Goals

- Address specific discussion points.
- Facilitate discussion across your cultures.
- Act as a vehicle to broader understanding:
  - Of being a TA / teaching a language class.
  - Of the academic culture in US universities.
- At least 10 min of open Q&A at the end.

How this will work

1. Discussion point introduction.
2. Small group discussion and prediction.
3. Presentation of student view.
4. Presentation of TA / teacher view.
5. Reflection.
6. Repeat for other points.

Topics

Plagiarism and cheating in the digital age

- How does copy and paste from text on the web fit into the discussion of plagiarism?
- How does machine translation (babelfish / google translate) fit into the discussion of plagiarism and cheating? How do you think language teachers should deal with it?

Cultural differences with respect to authority in educational settings

- How is the relationship between students and teachers different the culture you study/teach and the US?
- How do you think a cultural authority role that does not really match the culture where it is being taught should be realized in the classroom?

TAs and teachers as representatives of the culture they teach

- How do/would you go about presenting your culture, both inside the classroom and outside?
- What kinds of difficulties, especially stereotypes, do you think you might run into?
- How should you deal with aspects of your culture that you don’t necessarily agree with?

What students expect

- What are students’ expectations of language courses, instructors and TAs?
- What advice do they have for future instructors / TAs?

Post-Discussion

- How did your predictions hold up? What surprised you?
- Are there any points you want to ask about?