching
- The undergraduate “experience”/campus culture/students of today

You are not confined to this list; you can choose another topic. But please clear that topic with me before proceeding. You will also choose a week in which you want to present. (I will try my best to accommodate everyone’s first choice.)

*Teaching Methodology:* Together, the two of you will research the topic you have selected and present information on it *in an experiential manner*. In other words, if your topic is “Uses of the Web for Teaching Biology,” you should make sure at least part of the session allows your classmates to actually experience a lesson you (or someone else) has constructed on the Web. Or, if you are presenting on “Effective Laboratory Teaching,” you should try to simulate a lab in some way. If you choose to discuss “Teaching Large Lectures,” I can try to reserve one of MIT’s lecture halls, and we can have class there that day.

*Assignments for the Class:* If you have an assignment or a preparation you would like your classmates to complete prior to your presentation, please bring it to the seminar two weeks ahead of time.

*Handouts/Technology:* If you need multiple copies of handouts, I will arrange to have copies made for you. If you need an LCD projector, I’ll get one.

*Preparation Requirement:* After you have a fairly good idea of what you will present, how you will present it, what ancillary material you will use, what assignment, if any, you will make, we will meet to go over your lesson plans. I may want to make suggestions to strengthen the presentation, so this meeting should not take a day or two prior to the class you are teaching.

Please be ready to tell me your (tentative) topic and the dates on which you would like to present on **February 28**. I'll then compile a list of the topics, due dates, and suggested meeting times for us to have ready for class on **March 7**.