

UCCS Higher Education Teaching Experience

Course Director: Dr. Erica Allgood

Educational Objectives:

The purpose of this practicum is to provide SAHE Graduate Students to an opportunity to train to potentially teach in higher education, specifically in the recitation section of COMM 2100 Public Speaking at UCCS.

Specific Details of Practicum:

The training is a semester long process. The COMM 2100 Public Speaking class is a lecture/recitation format, where PhD faculty teach the lecture and adjunct faculty/lectures or graduate students teach the recitations sections. Practicum hours can be obtained through the training hours in the semester as well as teaching hours as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, if hired as a result of the training.

The training process includes:

- observing and learning the content of the COMM 2100 Public Speaking lecture (1.5 hours/weekly)
- observing, participating, and guest lecturing in the COMM 2100 Public Speaking recitation section (1.5 hours/weekly)
- meeting weekly with Dr Allgood (Course Director) for mentoring discussion (1 hour/week)
- meeting weekly with Dr Allgood and the entire COMM 2100 lecturer and recitation team to collaborate, strategize and problem solve (1 hour/week)
- participating in a final interview/evaluation discussion at end of the semester to determine if hired for the following semester to teach the recitation section(s) (1 hour/semester)

The total of these weekly training hours for the first semester is approximately 5 hours.

The teaching process (if hired):

If the student successfully completes the 16-week training process, opportunities will be presented to teach 1 or 2 sections of the recitation the following semester (and continuing as long as student has positive evaluations from the students and Course Director) as the need dictates. Opportunities also exist to potentially teach recitation sections as a lecturer after graduation. The Course Director makes those final decisions each semester based upon successful teaching and positive evaluations.

If hired (after the training semester) to teach one recitation section, practicum hours would be approximately 4.5 hours per week per section (with many teaching 1-2 sections per semester).

Qualifications for training:

Students should be in good academic standing (3.0 GPA or higher) in their program. Students must be interested connecting directly with students to support their learning and communication skill development. Students should desire to engage in the teaching and mentoring process necessary to teach a public speaking course, with students ranging from high public speaking anxiety to highly confident public speakers. A guided semester will fully prepare students to be confident in teaching the recitation section. No prior teaching experience is necessary. Drive and motivation to ask questions, try

To Apply:

Set up an informational interview with Dr. Erica Allgood at eallgood@uccs.edu at least 2 weeks prior to the semester start that you want to train.