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The Mission of the Faculty Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning is to develop and support pedagogical initiatives that will provide a distinctive and transformative educational experience for our students.

Our goal is to help faculty members create a rich and transformative learning environment that provides an engaging and challenging experience for students.

The Faculty Center staff members are dedicated to providing faculty with the ability to engage in developmental activities, to fully integrate innovative technology solutions in the classroom environment and to evaluate student learning, regardless of the modality.

Through personalized support and training, as well as workshops created to introduce new technology and teaching strategies, the Center is dedicated to providing the necessary resources for faculty members to provide a dynamic learning environment for our students.

If you have any questions or have a willingness to lead a workshop in your area of interest or expertise, please do not hesitate to contact us at facultycenter@lewisu.edu.

We look forward to working with you.

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Our Services

Academic Technology
The Academic Technology Solutions Team focuses on advancing teaching and learning through the development, support and research of technologies related to instructional strategies for faculty and students. The Team works collaboratively with all areas of the university to provide and support a culture of innovative uses of educational technologies to engage and empower learning experiences based on best practices and research.

Faculty Development
The Faculty Development Committee serves as liaisons by providing advisory support and advocating for faculty initiatives that promote professional growth including mentoring, scholarship, and pedagogy that support student success in the spirit of the Lasallian Mission.

Instructional Design
Instructional design is a systematic planning process by which instruction is improved through analysis of learning needs and development of learning materials. The great benefits instructional design offers are that it begins with the learner, focuses on the learner experience, and engages learners in active learning with a meaningful context, thus helps create greater student achievement. The Faculty Center instructional design specialist will work closely with faculty to provide a high level of instructional design and instructional technology support. Instructional design services provided by the Center for Academic and Technology Solutions include consultation, research, and coaching.

Online Teaching Certification
The Online Teaching Certification offered through the Faculty Center fulfills University requirements for faculty to teach online and blended courses at Lewis University. The certification is available both in person and online. The in person certification can only be completed in the summer during a four day, all day training. Participants will learn the basic pedagogical approaches, design principles, and technological tools that facilitate online learning. The training is offered online every six weeks on a rotating basis. There is no need to be on campus to take the online training. You can log in and complete the online training through the Lewis University Blackboard system. The online offering of the certification fills quickly, so advanced registration is highly recommended. The Online Teaching certificate will be awarded to those who have successfully completed the online or in person training program.
Our Facilities

We are located on the first floor of the Learning Resource Center. Our offices span room LR-108 to LR-111 while our lab is located in room LR-112.

The Faculty Center Lab
The Faculty Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning provides an academic workspace for all faculty with on-demand assistance for Blackboard and other educational technologies supported at the University.

The lab contains seven workstations with access to printing. Meetings and trainings are held on an occasional basis in the Faculty Center Lab. During those times, faculty are welcome to join trainings or can work out of adjoining offices if necessary.
Workshops on educational technologies, University software, teaching and learning, and cyber security topics are offered each semester. Most workshops are offered both online and in person. Additional workshops may be added to the schedule and will be posted on the Faculty Center workshop registration page. All workshops require advanced registration.

Online Teaching Certification
The Online Teaching Certification fulfills University requirements for faculty to teach online and blended courses at Lewis University. This session is completely online. There is no need to be on campus to take the online training as all coursework is completed on the Lewis University Blackboard system. Participants will learn the basic pedagogical approaches, design principles, and technological tools that facilitate online learning. Participants can expect to spend 3-5 hours per week completing coursework to meet weekly deadlines. An Online Teaching Certificate will be awarded to those who have successfully completed all required coursework.

Location: Online
Spring Session I: Monday, January 28, 2019 – Sunday, March 10, 2019
Spring Session II: Monday, March 18, 2019, – Sunday, May 5, 2019 (no coursework due the week of Easter)

Teaching & Learning Topics
Teaching and learning workshops are offered to help provide support to instructors both in and outside the classroom from a pedagogical perspective. This workshop series aims to bring together best practices and foster a community of learning amongst faculty. Some workshops prepare and support faculty in designing and teaching online courses, developing best online teaching practices, and instructional strategies for courses design and redesign. Others provide classroom strategies for student engagement and success using little to no technology at all. Advanced registration required. Visit the Faculty Center website to register today.

