

Vesalius Mentored Teaching Project

In this course a student has the opportunity to work with an established educator to develop and implement a teaching project. This course allows the student the opportunity to apply appropriate theory and techniques of teaching methods and to gain experience in some of the teaching venues a faculty member is likely to encounter.

The student will identify a mentor and will initiate a meeting with the mentor to discuss the general concept of the project. With the mentor's approval, the student will then submit the Project Proposal to the Vesalius Committee Director (Dr. Pessina). The proposal will be distributed to the Vesalius Committee and the Committee will meet with the student to approve the project. The mentor and student will then work together to implement the project within the course. At the conclusion of the course/project, the student will submit a summary report and meet again with the Committee to review the events of the project. After the summary meeting, the Vesalius Committee will assign a grade to the student for work completed in the project.

Timeline

Approximately 2-3 months before the beginning of the course in which the student would like to work, the student should approach the Course Director to obtain their permission to do a Mentored Teaching Project in their course and to discuss project ideas.

Within 2 weeks of meeting with the mentor, the student should complete the Vesalius Project Proposal Form and submit it to the mentor.

- The mentor should review this document and work with the student to make adjustments as necessary.
- Once it is finalized, the Proposal should be submitted to the Mentored Teaching Project Course Director (Dr. Pessina).
- When the Proposal Form is submitted to Dr. Pessina, the student may register for the Mentored Teaching Project Course

Ongoing:

As the student develops their project, they are expected to meet with a variety of educators whose work is relevant to the project. In addition to regular meetings with the mentor, the student should meet with other educators who teach about the topic and/or who can advise you on teaching techniques. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with as many faculty members as possible. In addition:

- Students must also develop a formal Teaching Plan for the session/project (format of this document is similar to the written final project in the Teaching in the Biomedical Sciences course.)

- Students are required inform Dr.Pessina of the date of the final project (in advance) as soon as it is established with the course director
- Student are required to hold at least one practice session and inform the Committee of the proposed date of the practice session
- There are two assessments which are required:
 - An assessment of what the learners (group participants) gained from the session/project
 - An assessment of the student as an educator

Vesalius Committee Meetings

The student will meet with the Vesalius Committee two times: first when they propose the project, and again at the end of the semester in which they perform the project. The mentor should attend both of these meetings if possible.

First meeting: The goal of this meeting is for the committee to hear the plan for the project and to give recommendations and feedback as necessary. Therefore the meeting should ideally be timed such that the student has developed a plan for the project with their mentor and should have started working on the project; it should not be so close to the date of the presentation that it is too late for adjustments to be made.

Ideal timing: Early to mid summer for projects in the early fall, otherwise in the beginning of the semester in which the student will do the project. To be scheduled by Dr. Pessina.

Final meeting: The goal of this meeting is for the student to present to the committee the results of the project, to convey what they have learned about teaching, and to reflect on their growth as a teacher.

Ideal timing: The end of the semester in which the project occurs. To be scheduled by Dr. Pessina

Documentation

The student must hand in the following documents to their mentor and Dr.Pessina:

Early in the process: Vesalius project proposal form

After the project is complete:

1. Final Teaching Plan for the session

The format of this document is similar to the written final project in the Teaching in the Biomedical Sciences course. This should include any handouts prepared, images of materials used if appropriate, etc.

2. Assessments:

Copies of the two required assessments (see above) with results.

4. Short (1-2 pg) reflection on the student's evolution as a teacher through this project:

What did you learn, how did your thinking about teaching change, what would you change if you were to do it again, etc.