

# 20 Years of Teaching Knowledge in 7 Questions

*Anthony Tuf Francis, Oakland University's 2016 Teaching Excellence Award recipient and Assistant Professor of Teacher Development and Educational Studies, shares what he has learned about teaching through seven questions.*

## **How effectively do you utilize class time?**

Students should not feel that any class moment is a waste of time. They must see the value.

## **How much do you care about the experience students have in your class?**

Collect student feedback often, from course reviews to personal communication, to show you care.

## **How often do you reform your class?**

Resist getting too comfortable with your class structure, even at the risk of making mistakes.

## **How “open” is your door to student needs?**

Consider how you restrict or show openness to students, and how to keep in touch with students.

## **Are you more concerned with LEARNING or DETAILS?**

Focus on students' understanding the course material rather than only your discipline.

## **How interested are you in students' OVERALL experience in your department?**

Beyond your class, commit to optimizing students' learning within their discipline.

## **Are you concerned with the way students are operationalizing the content from your course?**

Work with colleagues to ensure students have a cohesive growth of knowledge in their courses.

*Questions from Anthony Tuf Francis' Teaching Excellence Awards presentation (Nov. 3, 2016).  
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