



ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES  
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITÉS DE L'ATLANTIQUE

*Award for Excellence in Teaching*  
*2014*  
*Distinguished Teaching Award*

**DR. PETER MACINTYRE**

Dr. Peter MacIntyre, Professor of Psychology at Cape Breton University, has student learning and teaching excellence at the heart of all his academic endeavours. As testament to his teaching acumen, Peter was the first faculty member to receive the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award at Cape Breton University.

Peter's students say that he presents course material in an "energetic and creative way that keeps students focused and engaged" and that he "creates a truly vibrant learning experience that fosters a deep understanding of complex concepts." Peter is a "rare teacher who encourages and fosters active student engagement and self-discovery" and who inspires students to "reach new heights and perform at levels well above their own expectations." While his students admit that they find his courses challenging; they also say that Peter provides a great deal of guidance and mentoring to help them succeed. He is patient and understanding and relates to students with wisdom seasoned by his clever humour. Overall, students say that Peter is "committed to the success of his students."

In both his online and face-to-face courses, Peter puts a great deal of thought and planning into pedagogy that will enable students to think and perform like academics and researchers. His Positive Psychology course, for example, is designed to mimic an academic conference—experiential and research-oriented. Students must submit a research proposal, attend plenary speaker talks, participate in dialogue sessions, and deliver a presentation. As a result, a large number of Peter's students have gone on to graduate school and many have published individually or in collaboration with Peter.

Colleagues say that "Peter is committed to creating a thriving teaching and learning community at Cape Breton University." By example, he creates an environment that mentors new faculty, supports those seeking ways to develop their teaching and encourages collaboration among faculty across disciplines. Peter encourages critical reflection through the scholarship of teaching and learning, while continually honing his own teaching skills.

Students and colleagues at Cape Breton University and beyond have benefitted from Peter's dedication to teaching and all agree that Dr. Peter MacIntyre is a worthy recipient of the 2014 Association of Atlantic Universities' Distinguished Teaching Award.