

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Published 1/20/2023 by [Ashley Ribbel](#)

[View all the Teaching & Learning Centre Spark Plugs!](#)

The Teaching & Learning Centre is offering courses, supports with Blackboard Ultra, and a one-day conference for you to attend in the winter 2023 term. We hope you can join us!

Upcoming Courses

Developing Online Materials for Your Course*

This course is designed to help participants explore and use online tools to develop materials for their course. Participants will use principles of universal design for learning (UDL) to develop AODA compliant modules, slideshow videos, screencasts, and interactive activities. Tools explored include Adobe Express, Google Sites, Screencast-o-Matic, Loom, PowerPoint, H5P, and Microsoft Stream.

- ☒ Course delivery mode: synchronous online
- ☒ Course dates: January 31 to February 21, 2023
- ☒ This course is part of [Seneca's Micro-credentials for Faculty PD program](#), which means you can earn a micro-credential when you complete the course.
- ☒ [Register for Developing Online Materials for Your Course in MyPD.](#)
- ☒ For more information, visit our [Developing Online Materials for Your Course course calendar entry](#).

Effective Online Teaching*

In this is a 4-week asynchronous course, faculty participants will learn both the basic elements of high-quality online course design and delivery alongside more advanced strategies to elevate their online course from good to great. Through interactive learning modules, activities, and deliverables, participants will be introduced to concepts such as curriculum and lesson planning, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), accessibility, online assessments, and building a community of learners. There are no live sessions in this course. You will be able to work through the material at your own pace.

- ☒ Course delivery mode: asynchronous online
- ☒ Course dates: February 6 to March 6, 2023
- ☒ This course is part of [Seneca's Micro-credentials for Faculty PD program](#), which means you can earn a micro-credential when you complete the course.
- ☒ [Register for Effective Online Teaching in MyPD.](#)
- ☒ For more information, visit our [Effective Online Teaching course calendar entry](#).

Teaching Unique Diverse Learners (UDL)*

This course will explore our Unique, Diverse Learners and the principles of UDL (Universal Design for Learning). Participants will examine a course they currently teach and take some first steps into incorporating UDL into their teaching practice.

- ☒ Course delivery mode: asynchronous online
- ☒ Course dates: February 13 to March 13, 2023
- ☒ This course is part of [Seneca's Micro-credentials for Faculty PD program](#), which means you can earn a micro-credential when you complete the course.
- ☒ [Register for Teaching Unique Diverse Learners \(UDL\) in MyPD.](#)
- ☒ For more information, visit our [Teaching Unique Diverse Learners \(UDL\) course calendar entry](#).

Science of Learning*

Have you ever wondered what scientific research on learning, attention, memory processes, and the brain can tell us about how students learn? This online course consists of four asynchronous modules that will introduce you to the dynamic field of the Science of Learning and its many applications in the classroom. The series will highlight insights from prominent researchers in the fields of memory, critical thinking, and reasoning, and also explore neuromyths that persist in education. It will also build on the work of keynote speakers at past Teaching & Learning Centre Events, such as Joe Kim, Yana Weinstein, and Megan Sumeracki. Participants will reflect on how new research in the science of teaching and learning can inform our practice and help our students adopt more effective learning strategies.

- ☒ Course delivery mode: asynchronous online
- ☒ Course dates: March 6 to 31, 2023
- ☒ This course is part of [Seneca's Micro-credentials for Faculty PD program](#), which means you can earn a micro-credential when you complete the course.
- ☒ [Register for the Science of Learning in MyPD.](#)
- ☒ For more information, visit our [Science of Learning course calendar entry](#).

Foundations of Creating Accessible Content

Creating and providing accessible materials is about inclusion, equity, and social responsibility. With Ontario's commitment to be a fully accessible province by 2025 through the implementation of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), knowing how to create accessible learning materials and documents is crucial!

This 2-week asynchronous online course will review and apply the accessibility guidelines and requirements applicable to creating digital content. After successful completion of this course, you will walk away with strategies and resources to help with making your digital content accessible.

- ☒ Course delivery mode: asynchronous online with optional synchronous sessions
- ☒ Course dates: March 6 to 19, 2023
- ☒ [Register for Foundations of Creating Accessible Content in MyPD.](#)
- ☒ For more information, visit our [Foundations of Creating Accessible Content course calendar entry.](#)

The Professional Development Plan for Non Full-time Faculty Members

All of the course listed above are open to anyone who is interested in participating. But the ones that have an asterisk* next to their names as part of Seneca's [Professional Development Plan for Non Full-time Faculty Members](#).

Anyone who completes a course in the PD Plan can earn a micro-credential.

Any non full-time faculty member who completes a course in the PD Plan can receive remuneration (at the meeting rate for a predetermined number of hours per course). If you are a non full-time faculty member interested in one of these courses, please discuss this with your Chair before you register for one of these courses.

