

DENISE WHALEN

TEACHING SUMMARY

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TEACHING INTERESTS

My background and experience have prepared me to teach a diverse range of courses. My primary undergraduate teaching interests include labor economics, health economics, econometrics, statistics, health policy, introductory, intermediate, and advanced microeconomics. At the graduate level I am prepared to teach labor economics, health economics, and econometrics.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

As a graduate student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I have taught six independent sections including Labor Economics for economics majors (Econ 480) and non-majors (Econ 380). Prior to instructing my own courses I served as a teaching assistant to Dr. Ralph Byrns' Introductory Economics class. My responsibilities included teaching three weekly recitation sections and providing reviews before exams. I have also tutored students in Introductory Economics, Applied Microeconomics (the intermediate microeconomics course), and Health Economics.

TEACHER TRAINING

During my second year as a graduate student I completed the Economic Department's Teacher Training Program. The program is a two semester graduate course in which graduate students are advised on teaching methods by current faculty. Specific topics covered during the course include writing syllabi, planning lectures, incorporating active learning in the classroom, and writing exams. Course participants are also videotaped while lecturing and provided with individualized feedback on teaching performance.

TEACHER EVALUATIONS

Overall, my student evaluations have been positive. I have consistently scored above the department average on evaluations. Further, the numerical ratings as well as the comments provided by students have consistently improved with each semester I have taught. Students comment that I am engaging, accessible, and have an effective teaching style. A summary of teaching evaluations is attached.

TEACHING AWARDS

I have received two teaching awards while at UNC. After having been a teaching assistant for Introductory Economics I received the Vijay Bhagavan Award for Best Principles Assistant, a department wide award based on student votes. I have also received the Ralph Byrns Award for Econ101, which recognizes the TA with the highest performing students. I am also currently nominated for the Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. This is a prestigious university wide award received by only five graduate students each year, and will be announced in the Spring.

TEACHING REFERENCE

Prof. Ralph Byrns
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