

Center for Teaching and Learning



Welcome Back Message from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you found time during the Winter Break to relax and rejuvenate. As you are finalizing plans for the start of Spring semester, I'd like to offer a few thoughts on welcoming students to your class. Although memes relating to students not reading the syllabus are plentiful, it is nonetheless an important point of "first contact" for most courses. Here are a few favorite ideas for creating a welcoming and supportive syllabus:

- Use "I", and "you" rather than "the instructor" and "students".
- Use warm language, such as "I care about the success of each student and welcome questions and conversation after class or in office hours."
- Provide information about campus resources, being sure to destigmatize their use. For example, you might include "All of us need support, and many students benefit from using resources provided by the Cares Center". More information regarding the Cares center can be found below in our newsletter.
- Include the most recent syllabus statements approved by Faculty Senate (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Student Accessibility Services; and Land Acknowledgement Statements.)
- For even more terrific ideas on creating syllabi that support student belonging, please visit our Successful Syllabi Teaching Tool in a Flash and the First Day Toolkit developed by the Student Experience Project.

I wish you all the best as you begin the new semester.

With gratitude for all that you do,

~Jenny



Events and Workshops



**January 13, 2023
Virtual Keynotes**

**Session 1: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Keynote - Energizing Learning with
the Science of Emotion**

If you as an educator want to capture your students' attention, enhance their motivation, harness their working memory, and bolster their long-term retention, join us for considering the emotional impact of teaching preferences on students' learning through empirical evidence and applied practices.

Q&A: 10:30 am - 10:45 am

**Session 2: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Keynote - Crafting Learning Environments
of
Compassionate Challenge**

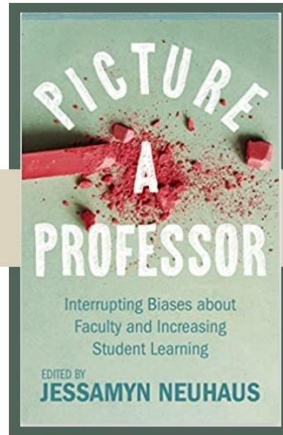
Join us as we learn about intentionally shaping our college communities with compassionate challenges in mind

– creating learning environments characterized by safety, belongingness, and play - that may help ease anxiety, stress, and fears for our students so they may be more successful in our classrooms.

Q&A: 12:00 pm - 12:15 pm

[Click Here to Register for Sarah Rose Cavanagh Keynotes](#)

SPRING FACULTY *Reading Group*



Jan. 30th & 31st
Feb. 27th & 28th
April 17th & 18th


Once a month
Monday or Tuesday
Online Teams, 12-1 pm

Co-facilitated with:
Dr. Carla Goar, *Anti-Racism & Equity Institute*
Dr. Adrienne Erby, *Division of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Faculty Affiliate*
Dr. Michelle Corvette, *Center for Teaching & Learning*

Register at
kent.edu/ctl
or scan here:




[Click here to Register for Spring Faculty Reading Group](#)




Gamify Your Classroom

Playful Strategies for Serious Learning




Wednesday, February 1
12:00-1:30 pm
Moulton Hall Ballroom

Instructors are invited to level up the learning in their college classrooms by incorporating game design elements. Please come prepared to have fun!



Center for Teaching and Learning at Kent State



[Click here to Register for Gamification](#)



Teaching Scholars Colloquium
Friday, February 24, 2023
11:00am - 2:00pm
Moulton Hall Ballroom

The Center for Teaching and Learning highlights the work of our eight Teaching Scholars in this special event. The Teaching Scholars will present the results of their Scholarship of Teaching and Learning research projects at a colloquium that will include appetizers to share while learning about each Scholars experiences.

