

# Annual Conference for Graduate Teaching Assistants

## **Preparing for Teaching**

**Wednesday, August 27, 2003**

**Boyka Stefanova**

**Department of Political Science and  
International Relations**

**[bstef@udel.edu](mailto:bstef@udel.edu)**

# Course Framework

- Objective: The student-focused course
- Course Description
- Course Materials
- Course Organizer: Course Outline

# The Student-Focused Course

## Things to do before you meet your students

- Getting to know your students before classes begin
- Course status: core (required), elective
- Course description
- Departmental culture: Feedback from professors teaching the course
- Typical student expectations of the class
- Selecting the course format

# Course Description

- Statement of teaching philosophy
  - knowledge
  - problem-solving
  - student support
- Mastering the course content
- Designing the course components
- Planning the course “mix”
  - lectures
  - discussions
  - problem-based learning
  - exams
  - individual student research
  - assignments
  - course calendar

# Course Materials

- Required Readings
- Course Reserve
- Webpage (or WebCT, where available)
- Class Notes
- Handouts; Class discussion

# Course Organizer

- Syllabus
- Resources
- Discussion groups
- Updates
- Class space
- Student feedback