



## November 2023

### Teaching Outside the Classroom/Alternative Learning Spaces

Exploring alternative learning spaces on campus, such as collaborative areas, libraries, flexible classrooms, specialized labs, virtual spaces or other unconventional settings, can provide diverse learning environments that suit your students' different learning styles and preferences. Variety in learning spaces can encourage you to teach more interactively, which promotes higher student engagement and creativity. When you accommodate students with different needs and preferences, you create learning environments of inclusion and belonging and provide students with opportunities to thrive by reducing stress and improving focus.

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## FEATURED PODCASTS

### Expand Your Classroom Through Virtual Travel, with Dr. Crystal Marull

Teaching in alternative spaces doesn't always mean going outdoors. You can help your students explore other countries, cultures, and peoples by connecting them with language

coaches from all over the world! Discover teaching strategies for alternative spaces and technologies that support them from Dr. Crystal Marull, Lecturer in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies.

 Teaching Beyond  
the Podium  
Expand Your Classroom Through Virtual Travel  
Dr. Crystal Marull



[Listen here!](#)

 Teaching Beyond  
the Podium  
Student Community Involvement | Dr. Kevin Baron



## Student Community Involvement, with Dr. Kevin Baron

Get your students out of their seats and into the streets! Dr. Kevin Baron shares his successful community-based projects that give students the chance to participate in meaningful work outside the classroom.

[Listen here!](#)

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## AI Tip of the Month

Did you know that you can create AI tutors to help students learn about your course content? You can create simple tutors or even use complex prompts to help students investigate in-depth topics. By starting a ChatGPT prompt and then [sharing the link](#), students can continue the conversation to have a personalized experience.

- Simple ChatGPT tutor prompt
- Complex ChatGPT tutor prompt

For more AI prompt ideas, check out the [“AI Prompt Cookbook”](#) produced by the [CITT](#).

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## STRATEGY

### **Plan to teach and learn in alternative learning spaces**

Consider selecting just one lesson or module where you see the potential for an alternative learning space experience. This could be a dynamic way to introduce students to a different environment, fostering new perspectives and an interactive approach to learning. By doing so, you'll maintain the core content of your syllabus while infusing a refreshing and engaging element.

### **Incorporate active learning strategies**

Engage students in hands-on, interactive activities that take full advantage of the unique environment. Encourage group discussions, problem-solving exercises, and practical applications of the material. If you can make what they've learned applicable to real-world contexts, making the most of the alternative learning space.

### **Utilize technology in purposeful and innovative ways**

Technology can enhance engagement and communication, especially in non-traditional settings. Make sure you have the necessary tools and resources to support your teaching in these environments. This might include mobile devices, access to online applications and platforms that allow for interactive and collaborative learning, or equipment for activities, like wireless microphones. Is there an application or software that students could use for a simulation or gamified content? Could virtual reality (VR) or augmented reality (AR) be used for immersive learning experiences in locations students typically wouldn't have access to?

### **Plan for flexibility**

While these alternative learning spaces can be dynamic and inspiring, they can also present unexpected challenges, from noise to weather conditions. Design your lessons and activities with adaptability in mind, so you can smoothly adjust to unforeseen circumstances and keep the learning

experience engaging and effective.

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## CTE Awards

Congratulations to the October Passport to Great Teaching completers! To participate in the Passport to Great Teaching program, visit the [Center for Teaching Excellence's website](#).

### Badges

#### Great Online Teaching

-Francesca Michelini

#### Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL)

-Leandra Merz

### Certificates

#### Great Teaching Certificate

-Tracy Stepien

-Melanie Holton

#### Great Teaching for New Faculty Certificate

-Ana Maria Porras

#### Great Teaching Certificate: TA Edition

-Francesca Michelini

#### Great Online Teaching Certificate

-Tatiana Iakovleva

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## Helpful Tip

## **Outside the Classroom: Taking Advantage of Resources on Campus**

Numerous possibilities for alternative learning spaces are readily available right here at UF. Here are a few campus resources that can help you create innovative learning experiences for your students:

### **George A. Smathers Libraries**

University librarians can provide tailored library instruction that will support the learning outcomes of your course and equip students with the information literacy skills they need to succeed. To consider the Smathers Libraries for your [experiential learning experience](#), or to talk with a librarian about possibilities, contact your [subject specialist](#). If your course is interdisciplinary or within the University Writing Program, contact Instruction and Outreach Librarian, Lisa Campbell, who can connect you with a library instructor. Librarians and curators can help you arrange hands-on introductions to library collections, resources and technologies, and problem-solving activities and challenges designed around collection items.

