Purpose and Mission

The Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching is excited to announce a call for proposals for its inaugural Teaching Innovation Institute, which will take place during the 2020 calendar year. Imagined as a cutting-edge learning community that is responsive to emergent issues in higher education, the Institute will involve two semesters of exploration, experiment, and reflection on innovative and inclusive ways of enhancing student learning at the University of Kentucky. Growing from Presentation U’s Faculty Fellows program, the Teaching Innovation Institute represents an updated commitment to support faculty in sustained and dynamic ways.

The inaugural Institute will lead a faculty cohort through a series of workshops, studio exercises, guided play, peer observations, and course implementations to enhance their use of digital and multimodal pedagogies. In particular, the 2020 cohort will explore the possibilities of teaching and learning in the context of UK’s Smart Campus Initiative and student use of iPads for academic success. Moreover, given the Smart Campus Initiative’s emphasis on digital equity, the work of the Institute will be grounded in a design framework of accessibility, learner variability, and active learning.

Applicants need not consider themselves experts in digital technologies and digital pedagogies. As an immersive program grounded in experiential and collaborative learning, the Institute will encourage all participants to approach the use of technologies with a sense of play and curiosity.

Goals

Participants of the 2020 Teaching Innovation Institute will:

- develop digital and instructional skills with iPads as a tool for increasing student engagement and success;
- apply digital and multimodal pedagogies as part of an ongoing, reflective teaching practice;
- create learning experiences that account for accessibility, learner variability, and a diverse array of student backgrounds and literacies;
- build capacity on campus as leaders, mentors, and experts in their respective areas.
Who Should Apply?

The Teaching Innovation Institute seeks faculty who are interested in:

- learning more about how to use iPads and other technologies to enhance their teaching;
- increasing student participation and engagement in class;
- making their courses and content more accessible to diverse learners;
- exploring varied, multimodal assignments for student assessment;
- experimenting with a variety of apps, devices, and processes;
- serving as mentors and sharing their insights with the campus community.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

- full-time faculty;
- faculty who anticipate a teaching assignment for the Fall 2020 semester;
- faculty who can commit to attending approximately seven workshops during the Spring 2020 semester on Tuesdays from 11:00 to 12:30 in W.T. Young Library;
- former Presentation U Faculty Fellows are eligible to apply for the Institute.

Criteria for Selection

The Teaching Innovation Institute aims to build an interdisciplinary cohort that represents the wide range of teaching and learning environments at UK. In addition, we are looking for applications that articulate how participation in the Institute might:

- impact student learning in meaningful and diverse ways;
- allow faculty to address opportunities for pedagogical innovation;
- address classroom challenges or barriers to meaningful learning;
- prompt the design and implementation of curricula, activities, and assignments based on principles of digital and multimodal pedagogies.

Applications will identify a targeted course during the Fall 2020 semester and include statements of support from both the applicant’s department chair and their college dean.

How Will the Program Work?

Selected participants will receive a stipend of $6000 divided evenly across two semesters, as well as an Apple iPad, Smart Keyboard, and Apple Pencil.

The cohort will participate in a series of mandatory workshops on Tuesdays from 11:00-12:30 during the Spring 2020 semester. Lunch will be served at the end of each workshop.
Participants will also arrange for a summer session to apply their experiences and insights from the first semester of the Institute to their plans for teaching during the Fall 2020 semester.

In addition to course implementation, the second semester of the Institute will consist of small group collaboration, reflection, and participation in CELT services including a modified version of mid-semester student feedback.

Finally, the 2020 cohort experience will culminate in an event designed to share participants’ innovations with the broader campus community.

How Can I Apply?

The application is a Google Form that can be accessed via this hyperlink or at bit.ly/tii2020. We strongly recommend drafting responses to the application elsewhere before entering them into the form, which cannot save your work between sessions. Statements of support from department chairs and college deans should be sent separately to jill.abney@uky.edu.

Important Dates

- Applications are due at 5:00 PM on Monday, 16 December 2019.
- Notification of decisions will be sent by 5:00 PM on Friday, 17 January 2020.
- Confirmation of participation is due at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, 22 January 2020.
- The program will begin on Tuesday, 4 February 2020.

Contact

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Jill Abney at jill.abney@uky.edu.