Open Educational Resources: How to Use Them, What They Are, and Where to Find Them
Facilitated by Kelley Plass, Instruction & Research Librarian

According to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology: "Openly Licensed Educational Resources are learning materials that can be used for teaching, learning, and assessment without cost. They can be modified and redistributed without violating copyright laws". This session will serve as an introduction to the use, explanation and source of open education resources. Participants will be given an overview of OER’s, then, through an in-workshop activity, an opportunity to find some OER’s that potentially could be used in their coursework and course design. The objective of this session is to provide each faculty member with tools and resources to find and use OER’s in their classes, as well as have a take-away of at least one OER that can be a successful resource for them and their students.

Location: Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online
Date & Time: Wednesday, February 27, 12 – 1:00pm
Join the Faculty Center for a discussion on emerging trends in our incoming students. The term “Generation Z” is being used by researchers to talk about students entering our University doors now and in the next few years. This next generation of students are the true digital natives of our society, never living in a world without high speed internet. Participants will receive a journal article to read before attending.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online

**Date & Time:** Friday, March 1st, 12 – 1:30pm
The Challenges of Teaching Online: An Alternative Perspective  
Facilitated by Dr. Michele Kramer, Associate Professor College of Nursing and Health Professions

Join Dr. Michele Kramer for an exploration of why teaching online is so different from the classroom and ideas for making the experience more rewarding to both faculty and students.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, April 3rd, 2 – 3:00pm

Using Failure and Reflection to Foster Learning  
Facilitated by Lee Pedraza

In this session, instructors will learn how to promote reflective classrooms and help ensure that students are fully engaged in the process of making meaning. Creating a supportive classroom environment where persistence, effort and mistakes are embraced, analyzed and celebrated will allow teachers to foster the development of a growth mindset. Instructors will have the opportunity to learn how to organize instruction so that students are the producers, not just the consumers, of knowledge.

“Failure isn’t fatal, but failure to change might be” – John Wooden

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, April 10th, 3 – 4:00pm

Blackboard Topics

The Learning Management System for Lewis University is Blackboard Learn. Attend these types of workshops to brush up your skills or learn new things in Blackboard and other third party tools integrated within Blackboard. Topics vary from beginning to advanced. Workshops can help instructors in both face-to-face courses as well as online, blended, or web enhanced course delivery and student engagement. Advanced registration required. Visit the Faculty Center website to register today.

Blackboard Orientation Workshop for New Faculty  
Facilitated by The Faculty Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning

The Blackboard Orientation Workshop for New Faculty provides an introductory overview of how to use the University Learning Management System, Blackboard. The workshop is offered in person or online at the end of each semester for faculty joining the University in the following semester. Attendees may join in person or through online conference.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Dates & Time:**  
- Monday, January 7th, 12 – 1:00pm  
- Wednesday, January 9th, 3 – 4:00pm  
- Monday, January 14th, 3 – 4:00pm  
- Thursday, January 16th, 12 – 1:00pm
Assignment Options in Blackboard
Facilitated by Lisa Caldwell, Faculty Development Support Technologist

How are you collecting student papers? The old fashion way? Whether you are teaching a face-to-face or an online class, let us show you how to create an assignment in Blackboard that you can set up to check for plagiarism, attach a rubric and even grade electronically! In this session we will look at both the Blackboard assignment feature as well as TURNITIN.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Date & Time:** Tuesday, February 19th, 10 – 11:00am

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Blackboard Grade Center
Facilitated by Samantha Kinser

This workshop will focus on effectively using the Grade Center, no matter what type of course you teach, learn how to use the new grading features and retention center. We will examine organizing the grade center and creating calculated columns.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Date & Time:** Thursday, March 7th, 10 – 11:00 am

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Test Availability Exceptions
Facilitated by Lisa Caldwell, Faculty Development Support Technologist

