

Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence

Collaborate. Innovate. Inspire.

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE

3rd Annual Faculty Symposium on Teaching and Learning

January 13, 9am - 1pm
RSC Ballroom *or streaming*
January 14, 9am - noon
Virtual

RSVP:
<https://bit.ly/3pAe7xM>

Contact Us!

Chris Garrett, Ph.D.
CTLE Director &
Professor of Education
Chris.Garrett@nsc.edu
Ext. 2996

Sierra Adare-Tasiwoopa api, Ph.D.
Instructional Technologist
Sierra.Adare-tasiwoopaapi@nsc.edu
Ext. 2904

Jack Agamba, Ph.D.
Instructional Designer
Jack.Agamba@nsc.edu
Ext. 2905

Morgan Iommi, Ph.D.
Instructional Designer
Morgan.Iommi@nsc.edu
Ext. 2906

Note from the CTLE Director

As we conclude our fall semester, we begin looking ahead to Spring 2022. Some of us will continue teaching online and others will transition back to face-to-face classroom instruction. What lessons have we learned over the past two years as we've been pushed or even forced (due to COVID) to reimagine how we teach through online platforms and utilizing more instructional technology tools? I am eager to join you in reflecting on and discussing that question during our upcoming Faculty Symposium on Teaching and Learning (January 13-14). Our keynote speaker, Dr. Jose Bowen, will address that topic, and after his presentation we've carved out some time for discussion. The Symposium will also feature 20 presentations by Nevada State faculty—individuals, co-presenters, and Faculty Learning Communities—sharing best practices and innovative teaching strategies. Make sure to check out the email we'll be sending out tomorrow with details on the Symposium. And if you've not yet done so, make sure to RSVP for the Faculty Luncheon on Thursday, January 13th via this link: <https://bit.ly/3pAe7xM>

Additional Notes:

- In May 2021 the CTLE conducted a survey of our students' online learning experiences. Nearly 1,500 students responded, and we continue to examine those responses and look forward to sharing a summary and analysis of that survey data with you in January 2022.
 - On page 2 of this newsletter you'll see the list of proposed topics for Faculty Learning Communities that we're offering Spring 2022. We encourage you to apply for and join an FLC that looks interesting.
 - This newsletter also features several pedagogical and instructional technology strategies. For more tips and individual coaching, please contact us via email at ctle@nsc.edu.
 - At the end of the newsletter we've included our Spring 2022 Workshop and Event Schedule.
- Chris Garrett, CTLE Director

Dr. Vanessa Mari: Assistant Professor, TESOL

"One of the most exciting things that I'm trying to build is our bilingual [education] endorsement...I've been working on it since the beginning," Dr. Vanessa Mari says.

Dr. Vanessa Mari is an Assistant Professor of TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) in the College of Education and teaches preservice elementary teachers. She says that the bilingual endorsement would allow students to teach in two languages.



Vanessa herself taught high school English in Puerto Rico before receiving her Ph.D. in Culture, Literacy, and Language at UT-San Antonio. Then she taught English and facilitated professional development for educators, first as an English Language Fellow in Peru, and again as a Fulbright Scholar in Uruguay.

"I always envisioned myself teaching in higher ed, but now that I am in higher ed I really value the experiences that I had in high school as a teacher and I look for ways that I can replicate that in other settings... I try to keep that connection because it's very valuable as well," Vanessa says. In order to keep that connection with the K-12 environment, Vanessa visits schools, does research with teachers, facilitates classroom observations, and also started Nevadans' Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (NVTESOL) to provide a space for collaboration and professional development to Nevada TESOL educators.

Spring 2022 Faculty Learning Communities (FLCs)

Faculty Learning Communities allow for deeper-dive discussions on topics of interest. Communities meet four times over the semester, about once per month, and are scheduled based on participant availability.

Spring Topics:

- Facilitating the Integration of Learning
- Teaching Change: How to Develop Independent Thinkers Using Relationships, Resilience, and Reflection
- Faculty Learning Community for PTIs
- Practical Strategies to Apply in Your Classroom
- Sexism in Higher Ed
- Considering Culturally Inclusive Content in Your Courses
- Promoting Student Engagement, Understanding, & Independence by Making Thinking Visible
- Feedback Loops: Examining Faculty and Students' Perceptions of Learning, Instruction, and Outcomes
- Incorporating the Common Read in Courses Across the Disciplines

Look for the application for these FLCs in January with more details!

3rd Annual Faculty Symposium on Teaching and Learning



January 13 - RSC Ballroom

9am

Welcome & Awards

9:15am

Keynote: Jose Bowen

10:35am

Keynote Discussion

11am

Breakout Sessions

Noon

Lunch

January 14 - Virtual

9am - Noon Breakout Sessions



Strategies for Preparing Courses for Spring

As you prepare your courses for the Spring semester, consider the following strategies.

Three Pedagogy Strategies

- **Trauma-aware Teaching:** Ensuring students have a safe, trusting environment is especially important in these uncertain times. Use this checklist (<https://bit.ly/3w7EyO5>) to reflect on how trauma-aware your learning space is and find strategies to incorporate to help foster a sense of safety.
- **Metacognitive Practices:** Having students reflect on their goals and their learning process is key to deeper understanding and critical thinking. This metacognitive processing is most effective when embedded throughout the course design and assignments. Reflect on what metacognitive tasks and questions you currently use and consider adding more or different strategies: <https://bit.ly/3Cp0CFt>
- **Sense of Belonging:** Everybody has a fundamental need to feel connected; however, this need is higher at pivotal stages like in college. It is critical to intentionally foster a sense of belonging for students at this critical stage. See three key areas to consider: <https://bit.ly/3lmFbPX>

Three Course Design Strategies

- **The Inclusive Syllabus:** How can you employ your syllabus to make it more meaningful, accessible, and inclusive to your diverse students? See suggestions for creating a welcoming, and inclusive syllabus: <https://bit.ly/3FXT7HP>
- **Measuring Student Expectations and Satisfaction:** Student expectations can be a good predictor of student satisfaction. Consider the following research evidence for this: <https://bit.ly/3lfg2qj>
- **Feedback:** Feedback can be the hub around which the wheel of student learning revolves. Instructors feel they provide feedback, yet students are dissatisfied with it. Refer to this resource for relevant feedback perspectives: <https://bit.ly/3rt0h2G>

Want to discuss any of these strategies? Or want support preparing your Spring courses?

