



CENTER FOR

Teaching Excellence

2025-26

New Faculty Orientation

Rachel DeSoto-Jackson, Director



Rachel DeSoto-Jackson

Director
Center for Teaching Excellence

Professor
Department of Music, Theatre, and
Dance

Maternity leave until mid-September

Center for Teaching Excellence

www.iup.edu/teachingexcellence

105 Stabley

The mission of the Center for Teaching Excellence is to foster the enhancement of teaching excellence in all its forms. We seek to provide constructive and developmental mechanisms for nurturing the excellence in teaching which already exists at IUP. These mechanisms will honor our differences and build on our strengths.

Est. 1989 to nurture excellence in teaching, we seek to...

- expedite the achievement of the goals and missions of IUP, its faculty, and its students as they relate to teaching
- facilitate the professional and personal development of faculty members through teaching excellence activities
- define and provide mechanisms for enhancing and recognizing excellent teaching
- stimulate thinking, discussion, and research on teaching excellence
- provide forums for the exchange of information and ideas about teaching excellence

CTE Leadership Team

Meigan Robb
Associate Director of Assessment

Jacqueline McGinty
Associate Director of Instructional Design

Erin Clark
Associate Director of Reflective Practice

Veronica Paz
Co-Director of AI, Online Teaching, and
Technology

Dana Driscoll
Co-Director of Scholarship of Teaching and
Learning

Holly Olexo
Kalani Palmer

Co-Chairs of
CTE Advisory Board

CTE Activities



New Faculty Orientation



Reflective Practice



Instructional Design



Faculty
Recognition
Awards

CTE Reflective Practice

- Workshops/Large Group meetings
- Teaching Circles
- Mini-Grants



Workshops/ Large Group Meetings

FALL 2025

Key Practices for Fostering Engaged Learning in and Beyond the Classroom

Led by Guest Speaker Dr. Jessie Moore

Tuesday, September 2nd
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Virtual:

Zoom ID: 943 9610 9983

Promotion Information Event

Led by UWPC and CTE

Tuesday, October 7th
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Virtual:

Zoom ID: 943 9610 9983

Tech Update: Digital Tools and Time-Saving Strategies for Effective Teaching

Led by Dr. Jacqueline McGinty

Friday, September 12th
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.



Virtual:

Zoom ID: 943 9610 9983

Enhancing Dissertation Supervision: Supporting the Development of Doctoral Student Expertise and Effective Feedback Practices

Led by Dr. Dana Driscoll

Wednesday, November 6th
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Virtual:

Zoom ID: 246 061 2485

Improving Student Feedback

Led by Dr. Janis Barner

Wednesday, October 1st
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.



Hybrid:

Room: Stabley 101

Zoom ID: 943 9610 9983

Teaching Circles

Teaching Circles offer an opportunity to work with colleagues from your own department or across disciplines to enhance and improve your teaching.

Cross-Disciplinary Teaching Circles (CTC)
Department Teaching Circles (DTC)

Pat Hutchings, in her book *Making Teaching Community Property*, defines a teaching circle as
“a small group of faculty who make a commitment to work together over a period of at least a semester to address questions and concerns about the particulars of their teaching and their students' learning.”

Mini-Grants

The purpose of the Cross-Disciplinary and Department Teaching Circle Mini-Grants is to support Teaching Circles by helping them to achieve clear, well-defined outcomes that will enhance the teaching skills of its members and/or add to the group's knowledge of the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Outcomes could include changes in syllabi with a supporting rationale based on reading and discussion in the Teaching Circle, a presentation based on work done by its members, a publication that grows out of the work of the Teaching Circle, as well as other appropriate products.

Instructional Design Support

Instructional Design Support hours

Wednesdays from 3-5pm
on Zoom

<https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/92343240281>



Instructional Design Support

The Center for Teaching Excellence will provide instructional design consultations for faculty to support teaching excellence for synchronous and asynchronous learning environments (F2F and online) across IUP through meaningful implementation of technology into teaching practices.



Faculty 1:1 Consultations

Consultations offered on the following topics:

Instructional Design Implementation Strategies
Work collaboratively to design, develop, revise and evaluate courses



Faculty Training Workshops

Focused on Content Pedagogy

Workshops will be offered at varying times throughout the semester.



D2L Pedagogical Support

How to get started with D2L course design
How to integrate D2L tools into course design
Connecting D2L tools with content pedagogy

To request services,
submit an iHelp ticket
[ihelp.iup.edu](https://iupvideo.zoom.us/j/92343240281)



Services **not** supported by CTE

- Full course builds and redesigns
- Incorporating third party integrations
- Copying courses (*demonstrations can be provided for faculty to complete individually*)
- Building gradebooks, discussion forums, etc. (*demonstrations can be provided for faculty to completed individually*)

Faculty Recognition Awards



The purpose of the Faculty Recognition Awards is to acknowledge the multidimensional nature of the practice of teaching and to begin to recognize some of the many excellent faculty members at IUP. These are not global awards for teaching, like the University Senate award for teaching. These are possible ways of thinking about your teaching and recognizing excellence.

CTE Website

www.iup.edu/teachingexcellence



Reflective Practice

CTE encourages reflective and effective teaching through Teaching Circles and Large Group Meetings.

[Explore Reflective Practice](#) →



Teaching Resources

This resource collection includes information about online teaching, foundations in teaching and learning, and original resources such as IUP SPARKS.

[Explore Teaching Resources](#) →



DEI in Teaching

CTE offers Diversity, Equity and Inclusion professional development, resources and collaboration.

[Explore DEI in Teaching](#) →



Advising

Archived resources from the CTE publication of the Advisor Advocate Bulletin, Advisor and Advisee resources, and IUP Advise training materials.

[Explore Academic Advising](#) →



New Faculty Support

CTE helps to organize the New Faculty Orientation.

[Explore New Faculty Support](#) →



Faculty Academy

We host professional development opportunities for faculty such as the Summer Academy.

[More about Faculty Academies](#) →



Faculty Recognition

We recognize our fellow faculty through annual Faculty Recognition Awards and award Mini-Grants to fund Teaching Circle projects.



About Us

Read CTE's mission and history, and see annual reports and photos. Find archival information about Sunsetting Programs.

[About Us](#) →



Personnel

View the faculty, staff, and student workers who contribute to the Center for Teaching Excellence.

[View Personnel](#) →

CTE Website

www.iup.edu/teachingexcellence

Additional
teaching
resources
available



Common Tools

Explore IUP's online course designed to help faculty and staff use key tools for student success.

[Common Tools](#) →



Engaged Learning

Learn more about the resources available to foster engaged learning in the classroom.

[Engaged Learning Resources](#) →



Open Educational Resources

Learn more about educational resources that are free and available for faculty.

[Open Educational Resources](#) →



Foundations of Teaching and Learning

Find resources related to essential teaching topics.

[Explore Foundations](#) →



Online Teaching

Need recommendations for teaching online? Look here for resources and best practices.

[Online Teaching](#) →



Required Syllabus Statements

Syllabi shall contain the following policies and statements.

[Required Syllabus Statements](#) →



LibGuides

Read LibGuides compiled by the CTE co-director of Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Theresa McDevitt. These guides are full of resources gathered from Reflective Practice Large Group Meetings.

[Check out LibGuides](#) →



IUP SPARKS

An interactive newsletter with resources around a theme—specially created by the CTE associate director of Instructional Design, Jacqueline McGinty.

[Read IUP SPARKS](#) →



Checklist of Higher Education Online Course Design Standards for Quality Assurance

A final word of advice...

**BUILD CONNECTIONS,
FIND COMMUNITY**

