Teaching Commons

Where to get help with all things teaching and learning.

Whether you’re new to teaching or a seasoned professional in the classroom, the Teaching Commons can help with a variety of common and uncommon challenges, provide resources and creative new ideas for teaching, or serve as a sounding board for new instructional approaches you’re considering. All of Pitt’s Teaching Consultants have years of experience teaching diverse audiences in different disciplines as well as years of instructional design experience, working with instructors across the University. In addition, they are knowledgeable in the latest research on teaching and learning, and how best practices can be implemented practically in a variety of settings. Consultants from the Teaching Commons can help you:

- Design your course
- Integrate an educational technology
- Develop assessments, exams, quizzes, and questions that are aligned with your course
- Foster an inclusive environment
- Apply active learning strategies to your learning environment
- Improve your syllabus
- Create better instructional videos
- Take advantage of Open Education Resources
- Build an online or hybrid course, or course component
- Use and improve your student evaluations of teaching (OMET evaluations)
- Increase student engagement
- Combat cheating and plagiarism
- Utilize your TAs effectively
- Construct a teaching portfolio
- Write a teaching philosophy statement
- Write grants that involve pedagogy and instructional technology
- Practice new teaching techniques

Faculty who collaborate with the Teaching Commons can improve their OMET scores. The work we do with you is confidential—though we often find that faculty enjoy sharing the results of working with us. You can also request a teaching observation to receive confidential feedback on your teaching and formulate strategies for improvement, using evidence-based approaches. If you’d like to speak with someone from the Teaching Commons about how we can support your teaching, please e-mail teaching@pitt.edu.

We look forward to working with you!

Visit teaching.pitt.edu for more information.