

Fall 2025 TEACHING AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Office of Faculty Development

Teaching Innovation Lab

AI and the Challenge of Student Motivation

Professionals in many disciplines use AI tools and increasingly are being expected to use them to work more efficiently. But they were often trained to do the work "the old-fashioned way." This gives them the skill and experience needed to judge the output of an AI tool, use it effectively, and take responsibility for it. Our students need to learn both essential skills and how to evaluate AI output. How do we prepare them to do this? How do we persuade them that learning to work without AI is an essential part of preparing to work with AI?

Participants in this Teaching Innovation Lab will be invited to explore how AI is being used, or will likely be used, by professionals trained in their academic discipline. We'll consider together how to motivate students to work toward becoming competent in their fields, with and without AI, and think critically about AI assisted work. Teaching related AI resources will be provided to support participants.

Facilitator:

David Owen, Professor of Computer Science

Dates and Times:

Thursday, September 189:30-10:20
Thursday, September 259:30-10:20
Thursday, October 29:30-10:20
Thursday, October 99:30-10:20
Thursday, October 169:30-10:20

Meeting Space: Remotely via Zoom

Professional Learning Community

Book: *Teach from the Heart: Pedagogy as Spiritual Practice* (by Jenell Paris)

How can our hearts be shaped as educators as we prepare students for lives of service, leadership, and reconciliation? How do we offer both tangible and intangible support in ways that are authentic, meaningful, and tailored to the needs of each learner? Guided by *Teach from the Heart*, we will explore what it means to approach pedagogy as a spiritual practice—one that centers love, presence, and intentionality. Together, we will identify how acts of love within the sacred space of the classroom can transform both teacher and student, cultivating a learning environment rooted in compassion, purpose, and mutual growth.

Facilitator:

Sarah Jones, Associate Professor of Nursing

Dates and Times:

Tuesday, September 9 1:30-2:20
Tuesday, September 16 1:30-2:20
Tuesday, September 30. 1:30-2:20
Tuesday, October 7 1:30-2:20
Tuesday, October 14 1:30-2:20
Tuesday, October 28. 1:30-2:20

Meeting Space: Athenaeum, Murray Library

TO REGISTER:

Please contact Elise Buchanan (ebuchanan@messiah.edu or ext.2035) to reserve your space. The PLC text is included with registration.

Open until filled, preferred registration deadline is **September 5th**.