2016 Teaching Assistant Orientation

Finding Your Teaching Style
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Session Summary
Taking the time to think about who you are and how you teach can have a powerful impact on yourself and your students. You have to be true to your own beliefs about teaching and learning while incorporating best practices and research on the field. Regular reflection can guide you in discovering your teaching style and developing your teaching practice.

Key Concepts
- Describing yourself is an important part of being able to promote yourself and your course. How you choose to describe yourself will impact your students and how they impact you.
- Reflect on your current teaching or experience as a learner. You will begin to develop your own voice and teaching philosophy. As you reflect, document your teaching and seek out continuous personal and professional development.
- When developing your teaching style, explore different teaching and learning methods. You will discover new approaches to teaching.
- Your early teaching experiences will consist of starts and stops. Seek formative feedback from your students and reflect on your teaching. Grow and learn from that feedback.

Next Steps
- Start a teaching journal where you can reflect on your experiences and begin to develop your teaching style.
- Attend workshops offered by the Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center to explore different teaching and learning approaches, and to expand your repertoire of teaching strategies.

Resources
Five Reasons the First Week is Not Like the Rest, by Natalie Houston: facdev.niu.edu/fivereasons

Got Questions?
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View the presentation at facdev.niu.edu/tao16