

THE POWER OF EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION

ACUE'S COURSE IN EFFECTIVE TEACHING PRACTICES

PILOT EVALUATION – JANUARY 6, 2016



"It was helpful, insightful, and filled with concrete strategies I will use with my class."

Over 400 educators, from a dozen colleges and universities nationwide, confirm: ACUE's Course in Effective Teaching Practices improves instruction through research-based techniques that raise student achievement.

ACUE piloted its new, state-of-the-art course during the Fall 2015 semester. Developed by experts in instruction and organized into practical, hour-long modules, the Course covers essential skills and knowledge that every college educator should possess in five areas:

- **Designing an Effective Course and Class**
- **Establishing a Productive Classroom Environment**
- **Using Active Learning Techniques**
- **Promoting Higher Order Thinking**
- **Assessing to Inform Instruction and Promote Learning**

Program data indicate that faculty:

- Overwhelmingly find the program **relevant to their work**
- Are **implementing high-impact techniques**
- Report **improved student engagement** and learning

"I've often felt that I've mastered my discipline, but not my teaching. I am very excited to learn how to be a better educator."

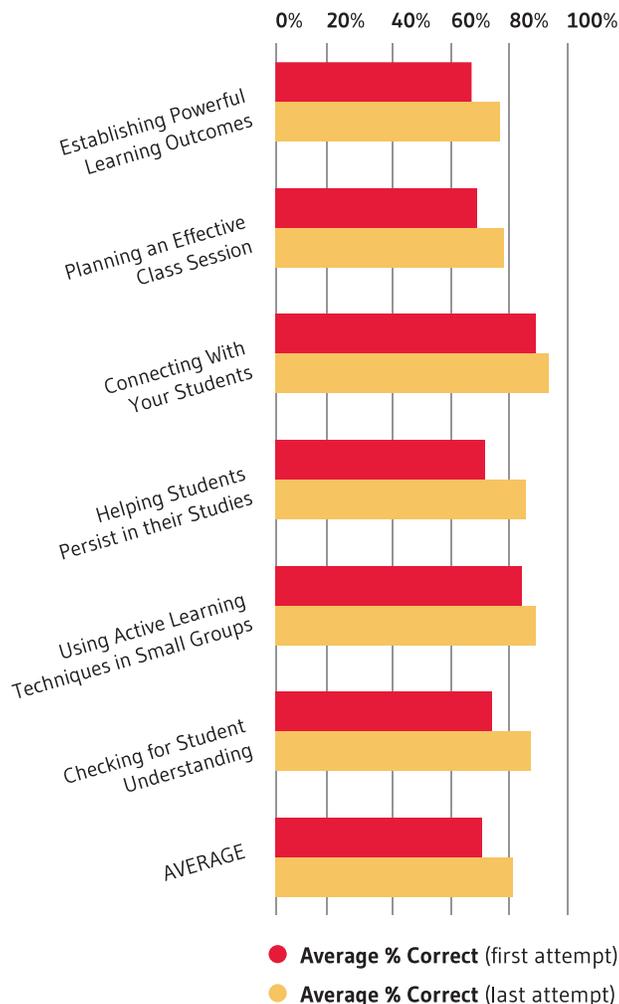
I. FACULTY IMPROVED THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE

"It prompted me to rethink my approaches to teaching and learning, to refine and refresh my pedagogy."

ACUE's Course includes videos of authentic classroom instruction for course-takers to analyze.

- Faculty **correctly discerned effective from developing practice 72% of the time** on their first try.
- Faculty **improved to 82% correct** on their second attempt.

Classroom videos are part of a comprehensive learning experience that includes expert talks, animated tutorials, facilitated group discussions, assessments, and applied assignments.



II. FACULTY IMPLEMENTED NEW TECHNIQUES

"I'm using more learning activities, calling on more students, and extending my wait time."

Course-takers were asked to implement, reflect on, and refine at least one new technique for each of ACUE's pilot learning modules. Implementation dramatically exceeded expectations: On average, **faculty reported incorporating six new techniques per module in their teaching.**

The techniques helped faculty:

- **Establish powerful learning outcomes**
- **Plan effective class sessions**
- **Connect with their students**
- **Help students persist**
- **Use active learning techniques**
- **Check for student understanding**

III. STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IMPROVED

"I especially like the techniques related to motivation. It's something my students need the most."

