Introduction to Concepts and Course Design

To book a consultation please email ctl@ualberta.ca
CTL’s vision is “transforming learning experiences.”

We believe in:

- teaching as a scholarly act
- research-informed teaching decisions
- student learning as the focus of teaching decisions
- building a community of reflective practitioners
Reflective practice

Instructors need to create courses that encourage and motivate students to engage deeply with tasks and build a climate for positive interactions with students and between students.

This implies that instructors should be “reflecting on their current teaching...in order to create an improved teaching environment that adapts to changing conditions.” (Biggs, 2011).
Series goals

1. Introduce principles of course design, enabling participants to apply concepts to their teaching practice.

2. Encourage reflective practice as a continuous aspect of improving teaching and student learning.

3. Provide research-informed tools and strategies to assist participants in creating engaging learning-focused activities.
Framework for course design

Saroyan & Amundsen, 2004
The alignment principle

- Alignment is a principle in curriculum theory that provides a common thread for learning outcomes, instructional activities and assessment tasks (Biggs & Tang, 2011).

- “[T]he teacher’s fundamental task is to get students to engage in learning activities that are likely to result in their achieving [those] outcomes…It is helpful to remember that what the student does is actually more important in determining what is learned than what the teacher does” (Shuell, 1986, p. 429).
## Course / Module Goal:

List Learning Outcome(s):

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<tr>
<th>Teaching / Learning Activities</th>
<th>Assessment Tasks, Products</th>
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Please visit the CTL website to download a course organizer – [http://ctl.ualberta.ca/instructional-resources/workshop-materials](http://ctl.ualberta.ca/instructional-resources/workshop-materials)
While lectures, labs, and seminars will continue to be effective tools for conveying knowledge, methods and thoughtful critique, our Academic Plan encourages active engagement, critical thinking, and inquiry.
Questions?

Please contact us at ctl@ualberta.ca with any course or teaching-related questions or to book a one-on-one consultation with an educational developer.

All of CTL’s services are available free to UofA staff.