



Teacher/Teaching Assistant Relationship

The teacher/teaching assistant relationship will vary for each teaching team, depending upon the teaching goals for the class, teacher, and assistant. In some classes, assistants who are interested in pursuing a teaching career may ask to take a much more active role in planning and leading lessons and activities. In other classes, the teaching assistant may take a more supportive role in working with students individually or in groups, or in helping to facilitate activities and projects. Teachers and Assistants will have the opportunity to work together in the days leading up to the start of the program to determine the best approach for their class. The list below provides some possible strategies. Always begin by discussing the goals and objectives for the class.

- The Teacher should strive to find balance between achieving course objectives and providing ownership and learning opportunities for the TA
- TA should be in attendance in all class periods, and should carry between 20-40% of the course workload, which can include creating lesson plans, writing tests, grading tests, working 1:1 with students or in small groups, etc.
- TA may teach up to 25% of the class
- Many Teachers find that this division of labor works best in incremental stages:
 - Introducing TA as an instructor the first day
 - Having the TA lead a section of class in the first week
 - Expanding TA responsibility to an hour-long segment
 - By the fourth or final week, giving TA responsibility for a two or three day unit
- Ideally, the mentor teacher and TA will be able to agree on a division of labor that is mutually beneficial – one that draws on both your strengths and interests and allows you to accomplish your course objectives.

*In order to achieve a successful Teacher / Teaching Assistant Relationship **be sure to connect as a team during Faculty Orientation** to create a preliminary plan for the summer (adjusting as needed over the following weeks) **as well as for ~1 hour weekly throughout the program** as a Teacher / Teaching Assistant pair.*