



OCTOBER 2020
Teaching in Alternative Spaces

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Featured Podcast

**Expand Your Classroom
Through Virtual Travel**



This image was taken prior to national guidelines for face coverings and social distancing.

Teaching in Alternative Spaces doesn't always mean going outdoors. You can help your students explore countries, cultures and peoples by connecting them with language coaches from all over the world! These language coaches provide an immersive experience for all students. Discover teaching strategies and the technologies that support them from Dr. Crystal Marull, Lecturer in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese studies. [Listen to Expand Your Classroom Through Virtual Travel!](#)

Strategy of the Month

Let's Expand Our Classrooms' Boundaries!

Remember the [#NoWallsTeaching](#) moto "our classroom just got bigger?" Let's make that happen by encouraging your students to step away from the screen and explore their surroundings as part of a class assignment. Have them collect data and samples in their own backyards or on a hike in a local green space. As they record their findings, they'll be able to watch real time data entry unfold in a collaborative table! They can conduct an interview or record a podcast, oral history, or performance, as a learning activity and then listen to fellow students' recordings to offer critiques and peer feedback.

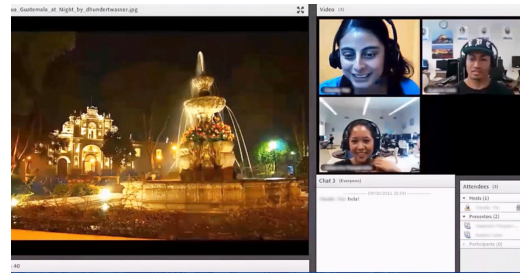
The [Samuel Proctor Oral History Program](#) has a wide variety of materials that can be woven into your class to provide students with first-hand accounts and primary sources as they explore issues in our community and propose solutions. *Think outside of the box: How can you expand your classroom?*

Featured Workshop

How to Build a Classroom Community Virtually

Presented by Harrison Hove

Making your classroom warm and welcoming for all learners is challenging enough in a traditional classroom. It becomes even more important in the remote environment. Making an intentional decision to build your



classroom community virtually will make your students more likely to engage, empower students to contribute, and increase the likelihood of students building meaningful professional relationships with their peers. In this workshop, we will discuss the importance of creating a classroom community in an online environment. You will learn different techniques and activities that build community. Together, we will brainstorm which techniques might be most beneficial for your individual needs and identify ways to seamlessly incorporate these techniques into your course. **This workshop will be held on 10/12 from 2:30pm-4:00pm via Zoom.** [Register for How to Build a Classroom Community Virtually!](#)

Note: If you are unable to register, you may need to [create a Passport Portal account](#) first. If you are still unable to register, [email us](#).

Helpful Tip

Adopt & Adapt Assignments That Feel Authentic

Explore resources such as the [UF instructor Guide](#) and the [K. Patricia Cross Academy](#) to discover, adopt, and adapt new assignments in your class that resemble authentic experiences students might encounter in your field. There's no need to reinvent the wheel—just adapt activities like [analytics teams](#), [paper seminars](#), and [advanced organizers](#) to fit the student learning goals for your course. These activities can easily be done in any professional setting!

Guide students to engage with primary sources. Use existing data sets or incorporate data collection into assignment tasks. Ask students to collect information from their community or explore the curated collections of primary sources we have in the [UF Libraries](#) and the [Samuel Proctor Oral History Project archives](#).

Did You Know?

We've Added New Faculty Learning Communities!

Faculty Learning communities (FLCs) explore teaching and learning topics, and encourage and support the adoption of new and innovative teaching practices. Joining an FLC offers instructors an instant network of like-minded faculty from across campus to share ideas with. FLCs contribute to the culture of teaching excellence at the University of Florida by sharing their work and research.

Current FLCs:

- Affordable Access for Student Success
- Assessment and Academic Integrity for Large Classes (100 or more students)
- Assessment and Academic Integrity for Small Classes (up to 99 students)
- Strategies for Online Mentoring
- Teaching with Technology Community of Practice
- Team-Based Learning

For more information and registration, visit our [Faculty Learning Community webpage](#).

Florida
CourseShare



Florida CourseShare Can Expand Your Teaching Beyond Your UF Classroom

Are you looking for ways to expand your teaching beyond the classroom, but aren't sure where to start? Florida CourseShare is a new initiative that uses Canvas Commons to share digital course assets that can be used to find examples of authentic assignments, community building techniques and more!

Florida CourseShare gives you free access to:

- Full Courses
- Quizzes
- Assignments
- Course Modules

To learn how to access or donate resources, visit our [Florida CourseShare webpage](#)!

Spotlight



This image was taken prior to national guidelines for face coverings and social distancing.

Build Your Own Adventure and Instant Graphification!