We're here between semesters to help! Email CTLE@nsc.edu, or contact any of us individually!

Strategies for Preparing Courses for Spring Cont.

As you prepare your courses for the Spring semester, consider the following strategies.

Three Technology Strategies

- 1. Importing Content:** Importing all course content into your new semester Canvas shells creates issues. Remember to only import the course content that you have created to avoid overwriting the Template's up-to-date policies, information, and links with older, outdated policies, information, and links. See the CTLE video and guides (<https://bit.ly/3GJIXM7>) for details on this process.
- 2. Tidying Up:** Figuring out which of your 10 or 20 Week 6 assignments (for example) is the most current and active one in your current semester is frustrating. Even when you know which one is the active one, having to delete the older versions of the assignment individually is time-consuming. TidyUP will find the old and unused files, documents, discussions, assignments, quizzes, and pages and quickly archive those you want to keep and delete the rest. View the TidyUP Tool guide (<https://bit.ly/3w4hkbP>) to learn more.
- 3. Validating Links:** If you have been importing your entire course each semester to your new courses, you have been overwriting updated policies and template links with outdated information and broken links. This can result in hundreds of broken links and inaccessible content. Therefore, after you have imported the content you created to new semester shells and run the TidyUP tool, you're now ready to check for broken links. See the Link Validator video and guide (<https://bit.ly/3mxEyUp>) to see how!

All CTLE tech guides and videos can be found on the CTLE resource Canvas site: <https://bit.ly/3owUuYk>

Canvas Best Practices Tip: Modules "Lock Until"

The Modules "Lock Until" feature is a best practice and should be used instead of unpublishing course content and Modules—even if you're still building content. Locking modules helps students with time management. Students can see what they will be doing each week and can plan accordingly; however,

Edit Module Settings

Week 2 August 31-September 6

☒ Lock until

Jul 31, 2020 at 12am

July 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Time: 12:00 Done

Cancel Update Module

students cannot access any material until the module unlocks on the date you set. (You can add placeholder assignments, etc., until you have time to finish the content. Since the module is locked, students won't be able to tell what is unfinished.) If you unpublish the module, even though everything in the module is published, the students will see nothing at all. They won't be able to use the gradebook to track their grade, and, of course, it's far too easy to forget to publish the module and/or content, resulting in a flood of e-mails from students. See the full guide (<https://bit.ly/3kNQIAZ>) for directions.

CTLE SPRING 2022 EVENTS

Detailed outlook invitations will be sent via email for events.

All events listed count toward the CTLE Teaching Academy Certificates. Visit <https://nsc.edu/ctle/> for more details about the certificate, or contact ctle@nsc.edu.

FACULTY SYMPOSIUM DAY 1

THUR. JAN. 13, 9AM-1PM
RSC BALLROOM

FACULTY SYMPOSIUM DAY 2

FRI. JAN. 14, 9AM-12PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

THE WHYS AND HOWS OF ACCESSIBILITY

THUR. JAN. 25, 10AM-11:30AM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

GAINING STUDENT TRUST
WED. JAN. 26, 1PM-2PM
CEB 214

**CROSS-DISCIPLINARY APPROACHES
TO THE COMMON READ**
WED. FEB. 2, 1PM-2PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

POWERPOINT DOS AND DONTs
FRI. FEB. 4, 1PM-2PM
CEB 214

THE SUPPORTIVE SYLLABUS
MON. FEB. 14, 11AM-12PM
CEB 211

**MEETING STUDENTS
WHERE THEY ARE**
THUR. FEB. 17, 2PM-3PM
CEB 211

**GRADING STRATEGIES
FOR ONLINE CLASSROOMS**
TUES. FEB. 22, 10AM-11AM
CEB 211



CONTACT [CTLE@NSC.EDU](mailto:ctle@nsc.edu) WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR TO MEET!

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A CASE STUDY LOCKED IN AN ESCAPE ROOM

THUR. FEB. 24, 10AM-11AM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

USING DATA AND FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE TEACHING

FRI. MAR. 4, 1PM-2PM
CEB 214

LEVERAGING EMOTION'S EFFECT ON LEARNING

TUES. MAR. 8, 10AM-11AM
CEB 211

JAZZ UP ONLINE DISCUSSIONS IN CANVAS

FRI. MAR. 11, 11AM-12PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

ENGAGING ACTIVE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

TUES. MAR. 29, 11AM-12PM
CEB 211

INCREASING RELEVANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

THUR. MAR. 31, 11AM-12PM
CEB 211

THE HOW AND WHY OF BRANCHING CASE STUDIES

MON. APR. 4, 2PM-3PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

REMOTE TEACHING AND LEARNING: REFLECTIONS AND STRATEGIES

THUR. APR. 7, 2PM-3PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

PTI PANEL: SMALL CHANGES WITH BIG IMPACT

MON. APR. 20, TBD
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

TECHNOLOGY TEST KITCHEN

FRI. APR. 22, 11AM-12:30PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM



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