CELT Teaching Tip • March 25, 2021

A focus on health: Students in addiction recovery

Supporting students in recovery from substance use is a critical issue that the college environment can help facilitate. All students, but particularly those in recovery, benefit from classroom environments that promote a sense of belonging with instructors knowledgeable about ISU resources of support.

We invite you to attend the webinar, Students in Addiction Recovery: What faculty should know to create supportive classrooms, Apr. 13 (1-1:50 p.m., register via Zoom - http://bit.ly/394CnkL). The presenters from Student Wellness and Counseling Services will share information about students in recovery (both at ISU and nationally), discuss how to foster an inclusive learning environment to supports students, and provide best practices about how we can connect students to resources (e.g., ISU’s Collegiate Recovery Community - https://bit.ly/isu-recovery), and create an affirming space for optimal learning.

Presenters:
Brian Vanderheyden, M.Ed, CHES, Director, Student Wellness
Carlos Vidales, M.S, CRC Graduate Coordinator, Student Wellness
Sydney Dunn, LMHC; Clinical Therapist & Substance Use Services Coordinator, Student Counseling Services

We hope to see you there,
Sara Marketti, Director
Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching

CELT Teaching Spotlight: Alice Alipour

Alice Alipour, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering (CCEE), has been teaching at Iowa State University for six years. Alipour received the Excellence in Remote Instruction COVID-19 Exceptional Effort Award for transforming and improving the delivery of CE 332: Structural Analysis I, one of the most challenging courses in the structural engineering program. This honor “This award recognizes a faculty or staff instructor who has made exceptional efforts to successfully transform courses into engaging and accessible remote teaching platforms while maintaining an exceptional standard of quality.”

Alipour’s advice for teaching: I have learned from my teaching experiences and pedagogical activities that students in a class come from diverse backgrounds of age, gender, race, experience, and culture. Hence, it is always one of my priorities to ensure that all students can benefit from the class. Another important aspect is to understand that students have different learning styles and have different preparedness levels. This understanding is of utmost importance in the type of analytical classes that I teach in the Structural Engineering Program at the CCEE Department. I do not approach the course material with the assumption that the students know (or remember) all the pre-requisites. I gauge the students’ understanding of the course materials from day one through various summative assessment methods and then provide them with extra help to make sure that no one is falling behind. I believe paying attention to the students’ feedback is critical. With the formative surveys and assessments that I plan throughout the semester, I make sure that their feedback is systematically received and implemented.

Upcoming CELT 2021 Programming

CELT offers face-to-face one-off workshops/webinars, longer-term teaching and learning circles on selected topics, and facilitation of teaching and learning communities. Our program listing with descriptions and registration information may be found on the corresponding page on CELT’s event listed via ISU’s Events Calendar (http://bit.ly/celtevents) or CELT’s programming schedule via ISU’s Events Calendar website (http://bit.ly/celt-isu-events).

Instructional Tools News and Updates

Stay up to date on ISU-approved learning technologies

Bookmark CELT’s Instructional Tools News & Updates page (https://bit.ly/35g7KqL). Questions about these updates? Email celt-help@iastate.edu.

Know where to go at ISU

- **Canvas support**: Locate the ? Help menu (far left of your screen in Canvas) and use one of the resources or for 24/7 support, call 515-294-4000 (listen to prompts for Canvas support).
- **Technical support**: ISU Solution Center, email solution@iastate.edu or call 515-294-4000.
- **Pedagogical support**: CELT Response Team is available each Tuesday-Friday (11 a.m.-1 p.m.). Call 515-294-5357. Or, contact our CELT instructional designers by emailing your course title, describing the question or issues you have, and the steps to replicate it to celt-help@iastate.edu. This step will also create a ServiceNow ticket for easy tracking.
- **Local support**: Contact your local support (https://www.celt.iastate.edu/support/).

CELT Mission and Contact Information

CELT’s mission is “Partnering with educators to advance student-centered learning at Iowa State University.” Contact us for consultations, questions, and comments via phone: 515-294-5357, email: celt@iastate.edu, or on our website: http://www.celt.iastate.edu/. Our physical office is in 3024 Morrill Hall, 603 Morrill Road, Ames, IA 50011-2100

How to contact us

Contact CELT via email at celt@iastate.edu or call 515-294-5357. We will forward your information to the appropriate staff member or contact the CELT staff directly (https://bit.ly/celt-staff) to schedule a meeting in a safe manner (virtually or face-to-face social-distanced).

Questions about teaching with technology?

Connect with our CELT instructional designers for support or pedagogical consultations by emailing celt-help@iastate.edu; this will also create a ServiceNow ticket for easy tracking.