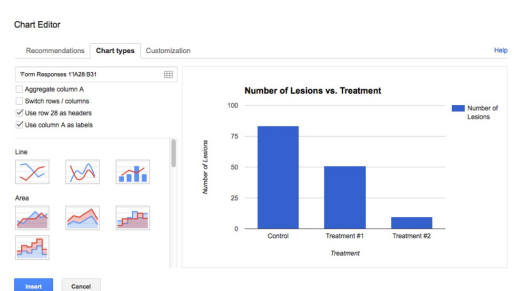
Dr. Brantlee Spakes Richter, Associate Professor in Plant Pathology at the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, engages her students in multiple data-driven exercises and self-directed projects designed to give her students agency over learning, internalize critical statistical concepts, and exercise metacognitive skills. A virtual, interactive data project for her course *Plants, Plagues & People*, allows students to run

epidemic models under various parameters, collect their individual data, and enter it into a class-wide data set via a Google form embedded in Canvas; below the form is a Google graph where they can see how their data changes the outcome in real time - Instant Graphification!

This module lets students participate first-hand in data collection and see how additional replications make the means more reliable. It's a great online tool that has proven equally useful in both online and in-person courses, and is flexible enough to add almost any level of analysis to suit the

learning objectives. In her *Fungus Among Us* class, Dr. Spakes Richter engages students in deeper exploration and promotes life-long learning, by assigning student-defined projects, that allow her students to build their own adventure; this could include developing a fungi-themed game, constructing a virtual tour of local fungi, or writing and performing a fungi-themed poem! When given a survey about the project, the students loved being able to unleash their creativity and some even wished there were more projects assigned.

Although she teaches a science-based course, Brantlee encourages instructors in other disciplines to find ways to develop a build-your-own project tailored to the learning objectives of their course. For more details about Brantlee's process, watch her [Nature as a Classroom!](#) workshop (*skip to 19:00*). You can also view her [Interactive Graphing Handout](#) for step-by-step instructions on using Google



graphs in your class.

October Events & Workshops

More information and registration for all workshops can be found in the [Passport Portal](#). If you are unable to register for a workshop, please [create a Passport Portal account](#), then try registering again after you receive a confirmation email. For help navigating the Passport Portal, [view the user guide](#).

Setting Student Expectations Through an Effective Course Syllabus

When: 10.1.20 10:30AM-11:30AM

Where: Online

Presented by J.C. Bunch & Al Wysocki

Let your course syllabus communicate expectations and learning objectives to your students. Organize your syllabus so that your students will think is worth reading, setting the tone for what students will learn as a result of engaging in your course. A review of the UF syllabus policy/requirements will be highlighted. [Register for Setting Student Expectations Through an Effective Course Syllabus!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account](#).*



Humanizing your Online Course

When: 10.5.20 2:30PM-4:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Alexandra Bitton-Bailey & Joslyn Ahlgren

Humanized learning increases the relevance of content and improves students' motivation. Students can see themselves as part of a larger community with instructors who foster connections. Join us as we explore strategies to improve awareness, empathy and presence while sharing specific techniques, activities and course designs ideas that can help to humanize any course. [Register for Humanizing your Online](#)

Course!

Please Note: you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)



Maximize Learning with Synchronous Discussions

When: 10.7.20 2:30PM-4:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Jennifer K. Smith

Small group discussion is a flexible teaching tool that can support the development of critical thinking, collaboration and communication skills. Experience small group discussion from the learner's perspective as we investigate strategies to help you integrate meaningful and time-efficient discussion activities into your course. [Register for Maximize Learning with Synchronous](#)

[Discussions!](#)

Please Note: you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)



Motivation II– Ideas to Stay Excited About Teaching

When: 10.8.20 10:00AM-11:30AM

Where: Online

Presented by Kim Moore

As instructors, we work to improve our courses and engage our students. But after a while, it can be hard to get excited about the new semester and the looming workload that comes with each class. This workshop will explore ideas on ways to get excited about teaching. [Register for Motivation II– Ideas to Stay Excited About Teaching!](#)

Please Note: you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)



Fall 2020 Retreat

When: 10.14.20 9:00AM-12:00PM

Where: Online

Hosted by The Center for Teaching Excellence

Join us for a fun-filled morning at the #NWT Fall 2020 Retreat!

The Fall 2020 #NWT Retreat features tools and strategies being used to support remote teaching in higher education today. Join breakout sessions to learn about the tools and strategies of your choice. Discover easy ways to stay connected and engaged with your students. [Register for the Fall 2020 Retreat!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this event.* [Create an account.](#)

Make it Global: Curriculum Internationalization

When: 10.14.20 2:00PM-3:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Paloma Rodriguez

This workshop explores ways to develop course assignments that incorporate international perspectives and enhance the development of intercultural competence. Attendees will engage in a self-assessment exercise that will allow them to rate the degree to which they have internationalized their courses. They will also learn about virtual exchange as a way to connect their classrooms to other classrooms around the world. All attendees will receive information about the Curriculum Internationalization grants available through the UF International Center. [Register for Make it Global: Curriculum Internationalization!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop.* [Create an account.](#)

Course Evaluations: Increasing Response Rates and Interpreting Results

When: 10.15.20 2:00PM-3:30PM

Where: Online

Presented by John Jordi

In this workshop we will discuss strategies to increase response rates for course evaluations. We will also delve into the new GatorEvals Individual faculty reports, as well as ways in which you can use this data for course improvement. [Register for Course Evaluations: Increasing Response Rates and Interpreting Results!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*



