Annual Conference for Graduate Teaching Assistants

Preparing for Teaching
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Course Framework

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