



### **The Purpose:**

The **Teaching Squares** program is designed to improve teaching skills and build community through a non-threatening process of classroom observation and shared reflection.

The process involves the best aspects of peer evaluation — observation and discussion — while excluding judgment and evaluation.

Participants in a square learn about the best practices of other faculty in order to improve their own teaching.

### **Who's Involved?**

A **Teaching Square** is a group of four faculty members from different disciplines who:

- Engage in reciprocal classroom visits
- Share teaching materials
- Reflect on classroom observations
- Share best practices with colleagues

### **Time Commitment:**

Participants typically spend six to eight hours per term in **Teaching Squares** activities, which include:

- Initial meeting
- Three Classroom visits
- Square share session
- Wrap-Up meeting



**Benefits:**

By participating in Teaching Squares you will have an opportunity to:

- Observe, analyze, and celebrate good teaching,
- Increase your understanding of and appreciation for the work of your colleagues, and
- Enhance your own teaching based on the shared observations and reflections of your Square partners.

**As Easy as 4, 3, 2, 1**

- 4 Faculty members
- 3 Classroom observations
- 2 All-squares sessions
- 1 Square share session
- 0 Evaluations

**The Philosophy:**

The cornerstones of Teaching Squares are the positive attitudes and behaviors that create a mutually supportive, energizing environment for sharing the joys and challenges of teaching.

Cooperation and shared responsibility facilitate a team effort and a team result.

Participants develop an appreciation of quality teaching skills in themselves and their colleagues.

Engage in self-reflection to improve your own methods and techniques.

**For more information, contact:**

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