

Book Group - *Excellent! Online Teaching: Effective Strategies For A Successful Semester Online* by Aaron Johnson

Tues at 2:45-3:45 (Feb. 14, Feb. 28, Mar. 14, April 4, April 18)

Facilitator: Mike Casey

Instructional Themes: Online, Pedagogy, Instructional Technology

What You'll Learn:

- Effective ways to save time grading online assignments
- Strategies for connecting with your online students
- Ways to give your online students meaningful feedback
- Tips for how to communicate effectively in the online environment
- How to begin and end your online course with excellence
- How to effectively facilitate online discussions

The Promise & Predicament of Diverse Faculty: A Learning Community for Faculty of Color

Wed at 2:15-3:15 (Feb. 1, Feb. 8, Feb. 15, Feb. 22, Mar. 1)

Facilitator: Monika Alston-Miller

Instructional Themes: Diversity

Researchers have found that faculty members of color at predominantly White institutions still encounter problematic student attitudes as a result of their racial identity. These attitudes may manifest in a number of ways when students encounter a faculty member of color. There may be distracting critiques of classroom practices during class, inappropriate questions about the faculty member's expertise, verbal and even physical aggression, or increased readiness to take a class related concern directly to a chair or dean, etc. Researchers have also found that as a result, faculty members of color may spend more time on course preparation, grade justification, conflict management, and may suffer from feelings of isolation and stress related health issues. This learning community will serve as a positive space for faculty members of color to connect and discuss effective strategies for dealing with these issues and for finding resources. Topics to be addressed include: preparing for class, respect and credibility in the classroom, communication strategies for conversations about race/ethnicity, grading and assessment, language diversity, nonverbal communication, and course evaluations.

New Faculty Learning Community: All First- and Second-year Faculty

(Continuing from fall) Thurs at 2:40 (Feb. 2, Feb. 16, Mar. 2, Mar. 16)

Facilitator: Deb Kuster

Instructional Themes: Pedagogy, Performance & Assessment

This program is open to *all* faculty members in their first or second year teaching at UCA. Topics and activities are driven by the group's unique needs and provides an informal time to learn and be encouraged from others outside of your department.

Online Teaching: A Learning Community for Online Educators

(Continuing from fall) Wed (Jan. 18, Feb. 1, Feb. 15, Mar. 1, Mar. 15)

Jessica Underwood: Facilitator

Instructional Theme: Pedagogy, Online

The dynamics and challenges associated with teaching online are experienced across all disciplines, by faculty at various levels. This faculty learning community aims to identify solutions to these challenges and explore effective strategies and techniques that will lead to a successful online experience - for both the instructor and student. Instructors will deepen their knowledge about online teaching through a variety of activities, including reflective dialogue, research, presentations from seasoned online instructors, and the exchange of personal experiences and resources. Topics are centered around best practices in online teaching.

Book Group: *Start Here: A Groundbreaking, Science-Based Program for Emotional Fitness*

(Continuing from fall) Tues @ 2:45-3:45 (1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 3/7, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25)

Facilitator: Amy Hawkins

Instructional Theme: Holistic Wellbeing

“If given the choice, we would all choose to be less stressed, to feel happier, and to experience a more optimal state of wellbeing. Just as you train your body for fitness, you can train your mind for wellbeing. Combining ancient wisdom with modern neuroscience from the world’s leading experts, *Start Here* presents a groundbreaking training program to master the art of wellbeing. The program teaches practices proven to rewire the brain for increased focus, engagement, and resilience to stress.” (from the cover of *Start Here*)

Instructional Workshops

45-Minute Crash Course in Digital Copyright

Wed, February 8 at 11:00 a.m. or Thur, March 2 at 11:00 a.m.

Facilitator: Vicki Parish

Instructional Theme: Instructional Technology, Online, Pedagogy

Take the mystery out of digital copyright in just 45 minutes! Learn the best methods to legally and ethically use the materials you need in your courses and even where to find new, open resources to assist with developing course materials.

Video Yourself Looking Like a Million Bucks

Thur, February 9 at 9:30 a.m. or Fri, March 10 at 1:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Jessica Underwood

Instructional Theme: Instructional Technology, Online

Video is an excellent tool for establishing faculty presence in an online course- a key component of student success. Aside from the message itself, there is a great deal of thought that goes into producing a quality video, including proper lighting, solid audio, and video length. This workshop highlights best practices for recording quality, professional videos using a webcam. Look like a million bucks with just a few simple techniques! No specific device is required.

