

## "Twenty Top Time-Tested TA Teaching Tips" ...in easy-to-remember three-word-chunks (with detailed explanations)

### BEFORE THE SEMESTER

1. **Share mutual expectations** (with lead instructor)
2. **Know the material** (polish rough edges)
3. **"How Children Fail"** (read Holt masterpiece)  
[ISBN-10: 0201484021, \$12 at amazon.com]

### DURING THE SEMESTER

1. **Preparation, preparation, preparation** (says Richard Karp)  
[<http://teaching.berkeley.edu/goodteachers/karp.html>]
2. **Handouts, handouts, handouts** (says Dan Garcia)  
[<http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~ddgarcia/teaching/effectiveness.html>]
3. **Know your audience** (Piaget's assimilation & accommodation)  
[nice overview @ <http://www.learningandteaching.info/learning/assimacc.htm>]
4. **Bloom: Tutoring + Mastery** (2 sigma effect)  
[Benjamin S. Bloom. *The 2 Sigma Problem: The Search for Methods of Group Instruction as Effective as One-to-One Tutoring*, Educational Researcher, Vol. 13, No. 6 (Jun. - Jul., 1984), pp. 4-16, doi:10.2307/1175554]
5. **Get regular feedback** (video, postits, forms)
6. **Give regular feedback** (not necessarily graded)
7. **Recycle great ideas** (don't reinvent wheel)
8. **People learn differently** (VARK, test yourself!)  
[<http://www.vark-learn.com/>]
9. **Let students drive** (THE most important)
10. **Find your voice** (don't just copycat)
11. **Make it fun** (learning *and* teaching)
12. **Don't just lecture** (e.g., Kinesthetic Learning Activities)  
[<http://ws.cs.ubc.ca/~kla/>]
13. **Nurture "Learning Community"** (safe, collaborative, reflective)
14. **Nothing beats enthusiasm** (or lack thereof)

### AFTER THE SEMESTER

1. **Consider teaching career!** (parallel to research)
2. **Love your job** (key to happiness)
3. **Mantra: lifelong learning** ("K to grey")

