

## Proposal for Advanced Teaching Practicum

This is a proposal to develop an advanced teaching practicum for graduate students so that they can teach their own class and receive academic credit rather than money. This will allow students to build their teaching CV. Currently, students are limited by the courses that are available during the summer, which are usually team taught, or by which courses happen to come available during the regular academic year. Thus, our undergraduate needs and funding sources are driving training, not the academic needs of the doctoral students. In addition, this course could help ease some undergraduate enrollment pressure and provide some students access to smaller courses.

Graduate students who wish to teach their own course would find a mentor for the experience. Typically this would be their major advisor but could be a pair of faculty if needed to provide the pedagogic and content expertise. The student and faculty would identify a course and arrange for the vice chair to put it on the class schedule. Ideally this would occur during the preregistration period but could occur any time before the start of the semester as long as potential students can register and the instructor can adequately prepare.

We envision that courses would typically be small sections (maximum enrollment of 20) of regularly taught three credit undergraduate courses during the academic year or summer. However, the mentor and student could develop any plan deemed appropriate for the student's training, with input from the supervisory committee as needed. Special content courses could be 1-3 credits and might be linked to other requirements such as the comprehensive exam.

The mentor and student would be responsible for developing an individualized supervision plan for the course. This can be a simple or elaborate as needed.

This proposal includes adding a 1-6 variable credit graduate P/N course called Advanced Teaching Practicum. This would formalize the process and allow students going on to teaching careers to have the experience documented on their transcript. The mentor would list the supervision on merit materials as for other non-classroom teaching. Because the vice chair is scheduling the courses, he or she will monitor to insure that the number of credit hours does not become excessive in any given semester.