



LTCC TEACHING & LEARNING

Summer 2020 Updates



THE LATEST FROM LTCC TEACHING & LEARNING

*ISSI 2020 - One-on-One Help
- One-Pagers - Educational
Futures*

SUMMER UPDATES

Scott A. Lukas, FCTL

A lot has been happening over the summer at Lake Tahoe Community College. In addition to the many DE and ISP classes, and a successful (virtual) ISSI, many of us have been busy getting our classes ready for the Fall. Trainings and one-on-one work with faculty have also been on the agenda, as have a number of new resources (including the launch of One-Pagers) and new videos (including those in the Educational Futures series).

We will use this newsletter as an opportunity to review what has been happening in LTCC Teaching & Learning since Spring and into Summer. COVID-19 has impacted everyone, but it's amazing to think about how smooth the transition was for our many faculty who moved their courses into a DE or EVE format for the Spring. As well, let's acknowledge all of our classified staff, administration, and Board of Trustees for supporting faculty (and our students and their families) in so many vital senses. And, let's give a shout out to our students who also adapted to the challenges of online learning in their own respects.



adapt
- verb, "become
adjusted to new
conditions, a
new
environment"



ISSI 2020 - VIRTUAL & SUCCESSFUL

ISSI - An LTCC Tradition

ISSI, the Intensive Spanish Summer Institute, is one of the most famous and successful of all LTCC efforts and programs. This year, due to the challenges of COVID-19, Sue, Maxine, and Cata made major adjustments to the institute, its classes, and programs in order to accommodate our students (and faculty) in what was the first-ever virtual ISSI.

LTCC Teaching & Learning, and Distance Education (through the amazing efforts of Treva Thomas), worked with the ISSI directors and faculty to assist in transitioning some of the Spanish and Spanish-culture skills that have been offered in the F2F version of the program to work best in the virtual environments of Zoom and Canvas.

The results were outstanding, with an attendance of 475 students in both weeks of the institute, As, Sue, Maxine, and Cata put it best, "Thanks to all of you for helping every step of the way to create this new Virtual ISSI. Even though we are not all on campus together, we received the support and assistance from every department to make this happen. The student response has been overwhelmingly positive and appreciative to LTCC for offering a Virtual ISSI."

Sue, Maxine, and Cata: we are really proud of how successful ISSI turned out to be. The faculty with whom we worked were adaptable, open minded, and thoughtful in the trainings in which we all engaged. One of the most popular trainings was the advanced Zoom workshop (pictured to the right). Congrats to all involved with ISSI, a wonderful program for LTCC, whether it's offered face to face or virtually.

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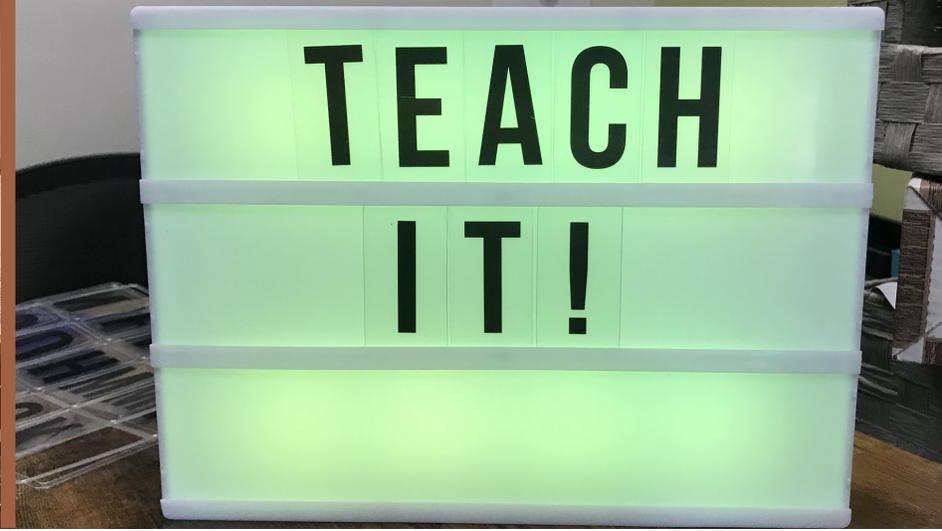
The number of students who attended the two weeks of virtual ISSI this summer



**Zoom:
Focus on
Sharing,
Groups,
Whiteboard,
Polls**

Scott Lukas





SUMMER ONE-ON-ONE ASSISTANCE

Behind the Scenes, But Important in Every Sense

Like many aspects of your own teaching, library, and counseling work, much of what takes place in Teaching and Learning happens behind the scenes. An hour spent brainstorming on how to deliver criminal justice teaching in a meaningful sense within Canvas. A quick Zoom discussing how to share a recorded Zoom class with students. An e-mail advising a faculty member about module open dates in Canvas. The minutia of training, though unseen in the more public forms of videos and workshops, are as significant as these other forms of training and professional development. Faculty teach in different disciplines with different styles, and thus it is important to take T&L's adaptive approaches to the smaller contexts in which one-on-one trainings and professional development take place.

In July and August, T&L worked with 38 faculty on numerous aspects of teaching, technology, and professional development onboarding. The process to request help is to send an e-mail to me, Scott Lukas, at lukas@ltcc.edu. I will work with my calendar and set up the best time for us to meet over Zoom. We might spend 10 minutes, or two hours depending on what you need. Keep in mind that DE Coordinator Treva Thomas is our campus Canvas/DE expert and she provides very similar one-on-one assistance. She is our first point of contact in terms of all things Canvas and DE, so there is a team ready and available to help with your needs.

