

Non-IT Pedagogy Sessions

FALL

The multicultural classroom

Skidmore's classrooms increasingly mirror the larger American society, presenting challenges to which both faculty and students may not have readily adapted. This pedagogy session will explore pedagogical tools that recognize and celebrate differences among students and faculty and the ways both groups can maximize learning in a multicultural classroom.

Active learning in larger classes

It has long been thought that real student engagement is hard to come by in larger classes. New pedagogical techniques and strategies, however, are dramatically improving engagement in classes that number greater than 40 students. This pedagogy session will discuss those techniques and strategies, as well as give faculty concrete tools to bring back to their large classrooms.

Teaching in the Tang Galleries and with the Tang Collection

Tang exhibitions can serve a wide variety of curriculum uses outside and beyond the disciplinary boundaries of art and even the subject matter boundaries of a given show. This workshop will introduce faculty to teaching in the museum and provide examples of how faculty have creatively adapted Tang shows to their own teaching needs. Additionally, the Tang collection contains a wide range of objects available for research and curriculum use by students and faculty in the collection storage area and the Print Study Room. With more advance planning, objects can often be placed on view in the Winter Gallery or serve as the basis for faculty- and student-created study exhibitions, providing students with an intense and high-impact learning experience that builds research, writing, and oral presentation skills

Transnational Pedagogy

Almost every aspect of our lives is heavily influenced by transnational forces. When considering our religious convictions, economic impulses, diet, entertainment choices, and so on, national identity may no longer be the defining force. But what about teaching? Indeed, some of the best work in the classroom also intentionally seeks to cross boundaries in several different contexts. This pedagogy session will describe and discuss the value of transnational approaches to classroom pedagogy.

SPRING

Creative pedagogies: what are they, where do they apply, how to best use them

How does "Creative Thought Matters" manifest itself in the classroom? More specifically, in what ways are we creative in our pedagogies? In what way are we different, and more effective, than our peer and aspirant schools? Skidmore markets itself as an institution that celebrates the creative spirit. This pedagogy session will delve deeply into the ways in which some of our very best teachers use creative pedagogies to enhance student engagement and learning.

The Art of Public Speaking

Faculty from across the College assign oral presentations as part of the classroom experience. And yet there is very little instruction in the art of public speaking that happens prior to those presentations. It is often assumed that students are skilled in oral communication. This pedagogy session will explore best practices in encouraging effective oral communication. Are faculty modeling those practices? How can faculty work with students on their oral presentation skills without using much of the time needed for discussing course content? What do we do if we have a student who is incapable of completing the oral assignment?

Abstract?

In this pedagogy workshop, participants will explore the nature and teaching uses of the idea of “abstraction,” using the Tang’s *Jewel Thief* exhibition as a provocative and dramatic set of examples of how artists approach and create work commonly labeled “abstract.” The workshop will interrogate the nature of abstraction as it exists in the realms of dance, music, and theater as well as visual art, considering how to engage students in meta-level analysis, speculation, and risk-taking creation and inquiry.

Writing as Learning

Sponsored by the Teagle Grant, this pedagogy session will focus on the writing assignment: How can it be a more effective tool for learning course content? How should I construct writing assignments to better highlight the course material? How should I grade them to continue this ongoing dialogue about course materials?

IT Pedagogy Session Proposals

FALL

Empowering Your Students by Putting Your Classroom Materials Online: Best Practices and Exemplary Courses

Whether you are a seasoned e-pro, a novice, or a skeptic, this workshop will help generate ideas on how to enhance your teaching and engage your students. Several faculty users of the Blackboard learning management system will share their experience creating a web-enhanced learning environment for their students.

How Skidmore Faculty are Using Blogs to Enhance the Student Experience: Peer Review, Publishing and Journaling

Faculty and students are using blogs to build and customize course-companion websites. WordPress blogs in particular let faculty establish a sense of community where students can create and share materials, and also provide feedback on each other’s work. Project examples can range from study abroad journaling to culminating projects and digital posters.

Using Flip Video Cameras to Enhance Courses: Some Skidmore Faculty Examples

The FLIP is a small, handheld video camera with useful possibilities to engage a class

and enhance teaching and learning. Whether used to record portfolio pieces, interviews, oral histories, or to create original story telling experiences, they have the potential to allow media rich assignments, with a very minimal learning curve.

Providing Rich Classroom Experiences via Videoconferencing

Bringing guest speakers to class enriches instruction and also provides opportunities for students to engage content experts directly. While there is no substitute for a face-to-face exchange, videoconference tools provide highly-interactive virtual meetings along with significant cost and time savings to all. We will discuss examples and also the key ingredients for success when planning a videoconference.

SPRING

Finding Instructional Resources for Peer Online Networks

Interacting with colleagues at other colleges who are teaching the same courses can be useful for discussing approaches to teaching, online resources, books, and articles. Today's real time internet is facilitating the rapid sharing of great resources as they become available and the communication with peer communities. This workshop will focus on how to approach the real time Internet, namely Twitter and associated technologies, in a way that they can become useful and beneficial to your teaching, and ultimately, your students.

Equipping Students with Rich Tools from the Start: Strategies for Helping FYE Students Discover and Use Technology Resources Effectively

FYE Seminars provide creative and flexible opportunities for faculty to explore and use technology to support their learning objectives. With support from librarians and instructional technologists, faculty can design learning activities that target critical thinking, communication skills, and other FYE Seminar goals. This panel will discuss FYE collaborations with an emphasis on pedagogy and technology integration.

Faculty Uses of Personal Response Systems in the Classroom

A panel of Skidmore faculty share their experiences with using iClickers in the classroom to accomplish a wide variety of goals. From Exercise Science, Math and Computer Science to Chemistry courses, faculty are using these devices to review materials on the fly, take attendance, and much more. Come here what they have to say about how these tools are enhancing the way they teach.

Using Lecture Capture and Podcasting to Create Additional Learning Resources

Lecture capture is an exciting technology that is increasing in usage throughout various academic institutions, large and small. Course lecture capture provides many positive benefits to enhance student learning by providing on-demand access to recorded class lectures. Teach as usual, no need to change instruction or learn new technology, and easily create rich interactive experiences to enhance student learning.