Elevate Fellows
Faculty Learning Community (FLC) Syllabus

Spring Learning Outcomes

After participating in the spring FLC, faculty will be able to:

- Develop an evidence-based, student-centered course with new or refined learning outcomes
- Identify and implement appropriate pedagogic approaches for achieving student learning outcomes.
- Develop or refine course assessments that align with and measure learning outcomes in your redesigned course.

After participating in the fall FLCs, faculty will be able to:

- Describe the ways in which they have redesigned their course to establish a more student-centered approach to teaching and learning.
- Describe qualitatively and/or quantitatively how their course redesign has impacted student learning outcomes.
- Reflect on their experience with course redesign and identify the successes achieved as well as the potential for future improvements.

FLC Description

Faculty Learning Communities (FLCs) have been shown to be effective in engaging “community in the cause of student and faculty learning and of transforming our institutions of higher education into learning organizations” (Cox, 2004, p. 5). Although we understand most instructors have been successfully designing, developing, and teaching their courses, often for years, the goal of this FLC is to ensure that we have a common terminology, understanding, and approach to course design.

In spring, the FLC meetings will be focused on the process of backward course design. We will present evidence-based, pedagogically-sound approaches to course design and guide you through a process from which you will be able to purposefully create a course that meets your unique needs. The FLC meetings will be discussion-based and include active learning exercises. Prior to each meeting, you will complete short readings and assignments. This pre-work will guide you through the process of course redesign and help you develop your Redesign Plan.

In fall, the FLC meetings will be focused on supporting the pilots of your course redesign. As such, we have invited several guests to speak on topics relevant to your redesign. You
will also have the opportunity to share your redesign approach with the larger group. Finally, you will complete several short assignments such as a peer observation and a mid-term evaluation that are designed to help you evaluate and reflect on the impact of your course redesign.

**Assignments**

There are several assignments that you will need to complete throughout the program. The completion of specific requirements is necessary to move to the next phase of your redesign work. Brief descriptions of select assignments are included below:

**Homework:** You will complete a brief reading, reflection or other pre-work before most of our regular meetings. These assignments will directly relate to the FLC meetings and your pilot.

**Redesign Plan:** Throughout the spring, you will concentrate on developing an outline of your course redesign. The Redesign Plan will include an outcome and assessment map, a description of the changes to the course, a budget, and timeline. This plan will be developed through the semester in the FLC meetings.

**Course Observations:** You will conduct two course observations in the program. The intent of these observations is *not to evaluate the instructor or the course*, but to see first-hand other faculty members’ approaches to teaching. As such, you will complete a short reflection form to guide your observation.

**Sharing:** You have been assigned a specific meeting to update the group about your redesign. You will briefly share your plan for the redesign, how it is going, any successes, and current challenges.

**Pilot Reflection:** At the end of the program, you will submit a short reflection on your pilot. The goal of this report is for you to reflect on all of your hard work and determine the next steps in your redesign.

**Participation**

As an Elevate Fellow, it is expected that you will attend and participate in the FLCs and complete all assignments and readings. You will also meet with TLTC staff as you develop your redesign plan and as you implement your pilot. Please notify us in advance if you are unable to attend a meeting.
**Topics**

Below is a tentative schedule of topics that will be discussed.

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