



George Cobb Memorial – JSM 21

Michael Lopez, NFL & Skidmore College

George at Mt. Holyoke



George on meeting up

I'm 5'1'' with brown eyes and grey hair.



MHC students, to me

You look like one George standing on top of another George

George on technology

Some contact info. My office phone is xxx-xxxx, but now that I am officially retired, I may not be there, and techno-klutz that I am, I haven't programmed the phone to take messages. My home phone is yyy-yyyy, and it does take messages. But I don't ordinarily answer when it rings – the number used to belong to the Belchertown U-Haul – but if you start to leave a message, I'll pick up. Finally, I do have a cell phone, but I'm not consistent about keeping it charged.

George on school grading systems

The course site is [URL HERE]. If the system refuses to cooperate, I won't be surprised, so don't spend a lot of time trying to psych out a dumb system

George on grading

My thinking is that you and I might share the HW 50/50. We could each grade half the alphabet each week, and alternative halves from one week to the next, so that we got to know the work of all the students.

George on teaching

The topics will be set by the syllabus, but beyond that, I'd like you to be free to try whatever you think would work best.

Taking chances and exploring possibilities would be good for you and for our students

George on grading

First, abandon fairness.

Try to assess a student's work in the context of that individual's own background, interests, goals, and learning styles.

Second, embrace grade inflation.

Emphasize effort and accomplishments. If good assessment leads to better learning, students deserve higher grades. Low grades are often mainly a symptom of the shortcomings of our system.

Third, surprise Roger.

Make it safe to screw up. Emphasize things done well and things that a student can fix, and provide the opportunity for revision. Value authenticity over sincerity.

George on student effort

Most of the students stayed to ask questions. Even though I stayed for an hour after class, most students weren't done yet.

George in the classroom





THANK
YOU

