Formal Courses and Workshops
Strategies and Topics

Guiding Questions:

- What strategies and models have programs found most helpful in preparing graduate students for their first full-time teaching experience?
- What content and topics seem most pertinent for those who enter their first appointment as a teaching faculty member?
- What kinds of strategies assist graduate students to critically reflect on their experiences as a teacher?
- What resources and texts are common among some of the programs?
- Others?

Some Models:

- Full semester (or year-long) formal course on teaching/learning
- Focused workshops on aspects of teaching/learning
- Some programs work at these issues from a cross-disciplinary (in religion) perspective; others are specific to a discipline
- Peer learning and reflection communities while engaged as teachers during their program
- Connecting with offerings through University Teaching and Learning Centers
- Others?

Content and Topics:

- Teaching and learning theory, pedagogical theory
- Development of a philosophy of teaching
- Creating syllabi & meaningful assignments
- Skills for lecture & discussion
- Discipline-specific teaching strategies
- Teaching and learning with diverse students (culture, race, class, sexual orientation and gender identity, learning styles, etc.)
- Evaluation of students
- Assessment of curricula and programs
- Responding to student evaluations; inviting students to offer evaluation or engage in reflecting on what they are learning during a course
- Technology and teaching; online and distance learning
- Crafting the life of a teacher-scholar
- Developing a teaching portfolio
- Job searches
- Others?

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Strategies for Inviting Critical Reflection on Teaching (or: how to move from offering “experience for the c.v.” to critical engagement and reflection on teaching and learning):

- Experience as teaching assistants or research assistants
- Co-teaching courses with mentors/faculty members
- Formal & informal mentoring around teaching
- Responsibility as solo teacher for an undergraduate or masters level course
- Others?

Some Resources and Texts:


The following are 2 additional sources that I use in teaching pastoral theology graduate students:


Teaching Theology and Religion

Others?