Teaching at Iowa State University

The Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching ( CELT) established in 1993, focuses on our mission of “Partnering with educators to advance student-centered learning at Iowa State University.” To accomplish this mission CELT provides consultation, resources, and programs to:

• Support, promote, and enhance teaching effectiveness and student learning;
• Encourage scholarly teaching and the scholarship of teaching and learning;
• Communicate the importance of effective and inclusive teaching and learning practices to internal and external audiences;
• Serve as a catalyst for online and digital pedagogy.

CELT provides resources for instructors, faculty, staff, graduate students, and postdocs interested in teaching. We offer face-to-face one-off workshops, longer-term teaching and learning circles on selected topics, and facilitation of teaching and learning communities. We have also developed a rich set of online resources that support CELT’s mission and current initiatives available on our website (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/).

New to Teaching: Resources

• **CELT Teaching Symposium:** New faculty and staff with a teaching role attend a half-day of programming about teaching, student learning, and becoming familiar with the student support resources at ISU. Attendees learn how to prepare for the first week of class, as well as explore CELT’s services, resources, and professional development opportunities. Occurs on Tuesday the week before fall classes begin.

• **Teaching Partners Program:** Supplements departmental mentoring by pairing a junior tenure-track and term faculty members with a senior faculty member from a different discipline who is a successful and experienced teacher. Partners discuss teaching and learning topics and complete classroom observations. This partnership runs for an entire academic year. Applications available in March.

• **Teaching and Learning Academy:** An academic year program for junior tenure-track and term faculty. Teaching and Learning Academy participants attend monthly sessions that address course design, evidence-based teaching strategies, inclusive classroom practices, peer-review of teaching, and documentation of teaching effectiveness. Applications available in March.

Graduate Students

• **CELT Teaching Symposium:** A half-day programming about teaching, student learning, and becoming familiar with the student support resources at ISU. Graduate teaching assistants learn how to prepare for the first week of class, as well as explore CELT’s services, resources, and professional development opportunities. Occurs on Tuesday the week before fall classes begin.

• **Preparing Future Faculty:** Supplements departmental graduate preparation by offering additional teaching, mentoring, and learning possibilities.

• **CIRTL (Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning):** Online courses, CIRTL webcasts (CIRTLcasts), and graduate learning communities.

• **Graduate Student Teaching Certificate:** Enhances the professional development of graduate students who want to become professors. Completion of 12 additional credits.
Teaching and Learning Development Programs

Includes seminars, workshops, and Teaching and Learning Communities. Our programs are open to anyone with a teaching role or interested in teaching. Programs offered throughout the year with a calendar of events on the CELT website (http://www.celt.iastate.edu/).

In addition to one-hour programs, CELT offers opportunities for deeper learning including:

- **CELT Course Design Institute**: A multi-day intensive experience to design or re-design your course. Occurs in May. Applications available in March.

- **CELT Teaching Technology Conference**: A one-day learning experience focused on teaching and technology. Occurs in October.

- **Inclusive Classroom**: Programming to support a more inclusive campus.

- **Quality Matters (QM)**: Workshops to evaluate and improve online courses using a peer-based approach to quality assurance.

- **Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Scholars**: A guided year-long experience for tenure-track and term faculty to develop a SoTL project and gain experience in conducting classroom-based research. Applications available in March.

- **Teaching and Learning Communities**: Monthly seminars focused on a specific teaching and learning approach including the ISU Online Learning Community (ISU-OLC), service-learning, team-based learning, contemplative pedagogy, and problem-based learning.

Funding Opportunities

- **CELT Presenter Grant**: Funding opportunity to present SoTL research at a teaching and learning higher education conference. For travel that will be completed between July 1 and December 30, apply by June 15. For travel that will be completed between January 1 and June 30, apply by December 15.

- **Engaged Faculty Institute on Service-Learning**: An in-depth service-learning institute that focuses on developing community engagement skills and practices, including partnership, assessment, and reflection while working alongside community partners to co-create a course and/or a research project. Request for proposals opens in March.

- **Miller Faculty Fellowship Program**: Provides funding for enhancing scholarly teaching work and to develop innovative approaches to enhance student learning. Request for proposals are due each December.

- **Miller Open Education Mini-Grants**: Provides funding to develop, adapt and share instructional materials that save students money while enriching their classroom experiences. Co-sponsored by the University Library, CELT, and the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost (SVPP). Request for proposals opens in March.

Services

- **Consultation and Classroom Observation**: Tenure-track faculty, senior term faculty and staff members who have a teaching role may visit CELT on a confidential basis to discuss course design or presentation, course materials (including course syllabus, presentation aids, writing assignments, or test materials). Observations are formative in nature and confidential.

- **Digital and online pedagogy consultations**: Provides guidance in all areas of online and blended learning, including new course development and innovative course designs and teaching methods aimed toward enhanced quality of instruction.

- **Advisory Board Member**: Tenured faculty, term faculty and staff members who have a teaching role are encouraged to serve on the advisory board to learn more about teaching and learning initiatives at ISU, serve as a college liaison, and promote scholarship of teaching and learning across campus.

Contact Information

Our office is located in 3024 Morrill Hall, 603 Morrill Road, Ames, IA 50011-2100
Contact us via phone: 515-294-5357, email: celt@iastate.edu, or our website: http://www.celt.iastate.edu/

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