

Teaching Capstone Category 5 Documentation Form

Student Information

Bear, Bobby

Last Name, First Name

Religion

Department

4/5/13

Date

Teaching Capstone Item Documentation

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Item

Engaging Ideas: The Professor's Guide to Integrating Writing, Critical Thinking, and Active Learning in the Classroom

Title

Location (if applicable)

Time

Date

John C. Bean (author)

Presenter's Name (if applicable)

(please print clearly)

Item Content

Please specify in the space below how this event or action contributed to your knowledge and/or work toward a Teaching Capstone (250 word max.):

I found Bean's *Engaging Ideas* to be particularly engaging! While my intent for the coming semesters was to cut out as many writing assignments as possible from my three classes in order to save myself time on grading, I am rethinking the cutting of writing assignments. I firmly believe that our students need to write in all classes and that writing should conform to language conventions, but I am swamped by the amount of grading. Bean has shown me many ways that I can add writing to my classes without adding additional work for myself. I jotted down note after note for the many different ways I plan to add small writing assignments. One idea is to give the students a question to answer at the beginning of class that would take only a few moments to answer and have them hand it in as a record of their attendance. Another idea is to have the students get in small groups for discussion, which I love to do, and then have the group write a short report of their discussion or answer to the questions I pose for them, which they will have to turn in. While I wouldn't grade the assignments, the students will practice writing and I would only need to spot check for their engagement. Bean offered many other suggestions that I can't implement in my current introductory courses but I am very excited about using these ideas for when I teach smaller classes or upper-level classes.

Teaching Capstone Honor Contract

I, the participant, confirm that I attended the above event or completed the above action at the indicated time, date, and location:

Bobby Bear

Participant's Signature

4/5/13

Date

Please submit with your final Teaching Capstone Notebook. Indicate the Menu Items that you have chosen for fulfillment of Category 5 requirements and include an Activity Tracking Form (if applicable) for each.