The CIRTL Network
CENTER FOR THE INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH, TEACHING, & LEARNING

Check [https://www.cirtl.net/](https://www.cirtl.net/) for updates.

**NEW!!! Summer Multi-event Series and Courses**

**MOOC: An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching**
*Registration Opens May 30, 2022*
*Asynchronous Course: June 20 – August 14, 2022*

An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching is a massive open, online course (MOOC) designed to provide graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and other aspiring faculty in STEM disciplines with an overview of effective college teaching strategies and the research that supports them. This course is also suitable for other interested university staff, faculty, and administrators. The goal of the eight-week course is to equip the next generation of faculty to be effective teachers, thus improving the learning experience for the thousands of students they will teach. Past participants are overwhelmingly satisfied with the course (nearly 90% of Summer 2019 students were satisfied or extremely satisfied).
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**Basics of Online Learning and Teaching**
*Registration Opens May 9, 2022*
*11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, Tuesdays, June 7 – August 9, 2022*
This online blended 10-week course walks students through online course development in a mix of synchronous and asynchronous activities. The course will begin with 4 weeks of synchronous online sessions providing an overview of the course and effective online pedagogy. This will be followed by a mix of synchronous and asynchronous sessions on building a course. Each week will involve approximately 4–6 hours of readings, videos, assignments, discussions, and peer feedback. During this time students will work on their final projects where they will develop materials for an online course (or unit) they plan to teach in the future. The course will end with 1 week of student micro-teaching presentations to the group.

**Planning Your Teaching-as-Research Project**
*Registration Opens May 9, 2022*
*2:00 – 3:30 PM, Wednesdays, June 22 – July 27, 2022*
Jumpstart your plans for a Teaching-as-Research (TAR) project in this 6-week flipped course designed to guide participants through developing a research question, identifying project methods and outcomes, and more. Each week, students will watch videos, read articles, and complete assignments on their own time; in weekly sessions, students will refine their work with peer review, work through sticking points with instructors, and build community to sustain their work. Throughout the course, students will also be expected to meet occasionally with a local TAR contact (typically the person at your CIRTL member institution who mentors TAR students and/or runs your institution's TAR program) to refine key components of your TAR project plan. By the end of the course, students will present a TAR project plan and be well-positioned to implement their project in the coming academic year.

**First Year Faculty Teaching Academy**
*Registration Opens May 9, 2022*
*2:30 – 4:30 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 7–23, 2022*
Learn teaching and learning fundamentals in this intensive 3-week course (typically 6 weeks) from the University of Florida's Center for Teaching Excellence. This course is designed for future faculty and early career faculty in their first years of teaching. Learn how to create a great learning experience for your students while developing a solid foundation of best teaching practices and strategies. Explore the works of teaching greats such as Ken Bain, Jim Lang, and Wilbert McKeachie among others. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Plan learning activities that meet your course and student needs
- Implement good teaching practices in your courses
- Identify methods to reduce frustration for both you and your students
- Identify possible collaborators and teaching resources
NEW!!! Summer Workshops

**CARE for Inclusion and Equity in Learning Environments**
*Registration Opens May 9, 2022*
*3:00 – 4:30 PM, Thursdays, June 16, 2022*

Educational research shows that creating inclusive and equitable learning environments promotes learning for all students, especially for those from backgrounds historically underrepresented in higher education. Online pedagogy - widely predicted to remain a greater presence post-pandemic - introduces additional dimensions to address, such as differential access to learning technologies and support systems. In this workshop, we introduce a framework - CARE - that organizes evidence-based strategies for promoting inclusion and equity in both in-person and online/remote learning. Join us in this workshop to:

- reflect on features that make learning environments inclusive and equitable
- identify and commit to instructional strategies for creating inclusive and equitable learning environments
- collaboratively address questions about implementing strategies in either in-person or online/remote instruction

**Preparing Your Teaching Demo for a Job Interview**
*Registration Opens May 9, 2022*
*1:30 – 2:45 PM, Thursdays, July 14, 2022*

As part of the interview process for a faculty position, you may be asked to lead a teaching demonstration. In this interactive workshop, we'll discuss ways to go into your teaching demo with preparedness, confidence, and adaptability. The workshop will help participants generate:

- Questions they will need to answer in order to plan an effective teaching demo,
- Strategies for answering those questions, and
- Strategies for adapting to challenges that might occur during a teaching demo.

