



Wednesday, August 16, 2023 (Virtual Day)

All sessions will be available via Wonkavision (Zoom). Registration is required; registration links are included with each session description below. Session links will be sent upon registration.

10–10:45 a.m. **10 Tips for a Better Syllabus**

Facilitator: Megan Weatherly

A syllabus is a critical course document. It not only contains important information, it sets the tone for the course. Join Megan to learn some easy ideas for creating a more learner-centered syllabus. (Register [here.](#))

10–10:45 a.m. **Motivation and Learning Design: Exploring Models of Motivation**

Facilitator: Javier Vega

Have you found that students are disengaged lately? Are there ways we can help motivate students in our courses? Join us as we discuss models of motivation and how we can implement them in our courses. (Register [here.](#))

11 a.m.–noon **Instructor Presence Online: Being Supportive, Active, And Consistent While Working Smarter, Not Harder**

Facilitator: Laura Osborne

A supportive, engaging online learning experience includes active instructor presence, but what does that mean, and how do we achieve it? In this session, we'll discuss the importance of intentional planning and design, as well as look at how Brightspace tools (including intelligent agents, news, feedback, video notes, and more) can aid in facilitating online courses in which your unique expertise, experience and voice shine through. (Register [here.](#))

11 a.m.–noon **From Memes to Mastery: Leveraging Gen Z's Digital Fluency for Learning**

Facilitator: Emily Dodson

In this session, we'll explore how the digital fluency of Gen Z can be harnessed to create engaging and effective learning experiences. Join us to discover innovative strategies that bridge the gap between the digital landscape and cultural interests that Gen Z students are immersed in and the educational content we deliver. From deciphering memes to cultivating critical thinking, this workshop will empower educators to transform Gen Z's familiarity with digital platforms into a powerful tool for academic mastery and meaningful engagement. (Register [here.](#))

1–2 p.m.

Make It Stick: Incorporating Effective Learning Strategies into Your Courses

Facilitator: Megan Weatherly

In this session, we'll learn more about some recent findings about the human brain and how it works. Then, we'll discuss ways to translate that research into concrete techniques to implement in your class to help your students become more productive learners. (Register [here.](#))

1–2 p.m.

Let's Play: How Elements of Gaming Can Influence Teaching

Facilitators: Theunis Oliphant & Javier Vega

Video games are a popular form of escapism for many, yet many of the elements that make all gaming platforms so popular can be translated to teaching and learning. Join Theunis and Javier as they discuss the importance of play, exploration, and guided learning in this gaming-themed session. (Register [here.](#))

2:15–3 p.m.

The Digital Third Place: Social Media's Role in Empowering Students, Shaping Communities and Enhancing Learning Experiences

Facilitator: Emily Dodson

In a rapidly evolving digital landscape, the once lost concept of the "third place" has found an online renaissance. Serving as a key place for today's students to create community, digital landscapes have become a meeting place where information and identities intersect. Students are utilizing social media platforms to engage with the world around them and stay informed about topics that they are passionate about. In this session, we'll discuss the importance of these spaces to your students, explore the impact that you can have by understanding and acknowledging their value, and dissect how to leverage the platforms to create better learning experiences. (Register [here.](#))

2:15–3 p.m.

Advanced Content Design in Brightspace

Facilitator: Laura Osborne

Already familiar with the basics of uploading, organizing, and creating Brightspace content? In this session, we'll delve further into the content tool, including how to use templates, best practices for linking, contextualizing, and embedding multimedia, tips for ensuring your content is accessible, and more. (Register [here.](#))

Thursday, August 17, 2023 (Virtual Day)

All sessions will be available via Wonkavision (Zoom). Registration is required; registration links are included with each session description below. Session links will be sent upon registration.

10–10:45 a.m.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Internship Room

Facilitator: Brent McLemore

Come with me and you'll see in a world of pure collaboration how you can onboard your internship reporting, approval, and vetting to Handshake, streamlining and automating much of these processes. We'll also touch briefly on other ways the Center for Career and Professional Development can partner with you and your department both inside and outside of the classroom. (Register [here.](#))

10–10:45 a.m. **Mobile Learning: Design Tips for Considering On-The-Go Students**
Facilitator: Javier Vega
In an era where students are taking their online learning with them on-the-go now more than ever, how can we consider these mobile students in our course design? Join Javier as he shares data and design tips for mobile learning and how a few small updates to our courses can enhance the learning experience for mobile students. (Register [here.](#))

11 a.m.–noon **Teaching in the AI Era: Enhancing Learning through Intelligent Integration**
Facilitators: Emily Dodson & Theunis Oliphant
As we learn to navigate this new era of artificial intelligence and teaching students best practices for it academic settings, it is important that we also teach them to harness it as a new tool and equip them to enter careers that are adopting emerging technologies. Hear from colleagues that are successfully leveraging AI to enhance their teaching, and engage in collaborative discussions designed to spark creative thinking and generate ideas for incorporating AI into your curriculum. By the end of the session, you'll leave with a toolbox of AI integration techniques and strategies for implementing them in your classes. (Register [here.](#))

