Fall 2013 Learning in the Digital Age

The world of MOOC’s, smartphone apps, and electronic classroom technologies has transformed how we teach and changed the entire landscape of higher education. Are those threats or opportunities... or both? Join us as we focus on how we’re responding to the digital revolution on campus and beyond. (Virtual attendance not recommended.)

All sessions from noon – 1:00 in Weitz 236, unless otherwise noted. Lunch for 50 served beginning at 11:45.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17
Technology and Pedagogy: Big Steps, Baby Steps, Next Steps
A follow-up to last year’s popular session on podcasting and screencasting, this session looks at some of the other recent experiments with new technology. Come learn about our colleagues’ efforts to integrate YouTube video lectures, online quizzes, Moodle, and online labs into their teaching. Students welcome.
Stephan Zwirki, Professor of Biology
Mark McKens, Professor of Biology
Christine Lac, Senior Lecturer in French
Thabiti Willis, Assistant Professor of History

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 24
“Free Speech” vs. “Right Speech”: A Conversation about Ethics, Journalism and Talk in the Public Square
Free speech is a pillar of American democracy, but can there be too much free speech? Does the proliferation of online communication technologies, the universal need for social cohesion and the sensitivity of multicultural communities require us to rethink the limits of free speech? Join us as we consider “free speech” both within and beyond the borders of Carleton. Students welcome.
Doug McGill, Visiting Instructor in English
Clara Hardy, Professor of Classics

TUESDAY OCTOBER 1
The Arts and Technology at Carleton: A View from CarT
CarT (Carleton Arts and Technology) is a new curriculum initiative for integrating technology into the arts, and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration between fine and performing arts and sciences. In this session, faculty report on activities in this area and speculate on how technology is changing the face of arts and arts education. Students welcome.
Ron Rodman, Director, CarT
Stephen Mohring, Associate Professor of Art
Dave Musciant, Professor of Computer Science
Nikki Melville, Associate Professor of Music
Lasia Jimenez, Assistant Professor of CAMS
Judith Howard, Assistant Professor of Dance

THURSDAY OCTOBER 10
Cognition in the Classroom: Connecting Cognitive Psychology with Educational Practice
Our work as teachers centers around helping students learn complex skills, to remember what they’ve learned, and to apply their knowledge outside of our classes. Professor Marsh will present simple classroom techniques that promote long-term learning and the research that underlies them. Students welcome.
Co-sponsored by the Psychology Department
Elizabeth Marsh, Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, Duke University

THURSDAY OCTOBER 15
What is a “Bad” Grade?
What do we want a grade to convey to a student in a specific assignment or course? Where and how do we provide students with information to help them assess what a “bad” grade means in different contexts, such as choosing a major or persisting in a course sequence?
Eric Ege, Associate Professor of Mathematics
Deborah Gross, Professor of Chemistry
Danie Kohan, Associate Professor of Chemistry
George Shufflton, Associate Professor of English and Associate Dean of the College

THURSDAY OCTOBER 22
Explore the Humanities from Your Phone
Linking the humanities with new innovative technologies is changing humanistic research and the way it is delivered. Come hear about one collaboration that binds three institutions, faculty and staff, and aims to deliver place-based learning encounters with Minnesota’s environmental past via a smartphone. Students welcome.
George Vrto, Associate Professor of History and Environmental Studies, Carleton; Chris Wells, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, Macalster; Carly Barn, Academic Technologies, Carleton; Fritz Vanderwerken, Academic Information Associate for the Humanities, Macalster

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5
When Teachers Form a Circle
Amazing things can happen when a group of faculty participate in a teaching circle. Come hear what this latest group of colleagues have discovered about teaching—their own and one another’s. Students welcome.
Jason Decker, Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Sheir Goings, Assistant Professor of Computer Science
Sarah Meers, Assistant Professor of Psychology

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12
Northfield Promise: A Collective Impact Approach to Support Youth from Cradle to Career
Meaningful, sustainable, large-scale social change and educational reform require community members to agree on a common set of comprehensive goals to support student learning, from pre-K through career development. Come learn about Carleton’s role as a partner in Northfield’s Collective Impact Initiative and discuss how this collaboration can best help the CCCE chart its future. Students welcome.
Zach Pratt ’00, Director, Northfield Healthy Community Initiative; Laura Recho-Merrill, Director, Acting in the Community Together, Center for Community & Civic Engagement; Northfield Promise community partner

FALL 2013 BOOK GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS
Speaking of Race and Class: The Student Experience at an Elite College, by Elizabeth Armit
How do race and class shape the student experience in the elite college setting? Why is it so hard to foster diversity on campus? Sociologist Elizabeth Armit asks these questions as she follows lower and upper income white and black college students throughout their four years at Amherst College. Based on the stories and insights provided by the students she interviews, we will use these narratives as a springboard to hear how race and class intersect to shape the student experience at Carleton. Students are welcome to attend this book group.
Co-facilitators: Joy Klutz, Director of Intercollegial and International Life and Liz Ulrich, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Thursdays, October 10 and 31, 4:30–6:00 PM, LTC Lounge

Higher Education in a Digital Age, by William Bowen
Online education in general and MOOCs (massively open online courses) in particular are headline-grabbing topics. Join two members of our Future Learning Technologies Group for a discussion of this book by William Bowen, an economist who served as the president of both the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Princeton University. Based on a series of lectures Bowen gave at Stanford, the book addresses the rising cost of higher education and the potential role of online learning. It also includes responses from Stanford president John Hennessy, Harvard psychologist Howard Gardner, Columbia literature professor Andrew Delbanco, and Coursera cofounder Daphne Koller.
Co-facilitators: Andrea Nixon, Director of Curricular and Research Support and Melissa Ehlen-Zayas, Associate Professor of Psychology

Thursdays, October 8 and 29, 4:30–6:00 PM, LTC Lounge

Sign up for a reading group at apps.carleton.edu/campus/ltc/calendar/reading

For more information, contact Charlene Hamblin at chamblin@carleton.edu