**dB-SERC Faculty Retreat**

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Thursday May 5, 2022

We invite you to register for the upcoming dB-SERC faculty retreat, focusing on DEI in Teaching, Learning, Assessment as well as Productive Interdepartmental Communication. This annual retreat, to be held online on Thursday, May 5 from 9:00 – 12:00. If you are able to attend, please sign up online.

The purpose of this retreat is for faculty from each department to reflect on how we can promote diversity, equity and inclusion in teaching and assessment, and how we can communicate and collaborate across departments to improve our courses and student learning. dB-SERC will also learn about the challenges and opportunities pertaining to teaching, learning, and assessment in each department and the types of support that dB-SERC can provide to help faculty members and departments effectively align learning goals, instructional design, and assessments in STEM courses.

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Check [https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/](https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/) for updates.

**Canvas Refresher: Building Your Course**

10:00 - 11:00 AM, Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Used Canvas before but want to brush up? This one-hour workshop will refresh your memory of the steps of setting up your course, adding course content, and creating assignments for your students.

**End of Term Reflection**

10:00 - 11:00 AM, Wednesday, May 4, 2022

12:00 - 1:00 PM, Thursday, May 5, 2022

Effective teaching involves both practice and reflection (Ambrose, et al., 2010.) Despite our best intentions, we often offer the space for practice with little time for reflection. During this session, we will look back on the past spring term and the overall academic year. We will assess our teaching, considering our successes and challenges. There will be space for both individual and collective reflection. We will make time to gather feedback from peers and collectively discuss ways to further build our strengths.
Canvas for Administrative Support Staff
12:00 - 1:00 PM, Wednesday, May 4, 2022
This webinar will introduce Canvas to those who provide administrative support to Pitt faculty. We will focus on both how Canvas works together with PeopleSoft and other information systems at Pitt, as well as how to perform the most common course and content management functions in Canvas. No previous experience with Canvas is required.

Creating Gameful Learning Experiences
Center for Creativity, Lower Level, University Store on Fifth
4000 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
12:30 - 2:00 PM, Monday, May 9, 2022
Gamification – utilizing the principles and strategies of games to design engaging student learning experiences – is a popular instructional technique that has proven to increase student engagement and motivation. However, there are a lot of misperceptions about what it means to gamify a course. In this introductory-level workshop, in collaboration with the Center for Creativity, we will discuss and strategize how to create gamified learning experiences in your courses to help you achieve teaching and learning goals.

Classrooms as Catalyst for Racial Justice Centered Activism
1:30 - 2:30 PM, Tuesday, May 10, 2022
Responding to this call, the inaugural session for the Provost’s Diversity Institute for Faculty Development will explore how the classroom can be a space that catalyzes student activism for racial justice. #BlackLivesMatter, #DREAMers, and #StandWithStandingRock #NODAPL among many other social movements have shaped youth activism for racial justice on our campuses. The session showcases insights and reflections from faculty who support critical and creative activism in their teaching of racial justice.

We address the following consideration as part of this session: How can our classrooms create spaces and opportunities for students to analyze, understand, and participate in racial justice-centered activism?

Abolitionist Pedagogy in Practice
1:30 - 2:30 PM, Wednesday, May 11, 2022
This foundational session for the Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development will introduce and outline the core philosophy of abolitionist pedagogy to inform a purposeful engagement with an abolitionist framework in the classroom. We envision this session to create a space for faculty to consider and conceptualize a teaching practice rooted in abolition.

We address the following consideration as part of this session: How might abolitionist pedagogy transform learning? Specifically, how might abolitionist pedagogy prompt students to consider a world that centers on the needs of everyone?
Check [https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/](https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/) or [https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion](https://calendar.pitt.edu/department/office_of_diversity_and_inclusion) for updates.

**Diversity Forum 2022**  
**July 25-28, 2022**  
This year's theme is "Rewiring Our Systems: Transforming the Intersections of Inequity." The forum will feature a dynamic array of keynote programs and community-led sessions that aim to develop social equity consciousness and systems thinking approaches. Programs will address the intersections of social identities and cultivate models for advancing social justice.

See [https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/content/professionalism-series](https://www.oacd.health.pitt.edu/content/professionalism-series) for more info.

**Postdoctoral Data & Dine Symposium**  
**4:00 - 6:30 PM, Wednesday, May 25, 2022**  
**Alumni Hall, Connolly Ballroom**  
**4227 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260**  
The Fifteenth Postdoctoral Data & Dine Symposium is a scientific poster session for University of Pittsburgh postdoctoral associates and scholars to present their research to colleagues, faculty, and administrators, while also networking and enjoying wine and hors d'oeuvres with attendees. More information can be found here.

**Additional Resources:**

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