

CTL Bulletin

No. 33 – January 15, 2007

A bi-weekly information sheet by the Center for Teaching and Learning

Spring 2007 Events At the Center for Teaching & Learning

The CTL invites you to participate in a lineup of workshops this semester that you will find useful if you want to incorporate more variety of writing or new technologies into your courses. In addition, we have two off-campus speakers for you on topics less frequently addressed: Part-Time Instructors as well as Multicultural Education.

On Friday, Feb. 9, Dr. Velma Lashbrook from *The Collaboration for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning in St. Paul, MN* will address the topic:

"Selecting and Developing Adjunct Faculty."

Referencing current research regarding part-time faculty and effective staffing practices, this workshop engages participants in the process of clarifying desired outcomes, assessing current practices, and designing strategies to improve the selection and development of adjunct faculty.

On Tuesday, Mar. 27, Dr. Suzette Speight from *Loyola University, Chicago* will address two topics:

"Multicultural Transformations and the Curriculum" (morning)

"How to Incorporate Diverse Cultural Perspectives across the Curriculum" (afternoon)

Dr. Tony Piña offers the following technology-related workshops this semester:

Getting Started in Blackboard

By Appointment

This one-hour individualized session will introduce you to the Blackboard instructor control panel and give you the "hands-on" experience needed to get started with your own Blackboard course, including working with content, discussion forums and course management. Please contact 442-4467 to make an appointment.

Multimedia for Blackboard

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 1:40-3:00 pm; Repeated, Thursday Mar. 8, 1:40-3:00 pm

Learn how you can spice up your Blackboard courses with narrated PowerPoint presentations and free graphics editing tools. See a demonstration of Lectora, a powerful and easy-to-use tool for creating professional looking multimedia-based instruction.

Enhancing Your Web-Enhanced Course

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 1:40-3:00 pm; Repeated Wednesday, Apr. 4, 1:40-3:00 pm

If you are using Blackboard for your courses and wish to "take it to the next level", this session is for you! You will learn the latest Blackboard "tips and tricks" for formatting your course, giving your students "1-click access" to course content, time-saving methods for collecting, grading and providing feedback for student assignments, grading discussion forums, creating and managing groups and tracking student activity in your Bb courses.

Creating Your First Online Class Session

Wednesday, Mar. 14, 1:40-3:00 pm; Repeated Tuesday, Apr. 17, 1:40-3:00 pm

If you are thinking about teaching a Hybrid (part face-to-face and part online) course, the most difficult part of the process is creating that very first online session. Examples from local and national exemplary online courses and ideas from those who have taught online will help you to prepare to develop your first online class session.

Dr. Kate Hahn offers the following Writing-related workshops this semester:

Creating Informal Writing Activities

Thursday, February 8 from 2:00 – 4:00pm

Informal writing activities benefit students by allowing them to concentrate on the content of their writing rather than the surface-level concerns of syntax, spelling, and punctuation. Informal writing activities can be designed to be the early building blocks that focus on content and that lead to more formal and complex writing assignments that do require students to focus on surface-level issues late in the writing process. Participants in this workshop will explore various types of informal writing activities that can be incorporated into many different types of courses and discuss the design, implementation, and grading of such activities.

English Language Learners in the Classroom

Thursday, February 22 from 2:00 – 4:00pm

Approximately 45% of incoming freshmen at NEIU indicate each year that English is not their native language. This high percentage of English language learners (ELLs) in the classroom can affect many aspects of teaching and learning for both students and faculty. Participants in this workshop will discuss how this high percentage of ELLs affects their classroom experiences by exploring topics related to teaching ELLs and examining practical strategies for addressing these issues.

Tales from the Trenches: Writing Assignments that Work – A Panel Discussion of NEIU Faculty

Monday, February 26 from 1:00 – 3:00pm

Finding ways to help students across the curriculum to improve their writing is a perennial hot topic. A panel of NEIU faculty and instructors (including Cathryn Bulicek, Lesa Davis, Emily Good, and Jon Hageman) who have participated in a three-day workshop on Writing across the Curriculum (WAC) will present their experiences redesigning courses over the last few semesters to incorporate various types of writing assignments. The panelists will discuss the pros and cons of the changes they made and the effects of these changes on them and their students. Participants in this workshop will hear a brief description of the WAC workshop, the philosophy of writing instruction, and types of writing assignments that the panelists experienced. Participants will be able to pose questions to the panelists related to the WAC workshop and the writing assignment changes they have made in their courses.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Topic/Presenter</i>
February	7	Wed.	1:40-3:00	Lib. 349	Multimedia for Blackboard (Tony Piña)
February	8	Thu.	2:00-4:00	Lib. 310	Creating Informal Writing Activities (Kate Hahn)
February	9	Fri.	1:00-4:00	Lib. 310	Selecting & Developing Adjunct Faculty (Velma Lashbrook)
February	20	Tue.	1:40-3:00	Lib. 349	Enhancing Your Web-Enhanced Course (Tony Piña)
February	22	Thu.	2:00-4:00	Lib. 310	English Language Learners in the Classroom (Kate Hahn)
February	26	Mon.	1:00-3:00	Lib. 310	Tales from the Trenches: Writing Assignments that Work
March	8	Thu.	1:40-3:00	Lib. 349	Multimedia for Blackboard (Tony Piña)
March	14	Wed.	1:40-3:00	Lib. 349	Creating Your First Online Class Session (Tony Piña)
March	27	Tue.	10-12:00	Lib. 310	Multicultural Transformations of the Curriculum (Suzette Speight)
			2:00-4:00	Lib. 310	How to Incorporate Diverse Cultural Perspectives across the Curriculum (Suzette Speight)
April	4	Wed.	1:40-3:00	Lib. 349	Enhancing Your Web-Enhanced Course (Tony Piña)
April	17	Tue.	1:40-3:00	Lib. 349	Creating Your First Online Class Session (Tony Piña)