11 a.m.–noon **Student Mental Health Concerns: A Listening Session with Counseling Services**
Facilitators: Counseling Services Counselors
Join staff counselors from SFA's Counseling Services team for an informal conversation about student mental health needs. They are eager to learn more from faculty about the ways student mental health is impacting student learning. They'll share what they're learning from students and discuss how you can best address refer students who are struggling. (Register [here.](#))

1–2 p.m. **Creating Screencast Videos for Online Courses: A Step-by-Step Process for Success**
Facilitator: Laura Osborne
In this session, we'll explore tips and techniques for creating short instructional videos that capture and convey your personality and expertise, including a step-by-step workflow process for scripting, recording, and editing a short instructional video tutorial. (Register [here.](#))

1–2 p.m. **Integrating Maker Activities with SFA Makerspace: A Faculty Panel**
Facilitators: Shannon Bowman & Megan Weatherly
Panelists: Drs. DawnElla Rust, Amber Wagnon, Tori Wagner-Greene, & Bill Nieberding
The SFA Makerspace launches this fall and is open to all students of all majors. Its primary goal is to support student learning, but the space also supports research, independent projects, and the campus maker community. In this session, you'll hear from four faculty who collaborated with the Makerspace this past spring to implement maker activities into their courses. We'll also share ideas for ways you might do the same in your courses! (Register [here.](#))

2:15–3 p.m.

Creative Ways to Bring the World to Your Classroom

Facilitator: Heather Catton

Panelists: Drs. Jeana Paul-Urena, Bill Forbes, Jason Reese, & Emmerentie Oliphant
SFA faculty are finding new approaches to giving students a global experience. Join this panel discussion to learn about collaborative online learning, virtual international presenters, virtual international internships, and even virtual study abroad. (Register [here.](#))

2:15–3 p.m.

What's New in Brightspace

Facilitators: Theunis Oliphant & Laura Osborne

Come learn about a couple of recent updates in Brightspace: 1) the new quiz creation interface, which makes it easier than ever to create and edit quizzes, and 2) the Media Library, a feature that enables you to record, upload, caption, search, and reuse videos across your courses. (Register [here.](#))

Monday, August 21, 2023 (F2F & Virtual Day)

All sessions will be available in person in the CTL (second floor, Steen Library) and via Wonkavision. No pre-registration is required if attending in person. All Wonkavision participants must pre-register; registration links are included with each session description below. Session links will be sent upon registration.

10–10:45 a.m.

Academic Integrity & the New Student Code of Conduct

Facilitators: Dr. Andrew Dies, George Montgomery, & Brendan Lardie

Location: Fizzy Lifting Drink Room or Wonkavision (Register for the latter [here.](#))

Our affiliation with UT System brought with it changes to policies and procedures, including the Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity. Join Dr. Andrew Dies, Dean of Students, to learn about SFA's new processes for adjudicating student violations of the Code.

10–10:45 a.m.

Brightspace Semester Start for Faculty

Facilitator: Laura Osborne

Location: Inventing Room or Wonkavision (Register for the latter [here.](#))

Learn about common workflows for getting your courses up and running, including how to copy, upload, and organize course content, communicate with your students, post and schedule news, set up your gradebook, and more. Bring your own device and follow along!

11 a.m.–noon

Teaching in Times of Change: A Faculty Panel

Facilitator: Dr. Lorenzo Smith, Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Panelists: TBA

Location: Fizzy Lifting Drink Room or Wonkavision (Register for the latter [here.](#))

The last few years have found higher education under more of a political microscope than ever. Teaching has become more daunting in the face of challenges to tenure,

influence of outside actors, and sizeable political currents. Join Provost Lorenzo Smith for a discussion on these important topics.

noon–1 p.m.

LUNCH

Join us for lunch! Please register [here](#).

1–2 p.m.

AI Innovations in Student Writing

Facilitators: Drs. Jason McIntosh, Steve Marsden, & Sara Parks

Location: Fizzing Lifting Drink Room or Wonkavision (Register for the latter [here](#).)

Three professors from the Department of English and Creative Writing share the innovative ways they are employing AI to engage and empower student readers and writers.

1–2 p.m.

Faculty Teaching Showcase

Featuring Dr. Amber Chelette, Ryan Hunke, Alyssa Landreneaux, & Dr. Sharon Rice

Location: Inventing Room or Wonkavision (Register for the latter [here](#).)

In this action-packed session, four faculty from across campus will share easy-to-implement activities sure to boost student engagement and build connections with peers and content.

2:15–3 p.m.

TILting the Balance of Power: Tweaking Assignments to Reduce Inequities

Facilitator: Dr. Marc Guidry, Associate Provost

Location: Fizzy Lifting Drink Room or Wonkavision (Register for the latter [here](#).)

Small teaching changes can lead to improved learning gains. In this session, Associate Provost Marc Guidry will share details about the Transparency in Teaching & Learning (TILT) project, which aims to advance equitable teaching and learning practices by promoting students' conscious understanding of how they learn. He'll also share example assignments from his and other courses that have utilized the TILT framework.

2:15–3 p.m.

Piano Lessons: What I've Learned from Being a Brand-New Learner

Facilitator: Megan Weatherly

Location: Inventing Room or Wonkavision (Register for the latter [here](#).)

Megan gets metacognitive as she reflects on nearly three years' worth of piano lessons and shares observations about teaching, learning, and the challenges of being a student. No concert will be provided. You can thank her later.
