



Learning Communities

What is an CETL Learning Community?

- Active, collaborative year-long program
- 6-12 faculty, graduate students and professional staff
 - who are interested in exploring a topic related to teaching and learning
 - who represent a variety of disciplines (cross-disciplinary interaction)
 - who are willing to meet bi-weekly to explore the topic
- CETL Learning Communities will be
 - led by a topic expert from OU's faculty
 - some communities will be relevant and specific to faculty, while others will be inclusive including faculty, staff and students

What are the goals of CETL Learning Communities?

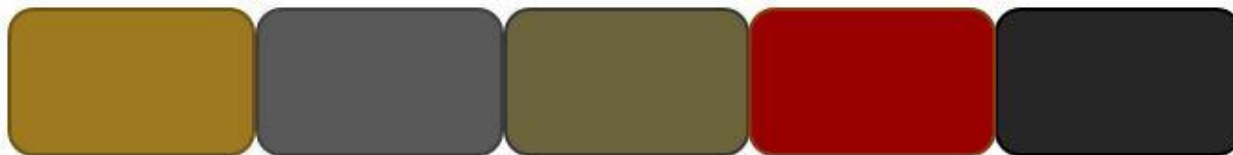
- Faculty collaborating with one another and staff and students to share expertise, to improve student learning and improve teaching
- Shared inquiry about a topic of mutual interest
- Building friendships and mentorships across disciplines
- Introducing new knowledge into the teaching environment
- Advance the scholarship of teaching and learning

On what kinds of topics can an CETL Learning Community focus?

- All groups will engage in aspects of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL)
 - SoTL recognizes teaching as scholarly work and encourages members to use research to better understand and improve their own teaching practices and how such work will improve learning across the campus.
 - SoTL values the dissemination of work through such activities as presentations and scholarly articles.

Examples of topics might include:

- problem-based learning
- case study methods
- mentoring undergraduate research
- engaging students in large classes
- effective methods for teaching adults
- student learning through writing



- critical thinking, service learning
- high impact practices
- diversity
- leading study abroad

What is involved in facilitating an CETL Learning Community?

- [Submit a proposal](#).
- If accepted, seek membership and participation with assistance from CETL.
- Organize regular sessions (approximately twice a month).
- Facilitate sessions.
- Submit a final report.
- Share results of LC with others on campus.

How can the support funding be used?

Up to \$300 is available for the following:

- Support for books and materials related to the topic
- Support for professional development on learning community topic (e.g., event registration, online conference)
- Support for travel for regional expert on the selected topic to come to OU
- Support for other activities may be available if approved

What is required if I want to propose an OU Learning Community?

- Fill out an application. Calls normally open each winter and are due at the end of March.
- Agree to share what you have learned and done in a campus forum.
- Complete a final report on the results of the learning community and how funds were used.

If I am currently leading a learning community, can I submit a proposal to continue the community for a second year?

Yes, a proposal can be submitted to continue a current learning community, but new objectives should be provided.