Provides basic and practical directions, tips, and other insights for teaching in Higher Education. The series is produced primarily for Canisius College faculty, but also may help professors or instructors elsewhere.

We try to have at least one new episode each month. You can also find and subscribe to us on Apple Podcasts, and Google Podcasts.

Episodes

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Music Credit: Gunnar Olsen (via YouTube)

**Episode 1**

Basic considerations and tips for communicating instructions, and updates to your students. Develop consistent procedures that simplify the learning process and focus energy on course substance.

**Related Links and Resources**

- The Basics: Adding Modules, Uploading Files, and Rearranging Modules and Topics - Transcript
- Building and Editing Web Pages in D2L’s Content Area - Transcript
- Embedding Google Docs in D2L (Close Captioned)
- Topic and Module Descriptions - Transcript
- Try using Video!
- Record Webcam Videos to Communicate with Students - Transcript
- COLI Screencasting Resource

**Some Good Reading**


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**Episode 2**
A good syllabus is the cornerstone of a great course.

**Related Links and Resources**

- Canisius College Griff Center for Academic Engagement
- Accessibility Support Office at Canisius College
- Tutoring Services at Canisius College
- Writing Center at Canisius College

Get a quick list of calendar dates for your course outline using Caleb McDaniel's brilliant "Syllabus Maker."

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**Episode 3**

Consider some basic course design principles.

**Relevant Links and Resources**

- [A Quick Guide to Basic Course Design](#)
- [Module 1 and Module 2](#) of the COLI Guide to Teaching Online has some basics for course design.
- [Some basic guidelines for determining appropriate student effort in a three-credit course](#), from the New York State Department of Education.

Organizing your course within D2L begins with understanding modules and topics in the Content area. [Here's the tutorial for that](#).

**More D2L Tutorials for faculty at Canisius College.**

**Some Good Reading**

Nilson, Linda B. *Teaching at its Best: A Research-Based Resource for College Instructors.* San Francisco: Josey-Bass, 2016. [Link](#)

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**Episode 4**

Part 1 of a two-part look at Asynchronous Discussions, a useful style of communication most commonly associated with online or hybrid courses, but also useful in face-to-face classes.

**Relevant Links and Resources**

- [COLI Guide to Teaching Online Module 4: Communication & Creation.](#)
- [Here's some helpful documentation](#) for asynchronous discussion instructions for students. You may adopt or adapt these to your classes.

**Our D2L Self-Paced Training for Faculty** has a video series that shows how to organize, manage, and optimize your asynchronous discussions within D2L.

**Some Good Reading**


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**Episode 5**


**Relevant Links and Resources**

- [COLI Guide to Teaching Online Module 4: Communication & Creation.](#)
Here's some helpful documentation for asynchronous discussion instructions for students. You may adopt or adapt these to your classes.

Community Standards and Polices at Canisius College.

Some Good Reading

Ten Best Practices for Teaching Online. Taken from Judith Boettcher and Rita-Marie Conrad's The Online Teaching Survival Guide. Among other things, this article includes great basic tips for online asynchronous discussions.

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**Episode 6**

We are joined by Dr. Graham Stowe, Director of the Writing Center and Assistant Professor English at Canisius College. Professor Stowe helps us determine how and why we assign writing as part of our courses, and offers tips on managing writing assignments.

**Relevant Links and Resources**


Dr. Graham Stowe, [https://www.canisius.edu/academics/our-schools/college-arts-sciences/directory/graham-stowe](https://www.canisius.edu/academics/our-schools/college-arts-sciences/directory/graham-stowe)

Chapter 4 of the COLI Guide to Teaching Online: Communication & Creation. [https://sites.google.com/my.canisius.edu/ofdc4/1](https://sites.google.com/my.canisius.edu/ofdc4/1)

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**Episode 7**

This episode features a conversation with Dr. Richard Reitsma, director and founder of the Borders and Migrations Initiative at Canisius College as well as the Chair of Modern Languages, Literature, Culture. In this conversation, we talk about how borders, migration, and Jesuit pedagogy can impact learning experiences in and out of the classroom.

