Hi Reddit! We are part of a big cross-university team that has been investigating what teaching practices are taking place in university classrooms. We attended and documented over 2,000 classes taught by more than 500 STEM faculty members across 25 institutions... that's a LOT of hours spent going to class, and we are happy to talk about what we saw.

From our observations, we analyzed the time spent on various teaching practices (both instructor and student behaviours) and published our findings in Science. In a nutshell: There's lots of traditional lecturing going on, but there is a huge variety in what university teaching looks like! Joining today, on behalf of the whole team:

Dr. Marilyne Stains (MS; @MarilyneStains) - Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. My work focuses on closing the gap between research & practice in university STEM education.

Dr. Jordan Harshman (JH; @theonlyletterR) - Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Auburn University. My research primarily revolves around identifying effective practices in science graduate education.

Dr. Megan Barker (MB; @meganbarkerase) - Lecturer in Biological Sciences at Simon Fraser University; former postdoctoral fellow of the Carl Wieman Science Education Initiative at the University of British Columbia where we did some of this work. I'm interested in first-year experiences in biology, and teaching assistant training.

We're excited to be here today, and happy to talk about our analysis and findings, as well as a broader discussion of undergraduate STEM education, discipline-based education research, evidence-based teaching practices, and where your classroom could (or should?) be going.

We would love to talk with people from all backgrounds - researchers, students, instructors, parents, and anyone else interested.

We'd love to hear your questions and perspectives!

Science AMA Series: We are a group of science educators & researchers, and we're talking about what university STEM teaching looks like. AUAI! is still ongoing! After the AMA is finished it will be permanently archived, assigned a digital object identifier (DOI), and formatted as a white paper.

To publish your own ideas and research, sign up here! We bring traditional scholarly publishing tools (DOI & permanent archival) to blogs, essays, grants, protocols, how-to's, essays, and other media, including reddit AMAs, because scholarly communication doesn’t just happen in scholarly journals.

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