Teaching and Learning News

Top Stories

Follow us on Twitter

Looking for another way to stay up-to-date on the latest teaching and learning news, innovations and resources at Carleton and beyond? Teaching and Learning Services has officially launched a new Twitter account to help you do just that!

Follow @CU_Teaching for the latest information on workshops, teaching tips, award and grant opportunities, LMS updates and more.

We hope this will be a platform where Carleton's teaching and learning community can engage and connect with each other and with us!

Carleton University Experiential Learning Fund: Deadline is almost here

The deadline to apply for the first round of funding for the Carleton University Experiential Learning Fund is almost here.

Events

Student Success in First-Year Online Classes: Lowering DFWs by Raising the Bar

Jan. 10, 10 AM - 12 PM

Join Bruce Tsuji (Department of Psychology) as he compares the
The Provost established the fund to:

- Increase the number of experiential learning opportunities for Carleton students
- Enhance existing experiential learning opportunities
- Build awareness of experiential learning at Carleton
- Support the articulation of employability skills for Carleton’s students within the institution’s academic programming

The fund supports two types of projects: course projects (financial support in the range of $1,000 – $2,500 per project is available) and program level projects (financial support in the range of $2500 – $10,000 per project is available).

Get more information about the funding opportunities and the application form here.

LMS review updates

As Carleton moves in to the next phase of the Learning Management System (LMS) review this year, we will begin documenting current use and identifying anticipated future needs of our LMS and, more globally, our educational technology infrastructure. During the coming months, we will undertake listening sessions and consultations with various internal and external stakeholders. We will compile the data and create a formal request for proposals from various organizations that can provide a hosted solution.

Carleton’s LMS working group will vet these proposals and invite vendors to demonstrations and use case testing sessions during which we’ll collect feedback from instructors, staff and students about the strengths, weaknesses and viability of the systems’ use in our learning environment. From this data, the LMS working group will make a recommendation about whether Moodle can continue to meet our needs, or whether it would be functional and cost effective to change to a new system.

If Carleton’s decision is to change systems, we would advocate for a scaled launch starting in the Winter of 2020, with full transition starting in the Summer 2020 term and project completion expected in December.
If you would like to be involved with this project or would like more information about the process, updates will be posted regularly to the LMS review site.

Teaching resources to help you get through the term

As we start the winter term, we want to remind you of the resources TLS offers that will help support your teaching this term.

- Our updated TLS Guide provides an overview of the variety of services that the departments within Teaching and Learning Services offer (Carleton University OnLine, Educational Development Centre and Instructional Media Services).
- Our Teaching Resources page features a searchable database on a variety of topics including administrative pedagogy, teaching tips and tools, teaching with technology, course design and high-impact practices. It also includes more specific information for new faculty member and contract instructors, as well as CUOL instructors.
- The IMS Online Help Centre is a useful guide for all things classroom technology. It features an immediate assistance page with instructions on how to solve the most common classroom issues, plus a self-guided classroom orientation tool with step-by-step instructions and short video demonstrations on the classroom technology. It also has a quick how-to guide and FAQ for fast access to information.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a one-on-one consultation about any facet of teaching and learning, please contact us at oavptl@carleton.ca, 613-520-2344.

Classroom reminders

Classroom equipment reminder
We ask classroom equipment users to be considerate to other instructors, staff and students by returning all devices to their respective charging bases so that any subsequent users will have a fully charged microphone.

Videos

Jan. 18, 10 - 11:30 AM
Whether you want to record a PowerPoint presentation, show your students how to use an application, use a document camera or tablet to solve problems or flip your classroom, Capture has you covered. Join us and discover how to use this screen-recording solution in your course.

Putting Your Course "on the Map": Designing Courses that Align with Your Program's Learning Outcomes

Jan. 18, 1 - 4 PM
Reflect on the relationship between your course and the broader learning goals of your specific department and discipline. Through problem-focused instruction and hands-on activities, you will learn how to design courses that more effectively serve your department's programs and students.

Designing Learning from Scratch

Jan. 22, 9 AM - 12 PM
In this highly interactive workshop, you'll be introduced to a
or wireless mouse. It would also be appreciated if the chalkboards/whiteboards are erased and the teaching console is kept tidy.

**AMX passcode removal**
A reminder to all instructors that IMS has removed the four-digit AMX passcode that was previously required to log in to user interfaces on classroom podiums. Now you can simply touch the user interface screen to gain access to classroom AV controls.

This change does not apply to overnight or weekend access. In order to access classroom technology outside of regular hours (Monday to Thursday after 11 p.m. and starting at 7 p.m. on Fridays and continuing all weekend), please contact Carleton University Event Support at ext. 1850 no later than 48 hours prior to your session or event and we will be happy to help.

If you have any questions or comments, please direct them to ims@carleton.ca.

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**Blog: Even basic skills can be forgotten with disuse**

*By Kevin Cheung, Associate Professor, School of Mathematics and Statistics*

A recent article in *The Globe and Mail* had the following headline: “One in four Ontario postsecondary students lacks basic literacy, numeracy skills, studies say.” The reports for the actual studies can be found on the HECQO website.

The authors of the studies did note the limitations of their work. As reported in the news article, “Students volunteered or were recruited for the studies, and therefore the sample was not random or representative; nor were the same students tested at the beginning and end of their schooling. However, Dr. Weingarten said this research provides the basis for future experiments that could begin to determine what works best in higher education.”

In my opinion, the lack of a proper control group was a missed opportunity with these studies. It would have been informative to test a random sample of adults already in the workforce. Nevertheless, the substantial number of students who did not appear to meet the expectations is an uncomfortable fact. I wondered if the students who took the tests were even trying.
If one takes a look at page 11 in one of the appendices for the studies, numeracy level three includes the ability to “determine the price of a single bottle of water when given the cost of an entire case of bottles,” the ability to “read a complex graph, comparing the amount of salt, sugar and fat in a typical diet for men versus a typical diet for women, to determine the amount of sugar consumed by men,” and a few others. One might find that middle school or even elementary school children have these abilities.

Are Ontario university students really that weak? I am not so sure. Read more.

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**Winter 2019 TA training opportunities**

Let your TAs know about all of the opportunities for pedagogical development that the EDC has to offer.

Our regular workshops (held in 422 DT) are now posted on the TA Support website and open for registration via Carleton Central. Over 20 winter-term workshops will run during January and February.

The full program for our TA Training Day event (Saturday, January 19) is now available on our website and registration through Carleton Central is open. The event will consist of two sets of concurrent workshops (eight in total) and a keynote address from an award-winning faculty member.

For more details on TA training options, visit the TA Support site.

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**cuLearn Assignments and Rubrics**

**Jan. 31, 10 AM - 12 PM**

This hands-on workshop gives you the opportunity to explore different types of assignments and submissions, as well as ways to provide comments and feedback to students. We’ll look at options for creating rubrics and marking guides and best practices for assignment grading.

**Adding Interactive Web Experiences to cuLearn with H5P**

**Feb. 1, 10 AM - 12 PM**

H5P empowers everyone to create rich, interactive web experiences, either embedded within cuLearn or as a web tool. With almost 40 different activity types available, you are sure to find options to enhance your content delivery, multimedia or assessments. In this introductory H5P session, we will explore examples of interactive content, build interactive content activities in cuLearn and