

Collaborative Course (Re)Design: A TaLT Learning Community



Call for Applications

Faculty Fellow, Collaborative Course (Re)Design Learning Community

Bruce K. Nelson Faculty Development Center

How Do You Design Your Course?

Most of us spend our days and weeks prior to the beginning of a term sitting alone, designing a course, hoping that the combination of teaching methods we decide to employ and the assessments we implement will demonstrate effective learning by the students at the end of the semester. But what if you had someone who could help you? A person with insights into the course, the way you teach it, and what it is like to be a student in the course? You do! Think of all of those smart, insightful, and potentially collaborative students who have completed the course with you recently. These students represent the potential for effective faculty-student collaborations that can improve the effectiveness and learning outcomes of your course.

Collaborative course (re)design (CCRD) is an approach to redesigning a course that you have taught previously. In CCRD, you and one of your former students work together collaboratively to redesign portions of a course that you want to update and improve. Faculty benefit from engaging in the CCRD process as it increases insights into student learning, and student collaborators benefit from engaging in the CCRD process as they develop insights into the

teaching and learning process. Extensive literature demonstrates positive outcomes for everyone involved ([Bovill et al., 2011](#); [Bovill et al., 2015](#); [Ziegenfuss & Lawler, 2008](#)), but what is more, you may find renewed joy and energy in the collaboration and your teaching. Our learning community will facilitate the process of engaging in CCRD with you and a student you invite to be your partner.

About this opportunity

Our learning community will include pairs of faculty-student partners who will participate in a learning community during the 2023-2024 academic year. Ideal faculty fellows should have a course in mind that they have previously taught and to which they would like to make revisions. Additionally, they should be open to the possibility of collaborating with and learning from their student partner. We welcome applicants from faculty members, full-time lecturers, and part-time lecturers in all programs.

The CCRD learning community is funded by the Leadership Legacy award from the [College of Education](#). This learning community also supports the [Teaching and Learning Together](#) (TaLT) initiative that began at the Bruce K. Nelson Faculty Development Center during the 2022-2023 academic year. TaLT aims to increase collaborations in teaching and learning between faculty and students across our campus. We are working towards increasing the connections and community, which have historically been a strength of EMU.

Fellow description and responsibilities:

- Participate in face-to-face group learning community meetings to discuss the CCRD process *for the 2023-2024 academic year*.
- There will be approximately nine meetings during the Fall 2023 semester, and approximately six meetings during the Winter 2024 semester. Meetings will take place on Mondays 2:00-3:15
- Commit to time working outside of group meetings to complete readings and work on the CCRD process with your student partner.

- Work with your student partner and learning community leaders to develop a small scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) research project in association with the CCRD course redesign process. Faculty will receive support for developing and conducting this research in the learning community.

Position benefits:

- \$800 stipend for faculty participants
- \$800 stipend for student partner participants
- The opportunity to make improvements or changes to a course with input from a student partner who is familiar with the course
- Participants will learn to implement CCRD with support
- Support in completing a small research project, ideally which can be presented and/or published, that will be disseminated with student partner focusing on CCRD process

Faculty fellows should:

- Identify a course (any topic, any level) that they have taught previously and would like to revise. The course must be scheduled to *run in the Winter 2024 semester*.
- Invite a student who has successfully completed the identified course in the recent past to be their partner.
 - Faculty participants will be encouraged to consider all feasible students, particularly marginalized students who may bring a unique perspective to their course redesign.
 - Confirm availability of student partners to meet as part of the learning community and work with the faculty partner to complete the CCRD work for the 2023-2024 academic year.
 - It is suggested that, if possible, the student partner be available during the time the course will be taught in the Winter 2024 semester in order to facilitate the teaching and data collection process.
- Be able to see students as partners and see the value of listening to student expertise.

- Be willing to design and conduct a small SoTL study in collaboration with their student partner. The expectation is that this research will be disseminated.
- Agree to participate in IRB-approved data collection related to the learning community.

How to apply:

To apply, please complete the faculty fellow application, linked [here](#). Applications are due by 8:00 p.m. on September 7, 2023. If you wish to discuss this opportunity further, please contact [Sarah Ginsberg](#), Lead Faculty Member for the CCRD Learning Community. If you have questions regarding the TaLT initiative, please contact [Jeffrey Bernstein](#), Faculty Development Center Director.

Please note: If you are selected to participate in this learning community, the first meeting will take place on September 18, 2023