### **Harn Museum of Art**

Connect your course objectives with museum collections to add dimension and [experiential learning](#) to your course! There are many ways your course can benefit from the Harn, from self-guided or guided tours to specific presentations tied to course topics, as well as research, exhibition opportunities, and collaborations. It is recommended that you reach out to make an appointment at least three weeks in advance for tours and presentations, with more time needed for collaborations and research projects. Contact Education Curator of Academic Programs, Eric Segal at 352.294.7063 to brainstorm how the Harn can help support your teaching and research.

### **Performing Arts Spaces**

Through arts education programs, master classes, performance discussions, and more, [University of Florida Performing Arts](#) provides many creative and educational opportunities to our community. Pre-

performance discussions are typically held 45 minutes prior to the performance start time and feature artists, UF professors, and other community experts who will help prepare audiences for the artistic experience in which they are about to participate. If you're interested in leading a pre-performance discussion or would like to arrange education activities or learn about engagement opportunities for sponsored artists in the Spring, contact Derek Wohlust, Education Coordinator, at [dwohlust@performingarts.ufl.edu](mailto:dwohlust@performingarts.ufl.edu) or 352-273-2464.

### **Study Abroad**

The University of Florida encourages and supports UF faculty members who wish to lead a study abroad program for UF students. The Study Abroad Services unit, in collaboration with UF academic departments and colleges, facilitates and develops UF sponsored study-abroad programs for students. All (credit and non-credit bearing) UF study abroad programs are administered through the [International Center](#) with the approval from the corresponding academic college and home department.

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## **Tech Tip of the Month**

Do you want to let students virtually explore a space or get a sense of scale for a location? You can check out GoPro Fusion 360° cameras from the [UF Marston Science Library](#) or the [Education Library](#) to capture 360° images for students to pan and explore. 360° videos can even be uploaded to Mediasite or YouTube for online viewing! For additional assistance in using these technologies to create learning experiences or “virtual field trips”, [reach out to an educational technologist at the CITT](#).

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## **FEATURED WORKSHOPS**

**Neurodiversity In the Workplace**

**Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 1:00 - 3:00 PM EDT**

**Instructor: Brandon Telg**

## Virtual

Ever wonder how to tap into the strengths that neurodiversity can bring? The University of Florida's core values aim to create an inclusive work environment for all people, and that includes honoring our collective neurodiversity. Every brain functions differently and in "Neurodiversity in the Workplace", we will focus on a number of neurological differences including autism, ADHD, and Tourette syndrome, celebrating the richness they bring to the workplace. Having a neurodiverse workforce means problems are approached from different angles, leading to greater innovation and efficiency. Looking at these conditions from a strengths-based perspective, we will explore some of the special talents people bring to the table as well as best practices to accommodate employees' challenges.

[Register Here.](#)

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

### **CTE's Online Course Review Working Sessions!**

Join the CTE's Online Course Review Working Sessions! Our dedicated Course Quality team members are here to help you navigate the review process, enhance your instructor self-review, and secure your course designation. Let's talk about how applying the UF+QM rubric reflects your course design and instructional practices as you create exceptional learning experiences!

These flexible virtual drop-in sessions are an opportune time to ask questions about your review or work alongside other instructors to complete your review prior to the closing dates of cohorts. It doesn't matter where you are in the process, it's more fun to work together! Bring a friend! Like any good party, you can drop in when it's convenient and leave early to prepare for your next class. We hope to see you there!

The dates and times are as follows:

#### **November**

-Wednesday, November 1, from 1-2:30 pm

-Tuesday, November 7, from 3-4:30 pm

-Thursday, November 16, from 8:30 - 10:00 am

-Thursday, November 30, from 8:30-10:00 am

**Join us on Zoom this November**

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## DID YOU KNOW?



The Interface Teaching Conference provides faculty, staff, TAs, GAs, and post-docs with new strategies for teaching and learning through interactive breakout sessions. This one-day event will feature sessions designed to integrate teaching and learning with Artificial Intelligence (AI). Interface 2024 will be held on **April 17 at Emerson Alumni Hall**

This year's Interface will focus on how AI has influenced teaching and learning. We are hoping to focus the presentations around how the classroom has changed with the impact of AI. Here are some themes we suggest your proposals follow: Student's and/or teacher's aid, Strengthen critical thinking and review skills, How AI informs course design, How to add AI to your course, AI Course Policies and Assessment Guidance and AI Tools.

