REGINALD D. ARCHAMBAULT AWARD
FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

AWARD GUIDELINES

Completed Application Deadline: August 24, 2018

Purpose

The Reginald D. Archambault Award for Teaching Excellence recognizes, rewards, and promotes excellence in teaching for the Brown University summer programs, including Pre-College Programs and Summer Session. The award is presented by School of Professional Studies at Brown University.

Reginald D. Archambault, Professor of Education emeritus, was the inaugural Dean of Summer Studies, 1984 – 1992. An expert in the educational philosophy and works of John Dewey, Prof. Archambault served as Chair of Brown’s Education Department from 1967 through the early eighties, contributing greatly to the Brown Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Program and developing the Brown Summer High School as a teaching laboratory. He remains a dedicated admirer of the craft of pedagogy.

Awards

Awardees will be acknowledged at the spring Orientation for summer instructors and will be featured on the School of Professional Studies web site. The first prize awardee(s) receives a $1,000 honorarium. (Please note that prize money is considered taxable income)

Eligibility

All Brown graduate students and Brown post-doctoral fellows on the SPS summer faculty are eligible to apply. All applicants are required to submit an “Intent to Apply” to allow for an opportunity to coordinate an observation from a SPS program director or other staff member. Please note this observation is in addition to the required faculty observation. All complete applications submitted by the deadline, and endorsed by a faculty member affiliated with the applicant’s course content, will be considered.

Deadline

Notification of “Intent to Apply”: June 1
Please send your non-binding “Intent to Apply” via email to spscourses@brown.edu with SPS Teaching Award in the subject line

Completed Application Deadline: August 24
Please send materials via email to spscourses@brown.edu with SPS Teaching Award in the subject line

Notification

Winners will be announced on our website on November 1
Please submit the following required materials electronically

A. Application Form and Personal Statement (Personal statement is two pages maximum):
   Please write an essay on your approach to teaching and learning and describe how you link (a) your course goals to (b) the ways in which you teach the material and (c) the ways you determine the extent to which students have learned what you intended for them to learn – addressing especially each of the seven questions listed below in the award criteria.

B. Faculty Reference and Observation Form:
   The person you select to observe your course should be familiar with your discipline and be able to assess your abilities in the context of other instructors at comparable stages in their careers. Your observer will be asked to review your course as a whole and to assess the quality of your teaching with specific reference to the Award Criteria.

   The faculty member who agrees to support your application should plan to observe your class for about 90 minutes. Please provide your Observer with the Faculty Reference and Observation Form and the Award Criteria. Please have your faculty observer complete the form and send the reference and observation directly to us at spscourses@brown.edu.

   It would be helpful to your Observer if you provide him/her with your Applicant’s Statement (see A, above) and all course materials (see C, below). We suggest sharing a preliminary draft of your Applicant Statement with your Observer prior to the observation. Applicant Statement may include reflections after the course’s conclusion, but must be submitted by August 25th.

C. Course Materials
   Please provide an electronic copy of your syllabus and any other substantive materials you prepared while planning the course and/or gave to your students referencing the course. Please limit your materials submission to 10 pages maximum. Please be selective when choosing what to submit. These materials should provide the review committee with a strong sense of your overall course design and pedagogical practices. If you used Canvas, please print out the relevant pages that illustrate the structure and essence of the course.

D. Student Course Evaluations
   SPS will include your Banner Course Evaluations in its review of your application. If you also collect additional student evaluations, you may include them with your application.

E. SPS Observation:
   In addition to a faculty observation, applicants will also be subject to an impartial observation from an SPS program director or staff member. The details of this observation will be added to your application packet for consideration by the review committee.
The Award Criteria

Goal Setting & Learning Goals

1. What was your course’s overarching and subject specific learning goals? What did you want students to be able to do as a result of the course? How did you communicate the goals to students?

Course Design & Teaching Style

2. Creativity and innovation in designing the course: How did you develop a course that made the content vibrant, meaningful, useful, and engaging?

3. Creativity and innovation in the teaching of your course: What types of imaginative pedagogical teaching methods did you use?

4. Learning atmosphere and class room management: How did you create a respectful and safe environment where learning could flourish?

5. Motivating and inspiring students: What did you do to motivate and inspire students to sustain their engagement with the subject matter?

6. Challenging students: What did you do to challenge students and encourage them to think critically?

Assessment & Feedback

7. How did you determine whether, and to what degree, your students actually learned what you intended them to learn? To what degree did you succeed in the goals listed in question #1?