BASICS OF ONLINE LEARNING AND TEACHING

Jeff Engler, University of Alabama
Judy Milton, University of Georgia

June 7, 2015 - August 2, 2015

The CIRTL Basics of Online Learning & Teaching course is designed to teach faculty, staff, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from CIRTL Network Institutions how to create and teach an online course for the Network. Topics include: the roles and responsibilities of the online learner and the online instructor, and how they differ from those in face-to-face courses; creating learning objectives; developing engaging online learning activities; assessing student learning; and teaching & learning in a synchronous online environment.

After an initial synchronous online meeting, a six-week asynchronous component covers the basics of effective online pedagogy. This section is then followed by several weeks of independent work time for the development of course materials by the participants. A final synchronous component will explore teaching in Blackboard Collaborate and proves for peer review of newly developed course materials. Students will leave the course having developed material for an online course they plan to teach now or in the future.

Priority enrollment for this course is offered to current faculty and staff; graduate students and postdocs may enroll if space permits.

ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS IN STEM COURSES: A PRACTICAL GUIDE

Vicki Roth, University of Rochester
Patrick Papadopulos, University of Rochester

May 19, 2015 - June 30, 2015

This short course is intended to provide a highly practical guide to the best uses of online homework and assignment systems available for a wide range of STEM disciplines. These systems have distinct advantages: well-stocked problem libraries, the generation of individualized assignments, immediate feedback to students, and the freeing up of instructor and TA time. Participants will meet for four synchronous presentation and discussion sessions. Asynchronously, participants will continue learning about feature of homework systems, and, importantly, they will each have an online sandbox within which the essential elements of these systems can be practiced.

This course consists of four synchronous online sessions supplemented with asynchronous classwork. Asynchronous coursework will become available on Monday, May 19 and will close Friday, June 30. Participants will be able to wrap up their work as early as Tuesday, June 26. Synchronous meeting times are 12pm-1:15pm ET, Tuesday 5/19, 5/26, 6/9, and 6/23.

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.

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