Regardless of whether you intend to concentrate on a primarily research career, you still need to develop your teaching skills. The vast majority of academic careers, as well as many other career paths, will require you to be able to teach, whether in a formal classroom or in some other format.

The [APS](http://www.the-aps.org/education/skills.htm) and the [Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology](http://www.acdponline.org) recommend that trainees understand the importance of and work to develop the following teaching skills:

1. Effective classroom teaching to varied audiences in terms of subject matter
2. Effective classroom teaching in terms of pedagogy
3. Ability to convey the competence in subject matter and confidence in one’s ability to teach
4. Ability to develop course curriculum and individual lessons
5. Effective use of common instructional aids, including audiovisual techniques
6. Ability to help students understand the general principles and concepts underlying a particular lesson
7. Ability to explain both basic and difficult concepts clearly
8. Ability to put a specific lesson into larger context (clinical relevance, prior material)
9. Ability to ask good questions (testing, study, case histories)
10. Ability to provide feedback to students
11. Awareness of the strengths and limitations of various means for evaluating teaching performance
12. Ability to adjust lesson plan based on information garnered from student questions
13. Ability to foster an effective learning environment including showing respect for the student, encouraging their intellectual growth and providing a role model for scholarship and intellectual vigor