Weekly Happenings Newsletter

Quote of the week:
“Every great achiever is inspired by a great mentor.”
- Laila Gifty Akita

FALL 2022
August 29 - September 2, 2022

Fall Course!

Preparation for the STEM Classroom: An Introduction to Evidence-Based STEM Teaching

Designed for PhD students and Postdocs planning for academic careers in the STEM disciplines, this course provides an introduction to the alignment model, evidence-based teaching practices, and the basics of teaching-as-research (TAR) project design. Interested faculty are also welcome to join.

Graduate and professional students, postdocs, and faculty can participate in this course by either registering for graduate credit using one of the courses listed below, or by auditing the course (not taken for graduate credit) using the link below.

Cross-Listed as:
• ENGR 3001-1160 (CRN #20564)
• BIOSC 3001-1160 (CRN #21452)
• CHEM 3001-1095 (CRN #22384)

Audit (Not for Credit) Registration
Complete this form to participate without credit or if you also plan to register for graduate credit:
https://forms.gle/RHVbjqvqMt5tWsR59

Class Times:
Class meets Tuesdays, 4:00 – 4:50 PM and begins Aug 30th.

* Satisfies the course requirement to earn Pitt-CIRTL Associate Certification in STEM Teaching (1st level).
FALL COURSES

MOOC: An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching
Registration Opens August 31, 2022
Asynchronous Course: September 26 – November 20, 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).

Postdoc Teaching Practicum
Registration Opens August 15, 2022
Synchronous Sessions: 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET, Thursdays, September 15, October 6, October 27, November 17, and December 8, 2022
Work with an experienced instructor in your discipline to enhance your understanding and experience of teaching a university course in this semester-long mentorship program designed for postdoctoral fellows. In this practicum, postdocs will observe mentors in their teaching, teach guest lectures and receive feedback on your teaching, discuss approaches to teaching with your mentors, and engage in group discussions of teaching with other postdocs from your cohort. The cohort will meet every three weeks for 2-hour workshops around key topics in teaching development; this may include lesson planning, teaching portfolios, equity, diversity, & inclusion, and teaching-as-research.

FALL WORKSHOP SERIES

Finding Your Teaching Mentor
Registration Opens August 15, 2022
Synchronous Sessions: 12:30 – 2:00 PM ET, Tuesdays, October 25 and November 1, 2022
In this two-part workshop, participants will start making a teaching development plan. Their plans will take into account their current context as well as align with their personal and professional goals. In session one, participants will learn how to orient themselves in their teaching development pathway and make an inventory of their local teaching resources. They will also develop understanding about why future faculty need a teaching mentor network that includes people different from their research mentors. The second session will help participants make a plan for building their mentoring network around their teaching development goals. We will talk about defining success as a teacher and how to ask for mentorship. We will hear from graduate student and faculty panelists about their teaching mentorship highlights and challenges. We will end our workshop series with time to form peer mentor networks.
**Exploring Careers in Teaching at a Community College**
Registration Opens August 15, 2022
Three Synchronous Sessions: 1:00 – 2:30 PM, Thursdays
October 27, 2022 Introduction to Teaching at a Community College
November 10, 2022 Getting Hired at a Community College: Tips and Strategies from Faculty on Hiring Panels
December 1, 2022 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusive Teaching in the Community College Setting

Learn about teaching at community colleges straight from current staff & faculty! In this three-part series, we'll hear faculty & staff reflect on the joys and challenges of teaching at a community college, the broad diversity of students in their courses and how that diversity enhances learning, and the ins and outs of finding a full-time teaching position at a community college. The panelists will take questions from future faculty throughout the presentation.

**Getting Started with Universal Design for Learning**
Registration Opens August 15, 2022
Synchronous Sessions: 1:00 – 2:20 PM ET, Wednesdays, November 2 and November 9, 2022

We know the one-size-fits-all approach to learning design is not optimal. But how do we incorporate flexibility into teaching and learning while still maintaining rigorous learning? In this workshop, participants will learn the three principles that underpin Universal Design for Learning (UDL), a pedagogical framework backed by neuroscience that fosters motivated, resourceful, and strategic learners. They will have the opportunity to apply these principles to a teaching artifact of their choice, be it a syllabus, assignment, and/or teaching practice. Participants will come away with an expanded understanding of learner variability, how it can be leveraged as an asset in the classroom, and how to make learning more accessible for their students. No previous experience with UDL is necessary.


**dB-SERC Lunch Discussion**
12:00 – 1:00 PM, Monday, August 29, 2022

During this dB-SERC lunch discussion, Vanessa Woods from the Psychological and Brain Sciences at UCSB will share information about Strategies for Peer Review Practice Outside the Classroom. Peer review can be a powerful teaching tool, and I will describe implementation strategies for peer review practice outside of the classroom, using best practices to enhance student learning. Structured peer review practices are grounded in the idea that disciplines operate as communities of practice with shared norms, language, and practices that are not always apparent to students. Revealing these practices using structured peer review is associated with increased student success in the course, and is a possible way to foster disciplinary comfort for students, which may be related to belonging in the discipline and major.
Check [https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/](https://teaching.pitt.edu/workshops-events/) for updates.

### How to Use Classroom Audiovisual Technology
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Tuesday, August 30, 2022
Virtual OR In person (B26 Alumni Hall)

**IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN-PERSON:** There is a maximum in-person capacity of SIX (6) attendees.

The University of Pittsburgh's classrooms are equipped with audiovisual technology to facilitate inclusive and active learning environments. This workshop will teach you how to operate and connect your device to a classroom's audiovisual technology system.

### How to Use Classroom Audiovisual Technology
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Thursday, September 1, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Tuesday, September 6, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Thursday, September 8, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Tuesday, September 13, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Thursday, September 15, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Tuesday, September 20, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Thursday, September 22, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Tuesday, September 27, 2022
2:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Thursday, September 29, 2022
Virtual OR In person (B26 Alumni Hall)

**IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND IN-PERSON:** There is a maximum in-person capacity of SIX (6) attendees.

The University of Pittsburgh's classrooms are equipped with audiovisual technology to facilitate inclusive and active learning environments. This workshop will teach you how to operate and connect your device to a classroom's audiovisual technology system.

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 and Inclusion in the Profession: Past, Present, and the Future
5:30 - 7:00 PM, Thursday, September 15, 2022
Eckert Seamens 600 Grant Street, US Steel Building 44th Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Panelists will explore the importance of promoting and increasing racial diversity and inclusion in the Profession. In addition, the panel will offer ways in which Black and African American attorneys may overcome the barriers that limit their growth and their full participation in the practice of law.

Speakers: Justice Cynthia Ackron Baldwin, Martha Richards Conley (JD '71), Derek Illar-Antonucci (JD '09), Aubrey Jones (JD '07), Tony Thompson (JD '06)
Choosing a Citation Manager
12:00 - 12:30 PM, Wednesday, August 31, 2022
There are lots of citation managers out there – how do you know which one to choose? This 30-minute session introduces you to three common citation managers (EndNote, Sciwheel, and Zotero) and will help you determine which is best for you.

Evaluating Journals: Discovering Where to Publish
12:00 - 1:00 PM, Wednesday, September 7, 2022
Deciding which journal to submit your manuscript can be a daunting task. This class will cover some of the resources and tools used in the selection process, as well as important criteria to consider when evaluating the quality of a journal. Topics will include the different publishing models (subscription and open access), copyright and licensing, peer review, and funder policies that may affect journal selection. Students, faculty, and staff are all welcome to attend.

Additional Resources:

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