



New Chalk Talk

The Center for Learning and Teaching Newsletter
Teaching News

The Center for Learning and Teaching
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Spring 2004 Faculty Workshop Series

- **Student-Centered Learning...? Try MERLOT.**

Tuesday, March 16, 2004 Repeated on Wednesday, March 17, 2004

Preparing instructional materials to facilitate learning can be a time consuming, difficult and expensive task. This interactive workshop will introduce you to MERLOT (*Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching*), a free, peer reviewed collection of excellent learning modules that you can use in your classes.

The workshop will also introduce you to the constructivist theory of learning, the foundation of student-centered pedagogical approaches. Examples from the MERLOT collection will be used to illustrate this method.

Facilitator: Dr Aziza Ellozy (Center for Learning and Teaching)

- **To Lurk, or not to Lurk; that is the Question: Electronic Mediation of Communication**

Wednesday March 24, 2004 Repeated on Thursday, March 25, 2004

To “lurk” is to lie hid; to lie in wait; to keep out of sight. “Lurking” in this workshop is used to describe those students who log on to discussion fora but never “participate”.

Although electronic fora efficiently link those in need of data, information and knowledge with those that have it, the lack of sustained high-quality participation in fora discussion has been examined and seen to be a regularized phenomenon.

This however, is not at all unique to computer-mediated-communication because the same phenomenon exists, for many of the same reasons, in face-to-face tutorials, group meetings, or political participation and other types of social interaction. If it is “rational” to lurk, and “should come as no surprise” to us, do we need to do anything about it? In this workshop we will examine this and related questions.

Facilitator: Dr Herb Thompson (Economics)

- **Smart Classes for Smart Classrooms**

Wednesday March 31, 2004

Finding effective pedagogical uses for technology in the classroom can be a daunting task. Smart classrooms are defined as those that only have a data display for the instructor as well as those that include computers for each student. This workshop will examine strategies appropriate for both types of classrooms so that learning becomes an active rather than passive experience.

The workshop will present examples of lecture presentations, student-centered lab work, and methods for linking in-class projects to outside assignments.

Facilitators: Ms Natasha Gast and Ms. Angela McCallum

- **Teaching with the Case Method (Part I)**

Tuesday, April 6, 2004

This workshop will address the methods of case writing in such fields like management, sociology, mass communication, and economics etc. The principles of case writing will be briefly outlined, and the sequence normally followed will be discussed. A case example will also illustrate the contents and structure of a good case.

Writing a good case is not enough for the effective use of cases as a medium of learning. Some of the workshop time will, therefore, be devoted to how a case may be put to effective use.

The presentation will be brief to allow time for discussion.

Facilitator: Dr Talaat Abdel Malek (Economics)

- **Teaching with the Case Method (Part II)**

Tuesday, April 13, 2004

This workshop will deal with the preparation and use of "dynamic exercises" in case teaching. This type of exercise offers instructors the flexibility to intervene by introducing more variables and observing the students' reactions to each.

An example will be given to illustrate the contents and structure of a dynamic exercise and how "selective interventions" are introduced.

Facilitator: Dr Talaat Abdel Malek (Economics)

- **Creating Effective PowerPoint Presentations**

Wednesday, April 21st, 2004

Using presentations as part of lectures can go beyond bulleted lists of linear information. This workshop will explore the basics of creating an effective PowerPoint presentation that will appeal to multiple learning styles. Using examples of presentations prepared by instructors and students, the workshop will explore instructive and collaborative design principles. Participants will practice designing basic interactive presentations.

Facilitators: Ms Natasha Gast and Ms. Angela McCallum

- **Finding appropriate Multimedia Resources to Complement Pedagogy**

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Finding and selecting appropriate multimedia resources to be used in class and online can be difficult. This workshop will provide a basis for complementing pedagogy with available online and campus resources. Participants will be provided with lists of some resources, will review examples of assignments using multimedia, and will practice combining multimedia elements with coursework.

Facilitators: Ms Natasha Gast and Ms. Angela McCallum

Workshops are held from 3 – 4 pm in Room 212B, New Falaki Building.

To register please send an email at cit@aucegypt.edu, or call us at 797-6659.