

**Testimony of Parisa Assassi, Lecturer
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In my first semester teaching at CUNY as a new faculty in public health, I taught seven classes with 35 students in each class, a total of 245 students. Before the semester started, I developed the syllabus and selected the appropriate textbook. In addition to the 15 hours per week I spent teaching in the classroom and three hours per week in the office grading exams, homework, projects and surveys, answering students' questions and concerns and giving feedback to my students, I spent at least four to five hours per week on each subject developing the educational material including slides, handouts, homework and class projects. At the end of the semester I wondered how I managed my workload. Of course I worked more than 45 hours per week!

Teaching is not just going to class and giving a lecture. Teaching requires preparation, creativity and research to discover effective ways of teaching. In order to be a successful instructor, we should know our students by name, their personality, their weaknesses and strengths and find an effective way to teach each class and each student. CUNY's current workload makes it impossible for faculty and CUNY as a whole to reach our full potential.

Also an instructor needs to update his/her knowledge and do research. Currently I am working on three manuscripts which I developed before I started my job. However, with my workload, I have found it impossible to complete and publish my manuscripts.