

Frank O'Malley Undergraduate Teaching Award
Submissions

Nominees:

Andrew Bartolini
Rachel Branco
Ramzi Bualuan (2)
David Campbell
Mike Chapple
Kristen Collett-Schmitt
Eva Dziadula
Luke Foster
Andrei Jorza
Blake Leyerle
Shawn Miller
Kris Muir
Brian Mulholland
Jessica Payne
Daniel Philpott
Gabriel Radvansky
Forrest Spence
Katherine Walden (2)
Rebecca Wingert
Victoria Woodard

Andrew Bartolini

Assistant Teaching Professor, First Year Engineering Program, College of Engineering

I would like to nominate Dr. Andrew Bartolini for the Frank O'Malley award. Dr. Bartolini played a pivotal role in my first year at Notre Dame, giving me a love for the university and for the field of engineering through his humorous but effective teaching style as well as his constant mentoring and career advice.

Dr. Bartolini is highly respected among all the undergraduate engineering students at Notre Dame and fully deserves this award. His guidance and expertise have also been invaluable in helping the club that he advises (ASCE) grow significantly in the past few years, while he helps the club members learn and grow during their time at Notre Dame and beyond. He has also helped several first years, including myself, establish connections with other engineering professors here at Notre Dame and engineering professionals throughout the nation, which has opened up numerous opportunities for myself and the other first year students.

Thank you for considering Dr. Andrew Bartolini for the Frank O'Malley award.

Rachel Branco

Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, College of Science

Dr. Branco is the kindest. She makes class so fun for a subject that should be hard: molecular neuroscience! She does research in pedagogy, so she experiments with her classes to find the best way to structure the class so that she doesn't reward perfection, but rather making progress in mastering course material.

Ramzi Bualuan

Teaching Professor (Computer Science and Engineering) & Director of Undergraduate Studies

I like his class

Ever since I took my first coding class with him my Fall semester of my 2nd year, he has remembered my name and has made an effort to talk with me about my classes and future career. He has helped me a lot with figuring out what classes to take and

has supported me by attending performances from my extracurriculars. Ramzi cares a lot about his students and genuinely wants them to succeed.

David Campbell

Packey J. Dee Professor of American Democracy (Political Science, College of Arts & Letters)

David Campbell is an animated, passionate, and engaging professor. He has an incredible ability to simply explain difficult and controversial topics without losing the integrity and complexity of them. I have never had a more supportive and relatable teacher for my major. I will take any class Professor Campbell teaches in the future, regardless of the course topic. He can teach in big and small classrooms, and he takes the time to get to know each of his students. David Campbell is always looking for new and fun ways to engage and excite his students, while teaching them important topics about American democracy, religion, and politics. He brings a personal perspective and connection to his teaching without allowing his opinions to influence his students' perspectives, which is not an easy feat. David Campbell is an inspiration to students on this campus, and he fully exemplifies the qualities of a Frank O'Malley Undergraduate Teaching Award recipient.

Mike Chapple

Director, Master of Science in Business Analytics, Mendoza

Prof. Chapple reflects the ideologies of the University in his teaching. Chapple approaches teaching with a pure joy of learning and displays patience when students are struggling with his Cloud Computing labs. This can be seen through Chapple's clarity and enthusiasm when lecturing and his deep knowledge of the Cloud Computing space at Notre Dame. Despite Chapple's wide-reaching experience with the Cloud Computing topic, Chapple intelligently broke down complex concepts to create easily digestible modules that translated into hands-on labs with Amazon Web Services. Throughout my time in Mendoza and the Business Analytics department, I can, without a doubt, say that this class was one of the most impactful for developing real world skills in a clear way.

Kristen Collett-Schmitt

Associate Teaching Professor, Finance, Mendoza College of Business

I am really enjoying my Managerial Econ class with Professor Collett-Schmitt. I am learning a lot, because she does a really good job of balancing the class format

between traditional lecture-style notes, collaborative group work, and interesting real-world examples. Her class is also very organized. For example, we are given a comprehensive course packet that includes outlines for all the course material. In addition, she genuinely wants students to learn the material. Lastly, she is very friendly and responds quickly to emails.

Eva Dziadula

Economics Teaching Professor

Professor Dziadula has dedicated great service to empowering women in economics. As a woman in the economics profession, she continually puts in substantial effort to vouch for including more female professors in the economics field to allow other women to feel empowered in the major. As well as she also created the women in economics club, and acts as a mentor through Building Bridges for me and other students. She also brings students to do community service in South America during spring break. She truly is phenomenal!

Luke Foster

Postdoctoral Research Scholar in Political Science, Center for Citizenship and Constitutional Government

Professor Foster is an extremely likeable teacher. He is friendly and amicable while always maintaining the seriousness and gravity that belong to the teaching role. He is extraordinarily knowledgeable but keeps his lecturing at a necessary minimum--always ensuring considerable student discussion.

