

THE TEACHING EXCHANGE

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Professional Development Seminar Expands!

The Center's popular Professional Development Seminar (Teaching Certificate III program) now has two separate streams: one for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the Life & Physical Sciences; and one for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the Humanities & Social Sciences. Due to increased interest, the Sheridan Center is now able to offer up to fifty (50) advanced graduate students and post-doctoral fellows a more tailored approach to the development of the elements of a Teaching Portfolio and to their preparation for the academic job market. This allows seminar participants to better focus on the pedagogical needs of their particular disciplines and the career tracks that are typically followed.

Many institutions of higher education today request that potential candidates provide some version of a Teaching Portfolio to provide evidence of teaching experience and effectiveness. The Professional Development Seminar uses this conceptual framework to help participants document the scholarship of their teaching as thoroughly as they document the scholarship of their research. During the seminar sessions, participants work on key elements of a teaching portfolio (e.g., writing teaching philosophy statements, constructing syllabi) and other critical aspects of their professional development (e.g., preparing CVs, writing cover letters, preparing for job interviews and presentation skills). Each seminar group culminates in the creation and

presentation of individually designed teaching portfolios, which participants may continue to develop throughout their careers as part of their overall academic portfolios.

For more information on joining the Professional Development Seminar program, see: http://www.brown.edu/sheridan_center/certificateprograms/pds.html. For more information on The Teaching Portfolio, see the Center's electronic edition *Zof The Teaching Portfolio Handbook* (or pick up a copy at the Sheridan Center at 96 Waterman St.) at: http://www.brown.edu/sheridan_center/publications/documents/TeachingPortfolio.pdf. For a list of possible examples of teaching documentation, see the Center's Teaching Tip Sheet "Documenting Teaching Effectiveness" at:

http://www.brown.edu/sheridan_center/teaching/documents/DocumentingTeachingEffectiveness.pdf.