

ACUE IMPACT

Student success through effective instruction

Nearly 2,000 educators at colleges and universities nationwide agree: ACUE's Course in Effective Teaching Practices strengthens their instruction.

They learn—and apply—the evidence-based approaches that help students succeed.

Student Achievement

After learning about “growth mindset,” I told my students, “Some of you may not think that you are a ‘math person,’ but I promise if you stick with this and work on understanding the material, you will find that you really are a ‘math person.’” After that class, a student asked, “So you’re saying if I work hard in this class, I can become good at stats?” I told him that not only did I think so, but there is research evidence to support it. On the next quiz, his score more than doubled—from 8 out of 20 on the previous quiz to 17 out of 20.

Matthew P.
Associate Professor, Psychology

Nationwide, faculty are embracing this opportunity:

- 81% feel more confident in their teaching
- 86% find the course material relevant
- 79% would recommend the course to a colleague
- 96% find it valuable to review and refine their practice

Student Persistence

After completing the module on helping students persist, I'm now giving more “no stakes” opportunities for my students to try things, learn from their mistakes, and improve. Learning how to program computer code takes practice, practice, practice, and I'm giving them lots of space to do just that. Students now are really plunging into the activities and talking out their difficulties with their partners.

Jill Z.
Professor, Mathematics and Computer Science

ACUE's Course in Effective Teaching Practices

ACUE's Course addresses all of the essential pedagogical skills and knowledge that every college educator should possess. It is the only program that leads to a Certificate in Effective College Instruction endorsed by the American Council on Education. The complete 30-hour program recommends specific techniques on how to:

- Design an Effective Course and Class
- Establish a Productive Learning Environment
- Use Active Learning Techniques
- Promote Higher Order Thinking
- Assess to Inform Instruction and Promote Learning

Student Diversity

During a recent class discussion, I used the technique of “recognizing and valuing different viewpoints” from the embracing diversity module to illustrate a specific theory in sociology. I incorporated hot-button examples including recent protests and the presidential election, which increased student interest and made this theory come alive. From our discussion, students felt encouraged to explain the “other side” of their opinion and better understood how people's personal experiences influence their viewpoints.

Jen M.
Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

Faculty are implementing proven techniques

ACUE's Course is recommended for practicing educators. To satisfy Course requirements, these faculty must apply recommended techniques, reflect on their experience, and set goals to refine their teaching.

Students are more engaged

85% of faculty report that students respond positively to new teaching techniques.

Student Support

I used the Performance Prognosis Inventory, from the Course module on engaging underprepared students. One student informed me that it "woke her up," and made her reassess her study habits. Other students came to me after class to ask for extra help, which doesn't usually happen until it's too late in the semester. Students' responses to these techniques give me a lot of optimism.

Haley D.
Teaching Assistant, Mathematics



Student Participation

In the past, I have run into the problem of four or five students dominating each discussion. However, after reviewing the module on planning effective discussions, I started breaking the class into groups to discuss the featured reading and inviting quieter students to present on behalf of the group. All students agreed to share on behalf of their group either this week or next. Good will builds buy-in.

Jason M.
Associate Professor, History

ACUE on your campus

ACUE partners with colleges and universities to put effective instruction at the heart of strategic plans for student success.

To learn how to bring ACUE's Course to your campus, contact us at info@acue.org.

Faculty Satisfaction

I used to believe that if I just taught long enough, I'd get good at it. What's amazing about this course is that it helped me realize that teaching is a series of techniques to master. These resources have made great teaching feel within my grasp.

Joanna D.
Assistant Professor, Social Work

ACUE's pilot, content, and participating colleges and universities include:

Arizona State University
Butler University[†]
California State University, East Bay
California State University, Los Angeles
City College of New York
Colorado State University
Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
Delta State University
Eastern Connecticut State University
Elon University[†]
Florida A&M University[†]
Florida International University

Goucher College
Housatonic Community College
Kansas State University[†]
Long Island University
Miami Dade College
Naugatuck Valley Community College
New Jersey City University
Rutgers University–Newark
San Francisco State University
Sonoma State University
Southern Connecticut State University
University of Arizona[†]

University of Colorado, Denver
University of Connecticut[†]
University of Michigan[†]
University of Nevada, Las Vegas[†]
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