



WAUBONSEE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Faculty Development and Engagement



ACUE

Student Success
Through Exceptional
Teaching

Association of College and University Educators Yearbook

Waubonsee Community College, Class of 2023

About ACUE

Founded in 2014 by forefront leaders in higher education, ACUE supports faculty to meet the needs of the evolving 21st century classroom through their **Course in Effective Teaching Practices**® developed in collaboration with hundreds of college educators and leading experts. Featuring over 50 award-winning college educators and two dozen experts, this course utilizes research specializing in college instruction, adult learning, and the cognitive sciences. Each ACUE module offers research based strategies for both face-to-face and online instruction, specifically: Designing an Effective Course, Establishing a Productive Learning Environment, Using Active Learning Strategies, Promoting Higher Order Thinking, Assessing to Inform Instruction & Promote Learning (https://acue.org/?acue_courses=acues-effective-practice-framework, accessed 08.10.20). Faculty who complete the course earn a **Certificate in Effective College Instruction** that is endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE) and become nationally-recognized ACUE-Certified faculty.

ACUE's Mission

The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) mission is to ensure student success and equity through quality instruction. ACUE believes that every faculty member deserves the support and preparation needed to teach well, so that every student receives an extraordinary education. ACUE believes that faculty members play an indispensable role in the academic and personal achievement of their students.

Waubonsee and ACUE

Waubonsee Community College provided the faculty participating in the certificate program the option to enroll in the **ACE Graduate Credit Course, *The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education***. The faculty who pursued this option engaged in additional graduate-level coursework, including the development of First Day and Interactive Class Session Plans, Peer Review of Class Session Plans, a Comprehensive Syllabus Assignment, Teaching Philosophy, and Teaching ePortfolio. Completion of these assignments with a B or better provided course takers with three Waubonsee Graduate Course Equivalency Credits (GCECs). For full-time faculty, Waubonsee approved these GCECs for application towards columnar advancement.

Waubonsee's Persistent Fourth Cohort

Greetings Members of the Waubonsee ACUE Class of 2023,

Congratulations! You are part of an esteemed group of committed faculty and colleagues who have prioritized inclusive teaching practices through ACUE's exemplary certification program. As Waubonsee's fourth cohort, you join 53 distinguished graduates since our first cohort started their ACUE journey in 2019. No one could have predicted our first cohort would graduate in the midst of a global pandemic. Cohort 2 persevered through a year of uncertainty and a sudden pivot towards online learning, being challenged to reimagine how to meet students' needs as they adapted to a "new normal." Last year's cohort remained resilient and flexible as Waubonsee continued evolving and adapting to the ever-changing teaching and learning environments. One thing we learned through this three-year period is that meeting students' needs through inclusive teaching practices is essential to student success, and the ACUE framework provided the tools necessary to achieve this goal.

As the pandemic slowed the world down, gaps in teaching and learning were emphasized; since then, community colleges have been challenged to close the gaps in student access to technology, decrease inequities in student support services, address financial barriers, and highlight equity disparities for diverse populations. As our first post-pandemic cohort, you have the opportunity to continue Waubonsee's mission to foster a culture of belonging through inclusive practices that were accentuated throughout this 25-module program. And an extra shout out to the 14 adjunct faculty from this cohort who have completed this program as well as the 8 of you who successfully completed the graduate-level companion course, The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

This cohort is now more equipped than ever to meet the evolving needs and ever-increasing challenges faced at community colleges. Speaking of new challenges, one significant change in education was brought about in November with the release of ChatGPT, which will forever alter the landscape of education. But as many of us did in the advent of the Internet (perhaps some of you are too young to remember), and during the pandemic as we shifted to online learning, you will continue to provide quality instruction as you figure out ways to integrate emerging technologies into your teaching practice. As an ACUE-certified practitioner in higher education, you will continue to meet the needs of a new generation of students by creating an inclusive and supportive classroom environment, promoting active learning strategies to engage student learning, inspiring inquiry in the classroom, and designing learner-centered and equitable courses, regardless of the modality in which you teach.

Thank you for your inspired effort and perseverance, Cohort 4! You should be proud of all you've accomplished this year, and we look forward to your ongoing development and contributions to the scholarship and practice of teaching and learning excellence!

