



## Huston-Tillotson University Golden Apple Teacher Program

*Innovations in teaching and learning*

### Overview

Managed by the Center for Academic Innovation and Transformation at Huston-Tillotson University, the **Golden Apple Teacher Program** is designed to inspire and support innovations in teaching and learning, through incorporation of Apple Teacher resources that impact instructional technology, research, service and improvements in student engagement. The program is intended for efforts above and beyond normal faculty responsibilities (e.g. instruction, course revisions, course development, etc.) and to assist faculty in developing innovative pedagogy that will be used in and out the classroom. A large component of the **Golden Apple Teacher Program** is assessing new teaching strategies through discovery, education and implementing various Apple Teacher resources to one, or more courses each semester.

### Program Tenants

The following areas describe the innovation and engagement of the HT **Golden Apple Teacher Program**.

#### Apple Teacher

Apple Teacher is a free professional learning program designed to support and celebrate educators in using Apple products for teaching and learning. The program helps educators build skills on iPad and Mac that directly apply to activities with their students and earn recognition for the new things they learn. It's easy, flexible, fun, and inspiring — just the way professional learning should be. When you sign up for Apple Teacher, you'll start a self-paced journey through the Apple Teacher Learning Center, a personalized online learning experience that you can access from anywhere!

#### Teaching Innovation

Faculty are encouraged to expand their pedagogical knowledge and expertise. Specifically, faculty may try innovative teaching practices and approaches in their class(es) through use of, and adoption of Apple Teacher resources. The innovation can be something completely new to Huston-Tillotson University, invented by the faculty member, or a practice new to the faculty member, even if the practice itself is not pioneering in the field of teaching. Innovation should be rooted in research, whereas expands the knowledge of the faculty member in their area of expertise, and relates to class instruction, and course

and degree development in both undergraduate and/or graduate academics. Lastly, service efforts through the Center for Academic Innovation and Transformation can also be rendered. This enables faculty to participate, educate, coordinate or collaborate in a manner which has an impact on teaching, research or engagement. Examples may include attendance to conferences, seminars, etc. Peer collaboration, including interdisciplinary participation, is highly encouraged.

### Engagement

Focuses primarily on observed student learning deficiencies or problems. Faculty can:

1. Identify gaps between instructor's expectations of students learning and their actual performance.
2. Propose a study to investigate the causes and possible solutions to the deficiencies or problem.
3. Present systematic evidence that explains the problem and how to improve student learning.
4. Culminate in a peer-reviewed scholarly product.
5. Culminate in applied concepts towards improving engagement.

### **Program Requirements**

- Fulltime faculty status at Huston-Tillotson University
- Application acceptance into the HT Golden Apple Teacher Program
- Creation of an Apple ID
- Active use (weekly) of Apple Teacher Learning Center site <https://appleteacher.apple.com>
- Application of two, or more Apple Teacher resources to one (1), or more courses, per semester
  - Course(s) modalities can be traditional, hybrid/blended, or fully online
- At minimum 2 earned badges through the Apple Teacher Learning Center
- Attendance to minimum one (1) Today at Apple Session within five month period
- Upon conclusion of program, detailed report that explains implementation, application of Apple Teacher resources, and the impact to students, engagement, teaching and learning.
- Professional Development workshop facilitated event through the Center for Academic Innovation and Transformation, providing peers with experience, implemented Apple Resources and impact to teaching and learning (if solicited)
- Ethical use of sponsored Apple hardware (i.e. iPad, MacBook, etc.) through duration of the program
- Hardware must be returned at the conclusion of the program (minimum: 1 semester; maximum: 1 complete academic year)
  - Failure to return hardware back to the Center for Academic Innovation and Transformation will be reported to Campus Security for further action, including an imposed fee subject to full retail price.
- Signed Photo Release Statement