Making Online Learning Active with Team-Based Learning (TBL)

When: 10.16.20 10:00AM-12:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Michelle Farland & Misti Sharp

Team-based learning (TBL) is an instructional method that holds students accountable for learning before class, encourages them to stay engaged the entire class and pushes them to higher order learning. TBL is composed of three phases: pre-class preparation, readiness assurance, and team applications. During this process students strengthen problem solving, communication, and teamwork skills while diving deep into the course objectives. This workshop will introduce you to the basic components of TBL and identify critical elements that keep students engaged. The workshop will also demonstrate how TBL can be effectively implemented in a synchronous blended online environment. Prior to attending the workshop there is a 4-page summary of TBL to review. [Register for Making Online Learning Active with Team-Based Learning \(TBL\)!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*

The Multitasking Mirage

When: 10.19.20 9:00AM-12:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Sarah Hanson

The research is overwhelming—our brains aren't built for multitasking. When we constantly juggle various cognitive tasks, we experience decreased productivity, impaired cognitive ability, increased stress, and diminished creativity—all of which reduce us to fractions of the effective professionals we are capable of

being. Many professionals surrender to a frantic and unfocused workstyle out of the belief that there is no other way. The modern-day workplace simply demands us to function in this manner, right? Wrong. In this course, you will learn how to recognize and squash your multitasking tendencies and recalibrate your approach to work. By setting clear priorities, increasing your focus, managing your time and effort, reducing physical and mental clutter, executing on what matters most, and giving yourself space to be innovative, you can elevate your performance and put yourself on the path to greater productivity. [Register for The Multitasking Mirage!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this event. [Create an account.](#)*



Creating Global Classrooms through Virtual Exchange

When: 10.21.20 2:00PM-3:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Paloma Rodriguez

In this workshop, you will discover different types of virtual exchange activities designed by UF faculty and learn how international virtual exchange can benefit students and faculty alike. This session will provide information on the UF Global Classrooms initiative, including VE trainings and resources to find international collaborators for course projects. [Register for](#)

[Creating Global Classrooms through Virtual Exchange!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*

Make It Your Own: Adapting Open Resources in PressBooks

When: 10.22.20 1:00PM-2:30PM

Where: Online

Presented by Micah Jenkins & Perry Collins

Instructors have access to thousands of free and open textbooks and modules that may legally be edited and adapted to suit the needs of your students and your course. But how can you do this editing without a tedious process of copy-and-

paste? How do you know what you are allowed to reuse? Facilitated by experts from the Libraries and CTE, this workshop will offer an overview of copyright and licensing when adapting course materials, as well as a how-to on using the PressBooks digital publishing platform to more easily import and edit materials instead of starting from scratch. [Register for Make It Your Own: Adapting Open Resources in PressBooks!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*



Bring Your Classroom to Life

When: 10.26.20 2:00PM-3:30PM

Where: Online

Presented by Harrison Hove

Create an engaging learning environment and bring your classroom to life. Participants will discuss active learning techniques that can enhance boring lectures and fun ways to make students apply their knowledge. Participants will also develop an active learning activity to enhance student experience and achievement. [Register for Bring Your Classroom to Life!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*



Tips for Mentoring Online Right Now!

When: 10.27.20 1:00PM-2:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Swapna Kumar

Has the move to online classes challenged your mentoring practices? Learn tips for individual and group mentoring online. [Register for Tips for Mentoring Online Right Now!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*

Effective Mentoring of Graduate Students

When: 10.28.20 1:30PM-3:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Samira Daroub

Effective mentoring is central to the academic and career success of graduate students and postdoctoral associates. In this workshop, Dr. Samira Daroub will introduce essential elements of mentoring focusing on effective communication and establishing expectations with graduate students and postdocs. Dr. Daroub will also briefly go over examples of lab compacts and mentoring philosophies.

[Register for Effective Mentoring of Graduate Students!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*



Collaborative Learning Techniques

When: 10.29.20 10:00AM-11:30AM

Where: Online

Presented by Alexandra Bitton-Bailey

So you have flipped your classroom, or you have decided you want to make your lectures more engaging and interactive. Now what? How about using group work to promote learning using well-planned and designed collaborative learning techniques? This workshop offers a variety of collaborative learning techniques you can use immediately in your class. Best of all, the workshop provides detailed descriptions and helpful resources so you can successfully implement activities that will engage your whole class! [Register for Collaborative Learning Techniques!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*

Teaching Portfolio Review Workshop

When: 10.30.20 10:30AM-11:30AM

Where: Online

Presented by Matthew Cowley

A teaching portfolio can showcase your teaching and professional strengths and help you stand out in searches for academic positions. Graduate students and Postdocs will learn how to create your teaching portfolio in this interactive

workshop! [Register for Teaching Portfolio Review Workshop!](#)

Please Note: *you must have a Passport Portal account to register for this workshop. [Create an account.](#)*

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