**Relevant Links and Resources**

Dr. Reitsma’s Faculty page: [https://www.canisius.edu/academics/our-schools/college-arts-sciences/directory/richard-reitsma](https://www.canisius.edu/academics/our-schools/college-arts-sciences/directory/richard-reitsma)

Borders and Migrations Initiative Link: [https://blogs.canisius.edu/border/](https://blogs.canisius.edu/border/)


Borders and Migration Events: [https://blogs.canisius.edu/border/blog/](https://blogs.canisius.edu/border/blog/)

Spanish Program Page: [https://www.canisius.edu/academics/programs/spanish](https://www.canisius.edu/academics/programs/spanish)

Kino Border and Migration: [https://www.kinoborderinitiative.org/](https://www.kinoborderinitiative.org/)

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**Episode 8**

We are joined by Dr. Malini Suchak, Associate Professor in the Animal Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation, and Anthrozoology Programs at Canisius College.

Professor Suchak, a long-time advisor to COLI's pedagogy development program, reflects on her experiences teaching online, face-to-face, and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her insights and perspective inspires us to draw upon and blend these experiences into better teaching and learning in the future.

**Relevant Links and Resources**

Dr. Malini Suchak

Professor Malini Suchak at Canisius College

Animal Behavior, Ecology, and Conversation (ABEC) at Canisius College

Anthrozoology at Canisius College

COLI Guide to Teaching Online

Online Faculty Development Course

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**Episode 9**
This episode features a conversation with Mrs. Sarah Galasso, Associate Professor of Digital Media Arts at Canisius College.

In this conversation, Mrs. Galasso reflects on her life experiences related to transitioning from the private sector to freelancing to Villa Maria College and finally to Canisius College.

**Relevant Links and Resources**
- Mrs. Sarah Galasso’s Faculty Page
- August Productions
- Guide for New Faculty

**Episode 10**

Professor Yvonne Widenor joins the podcast to discuss students' diverse ways of discovering and appreciating art, both in and outside the classroom, and connecting art to their day-to-day lived experience. Along the way she provides some great tips on fostering student creativity and employing popular culture in course activities. She also discusses the benefits of campus-centered art promotion programs, both for the University and for its communities.

**Relevant Links and Resources**
- Yvonne Widenor
- ArtsCanisius on Facebook
- ArtsCanisius

**Episode 11**

In this episode, we discuss ways to improve professor feedback on student work. Make your feedback commentary another great opportunity for students to learn, and help students get the most from it.

**Great Sources**

**COLI. Lesson 4** of the COLI Guide for Teaching Online.

**D2L Tutorials**
- D2L Rubrics
- D2L Dropbox Tools
- D2L Quizzes and Exams

**Episode 12**

A brief discussion about what Information Literacy is, how it applies to student work, and how to do it effectively. We will also discuss Open Education Resources, OER’s, what they are, how they can be used in the classroom, and some of the advantages and disadvantages of OER’s over traditional text.

**Sources**

**Other Links**
- Mr. Matthew Kochan
Episode 13

In this episode, I will give a brief monologue on some tips and activities that instructors can use to help students to take better notes during class. I will also cover a few ways instructors can encourage students to become more involved in the lecture.

Sources


Episode 14

Jennifer Patrick, Director of Executive Education and Leadership in the Richard J. Wehle School of Business at Canisius College, discusses the Leadership and Professional Development Certificate. A foundational feature of a Wehle School education, the LPD program helps students find their professional personality, and hone learning, communication, organization, and self-expression skills essential for success as team members, leaders, and entrepreneurs.

Relevant Links and Resources

Leadership and Professional Development Certificate.

Richard J. Wehle School of Business

Jennifer Patrick at Canisius College