

Fall 2026 PLC OPPORTUNITIES

Office of Faculty Development

The Digital Delusion: How Classroom Technology Harms Our Kids' Learning--and How to Help Them Thrive Again

by Jared Cooney Horvath

No matter how proactive we are as educators in integrating new devices, platforms, and AI into our courses, we can easily feel we're falling behind, given the light-speed pace of technological development. In this PLC, we'll evaluate the neuroscience and education research on EdTech, not to reject technology, but to use discernment and share insight to enhance learning. Although originally written for K-12 educators, the research offers valuable insights for higher education faculty, encouraging us to critically examine how we use technology in our teaching and to make intentional, evidence-informed instructional decisions that foster deeper learning, engagement, and long-term student success.

Facilitator:

Philip Tan, Associate Professor of Engineering

Dates and Times:

Tuesday, September 8.....9:30-10:20 am
Tuesday, September 29.....9:30-10:20 am
Tuesday, October 6.....9:30-10:20 am
Tuesday, October 13.....9:30-10:20 am
Tuesday, October 27.....9:30-10:20 am
Tuesday, November 11.....9:30-10:20 am

Meeting Space: Library, Athenaeum

The Student: A Short History

by Michael Roth

Students change, in our classrooms and through the course of the curriculum. They also change through history and in different cultural contexts, though we sometimes imagine the teacher-student relationship in a timeless fashion, stretching back through the centuries to Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, or to Jesus and the disciples. Students are changing now, in relationship to one another, to their professors, and to the enterprise of higher education in general. To understand more about ourselves and our relationship with students, as well as the task of teaching and learning, this PLC will read together Michael Roth's recent book The Student: A Short History. Using Roth's work as a springboard, we will consider the diverse ways that students have been imagined in the past. We will also consider how that informs our understanding of and work with our students in the present.

Facilitator:

Pete Powers, Professor of English, Director of the Center for Public Humanities

Dates and Times:

Thursday, September 10.....9:30-10:20 am
Thursday, September 17.....9:30-10:20 am
Thursday, September 24.....9:30-10:20 am
Thursday, October 1.....9:30-10:20 am
Thursday, October 8.....9:30-10:20 am

Meeting Space: Boyer Hall, Room 102

TO REGISTER :

Please contact Elise Buchanan (ebuchanan@messiah.edu or ext.2035) to reserve your space and secure the PLC text.
Open until filled; preferred registration deadline is **September 3rd**.