

Resources for Teaching Philosophy

Teaching Philosophy -- <http://secure.pdcnet.org/teachphil/Teaching-Philosophy>

Journal of refereed articles on all aspects of philosophy pedagogy. Some articles available for free online, others available through libraries, or by subscription.

Here are a couple of articles that might be of special interest to those looking to teach large classes more efficiently or more effectively:

“Engaging the ‘Thumb Generation’ with Clickers” John Immerwahr, Vol. 32, #3 – 2009

“Peer-Review Assignments” Scott D. Wilson, Vol. 29, #4 – 2006

This one gives some ideas useful for teaching logic or other technical topics in classes of mixed ability:

“Using Peer Instruction to Teach Philosophy, Logic, and Critical Thinking” Sam Butchart, Toby Handfield, Greg Restall, Vol. 32, #1 – 2009

The APA Newsletter on Teaching Philosophy

Available online to APA members, from Spring 2009 on back. Difficult to search; you have to look at each issue’s TOC separately. Here’s the URL for the Newsletters Index:

<https://member.apaonline.org/mainmenu.aspx>

Here’s an article on devising and grading exams in large introductory courses that might be helpful:

“Grading Examinations in Large Classes”, Christine Vitrano, Fall 2008, Vol. 8, #1

The APA Committee on Teaching Philosophy, in addition to editing the Newsletter, also maintains a resources page:

<http://www.apaonline.org/governance/committees/teaching/orc/index.aspx>

Jonathan Bennett’s “Versions of Classic Texts” -- <http://www.earlymoderntexts.com/index.html>

Bennett has produced “translations” of a large number of classic texts into (relatively) colloquial, contemporary English. The philosophical content is preserved, at least in the texts that I know and have checked.

“Responding to Student Writing: Some Myths” -- <http://depts.washington.edu/pswrite/responding.html>

Some tips to help you save time *and* comment more effectively on student writing. This page is one of the tools provided on the website of the Writing Center at the University of Washington Political Science/Law Societies and Justice/School of International Studies. (The Writing Center homepage is: <http://depts.washington.edu/pswrite/index.html>)

Another way to think about students who write nonsense (or worse):

<http://chronicle.com/article/On-Students-Who-Are-Full-of-It/127755/>