Do you have student athletes who may not be able to make exam day? Or an unforeseen emergency that prevents a student from taking an exam during the time period you have allowed for? Don’t let these situations become your problem. The Test Availability Exceptions in Blackboard can offer you a way to provide for these situations without cramping your life and schedule! Join us for this short workshop on how to set up this amazing feature.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, March 27th 2 – 3:00pm

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Adventures in the Discussion Board
Facilitated by Lisa Caldwell, Faculty Development Support Technologist

After learning about the initial set up of Discussion forums, this session will talk about ways to get the dialogue started for your students. We will also “discuss” best practices and create a format to keep students engaged in respectful, informative peer communications. Join us for this “engaging” workshop!

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Date & Time:** Thursday, April 25th, 11 – 12:00 pm

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Reusing Content: Rolling over your course materials
Facilitated by The Faculty Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning

Learn how to rollover your course. In a few steps, you will learn how to prepare your course to be roll over ready. Attendees will be able to work on their own courses in this interactive workshop

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online  
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, May 8th, 11 – 12:00 pm  
          Thursday, May 9th, 3 – 4:00 pm
Technology Topics
Join the Faculty Center for various topics in technology and cyber security that are outside of the Learning Management system. Choose from assessment, cyber security, and Microsoft technologies below. Advanced registration required. Visit the Faculty Center website to register today.

TK20: Course Based Assessment
Learn about TK20 and how to collect student artifacts for course, program and university level assessment. Learn how to set up the integration between Blackboard and TK20 to collect student artifacts for program, department, and university level assessment.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online
**Date & Time:** Tuesday, February 5th, 11am– 12:00pm
Monday, March 4th, 11am– 12:00pm

Collaborate with Microsoft Office 365
*Facilitated by Samantha Kinser*
Learn how to use Office 365 apps for collaboration in and outside the classroom. Receive an overview of the ways you can use One Drive, Apps Online, Sway and SharePoint. This workshop is ideal for all faculty and staff.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, February 20th, 12 – 1:00pm

Teaching with Adobe Spark
*Facilitated by Assistant Professor Hayley Miller, Communications*
Learn about Adobe Spark and the rise of nonlinear learning with Assistant Professor of Communications, Hayley K. Miller. Adobe Spark can be used to create digital storytelling videos, impactful graphics, and webpages. Participants will view a demonstration and discuss the background and uses for Adobe Spark projects while getting hands on practice using Adobe Spark for the classroom.

**Location:** Faculty Center Lab, First Floor Library LR-112 or Online
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, March 20th, 1 – 2:30pm

Cyber Security: Phishing, Passwords, and Protection
*Facilitated by Robert Barton*
This workshop will be an open session with tips, tricks and ample time for questions on the subject of security online. Join us for topics that matter most to you.

**Location:** Faculty Center LRC 112 or Online
**Date & Time:** Tuesday, April 30th, 12 – 1:00pm
This 5-part workshop series will focus on research-based practices for college writing instruction. We'll both revise our writing assignments and explore everyday adjustments to our courses that can foster student writing development.

Two of these workshops will be led by guest scholars. Dr. Kim Jaxon, Associate Professor of English at California State University Chico, will lead a workshop on fostering a classroom community of writers, no matter the size of the course. Dr. Jaxon specializes in digital literacies and course design—as well as writing in the sciences. With the support of a National Science Foundation grant, Dr. Jaxon co-wrote *Composing Science: A Facilitator’s Guide to Writing in the Science Classroom*.

Dr. Dan Melzer, Associate Professor of English at University of California Davis, has published widely about designing writing assignments, and his *Assignments Across the Curriculum: A National Study of College Writing* studies over 2,000 writing assignments from all disciplines at 100 different colleges and universities.

Faculty who attend four of five sessions will receive $100 in professional development funds, with space for 10 participants. Those proposing or revising courses for the Gen Ed Advanced Writing requirement will be given priority. Visit the Faculty Center website to register or email Tom McNamara at tmcnamara1@lewisu.edu.

