

Teaching!

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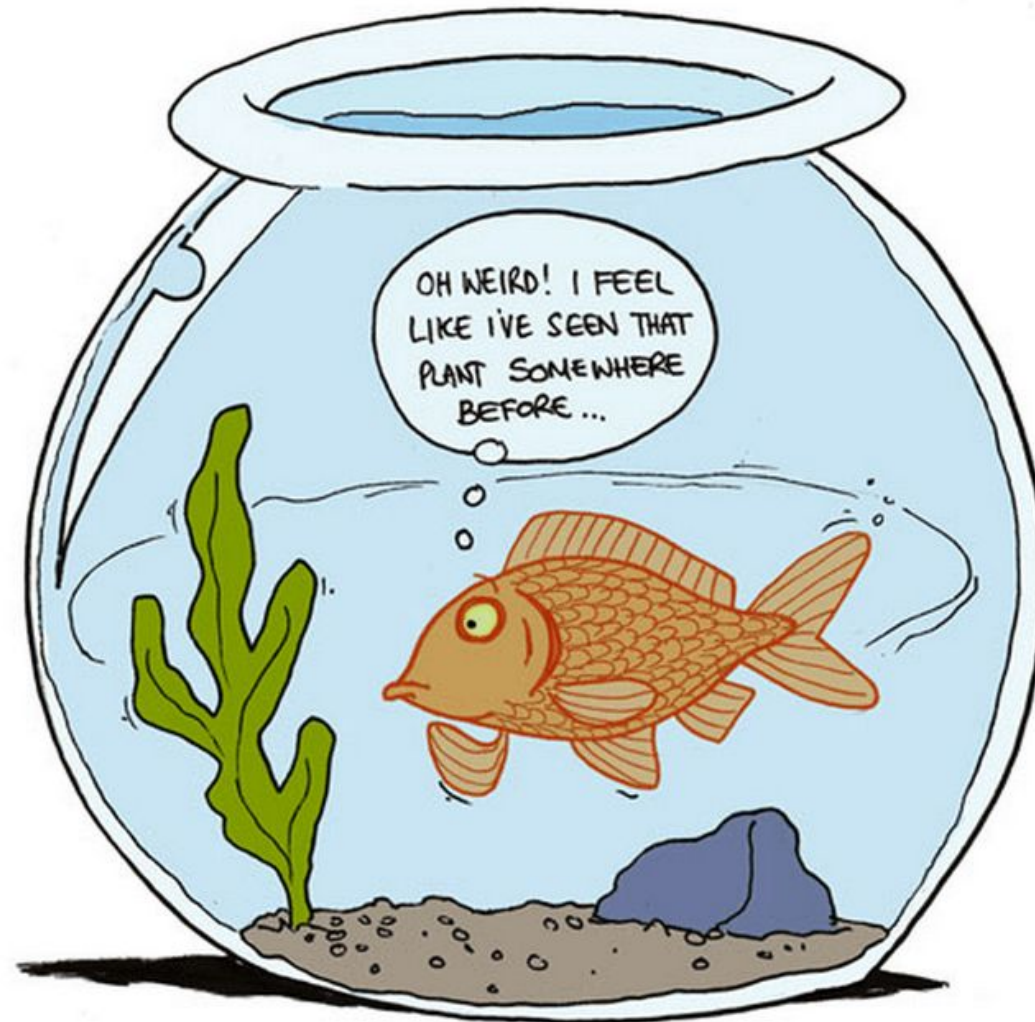
Ran “RON” Libeskind-Hadas (Claremont McKenna College)

Small Group Conversation:

What aspects of teaching...

- ... do you most enjoy?
- ... find most stressful or difficult?

You may experience some déjà vu from the Teaching Workshop!



Tip #0: Accept that it takes some time for it to feel comfortable

- There is no one *right* way to do it!
- Allow yourself to develop your own style
- Students change and our teaching must adapt
- Explore ways to make it fun for you your students

