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**Teaching Effective Collaboration**

**CAFE’s 3rd Annual Pre-Spring Semester Workshop Series**

**January 3-5, 2024**

Teaching our students how to collaborate in multiple modalities – such as writing and speaking – and in multiple contexts – such as information literacy and with a focus on equity – enhances their interpersonal skills and develops a sense of collective responsibility. The ability to collaborate is a crucial skill that extends beyond the classroom. This symposium aims to explore innovative approaches, share best practices, and inspire educators to cultivate a collaborative spirit among students. In this series of workshops, CAFE Staff, CAFE Faculty Consultants, and DEC Staff will provide tips and tools to help you maximize the effectiveness of your collaborative classrooms. Each session will include time to work on your classes so that you walk away with a product to help improve your spring semester.

**All sessions via Zoom unless indicated otherwise.**

**January 3, 2024**

**9:00am-3:00pm**

9:00- 9:15am

**Welcome**

Pam Tracy, Director of CAFE and Professor, Communication Studies

**Workshop Sessions**

9:20-10:50am

**Teaching Speaking (but with a collaboration spin)**

Facilitators: Dr. Kris Paal, CAFE Consultant for Teaching Speaking

*Are you considering some sort of group or collaborative speaking assignment this upcoming semester? Join us for this interactive session where the goal is to equip you with approaches and strategies for fostering student’s collaborative skills in a variety of speaking contexts. There will be specific emphasis on how teaching collaboration can enhance classroom discourse and promote a culture of collective knowledge sharing.*

11:00-12:30pm

**Equity-Focused Teaching: How can we cultivate collaboration and accessibility for all students?**

Facilitator: Dr. Erica Brown-Meredith, CAFE Consultant for Diversity and Inclusion

*The workshop will provide educators with practical strategies and cooperative learning techniques, enabling them to establish an equitable learning environment that nurtures collaboration and positive student outcomes. Instructors will be provided with self-reflection tools and resources to incorporate a +1-implementation practice within a theoretical framework to enhance the assessment process.*

1:30-3:00pm \*\*Concurrent Session\*\*

**Fostering Student Growth through Collaborative Learning Activities**

Facilitators: Dr. Pam Tracy, Director of the Center for Faculty Enrichment

*In this session, we will explore the power of collaboration in the classroom to enhance student engagement, critical thinking, and overall academic success. Participants will delve into innovative strategies and practical techniques to create a collaborative classroom environment throughout the semester. In particular, we will explore practical methods for cultivating a classroom culture that encourages open communication, teamwork, and mutual benefit among students as well as strategies for managing student groups, ensuring that each member is actively involved and contributes to the collective learning experience.*

1:30-3:00pm \*\*Concurrent Session\*\*

**Collaborative Learning Activities for Graduate Classes**

Facilitator: Dr. Sarah Tanner-Anderson, Assistant Dean of CGPS and Program Director of Educational Leadership

Graduate learners require a little…extra. Many graduate students are full-time employees in their respective fields, as well as parents, partners, and caregivers. For adult learners, time is an especially precious resource; for graduate faculty, creating collaborative spaces for meaningful, productive engagement is vital. In this interactive session, graduate faculty will share how they engage students in collaborative learning activities in their graduate classes to maximize engagement, productivity, and success.

**January 4, 2024**

**9:00-3:30pm**

**Workshop Sessions**

9:00-10:30am

**Teaching Writing (but with a collaboration spin)**

Facilitators: Dr. Elise Green, CAFE Consultant for Teaching Writing

*We know that writing can be used not only as a tool for demonstrating mastery of content, but also as a tool for learning. In spite of these positive outcomes, writing assignments are often intimidating to students and burdensome for faculty. Our goal in this session will be to design a collaborative writing project that both enhances learning for the students and reduces pressure on the teacher. ​*

10:40-12:10pm

**Teaching Information Literacy (but with a collaborative spin)**

Facilitators: Jennifer Beach, CAFE Consultant for Teaching Information Literacy

*The myth of the digital native is that students are naturally skilled navigators of our complex information landscape. But as educators, we recognize our students still need guidance. So how do we teach our students durable skills for locating and evaluating information? And how can we make it a collaborative process? Join this session as we explore how collaboration can improve student information literacy skills, both in the classroom and asynchronously. Bring an idea or assignment that you would like to transform to include collaborative information literacy practices.*

12:20-1:50pm

**Using Canvas to Facilitate Collaboration**

Facilitators: Ashley Leslie, Director of the DEC; Dean Boyle, Solutions Engineer, DEC

*In today's higher education landscape, fostering collaboration among students is essential for enhancing learning outcomes and promoting student engagement and critical thinking skills. Canvas offers a wide-range of tools to facilitate collaboration and enable students to work together on projects, engage in discussions, and share ideas. This workshop will explore various built-in Canvas features that empower instructors to create engaging and collaborative learning experiences.*

2:00-3:30pm

**Course Prep Pomodoro**

Facilitator: Dr. Adam Franssen, Associate Director of CAFE

*This session is an opportunity to apply what you’ve learned to your spring course(s)! Join the CAFE staff via Zoom to work on your course preparation. We’ll design our courses in the community of others using Fancesco Cirillo’s* [*Pomodoro Technique*](https://luxafor.com/pomodoro-technique-time-management-life-hack/) *to keep us on track.*

**January 5, 2024**

**9:00-12:00pm**

**Planning a Productive Semester**

Facilitator: Dr. Renee Gutiérrez, Associate Professor, Associate Director, CAFE & CAFE Writing Consultant

Location: Allen 308 and 310 or via Zoom

*A great semester (with an optimal work/life balance) can spring from a few short hours of organizing and*

*thinking. Join a workshop based on Kerry Roquemore’s technique for planning; learn key strategies that can be*

*applied to a productive and restorative semester, and take time to work through the process of planning your*

*Spring 2024.* *Snacks and drinks provided.*