Best wishes on your on-going journey to teaching excellence!

Amy Chaaban and Jeannie Anderson, ACUE Faculty Facilitators
Laura E. Ortiz, Ed.D., ACUE Campus Lead

Letter from President Brian Knetl, Ed.D.

Dear Faculty Colleagues:

The role of faculty is so critical to the work of community colleges. It is through our classroom experiences that higher education is able to make the most significant and scaled impact on students. Your participation in the Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) program is a testament to your dedication to students, but also to your commitment to continuous improvement in your craft. It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest congratulations to you on this achievement.

The ACUE program has equipped you with the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance your teaching practices, and I have no doubt that you will bring these new insights and techniques to your classrooms with enthusiasm and vigor. I would also challenge you to always look for new opportunities to stay current in your field, stay relevant in your methods, and make connections with students in your classrooms.

I hope you continue to benefit from this experience, and I urge you to share the impact of this program with your colleagues.

Once again, congratulations on this impressive achievement. You have earned this distinction, and I wish you continued success in all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Knetl", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Knetl, Ed.D.
President

Letter from Vice President of Educational Affairs

Diane Nyhammer, Ph.D.

Colleagues,

Congratulations on being part of Waubonsee Community College's Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) Class of 2023!

We know that our faculty's participation in ACUE's Effective Teaching Practices is vitally important in supporting our strategic goals related to student equity and success. Your completion of the 25 course modules in ACUE's Effective Teaching Practice Framework demonstrates your commitment to excellence in teaching and to your own professional development. As you know, research has shown that excellence in teaching leads to quality learning and personal growth for all students. I appreciate the ongoing commitment you have to honing your craft in support of your students' learning.

I commend all of you for earning ACUE's Certificate in Effective College Instruction, and I extend special recognition to those of you who also successfully completed the companion graduate course, The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

I encourage you to continue your professional development by engaging in other ACUE and Quality Matters learning opportunities provided by Waubonsee to further support your students' success.

Sincerely,



Diane Nyhammer, Ph.D.
Vice President of Educational Affairs

ACUE 2023 Honorees

Certificates in Effective College Instruction

The following individuals have earned ACUE's Certificate in Effective College Instruction, endorsed by the American Council on Education:

Jerome Arkenberg, Adjunct Faculty, History
Sohini Bobbili, Adjunct Faculty, Biology
Andrew Clements, Instructor of Business
Laura Collard, Adjunct Faculty, Mathematics
Lincoln Davis, Adjunct Faculty, English
Christopher Drews, Adjunct Faculty, Emergency Medical Technician
Jeffry Duckworth, Adjunct Faculty, Mathematics
Chadd Engel, Senior Outcomes Assessment Coordinator
Heather Engelhart, Adjunct Faculty, Adult Education
Clarice Foland, Adjunct Faculty, English
John Gutman, Adjunct Faculty, Mathematics
Clifford Kornkhamsee, Adjunct Faculty, Computer Information Systems
Sindhu Mohan, Adjunct Faculty, Nursing
Nour Al Naber, Instructor of Business
Laura Ortiz, Dean for Faculty Development and Engagement
and Adjunct Faculty, Spanish
Mary Paton, Instructor of Nursing
Sarah Stupegia, Adjunct Faculty, English
Molly Swick, Adjunct Faculty, Kinesiology and Health
Tricia Troyer, Adjunct Faculty, Business Management and Marketing
Tanya Watts, Adjunct Faculty, Biology

ACUE 2023

The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

The following individuals have earned three Waubonsee Graduate Course Equivalency Credits for successfully completing The Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education course provided by ACUE and endorsed by ACE:

Sohini Bobbili, Adjunct Faculty, Biology

Andrew Clements, Instructor of Business

Lincoln Davis, Adjunct Faculty, English

Christopher Drews, Adjunct Faculty, Emergency Medical Technician

Jeffry Duckworth, Adjunct Faculty, Mathematics

Clifford Kornkhamsee, Adjunct Faculty, Computer Information Systems

Nour Al Naber, Instructor of Business

Mary Paton, Instructor of Nursing

Yearbook Photos & Testimonials



Jerome Arkenberg

"It gave me confidence in my teaching, that I was doing everything right. It's a great course!"