Andrei Jorza

Teaching Faculty in Math Department

He is very good at teaching and advising undergraduate students, and he is an excellent problem solver

Blake Leyerle

Professor of Theology

Professor Blake Leyerle is such a light in the classroom. She engages every person in class, but never in a demanding or demeaning way. During class discussions, she always recognized a student's point of view and masterfully guided our conversations. In the seminar I took with her, she helped each of us master the skill

of academic dialogue. We got to the point where we could lead our own discussions without pauses or raising hands, only needing her prompting with new questions. The joy she brought to each class livened up the room immediately, even during midterms week. Her care for our class was almost tangible. For example, I went to her office recently just to talk, and I saw that she had kept some of the props we made for an acting assignment we had. Her seminar brought everyone in the class together, and people often brought treats or invited each other to dorm events or club activities on campus. To this day, I am still close friends with people I met in that class. Whenever I see someone from that class, we can immediately recall and reminisce on the memories we made in class. If there is anyone on campus that deserves this award, I firmly believe it is Professor Blake Leyerle.

Shawn Miller

Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry, College of Science

Professor Miller has been an excellent instructor for our Organic Structure and Reactivity course, offering clear and informative lessons with ample room for questions. His presentation style is very encouraging with regards to student voice and his answers are always clean and clarifying. With a very outgoing personality, Professor Miller is of great help with a conceptually difficult class.

Kris Muir

Management

He makes seemingly mundane topics incredibly intriguing and interesting.

Brian Mulholland

Assistant Professor of the Practice, Director of ASCEND Program

He has created a new way to teach math that reduces stress while making it easy to learn. He is one of the most approachable teachers and always understands what students are going through and is willing to accommodate. More recently he was hit by a car, has two broke wrist (along with a variety of other injuries) and is still teaching because of how much he loves it.

Jessica Payne

Professor, Neuroscience, Arts and Letters

Dr. Payne is an amazing professor that is extremely kind and genuinely wants students to learn!

Daniel Philpott

Political Science Professor

Philpott is an outstanding professor in more ways than one. He is incredibly devoted to his students, comes to class extremely prepared, and completely puts himself into his work. All of his lectures have the utmost attention to detail and he truly makes a profound difference on everyone who takes his classes- especially his "Why the Church" course. He is an outstanding professor and I have only heard extremely positive reviews about his classes from other students.

Gabriel Radvansky

Professor, Psychology

He is the director of Memory Lab, where I have worked for over two years during my undergrad. He is an excellent instructor. He patiently guided us through the projects, and never discouraged us even when we made a mistake. He wrote my application letters and made a huge impact on my application results because he is well-known in the field. He is also one of the reasons that got me interested in research because he is so passionate about what he studies. Dr. Radvansky is an amazing teacher, instructor, advisor, and mentor.

Forest Spence

Director of Undergraduate Studies. Economics, Arts and Letters

Professor Spence is an engaging and fun professor who goes above and beyond to communicate essential economic topics to students in engaging and comprehensible ways. He also makes sure we can see examples of economic principles affecting our own lives so that we have something to take away from the course, even if we are not majoring or minoring in economic subjects.

Katherine Walden

Assistant Teaching Professor of American Studies, member of Gender Studies Program and Department of Comp Sci and Engineering

Goes above and beyond to provide helpful feedback to each and every student

Professor Walden is deeply committed to undergraduate education and uses interdisciplinary, cutting-edge research to apply data science to contemporary American topics, including surveillance, sports, and gender. Her lectures are engaging, her assignments are fun, and her intellect inspires students to be the best they can be. She has started conversations about how to use data in contemporary social sciences and is an exemplary professor in every way I can think of. She convinced me that I was capable of pursuing a minor in data science and makes STEM education accessible to all students, regardless of their background. I cannot recommend Professor Walden highly enough.

Rebecca Wingert

Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science

Dr. Wingert is not only a brilliant individual, but she is a passionate professor who strives to make learning both informative and enjoyable. I had the privilege of taking her Vertebrate Physiology course last semester, and I have never been so excited to attend a class. Her enthusiasm each lecture never wavered, and her willingness to help her students was apparent every day. She offered ample opportunities for office hours and review sessions and was incredibly accommodating when students needed it. While the course content was challenging, her approachable and compassionate demeanor reduced the stress surrounding the class and inspired students to genuinely engage in the material. While the exams were still difficult, she set the class up for success and sparked intrinsic motivation for students to truly want to do well and match her enthusiasm. Dr. Wingert not only reaffirmed my love for science but awakened more curiosity about the vertebrate systems and has inspired me to seek out opportunities to learn more, including my decision to take Neuroendocrinology this semester. I hope to take Anatomy next year to supplement my strong physiology knowledge as well. Additionally, as I have been preparing to take my MCAT this spring, I have been pleasantly surprised by how much I already know in the biology section. I attribute all of this to Dr. Wingert and her class as she ensured that we truly understood the material versus simply memorizing it for an exam and forgetting it the next day. I am forever grateful to have taken her class and know that she has done a great service towards her students and will continue to do so in the future.

Victoria Woodard

Assistant Teaching Professor, ACMS, Science

Professor Woodard is one of the best teachers on campus and works really hard to ensure that every student has an understanding of the material and is prepared for exams, post-graduate study, and the workforce. She is committed to statistics and probability and does the best job of anyone in the ACMS department at making them engaging topics.