



Inquiry/Research-based Education of Undergraduates

1 How will you be remembered as a instructor at Texas A&M University?

Get involved in Inquiry/Research-based teaching at Texas A&M and be remembered as the teacher who encouraged students to ask big questions!

2 What is it?

Inquiry / Research-based education is a key concept in Texas A&M University's efforts to enhance undergraduate student learning. Inquiry/Research-based courses provide students with the skills to solve complex problems.

3 Why does it matter to you?

Current research in student learning says that Inquiry/Research-based instruction leads to improved learning outcomes and promotes the goals recommended by the President's Task Force on Enhancing the Undergraduate Experience.

All decisions on tenure and promotion include evaluation of the faculty member's effectiveness in pedagogy, and some units on campus include participation in Inquiry/Research-based education in determining merit increases. Inquiry/Research-based education is good for both faculty and students.

For more information, visit
<http://qep.tamu.edu>

Definition

Inquiry/Research-based Education:

- Ask questions that can be researched within an articulated conceptual framework
- Select research methods that are appropriate to answering questions in the discipline
- Collect, record and analyze information to answer the question
- Link evidence to explanation
- Communicate valid conclusions
- Critique explanations or models using evidence
- Draw inferences from data or information
- Place findings in a social and historical context

Learning Outcomes

The President's Task Force recommends that students learn to:

- Communicate effectively in writing and speaking
- Critically analyze
- Possess personal integrity
- Contribute to society
- Master the depth of knowledge required of a discipline/major