The Teaching Support Centre works collaboratively with faculty, graduate students, and staff to advance teaching and learning at The University of Western Ontario.

The TSC is the teaching ‘heart’ of the University. Our partnership with Western Libraries and Information Technology Services provides us with a unique foundation to deliver support in three main areas: instructional/curriculum development and the scholarship of teaching, learning technologies and online course development, as well as information literacy and research skill development.

More information is available on the TSC website about resources and programs for both faculty and graduate students. To set up individual consultation about teaching, learning or graduate supervision issues, please contact us at the email address listed below.

ADVANCED TEACHING PROGRAM (ATP)
ATP is a unique 20-hour workshop designed for advanced graduate students who are seeking to develop the practical skills necessary to teach their own courses. Taught over five half-day sessions, the course touches on a number of topics including teaching for maximum impact, developing a culture of respect in your classroom and authentically assessing student learning.

In both TATP & ATP, participants gain hands-on teaching experience in videotaped microteaching sessions, where they have the opportunity to practice teaching skills and experiment with new techniques in front of a small group of peers from whom they receive formative feedback.

GRADUATE STUDIES 9500: THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF UNIVERSITY TEACHING
This 10-week graduate level course introduces students to the theory and practice of university teaching and includes four microteaching sessions and preparation of a teaching portfolio. GS 9500 presents a wonderful opportunity to engage in deep discussions about the goals and strategies of university education with like-minded peers from various departments across campus. This course is offered by the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, and registration is limited.

FUTURE PROFESSOR SERIES: PATH TO TEACHING EXCELLENCE
These dynamic seminars are offered throughout the year and provide both new and experienced graduate students with valuable insights into the world of academia. The workshops in this series are constantly expanding and evolving with past sessions touching on topics such as: Preventing and Detecting Plagiarism; Teaching Critical Thinking; and Writing a Teaching Philosophy Statement.

TEACHING MENTOR PROGRAM
The Teaching Mentor Program is a unique opportunity for graduate students to be observed in their own class, lab or tutorial and to receive valuable feedback from three graduate student peers on both their instruction methods and teaching philosophies.

Since this program requires a significant amount of coordination and planning among group members, the Mentor Program is generally completed over the course of an entire semester and mentor groups are fixed in the first six weeks of the fall and winter terms. Thus, early registration is imperative.
GRADUATE STUDENT PROGRAMS
The Teaching Support Centre, in partnership with the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, provides unique programming and resources to support the professional development of graduate students in university teaching and learning. Offered throughout the year and tailored to varied experience levels, disciplines and personal interests, these programs address numerous topics including effective instructional strategies, improved communication skills and the graduate student-supervisor relationship.

Whether you are interested in preparing for your first teaching experience, learning about communication in the Canadian classroom, developing advanced presentation strategies or choosing a career path that values teaching and facilitation skills, you will find a supportive group of peers at the TSC who are committed to fostering excellence in teaching and learning.

TA DAY: GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE ON TEACHING
A one-day series of workshops designed to energize and inform graduate students about to embark on their roles as Teaching Assistants (TAs). During these interactive sessions, participants have the opportunity to meet peers from across campus while exploring a variety of topics including striking a balance between teaching, research and coursework, dealing with difficult students and answering common laboratory questions.

ITA DAY: INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE ON TEACHING
This half-day conference introduces international graduate students to TSC resources and programs specifically designed to prepare and support them as teachers in Canadian classrooms.

TEACHING ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM (TATP)
This two-and-a-half day interactive training program is designed for new TAs at Western. TATP is taught by a team of award-winning TAs and includes workshops on grading practices, diversity in the classroom, lecturing, leading discussions, teaching with technology, and giving students feedback on written work.

WESTERN CERTIFICATE IN UNIVERSITY TEACHING & LEARNING
By participating in the various elements of the Western Certificate in University Teaching & Learning, graduate students gain valuable experience facilitating learning in small and large groups. Participants receive a certificate and letter of accomplishment upon successful completion of five program components:

1) Microteaching requirement fulfilled by participation in either TATP, ATP or GS 9500
2) Ten workshops in the Future Professor Series
3) The Teaching Mentor Program
4) Submission of a Teaching Portfolio
5) A Course Design or Research Design Project.

WINTER CONFERENCE ON TEACHING
A one-day series of workshops designed to re-energize TAs for a second term in the classroom while exploring new topics related to teaching at the university level.

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION SERIES
This is a six-session workshop series for graduate students who are seeking to improve their professional communication skills and public speaking abilities. Participants will be asked to give short presentations about their research and their teaching experience, and prepare for networking with scholars at academic conferences through hands-on learning activities such as research speed dating and the academic cocktail party exercise.

COMMUNICATION IN THE CANADIAN CLASSROOM
A 40-hour seminar series that helps international graduate students communicate with greater confidence in the Canadian classroom. Over the course of this program, participants learn to communicate effectively with Canadian students, develop an increased awareness of the implications of communicating in a new culture and practice writing effectively in English.

PRONUNCIATION IN THE CANADIAN CLASSROOM
Through this 20-hour workshop series, TAs who speak English as a second language learn to communicate clearly and effectively in classroom settings. Participants practice pronouncing individual sounds, using pauses effectively and adding appropriate emphasis to inject clarity and significance into their speech.

THE LANGUAGE OF TEACHING IN THE SCIENCES & ENGINEERING
Designed for graduate students who lead tutorials and labs in the sciences or engineering, these workshops provide TAs with an opportunity to practice describing assignments, defining concepts, explaining lab activities and answering student questions. Participants will receive individual coaching and an opportunity to practice their communication skills in each class.

PATHWAYS TO CANADIAN ACADEMIA
Three-session discussion series for international graduate students focusing on the challenges of adapting to academic life in Canada. Participants will learn about the pathways of international faculty and discuss publishing, communicating at conferences, and surviving “academic culture shock.”