University Teaching and Learning Course

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, participants should be able to:
- articulate their teaching perspectives;
- explain the different ways people learn;
- design courses that engage students;
- select appropriate pedagogies and assessments to promote student learning;
- develop their reflective and self-regulated learning capacities with respect to teaching.

Course Structure

This course will be delivered before Fall or Spring semester with a flexible online schedule and 4 face-to-face meetings with early career faculty colleagues. Each cohort will also be part of a professional learning community for all Assistant Professors for building and sharing expertise and professional support. When teaching during the semesters, it is expected that faculty will arrange with the course facilitators and/or departmental mentors to meet and discuss their teaching and arrange a classroom visit if requested. The work required during the course, as well as from the teaching during the semesters, will help you work towards building an ongoing teaching portfolio for substantiation and promotion.

There will also be a short orientation for all new faculty in mid-Aug, which is repeated in mid-Jan. You are very strongly encouraged to attend this so as to meet your peers in person before collaborating online, as well as to learn additional key information about HKUST’s teaching and learning context.

The Learning Process

Since people learn best when they are actively engaged, participants will be given many opportunities to discuss with their peers and instructors both in person and online, and to reflect on their learning throughout the course. There will be no course book but the online materials are highly interactive and engaging. Learning activities are presented in manageable ‘chunks’ both to aid learning and allow flexibility for individual’s schedules.

Course Assessment

Assessment serves two purposes: to help participants achieve the intended learning outcomes and to produce evidence of that learning. In order to successfully complete the course, participants will complete online activities, attend face-to-face meetings and actively participate in group discussions as noted above. Furthermore, participants are required to submit:
- a course syllabus with a justification statement,
- a one-page teaching philosophy statement, and
- a teaching development plan.

Besides serving as evidence of their learning in the course, these three documents will be useful in participants’ application for contract renewal, substantiation and promotion.

Course Program and Schedule

Please see the latest program schedule at: http://celt.ust.hk/courses-workshops-seminars/professional-development-faculty-instructors
University Teaching and Learning Course for Early Career Faculty

As part of a program for early career success, HKUST offers all new Assistant Professors a 30-hour course on university teaching and learning in a blended-learning format: a mix of face-to-face and online delivery.

Scholars starting their academic careers often find that they have not been sufficiently prepared for their teaching responsibilities. Despite not having any formal training in education, they are expected to be competent and effective teachers. The purpose of this course is to help you start productively and positively on your way to becoming proficient educational practitioners. The course provides participants with knowledge of learning theories and teaching approaches, a set of teaching strategies that can be applied to course design and delivery and a framework for ongoing professional development in order to help them reach early success with the teaching component of their academic career.

International benchmarking has shown that research intensive institutions in these countries typically offer a certified course on teaching in higher education ranging from 30 - 40 hours. In the case of the UK and Australia, these courses are nationally mandated and must be taken within the first 3-years or less of employment and are required by all teaching staff with less than 3 years of university teaching experience.

Staffing

The CELT Director and the Head of Professional Development, CELT will be the principal facilitators of the course. In addition, there may be guest speakers including HKUST and School Teaching Award recipients to discuss teaching in the disciplines.

“The great thing about teaching is that there is always more to learn.”

Prof Wilbert (Bill) McKeachie