[Click Here to Register for the Teaching Scholars Colloquium](#)





If You Missed the Workshop

ChatGPT is a generative language processing tool developed by OpenAI that was launched in November 2022. This free program utilizes an adaptive and conversational approach to generate responses, allowing the technology to answer follow-up questions, edit and critique its own work, and challenge false ideas. Although the technology has a few significant limitations, ChatGPT can construct convincing 5-paragraph essays, engage in debate, answer complex math questions, write lab reports, compose song lyrics and poems, write creative stories, and much more. For recent coverage of ChatGPT and its probable impact on higher education, see: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/ai-and-the-future-of-undergraduate-writing>

Please reach out to the Center for Teaching and Learning for Consultation ctl@kent.edu

[To View Workshop from January 10, 2023](#)

~January Featured Faculty~



Jennifer Mapes, Ph.D.
Geography
Kent Campus

Dr. Mapes is recognized for her innovative and student-centered curriculum revision.



Vicumpriya "Vic" Perera, Ph.D.
Mathematics
Trumbull Campus

Dr. Perera is being recognized for his commitment to supporting teaching and learning at Kent State University.

[View more about CTL Featured Faculty](#)

~ Teaching Recognition Awards ~



The Teaching Recognition Awards Program recognizes actions that enhance teaching and learning at Kent State University. The program allows instructors to earn tiered awards (bronze, silver, gold & platinum) for their efforts to learn about, implement, evaluate and investigate evidence-based instructional practices. All instructors at Kent State, including graduate students and faculty of all appointment types (TT, NTT, adjunct) are eligible to participate.

Congratulations to all award recipients!

Bronze Recipient

Paul Hurley

Silver Recipient

Paul Hurley

Gold Recipient

Paul Hurley

Platinum Recipients

Paul Hurley
Enrico Gandolfi

~Additional Opportunities and Reminders~

CARES Center

Crisis - Advocacy - Resources - Education - Support

The CARES Center opened in April of 2021 and has provided basic need support for hundreds of Kent State students. The CARES Center works collaboratively with students to secure resources that meet their basic needs. The center works to connect all Kent State students with both on and off-campus resources supporting their financial, food, housing, and mental well-being basic needs. If you have a student that you believe needs additional support surrounding their basic needs you can submit a CARES Center [Basic Needs Assistance Form](#) on behalf of the student or they can submit the form themselves at any time. Once the form is submitted, a CARES Center case manager will reach out to the student within 24 hours.

The University Teaching Council's Summer Teaching Development Grant \$9,000 10 Week Project/\$4,500 5 Week Project

Intended to enhance student learning by engaging faculty to significantly improve teaching methods, develop curricula, or create innovative course materials. The project needs to exceed normal course preparation, and it should either improve current pedagogical practices or introduce new pedagogical methods or materials that will significantly improve teaching and enhance student learning beyond a single course or single faculty member. For more detailed information and a PDF of application questions, visit the [University Teaching Council website](#).

The application deadline for the 2023 Summer Teaching Development Grant is February 17, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. EST. To apply go to the [University Teaching Council Website](#) or go directly to the application by clicking on the button below:

[Click to go to Summer Teaching Development Application](#)

The Ohio College Teaching Consortium

The [Ohio College Teaching Consortium](#) was formed in 2020 as a cross-institutional effort to share professional development resources across all Ohio public institutions. It currently offers an [Inclusive Teaching Endorsement](#) and serves as a site for sharing workshops that are open to any Ohio faculty member.

If you would like to set your intention to pursue the Inclusive Teaching Endorsement, you [can do so here](#).

If you would like to sign up for an upcoming workshop, you can find them here. (You are welcome to attend workshops whether or not you are pursuing the endorsement). The Kent State I Am First: Connections, Community, & Belonging for First Gen Students is included in the list of eligible events!

Equal Access Academy

There are many opportunities to learn more about student accessibility through the Equal Access Academy. These sessions include topics such as creating accessible courses and content, accessibility animals on campus and much more. For session descriptions and more information see here: <https://www.kent.edu/equalaccess/equal-access-academy>. To see current offerings and register to attend, access the HR training and development calendar here:

www.kent.edu/hr/training/training-calendar



Connect with Us:

CTL is here to support you; whether it is teaching face-to-face, remote, or a combination of both. Email ctl@kent.edu with your questions and/or set up a consultation time.

ctl@kent.edu

<http://www.kent.edu/ctl>