

**Dr. Andrew Rowe, Department of Mechanical Engineering  
2009 Faculty of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award Recipient**



**Andrew, could you tell us what you like about teaching at UVic?**

My colleagues believe in good teaching and have a lot of great ideas to try in the classroom.

**Who or what in the past, present or future has inspired your teaching?**

The teachers I had - the good ones and the bad ones. They showed me how strongly my own interests and motivations as a student were connected to the efforts and skills of the instructor. A good teacher could get me interested in any subject.

**Do you have a favourite teaching tip?**

Try to remember what it was like when you were exposed to the subject for the first time. It helps to organize and limit the amount of material you include. It gives you more patience when dealing with questions from students.

**What is your philosophy towards teaching?**

Teaching is about getting students to think critically and methodically. If they can criticize, they have insight. If they are methodical, they can critique new ideas.

**When you design a course or teach a class, what are the main goals you have for your students?**

I want students to leave my class with the feeling that they have a better understanding of the topic as well as new skills they feel comfortable using. Hopefully, in the process, I've also generated enough interest so that students want to learn more about a subject.

**What do you take away from the students you teach?**

Every class gives me new ideas to try in my next course.