



## **SABRENA DEAL, M.F.A.**

Sabrena Deal is a Senior Lecturer of Advertising and Public Relations in the College of Journalism. She's been at UGA for ten years. She teaches Graphic Design, Communication Strategy, Video Production and Capstone courses. She's taught large lecture classes of 160 students and seminars of eight students over her 16-year career in higher ed. She was part of the original ALSI Cohort in 2018 and considers it a career defining moment. She completed the Course Redesign Excellence program in Spring 2025, integrating her recent training in Universal Design for Learning. She is her fifth semester as a PLA faculty member. Through LinkedIn Learning courses and conference presentations, Sabrena has been working to develop more inclusive experiences inside and outside the classroom.

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### **COACHING HOURS:**

Wednesdays 8:45– 9:45AM, August 27<sup>th</sup>, September 24<sup>th</sup>, October 15<sup>th</sup>, November 19<sup>th</sup>, and December 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **I AM EXCITED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT:**

The value of fostering community in the classroom, teaching/life balance, ways to integrate technology and Artificial Intelligence in teaching.

### **MOST USED ACTIVE LEARNING**

#### **STRATEGIES:**

Think/Pair/Share, Clicker Questions, Small group discussion.

### **BIGGEST SURPRISE IN YOUR COURSE**

#### **REDESIGN:**

You can design an active learning classroom that is too active. Visit me during coaching hours to hear more about this!

### **GREATEST TRIUMPH IN ACTIVE LEARNING AND COURSE REDESIGN:**

In a conversation I facilitate around Diversity and a lack of representation in available stock photos, a student mentioned specific socio/cultural factors as contributors to the problem. Other students in the class acknowledged never having connected those dots. That wouldn't have happened without AL strategies in place to build community and foster deeper thinking.

### **MOST MEANINGFUL ACTIVE LEARNING**

#### **MEMORY:**

In ALSI, we attended a session about student development from Student Affairs. We learned more about where most students are in their development as a whole person. It was eye opening to recall they are still in what is considered adolescence. Becoming aware of the challenges, areas of growth, identities, etc, students have really changed my perspective on teaching methods and made me a more learner-focused instructor.

### **ADVICE FOR OVERCOMING ROADBLOCKS:**

Slow, incremental steps are key to making change! If you can't sustain it, it's not going to work for anyone in the room. Also, get PLAs! They make active learning more fun and realistic, especially in medium/large classes.

**WORDS OF WISDOM:**

Implementing Active Learning and Universal Design for Learning is not all or nothing. Each implementation is a valuable step, even the small ones.