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## Focus on Teaching - mid April 2021

### Attend with a Friend

April 19 - 22, Various times, via Moodle & MS Teams

These 1- hour workshops are focused on supporting you in finding a small thing that you can tweak in an upcoming course you are teaching to maximize student learning. Reach out to a colleague and sign up together!



[Visit our calendar](#) to find a session that works for your schedule.

### Enhance Student Connection Using Technology

Now more than ever, it is important to maintain a sense of community in our classes. The workshop draws from literature related to the **social** presence within the community of inquiry framework, but takes a practical approach.

### Motivation, Scaffolding and Individual Learning Paths

Is there a big idea or process in your course that students struggle to understand? This workshop draws from literature related to the **cognitive** presence within the community of inquiry framework, but takes a practical approach.

### Intro to Peer Review of Teaching and Instructional Support

Wednesday, April 21, 1-2:30 p.m. via Teams

You're invited to come out and learn more about the newly developed peer review of teaching and instructional support process. It's adaptable, scalable, flexible, and iterative—and designed to support faculty in reflecting on and improving their professional practice. Come and learn how it can benefit you. All faculty are welcome. [Register here](#).

### CELTalk - Project Based Learning Tool - Riipen

Rescheduled to Thursday, April 22, Noon-1 p.m. via MS Teams



Learn how you can incorporate experiential, project-based learning into your courses with Larry Iles, from TRU's Career and Experiential Learning department. TRU faculty have

access to the Riipen platform which helps higher education educators easily launch, manage, track and report on project-based learning happening in the classroom.

In this session you will learn about how short-term project-based engagements complement existing work-integrated learning (WIL) and experiential learning (EL) programs by providing opportunities for emerging talent to engage authentically with companies year-round before they complete their degree. The Riipen platform enables students and companies to connect with project-based learning in a fast-evolving workforce where organizations and educators are looking for innovative ways to prepare today's learners for the demands of tomorrow's workplace. Project-Based Experiential Learning offers students the opportunity to work on projects from industry, embedded into their curriculum and facilitated by an instructor. [Register here.](#)

## CELTalk: Disruptive Learning Narratives: A new framework for analyzing international service learning experiences

Monday, April 26, 1-2 p.m. via MS Teams

In this presentation, Manu Sharma will talk about her forthcoming book, *Disruptive Learning Narrative Framework: Analyzing Race, Power and Privilege in Post-Secondary International Service*

*Learning Experiences* (co-edited by Drs. Manu Sharma, Andrew Allen and Awad Ibrahim, Bloomsbury Publishing), which provides a range of North American post-secondary critical short-term international experiences that are told by the university instructors who have taken and facilitated the learning of their students in international settings. Each chapter reveals unique insights into the learnings that emerge after applying the Disruptive Learning Narrative (DLN) framework. Using insights from their own lives and those of the international shared experiences of their postsecondary students they have taken abroad, authors witnessed a need and call to address what the learning that comes from these critical international experiences does for our students when they return back to North America.

*Manu Sharma is an Assistant Professor at Thompson Rivers University in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, where she teaches foundational courses in the Masters of Education program.*

[Register here.](#)



## Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Community of Practice Interviews and Focus Groups

Friday, April 23, Noon-1 p.m. via MS Teams

Join Catharine Dishke, Director of CELT to learn about the advantages and benefits of each of these information gathering strategies to inform your SoTL projects, and more.

[Register here.](#)

## Instructional Skills Workshop

May 3-14, via Moodle

**Synchronous sessions:** May 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14 @ 1-3 p.m.

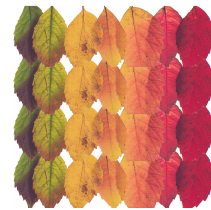
The Instructional Skills Workshop (ISW) is a professional development program designed for faculty members who are interested in developing and enhancing their instructional skills. The workshop consists of teaching practice, theory application, and topical sessions specifically relevant to each instructor's context. In a supportive atmosphere, you will have opportunities to develop new teaching skills, enhance existing skills, and try new and challenging strategies. [Register here.](#)



## Interculturalizing the Curriculum

May 11-18, Tuesdays and Fridays

Since 2008, The Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching has offered a unique and intensive professional development opportunity for faculty members to enhance culturally responsive teaching strategies and incorporate intercultural learning outcomes in curriculum. Over 100 faculty from 18 departments have completed the program; they have enhanced their teaching and confidence working with culturally diverse learners, revised curricula, initiated SoTL projects, presented at conferences, and published in education journals.



Participants in the program will:

- Apply intercultural development theories to their own and students' development
- Review cultural values dimensions related to learning and teaching in diverse contexts
- Reflect on settler/Indigenous relations
- Consider strategies for facilitating multicultural group work
- Develop learning outcomes, assessments, and learning activities to support intercultural learning for all students
- Become part of an interdisciplinary community of practice at TRU and beyond

For more information, visit [Intercultural Learning at TRU](#), or email [intercultural@tru.ca](mailto:intercultural@tru.ca).

[Register here.](#)

## Course (Re)Design Institute

Paced (over 5 weeks), May 17-June 16

Intensive (5 days), June 21-June 25

### Working on a new course or tweaking an existing one?

Join either this five-week, paced workshop, or five-day intensive workshop to map course concepts, connect learning outcomes, practice new instructional techniques, and develop activities and assessment strategies for your students. We'll use the time-tested process

outlined in the 2004 book "Rethinking Teaching in Higher Education" by Saroyan and Amundsen to help you prepare your course. You'll explore course (re)design options through reflection, facilitated discussion, and peer feedback and at the end of the workshop you will be prepared to teach!

### **Paced**

Each week will require a total time commitment of 8 hours to complete all of the activities. Two synchronous group sessions per week will be scheduled, but you will be able to schedule partnered work and individual work. [Register here.](#)

### **Intensive**

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. [Register here.](#)

*Focus on Teaching* is the monthly newsletter of the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT). We showcase instructional development opportunities and resources for TRU faculty and staff, and up-to-date information on current projects, initiatives and professional development opportunities. To read past issues of Focus on Teaching or to subscribe to our mailing list, visit our [Newsletters page.](#)

We respectfully acknowledge that TRU is located ne Secwepemcúl'ecw, in unceded Secwepemc territory.

To contact CELT, email [celt@tru.ca](mailto:celt@tru.ca) and we will do our best to respond within 24 hours. Please note that our team is working remotely for the time being.

