

# Traits of *EXCELLENT* Teachers in Higher Education

1. High degree of concern for students – a genuine interest in helping students learn
2. Willingness to spend time outside of classroom addressing student concerns
3. Concern for teaching excellence – a commitment to professional growth
4. Expertise in subject matter – you should know *what* to teach as well as *how* to teach
5. Flexibility – open to innovation and change
6. Enthusiasm – high energy level should be apparent
7. Effective communicator – Ability to listen and present ideas
8. Team work - willingness to be part of a team
9. High expectations for students and self
10. A caring/sharing attitude about classroom climate and campus climate
11. Understanding of learning styles
12. Understand and acceptance of “teaching as a service”

## *The Golden Rules of Teaching*

### **Do's**

1. Remind students of the benefits of their education
2. Encourage students to do their best
3. Speak at a level that everyone can understand
4. Take time to learn more about our college and its mission
5. Walk around the classroom and keep everyone involved
6. Treat the student as a customer, they are our customers
7. Recognize that every student has potential and deserves a chance

### **Don'ts**

1. Don't say the book is outdated
2. Don't say that the equipment is outdated
3. Don't discredit yourself
4. Don't say, “I don't know why admission told you that!”
5. Don't believe everything a student may tell you about a staff member
6. Don't use “they” or “them” when talking about administration
7. Don't be late for class
8. Don't dismiss class early
9. Don't make students feel they started too late