

Spring 2009: Teaching First-Year Students

FSC has committed to developing teaching strategies that can improve the first year experience for both students and instructors. To that end, CELTSS sponsors a series of workshops designed to support faculty engaged in the first year programs.

Collaborative Learning: Offered by Kate Hibbard (Education) and Pat Luoto (Consumer Sciences), focused on collaborative and cooperative group activities. These activities often promote students' involvement in their learning and may develop students' reading, writing, and studying skills.

Considering Instructional Goals: The second a series of workshops on Teaching First-Year Students. These are hands-on, practical workshops designed to address specific classroom situations.

Ben Alberti (Sociology) and Lisa Eck (English) will lead the workshop, drawing on their experience teaching in a First-Year Foundations course cluster. Participants will consider specific instructional goals for first-year courses and discuss the effectiveness of various strategies and techniques for creating an active learning environment.

Recommended reading: Erickson, Peters, & Strommer, *Teaching First-Year College Students*, pp. 47-117. Copies of the text are available from Pat Luoto or Elaine Beilin.