

Training and Career Development of Physics Teaching Assistants

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Background and Motivation

- Disconnect in previous TA training:
 - One half-day general TA orientation
 - Weekly content-specific meetings (“next week’s lab is...”)
- Problems:
 - TAs’ lack of effective teaching skills
 - Overworked TAs (research vs teaching)
 - Low TA motivation (“why does this matter anyway?”)



(context: large enrollment calculus-based intro physics)

CETL 8000: "GTA Preparation"



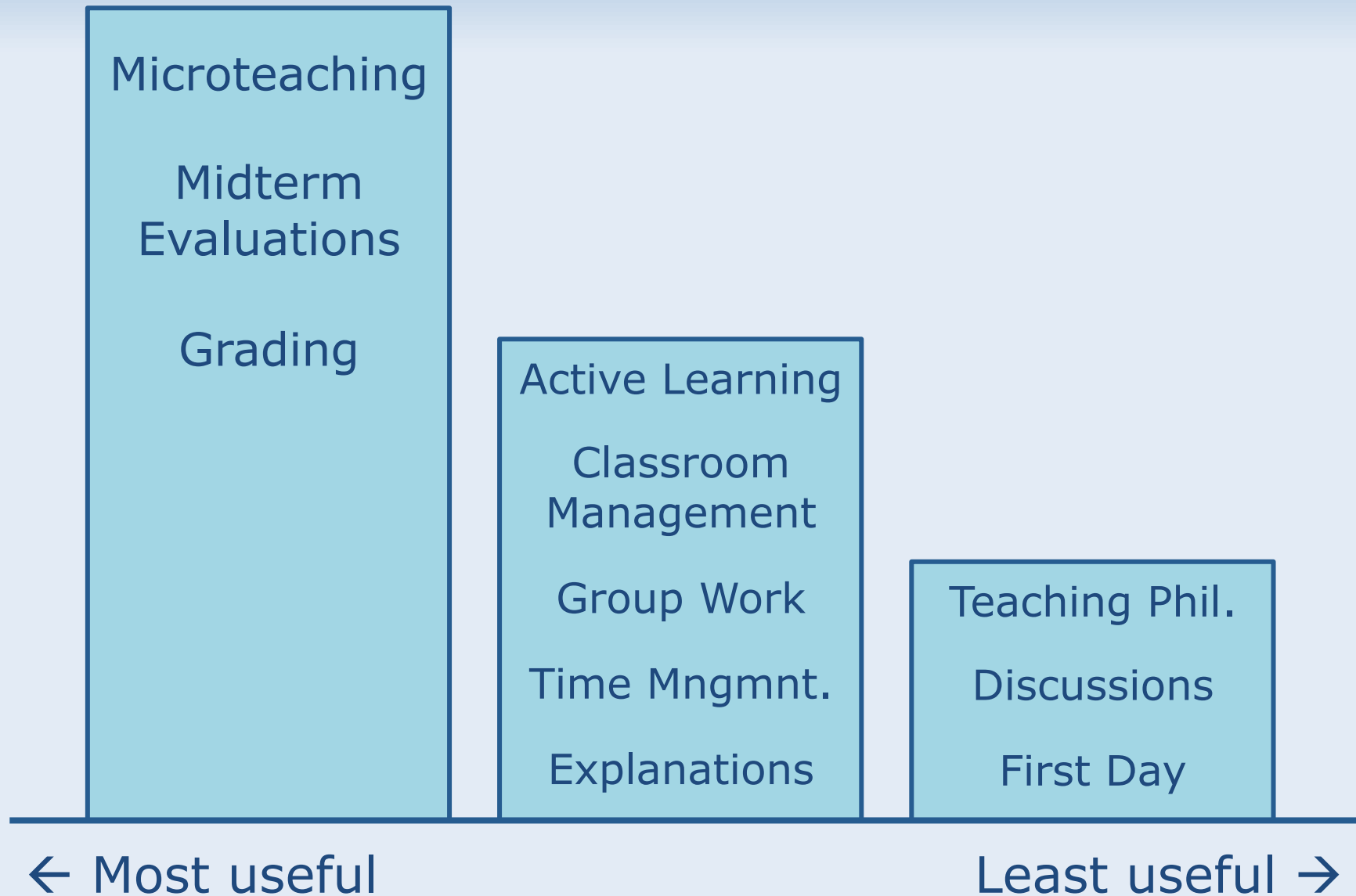
Physics pilot in Fall 2013

Course Structure

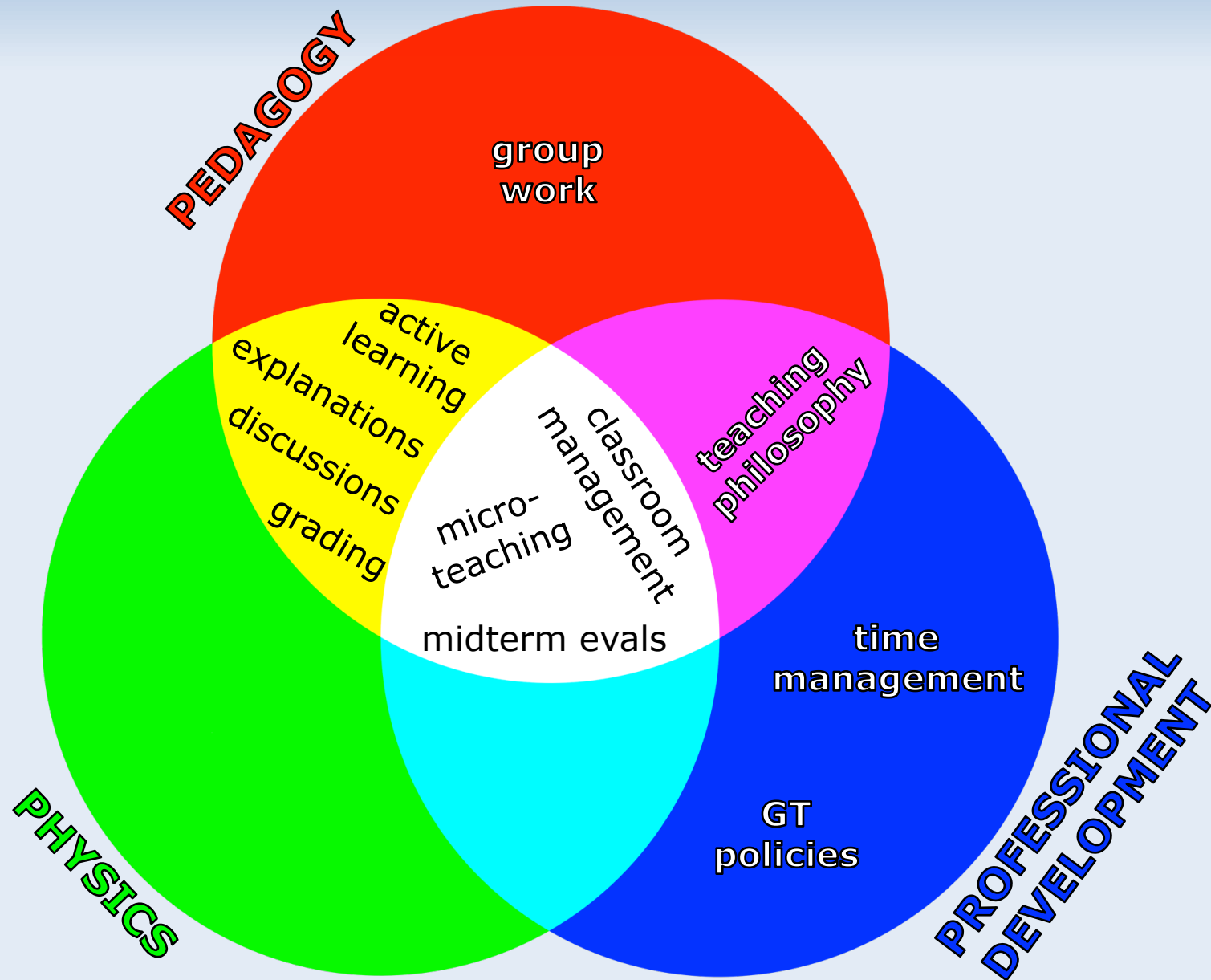
- JumpStart to Teaching
 - First Day of Class
 - Active Learning
 - Engaging Explanations
 - GT Policies
 - Time Management
 - Microteaching
 - Classroom Management
- Semester Meetings
 - Group Work
 - Grading
 - Leading Discussions
 - Midterm Evaluations
 - Professional Development



Usefulness of Course Topics



Cycle 1 (Pilot): Fall 2013



Cycle 2: Fall 2014