There will be two options for types of sessions:

-Breakout Sessions will be 15, 30, or 50-minutes and include a strategy or

idea participants can incorporate in their course(s)

-Poster Session - one singular session that is 45-60m in length that shares your project or research in the area of RiTL or AI in teaching and learning

All sessions will be face-to-face, no virtual options

**Proposals are due by 12PM EST on November 27, 2023**

[More Info and Submit Here](#)

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### **UF+Quality Matters Rubric 2024 Edition Goes Live on January 1, 2024!**

If you have created a course review draft in ProposalSpace, the deadline to submit your review is Thursday, November 30, 2023. After this date, you will not be able to create new drafts using the 2021 rubric. New course reviews will be reviewed using the 2024 UF+Quality Matters rubric (available in ProposalSpace January 1, 2024). Questions? [Contact the Online Course Quality Team](#)

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### **Submit Your Textbook Adoptions for Spring 2024**

The textbook adoption system for spring 2024 is now open for faculty and departments to submit their textbook adoptions and materials requirements. **The deadline for Spring 2024 adoptions is November 18, 2023.**

If you're not sure how to submit a textbook adoption or have questions about the process, consider attending a [Textbook Adoption Assistance Session](#). These virtual drop-in sessions are designed for your convenience, allowing you to join and leave at any time that suits you. Mark your calendar for the upcoming Textbook Adoption Assistance

Session dates:

November 3: 3pm – 4pm  
November 8: 12pm – 1pm  
November 14: 10am - 11am  
November 16: 2pm - 3pm

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## SPOTLIGHT

### **Spring 2024 Preparing Future Faculty Program - Applications now open!**

The UF Graduate School, UF Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, and the UF Center for Teaching Excellence invite you to apply for the Spring 2024 Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) Program, which will meet online via Zoom on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. from January 11 through April 18.

This program will cover important aspects of being a successful faculty member, faculty expectations at different kinds of institutions, and effective teaching and learning methods. It will involve weekly meetings, assignments, and a mentoring component. It will not address developing job application materials or interviewing for faculty jobs.

This program is open to graduate students and postdocs in any UF department. Participants will be chosen on a competitive basis. To learn more, click this link: [Preparing Future Faculty](#). The deadline to apply is Tuesday, November 14, 2023.

### **Help improve UFIT and participate in a nationwide survey**

UF is participating in this year's [EDUCAUSE](#) survey of instructors across the nation on technology use and satisfaction. **We request that you please complete this survey** to help inform us of your experience and expectations around technology (for further information, please see our [UFIT News story](#)). We are very appreciative of your time and effort in sharing your perspective and ideas, as your feedback will help improve future technology service offerings.

### **Teaching TechXploration**

Explore the intersections of teaching and technology at the annual Teaching TechXploration! This virtual event is part of the UFIT Academic Technology [Tech Byte series](#), and it will take place on November 30th from 1:30 – 4:00 P.M. Topics include a faculty panel on AI's impacts, adapting assessments with AI in mind, and many different learning tools and services available at UF. [Registration is open](#) and free to all in the UF community.

### **iClicker Cloud Training**

iClicker Cloud is a mobile engagement platform that can increase student engagement and enhance teaching and learning. [More info here.](#)

Monday, November 20 from 2-3

Wednesday, January 10 from 10 -11

Online | Vendor-led

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CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE  
**WORKSHOPS**



## **November and December Workshops**

### **Neurodiversity In the Workplace**

**Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 1:00 - 3:00 PM EDT**

**Instructor: Brandon Telg**

**Virtual**

Ever wonder how to tap into the strengths that neurodiversity can bring? The University of Florida's core values aim to create an inclusive work environment for all people, and that includes honoring our collective neurodiversity. Every brain functions differently and in "Neurodiversity in the Workplace", we will focus on a number of neurological differences

including autism, ADHD, and Tourette syndrome, celebrating the richness they bring to the workplace. Having a neurodiverse workforce means problems are approached from different angles, leading to greater innovation and efficiency. Looking at these conditions from a strengths-based perspective, we will explore some of the special talents people bring to the table as well as best practices to accommodate employees' challenges.

[Register Here.](#)

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

**Level up your lectures!**

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 2:00 - 3:30 PM EST**

**Instructor: Michael Barber**

**Virtual**

Lecturing continues to be the primary mode of teaching in higher education. In this workshop, we will discuss what research shows are the advantages and limitations of lecturing. Come learn practical suggestions that will help you leverage the power of lectures and take your presentations to the next level.

