THE CITL REPORT

A newsletter of pedagogy, technology, and current trends in instructional design

WELCOME

Welcome to the Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning (CITL) Newsletter. Within this newsletter you will find helpful resources for a variety of topics from technology to current trends in instructional design, as well as tips and tricks to make your course a success. For more information about anything in this newsletter, <u>visit our website.</u>

THIS EDITION'S QUICK LINKS

<u>CITL Trainings & Workshops</u>
<u>iLearn Updates</u>
<u>iLearn Resources</u>
<u>CITL Staff Directory</u>
<u>Online Course Design Guide</u>

UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Register Now for the CAT Virtual Training Workshop on July 22-23</u>

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

TECH-FLEX, THE NEW HYBRID
by Kyle Cook, Instructional Designer

At a time when social distancing is the requirement, it is important to find solutions to supplement traditional course modalities. Looking ahead to Fall 2020, Tennessee Tech will be offering three Tech specific course modalities: Web-Enhanced ("Tech-Enhanced"), Hybrid ("Tech-Flex"), and Online ("Tech-Direct"). Providing online courses for students seems to be the easy solution. However, many courses cannot be taught entirely online. There are crucial elements to learning that can better taught in a classroom or lab setting.

One technique that is widely used to account for the need of both online and on-campus learning is the use of a Hybrid ("Tech-Flex") course. A Tech-Flex course is one where the course content is delivered through both on-campus and online approaches. The online components average 40-60% but no more than 80% of course content is delivered online.

A well-designed Tech-Flex course will capture the benefits of both online and on-campus learning. The flexibility of synchronous and asynchronous online instruction paired with the experience of learning on-campus can provide an exceptional learning experience for students. When utilizing a Tech-Flex course design, online activities and instruction support the classroom experience and provide supplemental information that students can access at any time, from anywhere.

As you conclude your Summer 2020 courses and continue to plan for Fall 2020, we encourage you to take this opportunity to maximize your students' experience by considering different course modalities and utilizing the instructional design resources offered by the CITL. If you would like to explore Tech-Flex or another course design technique and see how it might be beneficial to your course, you can contact one of our Instructional Designers.

ILEARN: NEW ASSIGNMENT TOOL EXPERIENCE

We have just enabled the New Assignment Experience that was released in late June. For now, you can "opt-in" to use the new Assignment Tool experience when you set up your course. Click here to learn about the improvements and how to navigate this new experience.