

# Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning

University of Colorado Denver



## THE CEREBRO SERIES

The newest episodes this March, subscribe and start listening. Find the [podcast here](#) or scan the QR code here:

### Episode #3: How People Learn I

How people learn is a multifaceted process. In Part 1, we will discuss how people learn, absorb, and retain new information.

### Episode #4: How People Learn II

In Part 2, we will take a closer look at some of the teaching techniques instructors can use to help foster deeper student learning.

### Episode #5: Encouraging Students to Come Prepared

We explore Just In Time Teaching as a method to encourage your students to come to your class prepared for learning.



Want to be on our podcast? Know someone who should be on our podcast? Have an idea or a topic you want to hear?

Let us know by [completing this form](#).

## MID-SEMESTER CHECK-IN WITH YOUR STUDENTS

Mid-semester student feedback is a helpful and informative assessment that will allow you to make adjustments to your course and teaching, based on student feedback. Asking for student comments shows you care about their learning and your teaching.

Several studies have shown mid-semester student feedback can lead to higher end-of-course evaluations.

### ASK YOUR STUDENTS

1. What is working in the course?
2. What is not working in the course?
3. What do they want to see happen or what would they like to change?
4. Open feedback

### BEST PRACTICES:

- Give a deadline for the survey
- Make it anonymous- students are less likely to give honest feedback if their name is on it!
- Follow up - discuss the feedback and changes you may make with students
- Offer small amount of extra credit

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

Mid Semester Feedback Survey Made Easy (*We made it for you!*)

[Teaching & Learning Recognition: March 9th 12:00 pm - Save the date!](#)

Who can be a CETL Faculty Fellow?

Can I apply for a Teaching Enhancement Grant? **SPOILER...YES!**

Helping college students navigate college life: **First-Year Experiences & College Success**

February Newsletter winners & enter this month's newsletter drawing!

Upcoming Workshops & Programs: Register today! (**See page 5**)



## WE MADE THE SURVEY FOR YOU!

1. Duplicate the survey
2. Insert your course info (*change the theme, update the settings, add a picture - make it your own!*)
3. Send the survey via email or Canvas!

[GET THE SURVEY HERE](#)

or Scan the QR code!



Microsoft Forms is a tool that allows for the easy creation of surveys, quizzes, and polls. Microsoft 365 applications are **free** to faculty, students and staff. [Visit OIT's Microsoft 365 webpage](#) for more information about Microsoft software or go to <https://office.com> to access your Microsoft 365 applications.

Learn [How to Use Microsoft Forms](#)



# JOIN US FOR OUR CELEBRATION OF FACULTY & YOUR COMMITMENT TO TEACHING & LEARNING

## CETL IS TURNING 2 YEARS OLD!

Celebrate your dedication to the excellence of teaching, learning, & student success. We know student success begins with faculty success, and that's what we do, support faculty to be the best educator they can be.

**2,468**  
faculty hours  
AY 2021-2022

*You're invited!*

**22**  
newsletter winners  
AY 2021-2022

### WHEN

March 9th  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

### WHAT

Excellence in Teaching & Learning Recognition  
**(Lunch & Beverages provided)**

### WHERE

Learning Commons  
Faculty Success (3rd Floor)

### FEATURED SPEAKERS

Provost Nakuma  
Margaret Wood, AVC Student Success  
Lindsey Hamilton, Director CETL

### BRIEF AGENDA

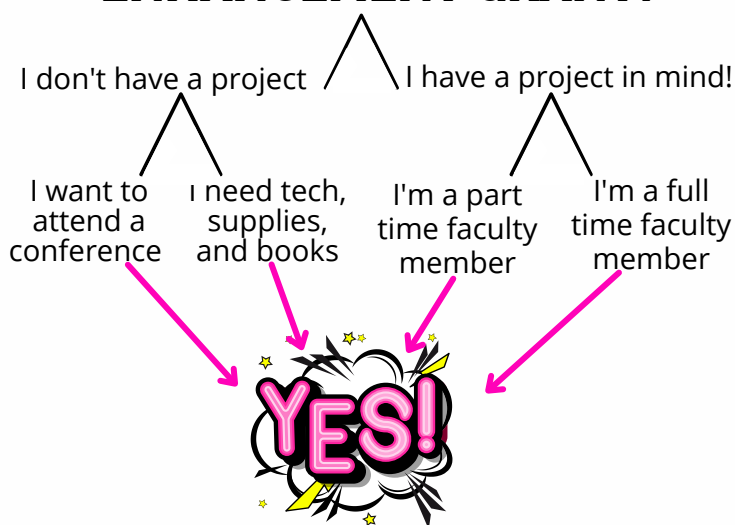
12:00 - 12:20 Welcome & Speakers  
12:20 - 12:50 Celebration & Lunch

