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# Yale

## *Provost's Teaching Awards*

*2013-2014*

## Celebrating Teaching Excellence at Yale

The cornerstone of the Provost's Teaching Initiative is the development and recognition of outstanding teaching by untenured faculty university-wide.

With the generous support of an anonymous donor, the Provost's Teaching Prize acknowledges the teaching excellence of 10 members of our untenured faculty each year. The prize carries an award of \$5,000 each. At the provost's request, deans and department chairs recommended untenured faculty members who demonstrate a particularly high level of teaching excellence. These nominations, together with information from student evaluations, were used to determine the 2013-2014 Provost's Teaching Prize recipients.

# 2013-2014 YALE PROVOST'S TEACHING PRIZE WINNERS



## Daniel Abadi

Associate Professor, Computer Science

Daniel Abadi infuses his classes with insights gained from his research and start-up experience. He has involved undergraduates in his research and has advised many excellent senior projects. His intellectually stimulating classes epitomize the best that Yale has to offer. Abadi's style in the classroom is engaging and relies heavily on student participation. His genuine enthusiasm and warmth make class enjoyable for his students.



## Crystal Feimster

Associate Professor, African American Studies & American Studies

Since arriving at Yale in 2010, Crystal Feimster has built an impressive reputation for her teaching and success at inspiring students. Her innovative approach to teaching relies on a remarkable range of fields, readings, methods, and modes of analysis. The workload is rigorous and students attest to the transformative quality of Feimster's teaching, telling fellow prospective students that the course "will really challenge what you think about a wide variety of things in your life."



## Andrea Asnes MD

Associate Professor, Pediatrics,  
Yale School of Medicine

Andrea Asnes is an exemplary and gifted educator who teaches students at all levels of their medical training. She is a talented teacher of clinical skills and is dedicated to exploring new methods of teaching at the bedside and in the classroom. Using her knowledge and creativity as a pediatrician, she seeks to merge the world of medical education and clinical medicine. A representative quote from Asnes' teaching evaluations captures it best: "outstanding mentor, teacher, and role model."



## Anjelica Gonzalez

Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering

Anjelica Gonzalez receives enthusiastic praise for her teaching. Students remark on her capacity to motivate them through her own passion for and interest in their learning; her ability to facilitate lively, engaged discussion; and her interdisciplinary approach to topics that are relevant to students, even as she provides a rock solid overview of the content. Gonzalez helps each student feel empowered to deal with the very real problems in today's world.



## Paul Berry

Assistant Professor, Music History,  
Yale School of Music

Paul Berry displays an exuberant passion for the subject of music. He has a gift for integrating the diverse cultures and backgrounds of School of Music students and engaging them as learning partners in making sense of music and its role in society—past, present, and future. Because Berry is both a scholar and a practicing musician, his class presentations reflect new ideas about historical works and a clear understanding of music in our own time.



## Nicholas Ouellette

Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science

Nicholas Ouellette is an all-around stellar teacher. That he greatly improved the rating of one of his courses—one with a high workload—second time he taught it speaks highly of his skill in the classroom. Students praise Ouellette for his understanding of complex subject matter and willingness to share this knowledge. He shows great dedication to the class and always makes students feel that he cares about how they perform.



## Sarah Demers

Assistant Professor, Physics

Sarah Demers is one of her department's, and Yale's, most innovative teachers. She has co-developed and co-taught two new courses since her arrival at Yale: *Physics of Dance* and *Physics of Music*. Students find Demers' classes entertaining and informative. She is very effective in teaching to a variety of skill levels and backgrounds. She has developed problem sets that are interesting and arts-related, making the scientific concepts even more engaging for students.



## Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

Senior Lecturer, Statistics and School of Forestry & Environmental Science

Despite the challenge of teaching introductory statistics to a class of hundreds with varied skill sets, Jonathan Reuning-Scherer has been remarkably successful. He is often cited by students for his sincere interest in their progress and his capability to make statistics interesting and relevant. Reuning-Scherer is praised for his high energy, quirky sense of humor, and ability to engage large groups of students.



## Fiona Doherty

Clinical Associate Professor, Yale Law School

Fiona Doherty is an extraordinarily gifted teacher whose teaching evaluations are among the highest in the Law School. She shines in the weekly seminar component of each clinic, and is a conscientious, compassionate supervisor of fieldwork, which includes representation of misdemeanor defendants in New Haven Superior Court, disabled veterans in public benefits cases, and veterans' organizations in legislative and regulatory advocacy.



## Kyoung Sun Moon

Assistant Professor, School of Architecture

Since his arrival at Yale, Kyoung Sun Moon has flourished pedagogically: his teaching is often cited as remarkable. In just a few years, he has transformed key classes from the production of rote calculations of generic structural systems to more rigorous investigations and applications of structural principles. Moon is genuinely passionate about the content of his class and his students' learning, and his students know it.