

Foundations of Learning and Teaching Essential Concepts

Learning and Teaching Services

Dates: 5th September – 7th October, 2016

Duration: 5 weeks

Mode(s) of delivery: Online

Workload: Minimum of 15 hours over a 5-week period

Introduction

This course is designed to help participants develop experience in, and a working understanding of successful online teaching pedagogies that can be applied to their own teaching contexts. The course provides a practically and pedagogically focused foundation for participants to begin teaching online for the first time, or, for experienced teaching staff, to improve the effectiveness of their existing online teaching practice. The content, structure, activities and design of the course reflects the progress of teaching through a standard term and engages participants in an action learning approach to improve the effectiveness of their teaching, through reflection and practical activities that encourage teachers to take their experiences back into their own classrooms.

At the conclusion of the course, participants who have met specified requirements receive a **Certificate of Attainment**.

Learning and Teaching Process

Participants will use a range of learning technologies during FoLT, which will give them the experience and capability to apply these in their own online teaching contexts. The course focuses more on the pedagogical and instructional aspects of using particular technologies in teaching, rather than a purely technical 'how to' guidance.

The course is facilitated by experienced Academic Teachers who are experts in particular areas of content and are familiar with the role and expectations of online facilitators and educators.

The course will be taught wholly online within Navitas Core Moodle. Participants are required to have regular access to the Internet through a cable or broadband connection. A webcam and headset microphone are also recommended.

Participants

The course is aimed at teachers in vocational and higher education contexts who are new to teaching online or blended environments, or, experienced teaching staff who would like to improve the effectiveness of their existing online teaching practice. The course is a professional development activity for teachers, trainers and facilitators in the Colleges, Schools and academic departments within Navitas.

Weekly Study Pattern

Participants are expected to commit a minimum of 15 hours over the 5-week period. During the course, participants will engage in activities such as group work, reading and research, participating in a variety of online activities, both synchronous and asynchronous, submitting material for feedback and providing feedback to other participants. The small group approach allows for in-depth interaction and peer supported learning.

It is expected that participants will be actively engaging in activities each week of the course.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Implement a range of online teaching strategies to engage students in learning
- Apply skills in the use of learning technologies
- Contribute meaningfully to an online learning community
- Model best practice based in online learning and teaching, drawing on theoretical frameworks
- Reflect on the experience of being a student in an online learning environment

Activities & Readings

Throughout the course material you will find activities and readings for you to complete.

Activities throughout the course will include:

- Individual activities - Self-assessment, research, reading, exercises for practice and application
- Small group activities - Collaboration, co-operation, and practical application
- Whole group activities - Supportive discussion forums or live sessions to encourage participants to analyse and synthesise information and experience, and to get to know, communicate, and build an online learning community
- Reflective exercises

Activities will generally be completed in the discussion forums or as stated throughout the course. These activities have been particularly designed to promote best practice in the online class space and encourage engagement and a sense of community, while demonstrating some strategies you can take back into your own online class space.

A variety of reading/viewing resources are also provided and these will help you understand course content and assist with completing the activities. We strongly encourage you to access these resources and use them to understand more about the particular topic being discussed.

FoLT Framework

FoLT – Essential Concepts, is a foundation course about learning to teach in online and blended environments. Other FoLT courses, which focus on specific aspects of the learning and teaching process, are also available and are offered across the year. These 4 week courses are:

- FoLT – Assessment, Marking and Feedback
- FoLT – Engagement and Motivation

More Information

For more information about the Foundations of Learning and Teaching suite of courses, including costs and registration, please contact:

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