### Can't make it?

Can't make it on March 9th? Swing by all week to sign our Birthday card! While you drop in, pick up some refreshments, candy, and teaching resources **for free.**



## SHOULD YOU APPLY FOR THE TEACHING ENHANCEMENT GRANT?



## WHAT IS THE TEACHING ENHANCEMENT GRANT?

Get funding to enhance your teaching, make an impact in your classroom, attend a conference, hire a student, purchase software, fund updated classroom technology, or fund a project you have been dreaming about.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

All CU Denver educators and faculty members (includes Lecturers, all IRC faculty, tenure-track, tenured, part-time/full-time faculty, etc.)

Not sure if you're eligible? *Apply anyways!*

Visit [www.ucdenver.edu/TEG](http://www.ucdenver.edu/TEG) to apply!



## WHAT DOES A CETL FACULTY FELLOW DO?

### WHO'S ELIGIBLE TO BE A FACULTY FELLOW?

Any full-time educators and faculty members on the CU Denver campus. (Includes IRC faculty, Tenure Track

Faculty, Instructors, Senior Instructors, Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, and Professors.)

### WHAT DOES IT ENTAIL?

Choose certain areas you want to focus on as long as it focuses on teaching, learning, and ultimately supports the success of our students!

Are you interested in inclusive teaching or Hispanic serving institution programs? *Run a Community of Practice with us.*

Have a new idea? Let's hear it!

### ARE FACULTY FELLOWS PAID?

Fellows receive a \$2,000 stipend paid as a professional development stipend each year - a total of \$4,000 over two years.

### HOW MUCH OF A TIME COMMITMENT IS IT?

Roughly one workshop/program a month, plus 2-3 faculty fellow team meetings per semester.

Visit [www.ucdenver.edu/CETL](http://www.ucdenver.edu/CETL) to apply.

# TEACHING STRATEGY OF THE MONTH: EXAM AUTOPSY

A metacognitive teaching tool to help support your students in reflecting on their exam performance and their underlying study habits. Exam autopsies, or wrappers, help students distinguish between insufficient knowledge and careless mistakes, identify errors in their test-taking strategies, adjust their study and review techniques, and increase their scores on subsequent exams. [CETL has a fillable Exam Autopsy pdf you can use!](#)

## HOW TO USE AN EXAM AUTOPSY:

**1** Ask students to examine the questions they missed and why.



**2** Ask students to reflect on their study habits.

- How many hours did you study?
- What were your study methods - re-read lecture slides, highlight notes, read the textbook, etc?
- Did you engage with study groups, online videos, or other study methods?
- How much sleep did you get the night before?
- Did you experience test anxiety?
- Did you change answers during the exam?

**3** Based on the results, help students pinpoint specific tactics to use either in preparation for the test or while taking the test.

## TEST ITEM MISSED

INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION	TEST ANXIETY	CARELESS MISTAKES	LACK OF TEST WISDOM
I did not review this information or missed it in the readings or lectures.	I experienced a mental block.	I made careless mistakes; Knew the correct answer but did not write it.	I did not eliminate obviously incorrect choices
I studied the information but could not recall it during test.	I was tired & could not concentrate.	I wrote an incomplete response.	I did not choose the best answer
I knew the main idea but needed more details	I was hungry & could not concentrate.	I misread the directions.	I did not notice limiting words
I knew this concept but could not apply it.	I panicked during the test.	I misread or misunderstood the question	I did not make good use of time during the test

# HELPING COLLEGE STUDENTS NAVIGATE COLLEGE LIFE: FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES & COLLEGE SUCCESS

by Emilie Waggoner, Assistant Director FYE

At CU Denver, students who have been admitted for the upcoming Fall semester will get to choose between taking a First-Year Seminar (FYS) course, a UNIV 1110: College Success course, or a Learning Community course. Research shows how high-impact programs continue to be a common factor in student success and retention (Kuh, 2008, Pascarella and Terenzini, 2005).

