



Teaching Workshop

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November 2, 9 and 11, 2011

Training in research and scholarship at the European University Institute is world class by any standard. Unfortunately, this structure of the program offers too few opportunities for our students and researchers to get training and experience in the craft and techniques of successful teaching.

This workshop is intended to - partially - help fill this void. The workshop is designed for EUI researchers and students¹ who would like to get some training to help them prepare to become successful teachers. The workshop will focus on four areas:

- **Course design.** How do you organize a successful course?
- **Syllabus construction.** How to construct a coherent and useful syllabus?
- **Leading discussion seminars.** Specific focus and training will be devoted to 'the Socratic method.' We will also discuss techniques for generating lively discussions; how to deal with 'troublesome' students; the gender bias in class seminars.
- **Lecturing.** What makes for successful lectures and how can we improve our lecture style and presentations?

This workshop is obviously NOT intended to provide you all the tools you need to become successful teachers. Instead, I hope that in these three sessions the participants will have a better start in developing their own teaching styles and techniques. We will specifically focus on teaching 'lower division' college level courses – for this is likely what you will be asked to teach upon entering the job market.

At this point I cannot know how much interest there will be in this workshop. I hope to be able to use the last day (Friday, November 11) for practice sessions where each of the participants gives a mini-lecture, so that we can give each participant some direct feedback on their lecture style and delivery. If there are a large number of registrants in the workshop, we will have to adjust this plan and make some alternatives. At any rate, I expect this workshop to be highly interactive and involve a great deal of participation from those who do enroll.

If you have taught a course in the past please bring with you copies of the course syllabus you used. If you have not taught a course, but would like to begin building your first syllabus for your future courses, please bring a draft with you. I would like ALL participants to bring them a copy of a syllabus from a course they have taken in their undergraduate career. (Ideally, this should be from the course that they found to

¹ Max Weber and Marie Curie Fellows who are interested in participating are welcome to attend as well.

be particularly stimulating and useful.... But syllabi from particularly bad courses could also be interesting to discuss.)

The required readings will be relatively light (list to be sent directly to enrolled participants in the next two weeks).

Provisional Schedule:

Wednesday, Nov 2 -- 9:00 – 13:00 (Seminar Room 4)

--- Course design and construction (what makes for a good course?)

Wednesday, Nov 9 --- 9:00 – 12:30 (Seminar Room 4)

--- Syllabi and reading lists (What goes in and what stays out... How to decide?)

Wednesday, Nov. 9 --- 2:00 – 4:30 (Sala Europa, Villa Schifanoia)

--- Leading class discussions

Friday, Nov. 11--- 9:30 --- 12:30 (Sala del Capitolo)

--- Lecturing undergraduates. Techniques, tricks and the (over) use of PowerPoint.

Friday, Nov. 11 --- 2:00 --- 4:30 (Sala del Capitolo)

--- Lecturing II. Mini lectures for those who want the practice.