

Teaching What You Know

| Honors 394 C

Winter 2012

Instructor: Dr. Frances McCue, frances@francesmccue.com

Undergraduate Honors Program Writer in Residence.

TTh 10:30-12:20

Mary Gates 206

Office Hours: By appointment.

Description:

What makes a good teacher? What conditions need to exist for learning to take place? In this course, we'll look to literature and films for the answer. By studying portrayals of teachers as both heroes and demons, we'll build our own theories of pedagogy and test out our notions of becoming good teachers. In films and literature, ranging from "Blackboard Jungle," to "Class Act" and "Dead Poets Society," we'll see how victory narratives and failure narratives arise, and we'll also look to novels, poems and short stories for fictional portrayals also construct assumptions about teaching and learning. In the end, our hope will be that you have a good teaching practice that you can test out in a range of settings.

This course is the second segment in the Ways Of Knowing sequence. Students are not required to have taken "Ways of Knowing" before coming to this class. In the spring, "Teaching What You Know in Community Settings," an internship experience, will be offered. *If possible students should plan on registering for a spring quarter service learning experience.*