A key piece of our work in [First-Year Experience](#) programs is connecting students to faculty and staff at their university, which studies also show is one of the key factors in determining a student's likelihood of being retained and graduating from their university or college (Fink and Inkelas, 2015, Rocconi, 2011, Upcraft et al., 2005, and Mayhew et al., 2016).

FYE courses help students get acclimated to the university climate, our systems, and operations, the staff, faculty, and peers by learning different aspects about how the university operates and how they can be successful throughout their studies.

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*"The goal is to help teach students skills and strategies that they can begin implementing during their first semester of college and refine them as they go through their other courses."*

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## HOW CAN YOU BE A PART OF FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCES (FYE)?

First-Year Experiences continues to grow the UNIV 1110 sections, which means we are always on the lookout for new instructors at CU Denver.

The requirements for teaching a UNIV 1110 course include:

- Master's degree from an accredited institution, or *at least 18 completed graduate-level college credit hours* from an accredited institution
- Current CU Denver staff or faculty member
- Attend all required FYE training

## WHAT IS UNIV 1110: COLLEGE SUCCESS?

[UNIV 1110: College Success](#) course is the largest part of our FYE course offerings. These courses are a FREE, one-credit hour university elective course that our students can choose to enroll in. These courses meet once a week, capped at 26 students, and are assigned a Peer Advocate Leader to support students. There are a variety of UNIV courses a student can choose from, including major-specific courses, general UNIV courses that are open to all majors, and some that combine our new residence hall and some of our specific majors, such as our College of Arts and Media Living, Learning, and Creating Community (LLCC) UNIV sections.

Courses run the full sixteen weeks and include a variety of topics that focus on areas students can work on improving and implementing to help them be successful in college, from studying skills, writing presentations, diversity and inclusion lessons, time management strategies, and much more.



Being a UNIV 1110 instructor is an excellent way to learn more about the incoming generation of students, become more connected to our first-year and transfer students, and continue teaching our students the skills and strategies necessary to thrive at their university.

Being a UNIV 1110 instructor, you engage with our learners in new ways and help them establish those foundational skills that they then bring into your other courses at CU Denver.

[Learn more here](#) or email [FYE@ucdenver.edu](mailto:FYE@ucdenver.edu) if you're interested in becoming an FYE Instructor!



## SPRING 2022 WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT [WWW.UCDENVER.EDU/CETL](http://WWW.UCDENVER.EDU/CETL)

### FACULTY CONVERSATIONS

Monday, February 28th, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm  
Managing Student Accommodations

Tuesday, March 15th, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Mid-Semester Check In

Thursday, March 31st, 9:00 am - 10:00 am  
Student Engagement

### THE ABC'S OF HOW WE LEARN (VIRTUAL)

Wednesday, March 2nd, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm  
Wednesday, April 6th, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm  
Wednesday, May 4th, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

### LUNCH & LEARN (VIRTUAL)

#### *Gender Inclusive Teaching*

Tuesday, March 8th, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

### COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: UNGRADING (VIRTUAL)

Thursday, March 10, 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm  
Thursday, April 7, 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

### BOOKS@WORK (VIRTUAL)

#### *While Justice Sleeps*

Wednesday, April 27th, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

## February Newsletter Winners



- Annika Mosier (CLAS)
- Cameron Kantner (FYE & CU&A)
- Brie Mondragon (Student Success)

Check your University email to learn how to claim your prize!

### LAST MONTH WE ASKED:

"Did you listen to our new podcast?  
Tell us what you think or suggest a topic for a future podcast!"

"I love the podcast is concise but very informative! A great way to catch up on some high-impact information."

"Please do a podcast on equitable teaching practices."



Coming soon! Stay tuned.

## Enter the March Drawing to win prizes!

Enter to win prizes by completing the form and responding to our question:



Do you do a mid-semester feedback survey with your students?  
What are the benefits?

[TELL US HERE](#) or Scan the QR Code:

HAVE YOU MISSED A PAST NEWSLETTER? [FIND THEM ALL HERE!](#)

