WAKE FOREST
UNIVERSITY

Teaching and Learning Collaborative

News from the TLC

Issue 1.2
February 4, 2019

Dear Friends,

Thank you for signing up to receive monthly updates from the TLC. We hope to roll out a newsletter with substantive teaching tips in the very new future, but in the interim we want to make sure you are reminded of what we are up to each month. And February is an especially important month for us! As you'll see below, we will start reviewing applications for both our Innovative Teaching Award and Summer Course (Re)Design program this month, we are co-sponsoring the visit of Richard Vaz for a 2-day event on project-based learning (PBL), and we will welcome faculty into our space to learn more about Community Engaged Teaching and Specifications Grading.

We hope you will consider applying for one or both of the awards, and that we'll see you at all the events we're hosting. As always, we urge you to stop by the TLC suite in ZSR to grab a cup of coffee, relax, and say hello.

Best wishes for a wonderful February!

February Award Deadlines

Innovative Teaching Award

Applications for the TLC's Innovative Teaching Award **are due TODAY (Monday, February 4th), no later than 5:00 p.m.** This award recognizes the effort put forth by faculty who have redesigned their courses or introduced new courses with innovative, research-based approaches to the practice of teaching, using new methods and/or technologies, with an intentional emphasis on how these innovations improved or facilitated student learning. In Spring 2019, the TLC will recognize up to five faculty members with this award. The Spring 2019 award is intended for courses taught in Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018, or Fall 2018. All faculty teaching on the Reynolda and Wake Downtown Campuses are invited to apply.

Learn More & Apply

Summer Course (Re)Design Grants

Applications for our Summer Course (Re)Design program **are due on Friday, February 15th, no later than 5:00 p.m.** The grants awarded under this program fund work undertaken in the summer, including 4-6 required cohort meetings. Faculty will receive stipends of either $3,500 (9-month) or $1,500 (12-month), and up to $500 can be requested for additional expenses. All faculty teaching on the Reynolda and Wake Downtown Campuses are invited to apply.

Learn More & Apply

February Workshops

What is Community Engaged Teaching?

Betsy Barre, Teaching & Learning Collaborative
Shelley Sizemore, Pro Humanitate Institute
Wednesday, February 6, 3:30PM-4:45PM

We hear a lot about community engagement, and specifically community engaged teaching, at Wake Forest. But what does it actually mean? And how confident are we that community engagement enhances learning? What does it look like when it goes well? And what challenges does it present to those who attempt it? In this workshop, we will explore models of community engaged teaching, present research on the efficacy of these models, and discuss existing resources to support this work on campus and in the community.

Register

Speed Up with Specifications Grading

T.H.M. Gellar-Goad, Classical Languages
Wednesday, February 20, 3:30PM-4:45PM

Join us to discuss how specifications grading (Nilson, 2014) might work in your class. All assignments are evaluated on a high-standards pass/fail basis, and students' final course grade is determined by the number of assignments or units successfully completed. This system puts the emphasis on achievement and constructive feedback rather than on numbers or letters. Professor Gellar-Goad will present the basics of the system, some tips for making good assignment checklists, and the advantages and disadvantages of working with specs grading.

Register

February 25-26: Project-Based Learning Event

Keynote: "Project-Based Learning: Motivations, Implementation, and Impacts"

Richard Vaz, Director, Center for Project-Based Learning, WPI
Monday, February 25, 3:30-5:00PM
ZSR Auditorium

In this keynote, Rick Vaz will introduce project-based learning (PBL) as a strategy for helping students develop key skills and abilities such as critical thinking, communication, teamwork, and creative problem-solving. He'll help us explore how PBL fits into the landscape of higher education, look at examples of PBL across the curriculum, and discuss results from a study looking at long-term impacts of PBL on graduates.

Project-Based Learning Workshop

Richard Vaz, Director, Center for Project-Based Learning, WPI
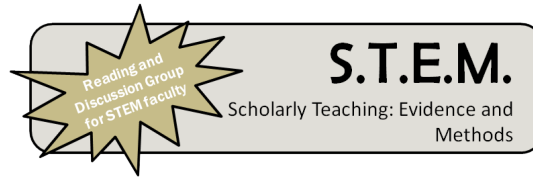Tuesday, February 26, 9:00AM–12:00PM

This interactive workshop will demonstrate how project-based learning (PBL) assignments can be implemented and supported. Participants will collaborate on a PBL experience, discuss tools and strategies for promoting more effective and equitable student teamwork, and will work on developing a plan of action to implement or enhance PBL in one of more of their courses.

S.T.E.M. Reading Group

S.T.E.M. Reading Group

All STEM faculty are invited to join our interdisciplinary STEM reading group, focused on talking about teaching, sharing strategies, keeping up with the latest educational research, and gathering together regularly for discussion and encouragement. The group meetings on the 4th Monday of each month from 12:30PM–1:45PM.

Want to Hear from Us More (or Less) Often?

You are receiving this newsletter because you opted to receive monthly messages from us. If you would like to change the frequency of messages from us, please update your e-mail preferences below.