Every module asked faculty to assess the impact of new techniques on student engagement and learning.

- **87% reported that students responded positively to new techniques.**

Going forward, a more robust research design will ascertain the impact of effective instruction on rates of student persistence, program completion, and achievement of academic outcomes.

IV. FACULTY WERE SATISFIED AND RECOMMEND THE PROGRAM

"This was an excellent training and very valuable!"

Faculty evaluated the program, modules, and the overall experience:

- **85% felt more confident in their teaching** as a result of the program.
- **80% recommend it to a colleague.**
- **96% found it valuable** to review even those techniques they already knew.

Additionally, on a four-point scale (4 = agree, 1 = disagree) faculty agreed that:

- **Expert talks were helpful.** (3.8)
- Classroom **videos showed useful practices.** (3.7)
- Classroom **videos prompted critical reflection and analysis.** (3.7)
- **Overall presentation was engaging.** (3.8)
- Course **Facilitators were helpful.** (3.8)
- **Modules helped to refine teaching practices.** (3.7)

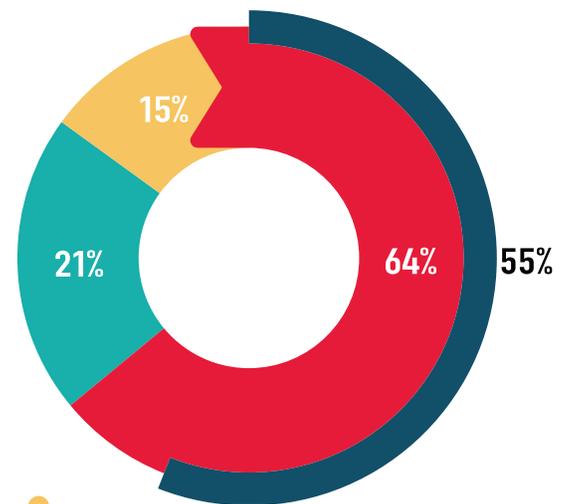
"I can manage to keep pace with each module and fulfill my extremely busy daily schedule at the same time."

V. PARTICIPATION WAS STRONG

"With each module I said to myself, 'This is the most useful one so far,' and then the next week I said the same thing again."

Participation rates exceeded expectations and comparable figures for pilot online courses:

- **64% of participants completed four to six modules.**
- **21% of participants** completed one to three modules and **made progress in most modules.**



- % who completed Course activities in at least one module
- % who completed **one to three** modules
- % who completed **four to six** modules
- % who completed all **six** modules

VI. PARTICIPANT PROFILE

"I've been teaching for a long time, but never had any pedagogical instruction. It was gratifying to see colleagues in action. The structured format for reflection and discussion was extremely informative and inspiring."

Of the 415 faculty actively involved in the 2015 program:

- **36% were part-time educators** from a cross-section of fields.
- **38% had one to five years of teaching experience;** 55% had more than five years experience.
- **74% were neither tenured nor on a tenure track.**
- **65% were female.**

THE ACE-ACUE COLLABORATION

ACUE's Course and Certificate are endorsed by the American Council on Education. Together, ACUE and ACE aim to expand dramatically the use of effective teaching practices to benefit students, faculty, and institutions. ACE applies its rigorous quality assessment expertise to validate ACUE's offerings. ACUE and ACE's joint venture represents a first-of-its-kind endorsement of professional practice courseware specifically designed for college and university educators.



ACUE AND THE 2015 PROGRAM

ACUE (the Association of College and University Educators) was founded in 2014 by leaders in higher education. Our mission is to help raise college student achievement through more effective instruction. ACUE partners with colleges and universities to improve student learning, support faculty, and raise institutional outcomes.

During 2015, ACUE partnered with a select group of colleges, universities, and other organizations to develop and launch its Course in Effective Teaching Practices. Pilot and content partners included:



For more information, and to learn how to bring ACUE's services to your campus, visit www.acue.org or contact us at info@acue.org.

Have a Great Class.™