INSIDE CTL

Spread the Word

Please forward *Inside CTL* to sessional lecturers and teaching assistants in your units so that they are aware of Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) supports and events.

Welcome to 2021-22

Welcome – and welcome back – to the University of Toronto Scarborough. Students and faculty continue to face some unique challenges in the learning process, and CTL is here to help you navigate them successfully.

For students, we have a range of online supports – and some services are available in person this fall. From English Language Development Support to Math and Statistics, our experts can help. We recommend accessing those services soon; the earlier you begin, the more advantage you can take of our programming and expertise. Please direct students to our Academic Learning Support site for online tutoring, workshops and peer supports.

Visit our Academic Resources site to learn more about how CTL helps instructors transition to online learning.

Teaching Sensitive Materials

A new CTL resource, **Teaching Sensitive Materials**, is available to help instructors as they plan and prepare courses. It is available on our Academic Resources site.

This document aims to recognize the diverse experiences and knowledges that instructors and students bring to U of T Scarborough; support the work of instructors whose courses focus on sensitive topics and whose work contributes directly to systemic change; and encourage classroom environments that facilitate productive conversations around sensitive topics and course materials.

Events

Creating Accessible Documents
Tuesday, Sept. 21, 3-4 p.m.

The switch to remote learning has created new learning opportunities and challenges in accessibility. Learn about some of the assistive technologies students use and why accessible materials are important. Acquire new skills in creating accessible documents and modifying existing documents to adhere to the AODA. This workshop is interactive and open to all faculty and staff, and all materials will be provided.

Facilitator:

Alissa Evans, Assistive Technology Consultant, CTL/Access*Ability* Services

Register [here](#).

Fostering a Sense of Community in Online Learning
Thursday, Sept. 23, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Online learning is rapidly growing at the post-secondary level in Canada due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the growing need for online learning, there are often high dropout rates due to feelings of isolation and disconnection. These feelings can be overcome by fostering a sense of community (SoC), which is a sense of belonging and interactivity among learners. This webinar will focus on the pedagogical benefits of a SoC, the facilitation method that produces a stronger SoC, and learner-learner interactions that weaken this sense of community in online courses.

Facilitators:

Dr. Krystle Phirangee, Educational Developer, Assessment and Online Learning, CTL

Nadine Clarke, Frontline Educational Technology Specialist, CTL

Register [here](#).

Support for Experiential Learning at UTSC
Wednesday, Oct. 6, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

If you are developing and teaching experiential learning (EL) courses, UTSC has many people and resources to assist you – including CTL's educational developers; Integrated Learning Experience coordinators; and Community Partnerships and Engagement staff members. There are also EL grants and learning modules to support and enhance your course. Learn more about these supports, meet the people who offer them and have all your questions answered at this workshop.

Facilitators:

Dr. Al Hearn, Educational Developer for Experiential Learning, CTL

Saddaf Syed, Integrated Learning Experience Coordinator, Arts & Science Co-op

Julie Witt, Integrated Learning Experience Coordinator, Arts & Science Co-op

Anushay Irfan Khan, Program Integration and Design Coordinator, Community

Partnerships & Engagement

Register [here](#).

Assignment Design to Hear Student Voices on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
Wednesday, Oct. 20, 10-11:30 a.m.

Our diverse student body is a major strength on UTSC campus. Our students bring incredible globally informed views and lived experiences with them into our classrooms. Have we created space to hear them? In this interactive workshop, participants will discuss a potential future assignment or exercise that builds on their work in offering diverse perspectives, incorporating different knowledges and creating inclusive learning environments. Participants will brainstorm ideas for assignments, focusing on aspects of equity, diversity and inclusion.

Facilitator:

Dr. Aarthi Ashok, Professor, Teaching Stream, Associate Chair, Teaching and Undergraduate Affairs, Department of Biology, UTSC

Register [here](#).

U(t)-Mathazine

CTL's math and stats magazine has changed its formula: The publication has been renamed *U(t)-Mathazine* and undergone a redesign. It also uses more contributors from all three campuses.

The latest issue of the magazine focuses on the theme of change, in reference to the significant changes in our lives as a result of the pandemic. "Just like the many lessons that we have learned during the pandemic, we hope that these changes will result in a more accessible and inspiring mathematics publication," wrote Prof. Zohreh Shahbazi in her editor's note.

Read the Changes issue [here](#).

Instructional Technology Innovation Fund (ITIF) Applications

The 2021 Instructional Technology Innovation Fund (ITIF) applications are now open. The fund is intended to provide opportunities for technology-mediated teaching and learning projects. Applications are accepted from fully appointed faculty (both streams) and librarians. Projects must be for supporting degree credit courses and programs. Drop-in consultations on Teams will be available this month. The deadline for applications is Friday, Nov. 19.

Learn more, including funding streams and themes for the 2021 funding round, [here](#).

New AccessAbility Services Module

Instructors can now view student accommodation letters online through a new Access*Ability* Services module. This module, available in my*AIMS*, allows faculty to reference which students in their courses are requesting accommodations.

Access*Ability* Services has produced faculty guides on this process – including an FAQ, a step-by-step video and more – which can be found on the [Faculty Resource site](#).

Additional Resources

Additional teaching resources are available at the [Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation website](#).