



Office of Academic and Student Affairs
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To: UW System Provosts and UW System Teaching and Learning Center Directors
From: UW System Office of Academic Innovation: Online Learning Initiative
RE: Online Teaching and Learning Certificate Program
Date: May 3, 2021

Purpose and Value of the Online Teaching and Learning Certificate Program. The UW System Online Learning Initiative is pleased to announce a second call for faculty and instructional staff to enroll in the UW System Certificate in Online Learning. The purpose of this certificate program is to provide faculty and instructional staff across the UW System with a credential, which demonstrates mastery in online teaching and learning.

This certificate advances the professional development provided by the UW System Centers for Teaching and Learning, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and augments funding provided by the UW System Online Learning Initiative during the summer of 2020. In preparing this call, we are grateful for the collaboration and guidance provided by the OPID Advisory Council and Directors of the Centers for Teaching and Learning.

For UW System faculty and instructional staff, the Online Teaching and Learning Certificate serves three purposes. First, this program provides an opportunity for colleagues to work together to improve online learning across our UW System Universities, and to learn and grow as a professional community. Second, it provides an ongoing opportunity to ensure high quality online instruction, as new instructors enter the realm of online teaching and learning, and as experienced instructors seek to hone their existing knowledge and skills in online teaching and learning. Third, the program provides for faculty and instructional staff a credential demonstrating mastery of best practices in online teaching and learning, which may be utilized in support of tenure and promotion.

For the Teaching and Learning Centers at each UW System University, this Certificate program provides an opportunity to advance and sustain professional development efforts in online teaching and learning. Moreover, it also will help inform Provosts of a growing body of instructors who exhibit mastery in online and hybrid learning.

Call for Participants. Faculty and instructional staff are asked to click [here](#) to self-nominate. Participants will receive a \$250.00 stipend for their efforts. The UW System Online Learning Initiative is pleased to support up to 200 faculty and instructional staff members from all 13 UW System Universities. In order to scale this certificate to all parties who may be interested, anyone actively teaching for-credit courses in the UW System is welcome to apply.

The UW System Certificate in Online Teaching and Learning is designed to apply knowledge gained through trainings that occurred in summer and fall 2020 through our centers of teaching and learning. This effort directly assesses how instructors have applied their learning in online course design and application of four learning outcomes: alignment of course learning outcomes, student engagement, scaffolding of assessment, and inclusion/access. Participation in training efforts is not a requirement. Those who would like more concrete learning opportunities can freely access the UW Extended Campuses courses on “Planning, Designing and Teaching” in the online arena.

Participants will participate in one synchronous discussion with cohort members, can participate in best-practices discussion forums and will submit and receive individualized feedback on their levels of success of meeting these outcomes through the submission of an online or blended course and design reflection. Colleagues from across the UW System will gather for a norming session on applying the rubrics associated with the learning outcomes and use CANVAS to assess each course and reflection.

Individuals will be asked to submit either fully online courses or hybrid courses where more than 50% of their material is online for this certificate. Courses and reflections will be assessed and those who meet expectations on all four learning objectives will be awarded the UW Certificate in Online Teaching and Learning. The rubrics are attached to this CFP.

Timeline. Interested participants should complete their online registration survey no later than Wednesday, May 19, 2021. A review committee will accept participants based on their reported interest and the self-defined value this certificate can bring to instructors. Accepted participants will be notified of their participation during the week of May 24, 2021 with instructions for next steps. Accepted individuals will then be asked to submit a fully designed CANVAS course as well as a reflection on how the course meets the above-mentioned learning objectives by July 14, 2021. Assessment will occur during the last two weeks of July and instructors will receive feedback on their courses by August 6, 2021 in time for fall classes.

Assessment Data. Assessment data will remain confidential and each UW System Teaching and Learning Center Directors will receive access to and maintain oversight of any assessment data collected. Assessors will have a limited window of time to access and provide feedback to the assignments and course designs. Individualized quantitative and qualitative feedback will be available to the participants in hopes of providing useful data that will inform future courses. Assessment data only will be utilized to inform future teaching and professional development efforts. A compilation of anonymous, non-identifiable data will be shared back with the center directors upon assessment completion.

Questions. Thank you very much for circulating this opportunity widely with instructors. Please direct questions to either one of the following people:

- Dr. Carolyn Keller, Director, UW System Online Teaching and Learning Certificate Program
 - kellerca@uwplatt.edu
 - 608-342-1981
- Dr. Laura A. Dunek, Director, UW System Online Learning Initiative
 - ldunek@uwsa.edu
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Attachments:

- (1) Alignment Rubric
- (2) Assessment and Scaffolding Rubric
- (3) Inclusive Pedagogy Rubric
- (4) Student Engagement Rubric