This course is designed to teach graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, faculty, and staff new to teaching online how to design and instruct an online course. This class will blend live, online sessions (which participants are required to attend) with independent work over the course of 9 weeks. The course will begin with a synchronous online meeting, followed by six weeks of group work addressing the basics of effective online pedagogy. A second synchronous meeting will take place before participants begin their final projects. For their final projects, participants will have two weeks of independent work time to develop materials for an online course of their choice. Participants will present their final projects to other members of the course during several live, online sessions to be scheduled in early August.

This short course is intended to help participants understand aspects of creativity, innovation and design thinking, and how best to incorporate such aspects into teaching their courses. Each week, students will read an article related to one of the following techniques: creativity, games, use of analogies, design thinking. Each synchronous session will be facilitated by one of the authors, who can provide additional details as well as a hands-on activity to help participants see how to integrate the technique.

This course will guide aspiring faculty in how to develop inclusive courses and classrooms using the guiding principles of Universal Design. We will take an in-depth look at how to engage learners of all abilities, represent information in multiple ways, and create opportunities that allow students to express what they have learned in ways that are meaningful to both them and us. Ultimately, participants who complete the course should begin to teach inclusively as a habit, rather than by design.

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The Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL) is an NSF Center for learning and teaching in higher education. CIRTL uses graduate education as the leverage point to develop a national STEM faculty committed to implementing and advancing effective teaching practices for diverse student audiences as part of successful and varied professional careers.