TRANSFORMATIVE TEACHING IN SCIENCE

Department Seminar

Monday

November 10, 2025

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Beaupre Center Room 105



Instructors play a critical role in shaping students' experiences in science classrooms. Some instructors go beyond standard classroom practice to make content more relevant, to support students' complex reasoning, and to increase students' feelings of belonging.

Such transformational teaching can improve students' outcomes and experiences and mitigate the inequities minoritized students experience in STEM. We've sought to capture transformative teaching by studying educators at different stages in their professional growth, on different time scales, and in different settings. In this talk, I will describe how complex reasoning in chemistry can be supported through classroom writing activities and facilitated by graduate student instructors. I will also describe how graduate student instructors support equity in the classroom, which we characterized by identifying patterns in what they notice and attend to while teaching.

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