

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning CASSL Seminar Series

Seminar 1: New Approaches to Teaching and Learning

Overview:

This seminar will allow participants to explore recent innovations and analyze research in the areas of student motivation, the creation of significant learning experiences, course design, and teaching “best practices” in various disciplines. Seminar participants will read extensively in these areas, conduct analyses or reviews of the readings in light of their own experiences, and revise class materials and/or modify course design as appropriate.

Outcomes: We will...

- engage in intellectual discussions of the scholarship of teaching and learning
- increase our understanding of teaching “best practices” utilized in different disciplines
- become familiar with recent innovations in teaching methodologies and course design
- be able to apply the seminar material to enhance the learning environment at CRC

Topics:

- Student characteristics, motivation, and expectations
- Best practices comparisons across the disciplines
- Creating significant learning experiences
- New approaches to teaching and course design

Materials:

- Bain, Ken, 2004, *What the Best College Teachers Do*, Harvard University Press, ISBN 0-674-01325-5.
- Readings from current research including excerpts from texts, online sources, and journal articles. E.g. Fink, DL (2006) *What is “Significant Learning”?* From the website www.ou.edu/pii/significant/siglearning.htm

At least one copy of all print materials will be available in CASSL and/or the CRC library.

Methods

Seminar participants will review assigned readings on each general topic and engage in lively intellectual discussion of those readings informed by their own experiences with students. In addition, participants, working individually or in small groups, will delve more deeply into one area of special interest and provide the entire group with a brief literature review and analysis and lead the discussion of that area.

Products

- Analyses of current literature in specific areas related to the overall topics of the seminar
- Summary presentations of literature and ideas
- Modified class materials and/or course design

Week	Major topics Process	Readings (other readings may be recommended by class participants)	Discussion topics
1	Student characteristics and cultures <i>General Discussion</i>	Bain 1, 2	Who are our students? How do people learn?
2	Promoting student motivation and clear expectations <i>Discussion and analysis</i>	Bain, 3, 4	What factors affect student motivation and success? What expectations can we have of students?
3	Creating significant learning experiences <i>Discussion and analysis</i>	Bain 5, 6 Fink, L.D. 2006	How can we conduct class to engage students intellectually? How can we engage students affectively?
4	Best practices in different disciplines <i>Discussion and analysis</i>	Bain 7 Articles from disciplines of the seminar participants	How do we do things differently? How do we evaluate what we and our students are learning?
5	New approaches to teaching and course design: <i>Presentations by seminar participants</i>	TBD	How do we change course design and course materials to integrate the best of traditional practices with new methods?
6	New approaches to teaching and course design <i>Presentations by seminar participants</i>	TBD	How do we change course design and course materials to integrate the best of traditional practices with new methods?
7	New approaches to teaching and course design <i>Presentations by seminar participants</i>	TBD	How do we change course design and course materials to integrate the best of traditional practices with new methods?
8	New approaches to teaching and course design <i>Presentations by seminar participants</i>	TBD	How do we change course design and course materials to integrate the best of traditional practices with new methods?
9	New approaches to teaching and course design <i>Presentations by seminar participants</i> Summary and evaluation	TBD	How do we change course design and course materials to integrate the best of traditional practices with new methods?