Alternate meeting times will be held for those who cannot attend at these times.

**Designing Effective Writing Assignments Across Disciplines**  
*Facilitated by Dr. Dan Melzer, Associate Professor of English, University of California, Davis*

Dr. Dan Melzer, Associate Professor of English at University of California Davis, has published widely about designing writing assignments, and his *Assignments Across the Curriculum: A National Study of College Writing* studies over 2,000 writing assignments from all disciplines at 100 different colleges and universities.

**Dates & Time:** Friday, Jan. 18th, 2 – 4:30 pm

**Peer Response: Cultivating a Community of Writers**  
*Facilitated by Dr. Kim Jaxon & Tom McNamara, Assistant Professor of English*

Dr. Kim Jaxon, Associate Professor of English at California State University Chico, will lead a workshop on fostering a classroom community of writers, no matter the size of the course. Dr. Jaxon specializes in digital literacies and course design—as well as writing in the sciences. With the support of a National Science Foundation grant, Dr. Jaxon co-wrote *Composing Science: A Facilitator’s Guide to Writing in the Science Classroom*.

**Dates & Time:** Friday, February 15th, 2 – 4:00pm

**Responding to Student Writers**  
*Facilitated by Tom McNamara, Assistant Professor of English*

Faculty who attend four of five sessions will receive $100 in professional development funds, with space for 10 participants. Those proposing or revising courses for the Gen Ed Advanced Writing requirement will be given priority. Visit the Faculty Center website to register or email Tom McNamara at tmcnamara1@lewisu.edu.

**Dates & Time:** Friday, March 29th, 2 – 4:00pm
Demystifying Disciplinary Writing Conventions
Facilitated by Tom McNamara, Assistant Professor of English

Faculty who attend four of five sessions will receive $100 in professional development funds, with space for 10 participants. Those proposing or revising courses for the Gen Ed Advanced Writing requirement will be given priority. Visit the Faculty Center website to register or email Tom McNamara at tmcnamara1@lewisu.edu.

Dates & Time: Friday, April 26th, 2 – 4:00pm

Epic Composition: Teaching Writing in Large Classes
Facilitated by Tom McNamara, Assistant Professor of English

Faculty who attend four of five sessions will receive $100 in professional development funds, with space for 10 participants. Those proposing or revising courses for the Gen Ed Advanced Writing requirement will be given priority. Visit the Faculty Center website to register or email Tom McNamara at tmcnamara1@lewisu.edu.

Dates & Time: May Institute 2019

The Meaningful Writing Project: Winter Reading Group
Facilitated by Assistant Professor Tom McNamara, English Studies, Writing Across the Curriculum Coordinator

In this 3-workshop series, we’ll read and discuss The Meaningful Writing Project, a cross-institutional study of what types of writing assignments best foster student learning and engagement. In addition to revising our own writing assignments, we’ll discuss research-based practices that help students develop more productive writing processes and transfer writing knowledge across courses.

One of these workshops will be led by Dr. Dan Melzer, Associate Professor of English at UC Davis. Dr. Melzer has published widely about designing writing assignments, and his Assignments Across the Curriculum: A National Study of College Writing studies over 2,000 writing assignments from across campus at 100 different colleges and universities.

Faculty who attend all sessions will receive $100 in professional development funds, with space for 10 participants. Those proposing or revising courses for the Gen Ed Advanced Writing requirement will be given priority. Visit the Faculty Center website to register or email Tom McNamara at tmcnamara1@lewisu.edu. You’ll receive a copy of The Meaningful Writing Project when you register. Alternate meeting times will be held for those who cannot attend at these times.

Read first two chapters of The Meaningful Writing Project, discuss the writing process
Dates & Time: Friday, Jan. 11, time TBD

Workshop with Dr. Dan Melzer, complete The Meaningful Writing Project
Dates & Time: Friday, Jan. 18th, 2-4:30 pm

Final discussion of The Meaningful Writing Project
Share revised assignments; discuss how students transfer writing knowledge across courses.
Dates & Time: Friday, Feb. 1st, 2-4:00 pm

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