Virtual Reality (VR) at Seneca

Learn more about Virtual Reality (VR) at Seneca by attending one of our "Virtual Reality Lab Orientation for Faculty" sessions.

Come and explore the new VR Lab facility at Newnham Campus! Learn how to get started incorporating virtual reality experiences into your curriculum. In this hands-on orientation session, we will outline the process for booking and using the VR Lab. You will also have the opportunity to try the VR headsets.

Space is limited.

Join us in the Virtual Lab at Newnham Campus on the following dates and times:

- [Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 10 a.m. Eastern](#)
- [Thursday, Feb. 9 at 10 a.m. Eastern](#)
- [Friday, Feb. 17 at 10 a.m. Eastern](#)
- [Thursday, Feb. 23 at 1:30 p.m. Eastern](#)

Register in [MyPD](#).

Blackboard Ultra

Blackboard Ultra is coming to Seneca for summer 2023!

Blackboard Ultra is the latest iteration of the Blackboard Learning Management System. It is designed to be accessible and mobile-friendly, providing ease of use for faculty and instructors and a consistent look and feel across courses for students.

In the Teaching & Learning Centre, we've been working hard to develop the supports you may need when transitioning to Blackboard Ultra.

Our website is where you can find all the resources you'll need to teach in Blackboard Ultra. With how-to articles, best practices, resources, and videos, this space will host all of the Teaching & Learning Centre's Blackboard Ultra materials. Please check back regularly as this space will be updated with more articles, videos, and supports!

We recommend beginning with our [Blackboard Ultra Crash Course](#). It walks you through the main features of Blackboard Ultra. We have a short introduction Blackboard Ultra and a longer tour of what a course could look like in Blackboard Ultra. The Crash Course also four instructional videos that cover the vast majority of topics you need to know to successfully teach in Blackboard Ultra: "The First Look at Blackboard Ultra," "Building Assessments," "The Gradebook," and "Groups and Accommodations."

If you would like to attend a live webinar, our [Blackboard Ultra Webinars and Drop-ins](#) will be returning this term!

If you have a specific question about teaching with Blackboard Ultra and you cannot find it on the Blackboard Ultra website, you can ask the Teaching & Learning Centre via our [Blackboard Ultra Request for Support](#).

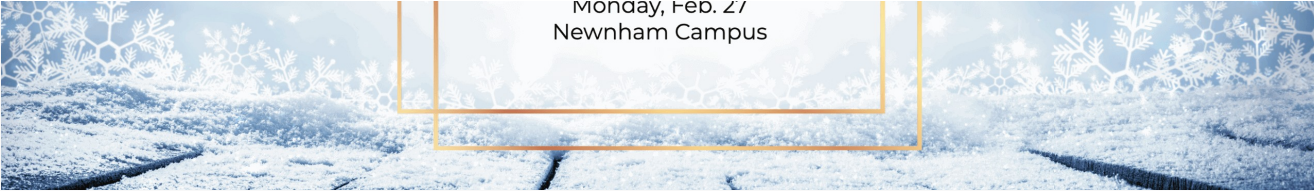
Upcoming Conferences

Seneca's [Teaching & Learning Day Winter 2023](#) is on Monday, February 27, 2023 at Newnham Campus! It is a one-day conference dedicated to showcasing and sharing ideas and activities about how to enhance teaching and learning. The focus of *Teaching & Learning Day Winter 2023* is on **Educational Technology**.

More details will be coming soon!

[Register for this free conference in MyPD](#) and join us on Feb. 27 (during Study Week) at Newnham Campus!





Monday, Feb. 27/
Newnham Campus

The [Advancing Learning Conference 2023](#) is May 11-12 at Durham College in Oshawa. Save the date now!

The [call for proposals](#) to present at the Advancing Learning 2023 Conference closes on Jan. 27, 2023. The theme is "Paths to Reinvention" and they are looking for sessions that share the ideas and lessons learned from the pandemic remote delivery that are here to stay (for any modality of teaching and learning).

There will be a registration discount for those selected to present.

Read our previous [Paths to Reinvention: the 2023 Advancing Learning Conference on Educational Technology](#) Spark Plug article to learn more about this conference and its call for proposals.

Advancing Learning is the annual conference hosted by the ETC (Educational Technology Committee) which has representation from all 24 Ontario colleges. The conference is for faculty and educators, instructional designers, multimedia specialists, education technology specialists, and academic management and leadership.

Photo by [Samuel Regan-Asante](#) on [Unsplash](#)

[View all the Teaching & Learning Centre Spark Plugs!](#)

tags : blackboard, blackboard-ultra, course, faculty-pd, learn@seneca, non-full-time-faculty, pd-plan, pdpnftf, professional-development, professional-development-plan, spark-plug, teaching, teaching-and-learning, teaching-and-learning-centre, ultra, webinar, workshop