



Center of Teaching Excellence & Learning

Learning Connections: It's All About Partnerships!

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Message from:

Professor Prakash Mansinghani, CTEL Lead Faculty

My name is Prakash Mansinghani and I am the Lead Faculty Member for the Center of Teaching Excellence and Learning. Our interim President, Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, selected me to serve on this important project. It is my belief that teaching is one of the most noble of all vocations on this earth. It combines academics and progress with performance and theatrics. Our nation's most valuable tool towards progress and innovation is indeed education. Education in the arts, humanities, and sciences, are our greatest weapons of peace. To that end, millions of educators prepare themselves each day to impart their knowledge onto students.

Teaching, as we all know, is a science. In particular, pedagogy is *the art, science or profession of teaching*. It is an evolving vocation that requires constant reevaluation. For example, research in educational psychology shows that students entering our colleges and universities already possess years of educational experience and that instructors can use this existing knowledge to help students learn new concepts in the classroom. Therefore, using similar research, we can develop strategies to inform our pedagogy to promote student success.

At the Center of Teaching Excellence and Learning, or CTEL, we are looking into the latest research to help all of us learn new ways to continue making our classrooms a place of innovation. It is our mission to foster a community of faculty and staff devoted in improving teaching strategies, best practices, and increasing student learning. To this end, it is our hope to offer workshops that can help instructors find new ways to keep students engaged in online, hybrid, and traditional courses. We also want to offer workshops that will help faculty develop strategies in the following areas: addressing different styles in learning; addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion in our courses, and improving efficacy.

The truth is that faculty in higher education are often content-based experts, but that does not necessarily mean that we are experts in pedagogy. Our training may have focused on our specific disciplines rather than the teaching of that discipline. Therefore, this Center will offer an opportunity for us to collectively learn about new and exciting strategies, which will better prepare us to become more successful educators. The fact that we will embark upon this journey together, makes me incredibly excited. As such, there is no doubt in my mind that we will continue making Laredo College the best college in the nation.

Center of Teaching Excellence & Learning Faculty Survey

Faculty Survey Responses

Total Responses: 84
Completion Rate: 100 %
Typical Time Spent: 8m:36s

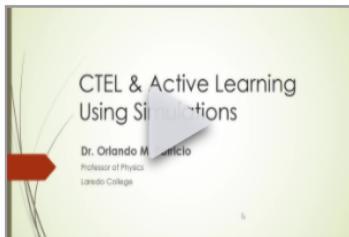
Thank you to all faculty who took the time to respond to the survey. Your feedback is important to us!

We are looking closely at the results and will be responding to the needs of faculty through the many activities planned from the Center of Teaching Excellence & Learning.



2-Minute Mentor Videos

Each video features a short discussion which highlights important topics in faculty/student empathy, student engagement, active learning, and much more. These videos are created by the CTEL faculty.



CTEL & Active Learning Using Simulations

Dr. Orlando Patricio



Inclusivity In The Classroom

Michelle Perez

New videos are posted regularly so visit our website today!

Upcoming Workshops!

Early Spring 2022:

1. Engaging Students with Disabilities
2. Addressing Different Learning Styles

Mid Spring 2022:

1. Addressing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
2. Engaging Students in Hybrid & Online Classes

WE ARE WHAT WE REPEATEDLY DO.

EXCELLENCE, THEREFORE IS NOT AN ACT BUT A HABIT!

-ARISTOTLE



- ◆ CTEL Grand Opening - Spring 2022
- ◆ Convocation Informational Sessions—Stay Tuned
- ◆ Teaching Excellence Academy - Anticipated Date: Summer 2022
- ◆ Spring 2022 Workshops

Visit us at

www.laredo.edu/ctel
to stay informed!

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? We'd love to hear from you!

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