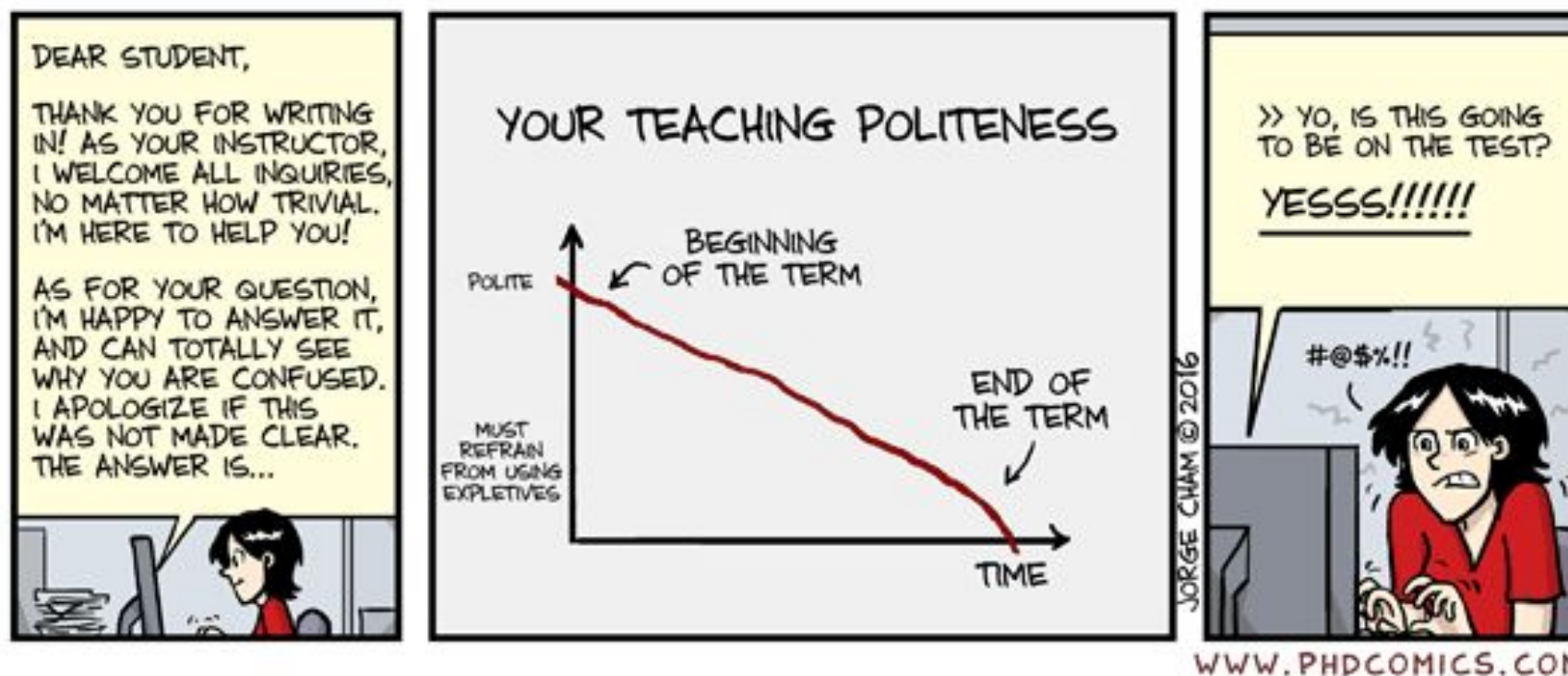
Tip #1: Think about *why* you're teaching what you're teaching

- Specific content? Problem-solving? Becoming a lifelong learner?
- Organize course around the learning objectives
- Regularly remind your students why they are learning this
- Assign work that feels useful (and even fun!)

Tip #2: Stay organized!

- Have a clear syllabus and stick to it
- Provide some flexibility for your students
 - Self-administered extensions
 - When used up, need permission “from the Dean”
 - Try to avoid negotiating special cases

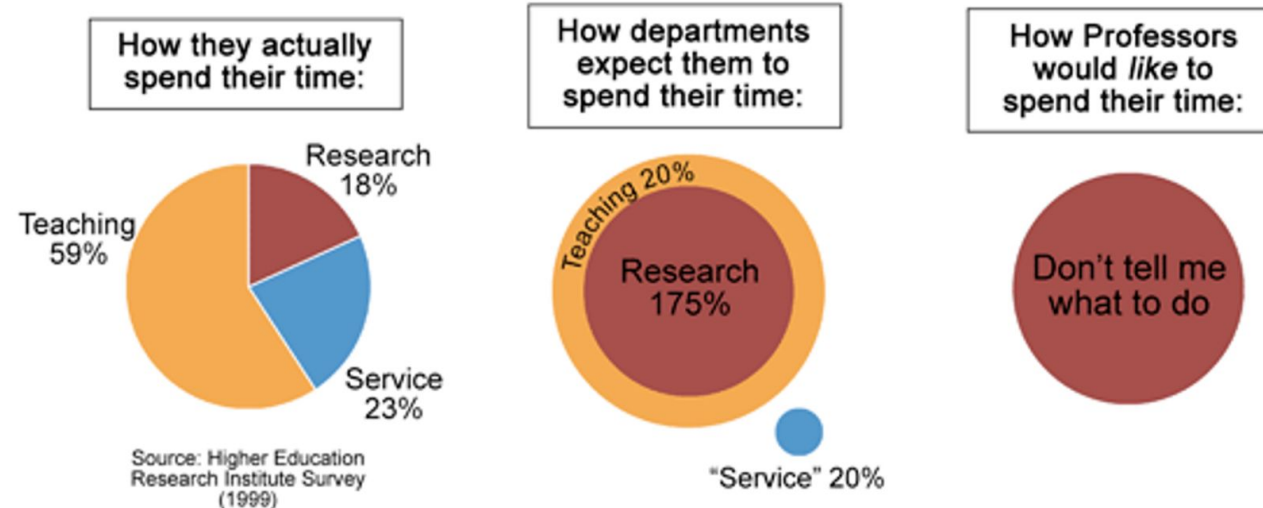
Tip #3: Be enthusiastic and kind to your students



Tip #4: Protect your time

- Carve out time for course preparation, office hours, etc.
- Invest in mentoring your TAs and giving them good guidance
- Beware of diminishing returns

HOW PROFESSORS SPEND THEIR TIME



Tip #5: Assess and evolve

- Make notes after class about what went well and what could have gone better
- Get periodic student feedback from student and colleagues
- Choose a few things to work on – don't try to do everything always all the time
- Reflect on formal course evaluations but be kind to yourself

Small Group Conversation:

Think about a course that made a strong positive impact on you as a student. What aspects of the teaching of this course were particularly effective?