Active Learning with Technology Series

Technology in the classroom is changing the way many of us approach teaching and learning and is creating new opportunities for building dynamic learning environments. The workshops in this series will provide you with tools and skills to leverage technology to create engaging and effective learning experiences for students. Each 80-minute standalone workshop will give you hands-on experience in exploring, designing and testing active learning strategies that you can immediately deploy in your classroom or put into your course revision/redesign plan.

If you attend the whole series (all five sessions) you will be awarded with a certificate of completion – a great addition to your dossier that indicates your commitment to professional development and to enhancing your performance as an instructor.

1. **Introduction to Active Learning with Technology**
   Derek Murray, LTSI
   Monday, October 28, 2019, 1:00 PM to 2:20 PM, HHB 128
   As teachers, we are constantly being told (especially by marketers) that technology is going to transform our teaching practice. Technology, like any tool, is something that we can use well, or we can use it poorly—but, it's unlikely that we won't use it at all. It can help transform our practice, but only if we use it thoughtfully. The purpose of this introductory workshop is to support instructors in the pedagogically sound integration of technology in teaching and learning. The workshop will introduce you to two models of technology integration and give you an opportunity to begin redesigning or reframing a learning task using these models as part of a larger reflective process.
   By participating in this workshop you will:
       i. Collaboratively *identify*, *list, and reflect on* technologies you already use in your teaching;
      ii. *Explore* frameworks to guide pedagogically sound integration of technology in learning;
     iii. *Analyze* a specific learning task using an established theoretical model;
      iv. *Align* the use of a particular tool/technology to achieve an intended learning outcome.

2. **CourseSpaces Create-a-Thon**
   Derek Murray, LTSI
   Wednesday, November 20, 2019, 9:30 AM to 10:50 AM, HHB 128
   Are you getting the most out of CourseSpaces? Do you want to do more with CourseSpaces than simply post readings and grades? How can you leverage features of CourseSpaces to provide students in your course with a more engaging learning experience? This workshop will give you the chance to work on a CourseSpaces activity in a collaborative, peer-supported environment. You will bring a germ of an idea to the workshop and you will leave with a prototype activity that can be adapted to your teaching context.
   By participating in this workshop you will:
       i. *Identify* benefits and drawbacks of using a particular CourseSpaces feature;
      ii. *Build* a prototype of a chosen activity in the CourseSpaces environment;
     iii. *Identify* gaps in knowledge that need to be filled to effectively facilitate the activity;
      iv. *Develop* a plan for next steps (if necessary).

3. **Polling Technologies**
   Derek Murray, LTSI
   Monday, December 2, 2019, 11:00 AM to 12:20 PM, HHB 128
   Do you want to engage all students in a lively discussion, but the same few people keep putting up their hands in class? Classroom response systems (e.g. iClicker, Kahoot, etc.) have the potential to liven-up many classroom activities by giving students the opportunity to participate in different ways. Polling technologies can be used to assess student knowledge, acknowledge participation, generate topics for discussion, analyze concepts or topics, etc. They can even make learning fun! This workshop will allow you to try out some of the common polling technologies available, provide a forum for discussing the benefits and considerations in using a particular tool, and give you a chance to design a new activity that can be immediately adopted in your classroom.
   By participating in this workshop you will:
   i. *Analyze* the benefits and considerations involved in using a particular tool in alignment with course goals and intended student learning outcomes;
   ii. *Consider* factors such as accessibility, privacy and reliability in addition to your teaching goals when adopting a new polling technology;
   iii. *Plan* a classroom activity, in alignment with a stated learning outcome that integrates a polling technology to increase student engagement.

4. **Flipping Your Classroom with Technology**
   Derek Murray, LTSI
   Monday, January 20, 2020, 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM, HHB 128
   The contemporary concept of a "flipped" classroom dates back to the early 1990s—though similar notions have been around much longer. Does it work? Does flipped learning just mean putting content online and then discussing it in class? A common challenge in flipping a classroom is getting your students to *actually do* the preparatory work before coming to class. This workshop will introduce you to some ways to flip your classroom by using online tools to encourage preparation and increase engagement and deeper learning in the classroom.
   By participating in this workshop you will:
   i. *Explore* examples of flipped instructional strategies used in a variety of contexts;
   ii. *Analyze* the potential benefits and limitations of using a flipped approach to learning;
   iii. *Adapt* one flipped instructional strategy for use in your teaching context.

5. **Using Blogs to Encourage Collaboration and Reflection**
   Derek Murray, LTSI
   Monday, February 3, 2020, 1:00 PM to 2:20 PM, HHB 128
   Are you interested in using a blog to change up the learning environment in your course? What can you do with a blog? How can it change the way students learn? An accumulating body of research suggests that blogs are an effective way to encourage reflection, to get students working together, and to facilitate a sense of connection to the course material. This workshop will introduce you to the possibilities of blogs for teaching and learning, we will explore relevant examples, and you will have the opportunity to develop and get feedback on an implementation plan.
   By participating in this workshop you will:
   i. *Explore* research and examples of blogs used for teaching and learning;
   ii. *Assess* the benefits and considerations for using blogs as a teaching/learning tool;
   iii. *Create* an outline of a course or activity utilizing the blog format.