

Fall Critical Thinking Institute for Teaching and Learning

Communicating as Learners to Promote Critical Thinking

Friday, September 24, 2010

Co-Sponsored by Web and Instructional Technology Services (WITS)
In partnership with the Center of Excellence for Teaching and Learning (CETL)



8:00		Morning Munchie
8:15		Provost's Welcome <i>Dr. Phil Nicotera</i>
8:20	HEC Teaching Auditorium	Keynote Presentation <i>Dr. Dean Kohrs</i> Our campuses and our students are saturated with various iGadgets. But, can our students use these technologies to communicate effectively, solve problems, and think critically? Perhaps more importantly, can they critically think about these technologies and the cultural shifts they are creating? Is SPC developing a broad institutional pedagogy that engages students to inquire about these issues? Since their creation, a chief mission of colleges and universities has been to shape graduates with a more sophisticated and empowered means of navigating the cultural landscape. "Internet everywhere" now dominates the cultural landscape. The success of our students and institution is significantly tied to their ability to navigate this emerging cultural landscape.
9:15		President's Address <i>Dr. Bill Law</i>
9:30		Sharing Session Overview <i>Mary Hanlon, B.A., PTA</i>
9:40		WITS Presentation <i>Instructional Design Technologists</i>
10:00		Break
1st Break-Out Sessions		
10:10	HE 208	The Value of Reflection to Critical Thinking and Learning <i>Lynn Grinnell, PhD, CETL Transition Team Member & Professor, College of Business</i> This presentation uses a "lesson within a lesson" approach to learning on two levels: identifying learning activities that will encourage students to transfer learning to new situations, and using structured experiential activities and debriefings to encourage students to think critically.
	HE 209	Briefing a Case: An Essential Task for Paralegals <i>Dr. Christy A. Powers, CETL Committee Member & Professor College of Policy and Legal Studies</i> The process of the case briefing is an essential task in the legal profession. It facilitates critical thinking skills across the Paralegal Studies curriculum. Thus far, the incorporation of this reusable learning activity into the classes has proved to be excellent for development of the student's critical thinking skills. Come view how this process was developed and incorporated as an effective learning tool.
	HE 270 Laptop Lab	Using Technology to Communicate Feedback to Learners <i>Karen Fritch, Instructional Design Technologist</i> An important piece of critical thinking is the reevaluating that happens as learners receive feedback on concepts and products. A potential barrier for that feedback for online faculty is not having the tools to create effective and efficient feedback. Giving timely, quality feedback enhances the chances for success and satisfaction for the learner. You will be exposed to a variety of ways you can use online tools to provide more effective and efficient feedback to students.
	HE 271 Laptop Lab	Taking the Grrr out of Groupwork <i>Timothy Godcharles, Instructional Design Technologist</i> Instructional success is dependent on generating student interaction. Interdependent collaboration actively engages students, stimulates higher-order thinking and helps students clarify ideas through discussion and debate. In this session, participants will learn how to use group structures in conjunction with online collaborative tools that help foster interaction among students.
	HE 272 Laptop Lab	Harnessing the Power of Mobile Technology in Your Classroom <i>Nancy Munce & Alan Shapiro, Instructional Design Technologists</i> With each new generation of learners come new attitudes, new challenges and new technologies. So, what's the tool du jour? Cell phones. 80 percent of Americans own them. Many instructors loathe them because of their potential disruptiveness the classroom. You will learn how to turn these often irritating devices into positive tools of student engagement and active learning.
11:00	Break	

2nd Break-Out Sessions

11:10	HEC Lobby	<p>Sharing Session <i>Faculty Champions</i></p> <p>Faculty Champions and their Academic Roundtable members will describe the critical thinking strategies they are currently employing with their students. There will be a timed rotation from table-to-table to enable you to quickly glean the main concepts from multiple disciplines/programs in brief “speed-dating” fashion. For more specific details about the critical thinking initiative, please attend the “Embarking...” session at the end of the day. See project descriptions: www.spcollege.edu/criticalthinking/professionals/roundtables.htm</p>
	HE 270 Laptop Lab	<p>Using Technology to Communicate Feedback to Learners <i>Karen Fritch, Instructional Design Technologist</i></p> <p>An important piece of critical thinking is the reevaluating that happens as learners receive feedback on concepts and products. A potential barrier for that feedback for online faculty is not having the tools to create effective and efficient feedback. Giving timely, quality feedback enhances the chances for success and satisfaction for the learner. You will be exposed to a variety of ways you can use online tools to provide more effective and efficient feedback to students.</p>
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12:00	Break	
Optional Information Session		
12:10	HE 208	<p>Embarking on the Critical Thinking Initiative in 2011 <i>Dr. Gail Lancaster, QEC Faculty Chair & Librarian, Clearwater Campus</i> <i>Dr. Janice Thiel, QEP Director & SACS Accreditation Liaison</i></p> <p>If you are from a discipline that has not yet participated in the critical thinking initiative, this session is for you because your program is on-deck to begin in January. Others are also welcome to attend this brief information session.</p>
12:40	Institute Ends	

“Everyone thinks; it is our nature to do so. But much of our thinking, left to itself, is biased, distorted, partial, uninformed, or downright prejudiced. Yet the quality of our life and of what we produce, make, or build depends precisely on the quality of our thought.” (Foundation for Critical Thinking, 2009)

