

[YOUR NAME HERE]
2017-18 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. Assessing Development

Summarize the development activities you did in 2016-17:

During the 2016-17 year I traveled to Mexico and Switzerland. Every time I travel to a new culture I expand my awareness of different cultures and how that culture impacts individual behavior. I also look for visual examples to expand my work creating visual units for my courses.

Over the summer I updated my distance education courses adding new material and removing outdated material. I also created a new edition of the custom book that I am using in my Sociology 204 class.

Assess what you gained from those activities:

Understanding other cultures is invaluable to me as a sociologists. My travels have helped me to gain insights into how societies operate. The addition of visuals to my course has helped my students "see" real world examples of the concepts and terms in the course.

This involves going through a data base and reading new articles that I might consider including in my new edition. Reading the articles keeps me up-to-date on my field.

2. Areas of Development

Below, state areas in which you plan to seek development for improvement. Remember that these are developmental objectives, not activities. For example, you may desire to attend a national conference, but here you would want to state what you plan to learn as a result of that conference. You should have at least two or three objectives listed:

Objectives:

1. Internationalize my curriculum
2. Incorporate cross-cultural research into my courses
3. Develop additional teaching units that incorporate visual sociology
4. Continue to stay abreast of advances in my field
5. Continue to work on enhancing my curriculum with innovative teaching ideas.
6. Develop more interactive group activities

3. Activities for Development

If applicable, use the development recommendations that were produced as a result of your evaluation as the basis for writing what development activities you would like to undertake. If you haven't yet had an evaluation that produced recommendations to guide you, use the space to detail what activities you would like to do to improve:

1. For the past several years I have traveled outside the United States. This has been quite valuable to me in broadening my awareness of other cultures and societies. I have used this information extensively in my courses. I would like to continue to travel outside the United States focusing on cross-cultural comparisons between American society and other societies. I also would like to further my understanding of other cultures to help aid me in internationalizing my curriculum. I have compiled photographs from my travels and plan to continue to organize, scan, digitize and incorporate these photos into my curriculum. I traveled to Mexico over the holiday break and plan to utilize material from that trip to enhance my lectures.
3. The regional and national annual meetings of the ASA and PSA are the best places to stay abreast on current research in my field. Attending such meetings is invaluable to my teaching.
4. I am interested in expanding content in my courses that utilizes visual sociology. Traveling to other societies is vital to this endeavor. Additional, I would like to take classes in photography and computer methods to aid in efforts to digitize my material.
5. I am always interested in learning new teaching techniques and ideas for enhancing my curriculum. One of the best venues for learning new techniques is the annual meeting of both the regional sociological association and the national sociological association. Other possibilities include workshops on team based learning or elearning.

4. Connecting Activities with Objectives

Please cross-reference what you wrote above in the “2. Areas of Development” section, with the activities in the “3. Activities for Development” section:

The numbered objectives in section 2 correspond to the numbered activities in section 3.

5. SETE Survey Response

In which of the following areas of the Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness results did you score lowest? Based on those and results of your own internal surveying of students, select at least two of the following areas in which you would like to receive development by placing an X at the beginning of that line.

- X 1. Organizing for effective teaching.
- X 2. Course design for creating stimulating learning environments.
- 3. Efficient and effective strategies for providing progress feedback.
- 4. Listening in learning: coping strategies for the busy instructor.
- 5. Planning and designing for course grading consistency.

6. Projecting enthusiasm: Focusing energy for effective teaching.
7. Strategies for communicating clearly, without ambiguity.

I have previously mentioned that a review of my SETE did not indicate an area which stands out for improvement. Therefore, my responses to this question is based on my own assessment of my classes. The areas I continue to work on are the first 2 items above. While I do not see these as weaknesses for me, I think they are areas where I can always make improvements. The area I am working on this year is the same as previous years, creating a stimulating learning environments. I made some major changes in how I have been teaching by incorporating more group activities. I am not completely satisfied with how this is going and continue to work on this. I have utilized the American Sociological Association's online data base of assignments and group activity to help me with this and also find that attending the annual meetings is a good place to garner new ideas for group activities and assignments.

I am also interested in attending other workshops which help create a better teaching environment both online and in the classroom.