Sohini Bobbili

"After completing this course, I really feel I can really bring a change in my classroom."



Andrew Clements

"I had the pleasure of implementing twenty-four best practices in various classes. Because of ACUE, I have a more productive and inclusive learning environment. Even for seasoned faculty, there were plenty of new ideas and learning opportunities from the course and peer discussions."



Laura Collard

"Taking the Effective Teaching Methods course has allowed me to evolve as an instructor. It has challenged me to look at the methods I have used throughout my teaching career and improve and revise them so that they are as relevant to my students as they can be. This has been a wonderful learning experience."



Lincoln Davis

"The course was an interesting snapshot of the current values and interests of the education-industrial complex."



Christopher Drews

"This program helped me to become a better instructor and provided me with many new ideas to bring to my program. I will use these going forward."



Jeffrey Duckworth

"I learned some great new techniques to better serve my students. The ones that I have been able to implement already have greatly impacted my students, and I look forward to continuing to adapt my teaching methods."



Chadd Engel

"ACUE offers effective and enjoyable teaching solutions that cultivate an environment for continuous student growth. I recommend it to all, as it is an enjoyable and rewarding experience!"



Heather Engelhart

"Such a great course to refresh teaching techniques that were on the back burner and introduce new ones to better my instruction!"



Clarice Foland

"The ACUE course on effective teaching practices was very helpful in reminding of forgotten techniques, updating classroom basics, teaching new practices to integrate, and just overall enabling me to become a more creative instructor. I now have many more ideas to choose from and incorporate into the classroom."



John Gutman

"The class was very beneficial for new, re-cast and review techniques and approaches to teaching college students. There was plenty of application ideas and opportunities, and I appreciated the feedback from Waubensee and ACUE overseers and graders."



Clifford Kornkhamsee

"ACUE was very beneficial for me. Being a new professor, I was able to learn some new strategies and practices for teaching. It also gave me a chance to learn from my fellow professors taking the program."



Sindhu Mohan

"Enjoyed taking this course with the wonderful cohort."



Nour Al Naber

"ACUE helped me improved my instructions to students which enhanced the student learning experience. I was able to design effective courses that promoted active learning."



Laura Ortiz

"As an Adjunct Instructor of Spanish, I appreciated the high-quality, research-based curriculum, evidence-based practices, guided implementation and reflection, and the treasure trove of inclusive resources, strategies, and practices that I can continue to access to inform and improve my teaching for years to come!"



Mary Paton

"I love how this course provided real concerns and solutions to the many issues our students face."



Sarah Stupegia

"This course has brought my teaching to a whole new level of enrichment, awareness, and fun. I look forward to drawing from these resources to continue to enhance both my in-person and online classes."



Molly Swick

"This course was extremely beneficial and worth the time and effort! I learned so many strategies for improving my pedagogy!"



Tricia Troyer

"This ACCUE course helped me to see all the different dimensions of teaching: from the student to the teacher.

How can I adequately address all students and view items from their perspectives? What makes teaching effective? This course showed me how to establish new procedures and ideas to guide the students to have a more meaningful learning environment."



Tanya Watts

"So grateful to learn with and from Waubensee colleagues through shared experiences and reflective conversations!"

✨ Exceptional resources, practical examples, expert testimonials, and facilitator encouragement helped me apply research-based techniques to make my courses more equitable and inclusive in real-time. 🕒 Tremendously rewarding opportunity to improve my teaching practices and promote student success! 🎉."

Special Thanks

Brian Knetl, Ed.D.

President of Waubonsee Community College

Diane Nyhammer, Ph.D.

Vice President of Educational Affairs

Academic Lead

Carmen Macharaschwili, Ph.D.

Academic Strategist, Association of College and University Educators

Campus Lead and Graduate Course Grader

Laura E. Ortiz, Ed.D.

Dean for Faculty Development and Engagement

Faculty Facilitators

Jeannie Anderson

Adjunct Faculty Development Coordinator

Amy Chaaban

Faculty Development Coordinator

Faculty Development and Engagement

Angelia Williams

Administrative Coordinator for the Office of Faculty Development & Engagement

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