[Register Here.](#)

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

**Ethics Basics for Educational Research**

**Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 1:00 - 2:00 PM EST**

**Instructor: Diba Mani**

**Virtual**

Are you planning on or currently engaging in education research? Is there data collection taking place in your course(s), perhaps on student performance or teaching methodologies? Do you plan to share your results, perhaps in a publication? Are you even allowed to do so? This hour-long session will introduce institutional Review Board (IRB) approval in educational research, covering topics like ethical considerations for your

assessments, types of possible ethics review, and steps to engage in with the UF IRB.

[Register Here.](#)

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

### **Finding Joy in Ambulatory Teaching**

**Friday, November 17, 2023 at 12:00 - 1:00 PM EST**

**Instructor: Ryan Nall**

**Virtual**

This session will review teaching models and best practices in the ambulatory teaching setting.

[Register Here.](#)

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

### **Collaborative Learning Techniques**

**Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 10:00 - 11:30 AM EST**

**Instructor: Alexandra Bitton-Bailey**

**Virtual**

Have you flipped your classroom, or you have decided you want to make your lectures more engaging and interactive. How about using group work to promote learning using carefully designed and facilitated 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 of the techniques along with step by step facilitation tips. We will also share helpful resources so you can successfully implement activities that will engage your whole class!

[Register Here.](#)

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

**Explore Opportunities to Teach with UF Honors**

**Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 2:30 - 4:00 PM EST**

**Instructor(s): Melissa Johnson & Kristy Spear**

Learn more about the various opportunities to teach with UF Honors! Standard fall / spring course offerings include honors sections of UF-approved courses, 1-credit courses focusing on a central book or artistic medium, and signature seminars based on cutting edge research. Experiential opportunities include early arrival course-based camps for first-year students and our Uncommon Classrooms designed around unusual topics with cities, places, and natural landscapes serving as the classroom.

[Register Here.](#)

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

**Artificial Intelligence and Assessments**

**Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 10:30 - 12:00 PM EST**

**Instructor(s): Michael Barber & Kristy Spear**

**Virtual**

Are you worried that your students might use artificial intelligence software to complete their assignments and exams? This session will explore assessment formats that rely less on responses that can be generated by AI tools and more on alternative and authentic ways students can demonstrate their content mastery. Incorporating alternative and authentic assessments may actually help you better assess students learning while also supporting skills that they will need to be successful in future careers. Suggestions and tools to support academic integrity will be discussed as well.

[Register Here.](#)

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

**Create Presentation Visuals Worthy of the TED Stage**

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023 | 2:00 - 4:00 PM EST**

**Instructor: Karina Kolb**

## Virtual

Imagine you are giving the best presentation of your career. Your verbal delivery is captivating and masterfully choreographed with slide visuals and props that are attention grabbing, easy to understand, and even moving. This is what it means to use presentation visuals in a way that is “worthy of the TED stage.” In this course, participants will learn about the common mistakes presenters make with their presentation visuals, gain insights into the way the human brain best processes information while experiencing a presentation, leverage visual techniques for making your content resonate and stick, use next-level techniques to plan a visual presentation, analyze examples from some of the world’s best presenters, and apply key design principles. This course is helpful for both novice and even highly seasoned presenters.

[Register Here.](#)

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

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## Upcoming CIRTl Workshops

**CIRTl classes fill up fast. Please register today to secure your spot.**

### **Build Your Research Community Course**

Explore how you can develop strong mentoring relationships in this free, 5-part, asynchronous course designed for high-level undergrads and early-career grad students, and developed by the Science Communication Lab. This course guides science trainees through the crucial steps of identifying mentors and building and maintaining strong mentoring relationships. The Science Communication Lab highly recommends this course to any trainee seeking to find their primary research mentor and establish their research home.

[Learn more and Register](#)

### **Supporting Neurodivergent Students**

## **November 8 - 27**

Learn about common forms of neurodiversity, the obstacles that neurodiverse students might encounter in academia, and teaching strategies to overcome those obstacles in this two-part workshop. All participants will attend a first session on Wednesday, November 8; then, participants can choose from attending one of two follow-up sessions on either Monday, November 20 or 27. No cap. Registration opens Monday, August 14.

[Learn more and Register](#)

## **Creating Accessible Teaching and Research Documents in STEM Fridays, Nov. 17 & Dec. 1**

Understand why document accessibility matters and explore the LaTeX software for mathematical equations in this two-part workshop that combines accessibility fundamentals with technical training. No cap. Registration opens Monday, August 14.

[Learn more and Register](#)

## **Getting Started with Universal Design for Learning Thursdays, Dec. 7 & 14**

Explore the basic principles of Universal Design for Learning and apply them to resources or practices you use in your own teaching in this two-part workshop. No cap. Registration opens Monday, August 14.

[Learn more and Register](#)

[View the full list of CIRTl workshops here.](#)



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