



INSPIRED TEACHING

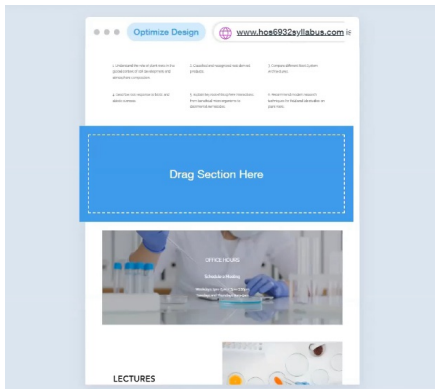
a monthly newsletter offering tips & strategies for great teaching

AUGUST 2020

Engaging Students on Day One: The Liquid Syllabus

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Featured Video



Creating a Liquid Syllabus

Learn about liquid syllabi and how they can be used to make your online course more appealing, engaging, and dynamic! [Watch Creating a Liquid Syllabus!](#)

Strategy of the Month

Use a web-based or desktop app to create a mobile-friendly, easy-to-use syllabus that grabs students' attention and helps them navigate your course.

Students will often look at course materials, including the syllabus, on their mobile devices. One way you can encourage students to use the syllabus as a course resource throughout the semester is to create it using a desktop app that helps frame and display information so that it is organized and easy to access.

There are different desktop applications and page builders you can use to create engaging and aesthetically pleasing course syllabi. Some of our favorites include [Wix](#), [Adobe Spark](#), and [Google Sites](#). These are free to use and cater to a range of skill levels. Watch the [Creating a Liquid Syllabus workshop](#) recording to learn how to use each tool and decide which one is right for you!

Check out these examples to see some spectacular syllabi:

[US History II](#)

[Ethnic Studies](#)

[The History of Still Photography](#)

Featured Workshop

**Teaching in STEM
Classrooms to Promote**

Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and Justice

Presented by Sujata Krishna, Kathryn McGill & Laura Blecha

This workshop aims to assist STEM faculty interested in addressing the political and social events that unfolded during Spring and Summer 2020 in their classrooms. During this workshop, you will explore definitions of these relevant terms, discuss case studies in focus groups, and devise initial action plans for the Fall 2020 semester. We encourage you to attend with 2-3 faculty from your department so you can identify a plan that works in your space. **This workshop will be held on 8/4 from 10am-11:30am via Zoom.**



[Register for Teaching in STEM Classrooms to promote Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and Justice!](#)

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 Tips

Syllabus Checklist

When creating your liquid syllabus, use [this checklist](#) to make sure you're including everything that's required! Download the PDF and open it in Adobe Acrobat to use the checklist feature.

Accessibility Fix

Remember to include a link to the Word or PDF version of your syllabi for students that need to use a screen reader.

Did You Know?

The UF Instructor Guide Provides Helpful Resources for Teaching Remotely

You can find helpful information on [active learning in Zoom](#), [setting up Canvas](#), [collaborative learning techniques that work](#), and more! For a full list of content, visit the Pressbooks [UF Instructor Guide Table-of-Contents](#).

Spotlight

An 'Escape Room' Syllabus Activity!

[Megan Mocko](#), Lecturer in the College of Business, created a two-puzzle escape room activity for her course Intro to Managerial Statistics. Megan will use this activity to motivate her students to engage with the syllabus. The images below show Megan's Escape Room puzzles. [View her syllabus!](#)

Puzzle 1: Scavenger Hunt!

Puzzle 1: Scavenger Hunt!

Directions:

- Match the terms in the table below with the clues below. Write the letter of the term next to the number of its corresponding clue.
 - You will **only use 5** out of the 20 terms
 - You will only use a term once
- When you are finished, enter the word that you have spelled out into the google form here: <https://forms.gle/yMKvbxmQsBBzHx3A>. If you are correct, it will give you the instructions for the next puzzle. If it remains unlocked, you have one or more of the following letters incorrect.

A. 50	B. 25	C. 1	D. 12	E. Download through Software Services
F. 10	G. Before	H. 79	I. 2	J. Online through UF Apps
K. 24	L. After	M. 3	N. Google	O. 0
P. Data	Q. Infer	R. Predict	S. Samples	T. Compare

- When should you watch the pre-recorded content?
- What is the penalty for turning in an assignment late?
- If you would like to make an appointment with the instructor, how many times should you send in the email as possible appointment times?
- What is the best way to access JMP?
- If you are uncertain how to get started during the synchronous session, think about the following question. "How many _____ do you have?"

"In the first puzzle, the students complete a scavenger hunt of information given in the syllabus to find a lock to get out of the escape room. The students are asked to look up important things such as how to access critical software for the course and how to get started with difficult problems."

Puzzle 2: Find the Secret Code!

"After the students complete the first puzzle, they move onto questions that have them explore the Canvas course shell. I want to make sure that students can find the important resources that I have posted for them, such as a reading guide of the material and how to get help with software difficulties."

Puzzle 2: Find the secret code!

Congratulations! You are onto your next adventure. Use the course site in Canvas to help you find the four digit numeric code.

1. On day eight, how many questions are there in the reading guide? _____
2. How much is each short answer question worth on the exam? _____
3. Are you struggling with JMP? What should you do? Discuss with your fellow classmates. A hidden number will reveal itself. _____
4. How many of the assignments do you need to complete for the Poster Session? _____

Secret Code: _____

Enter your code here : <https://forms.gle/GDpPXreV3ZR8gCGZ8>

If you get the code correct, great! Return to the main Zoom room.
If you didn't get it correct, try again!

August 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](#).

Anti-Racist Theory & Teaching Practice

When: 8.3.20 2:30PM-4:00PM

Where: Online

Presented by Cecilia Suarez

This workshop will offer an introductory definition and understanding of anti-racism and highlight practical ways to begin to apply anti-racist strategies in your class. This workshop is meant to assist you with your work towards self-education around this topic and practice. [Register for Anti-Racist Theory & Teaching Practice!](#)

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

Teaching in STEM Classrooms to promote Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and Justice

When: 8.4.20 10:00AM-11:30AM

Where: Online

Presented by Sujata Krishna, Kathryn McGill & Laura Blecha

This workshop aims to assist STEM faculty interested in addressing the political and social events that unfolded during Spring and Summer 2020 in their classrooms. During this workshop participants will explore definitions of these relevant terms, discuss case studies in focus groups, and devise initial action plans for the Fall 2020 semester. We encourage you to attend with 2-3 faculty from your department so you can identify a plan that works in your space.

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