Harnessing the Potential of Blackboard Tools

Wed, Feb 22 at 2:00 p.m. or Thur, Mar 9 at 9:40 a.m. or Wed, Apr 19 at Noon

Facilitator: Mike Casey

Instructional Theme: Pedagogy, Instructional Technology, Online

The Blackboard learning management system offers instructors an opportunity to enhance their traditional face-to-face course by using the available communication, collaboration, assignment, and assessment tools. This session will focus on the basics of each tool, and explore how they can be used to streamline grading, communication, and testing in your course.

Harnessing the Potential of Blackboard Tools-Advanced

Wednesday, April 19 at 1:00 p.m.

Facilitator: Mike Casey

Instructional Theme: Pedagogy, Instructional Technology, Online

This session will take an advanced look at the content management tools and techniques offered through the Blackboard learning management system. These tools and techniques will include embedding web content, integrating G-Suite tools like Google Docs, Slides, Sheets, Surveys, and Calendars, and exploring tools to help us analyze how students use your Blackboard course. The session will immediately follow the final offering of Harnessing the Potential of Blackboard Tools (Basic).

Designing Accessible Course Materials

Wed, March 8 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Facilitators: Vicki Parish & Camille Walls

Instructional Theme: Instructional Technology, Online, Pedagogy

Join us as the CTE teams up with Camille Walls from [Disability Resource Center](#) to share practical tips for how to make your existing (and new!) course materials more accessible to all of your students with a few minor modifications. This is a hands-on workshop, so bring your laptop and/or a few course documents to work with and a perspective-taking attitude!

Teaching Portfolio Workshop

Tues, March 14, 2017 from 2:40-4:10 p.m. or Wed, March 15 from 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Facilitator: Deb Kuster

Instructional Theme: Performance & Assessment

The Teaching Portfolio Workshop offers an opportunity to learn how to construct a portfolio to document one's teaching effectiveness. Writing and discussion exercises provide a starting point for the portfolio development process. This workshop will help faculty prepare the teaching portion of their advancement, promotion and/or tenure application.

Teaching Portfolio Follow-Up

Date TBD by Participants

Facilitator: Deb Kuster

Instructional Theme: Performance & Assessment

Upon request, the Teaching Portfolio Follow-up is an opportunity for participants who have previously participated in the Teaching Portfolio workshop to come together once more. This event is intended for those who wish to discuss and develop more specific aspects of the teaching portfolio such as selection of supporting evidence and peer review of teaching narrative. We will schedule our follow-up meeting based upon each registrant's availability.

Writing Effective Multiple-Choice Questions

Wed, April 5 at 11:00 a.m.

Facilitator: Jessica Underwood

Instructional Theme: Performance & Assessment, Pedagogy, Instructional Technology, Online

For online courses, multiple-choice questions (MCQs) are the pillar for assessments; they're easy to administer, provide instant feedback, and can be a powerful learning tool – if they are written well. It is entirely possible to writing meaningful MCQs that assess more than recall, but it can be challenging and time consuming for any instructor. In this workshop, you will define the anatomy of an effective MCQ, identify common flaws in MCQs, and craft questions that are relevant, fair, and challenging. The goal is for you to develop the knowledge and skills needed to improve the effectiveness of multiple-choice questions.

Lunch and Learn Events

Using Service Learning Pedagogy to Advance Students' Understanding of Diversity

Date: Tuesday, 1/31/17

Facilitators: Lesley Graybeal, Taine Duncan, Lavona Traywick

Instructional Theme: (Campus & Community) & Pedagogy

Rethinking Assessment

Date: Monday, 2/13/17

Facilitator: Brandon Combs

Instructional Theme: Performance & Assessment

Error Vs Variation

Date: Tuesday, 2/21/17

Facilitator: Ramon Escamilla & Jen Talbot

Instructional Theme: Pedagogy & Online

Cultivating Student Grit

Date: Wednesday, 3/1/17

Facilitator: Angela Webster

Instructional Theme: Diversity & Pedagogy

Expanding Classroom Assessment

Date: Tuesday, 3/9/17

Facilitator: Nancy Gallavan

Instructional Theme: Pedagogy

Unique Challenges/Teaching First Year Students

Date: Friday, 3/31/17

Facilitator: Amy Baldwin

Instructional Theme: Diversity, Pedagogy & Wellness

Do You See What I See/Hidden Stressors

Date: Thursday, 4/6/17

Facilitator: Panel Discussion

Instructional Theme: Diversity & Wellness

Be Our Guest

Date: Thursday, 4/13/17

Facilitator: CTE

Instructional Theme: Performance & Assessment