Also, the Teaching Talks will return (virtually) in Fall 2020. Every Tuesday, from 12-1, you can jump on Zoom and engage with your faculty professionals in conversations about teaching, Guided Pathways, faculty professional life, and many other matters. Some of the Teaching Talks are structured around a topic, while others are free form. Show up and tune in to see what your faculty colleagues have to say. Zoom links will be sent out for your information in Fall.

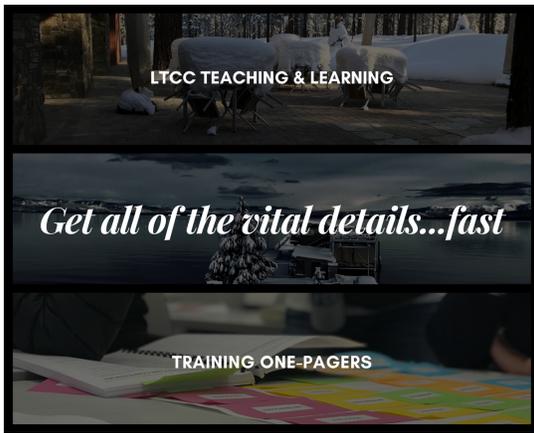
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The number of faculty (full- and part-time) who received T&L assistance in July, August, and through September 4, 2020



Teaching Talks

TUESDAYS, 12-1
(ZOOM)

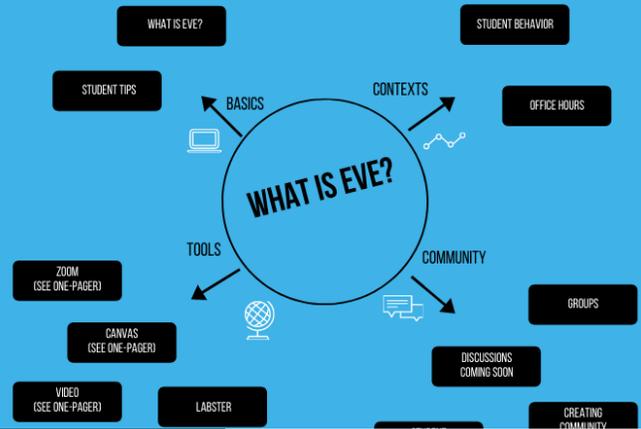


EVE

ENHANCED VIRTUAL EDUCATION
@LAKETAHOECC



LTCC offers traditional distance education (DE) courses that provide independent learning and flexibility. For students who wish to have a face-to-face educational experience but in the safest way possible during COVID-19, LTCC introduced Enhanced Virtual Education, or EVE. Like traditional DE, EVE classes are also offered online and use the Canvas LMS for information and resources, but they also use Zoom, as well as other technologies, to provide more real-time contact. This one-pager focuses on the ideas behind EVE



TEACHING & LEARNING ONE-PAGERS

You Asked, and It Happened!

As reflected in the 2020 Year-End Report, which you can still read (noted below), one of the core values of LTCC T&L is adaptability—a skill that every LTCC faculty member, classified staff, administrator, Board of Trustees member, and student has acquired in these challenging times of the global pandemic of COVID-19. Being adaptive to campus needs is at the heart of LTCC Teaching and Learning. That’s why so many impromptu workshops, trainings, and one-on-one assistance were provided in 2019-2020. 458 faculty, staff, and community members took part in 61 live workshops (offered in person and on Zoom). In all, 209 unique videos were created (including the DE Blocks series for those training in the CVC-OEI CTE DE Grant) that had 6,034 views. But making videos and offering workshops is easy, it’s the people who agree to do the training, are open to new ideas, and who commit to changing assumptions about things like the value of distance education and virtual lectures on Zoom that all makes a difference in our students’ lives. Pat yourselves on the back, because all of you were open to engaging in the workshops, videos, and one-on-one assistance and to developing these approaches in your classrooms and other professional efforts at LTCC.

Being adaptive means that T&L listens to input, whether from polls conducted among the faculty or in one-on-one conversations about teaching and learning. One of the suggestions was to present the wealth of information from the LTCC Teaching & Learning Onboarding and Training Experience website (listed below) in easy-to-digest chunks. The One-Pagers, developed over many weeks in the Summer of 2020, represent one of these efforts to adapt to what you have suggested. One-pagers are designed to cover a key focus in LTCC Teaching and Learning, such as creating videos, and all you have to do is go to the website (noted below), download the PDF, and click on the image/text of what you want to learn. You will be taken immediately to the content provided—whether a video, website, or other resource. More one-pagers and their associated content will be added in the future. Thanks for your suggestions and for making LTCC Teaching & Learning a success!

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The number of current skill areas in Teaching and Learning One-Pager Videos and Resources

Check it out! (Click)

- [2020 T&L Year-End Report](#)
- [LTCC T&L Website](#)
- [One-pagers](#)



EDUCATIONAL FUTURES SERIES

The Future, Oh, That Thing!

Wow, the future! How do we plan for that, again? The Greek philosopher Heraclitus reminds us that “change is the only constant in life.” After nearly a year living and working under the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, we probably don’t need reminders about change! We have also been experiencing political turmoil and social upheaval related to the public murders of African Americans, increasing racism in the United States (as noted by Black Lives Matter), and feelings of uncertainty that seem to never go away. We all have our personal religious, spiritual, non-religious, philosophical, and other approaches that counsel us in difficult and dark times. The senses of uncertainty we have, though, have been met with incredible resolve. Many of us at the College doubted that we could transition to (nearly) fully online services in Spring, and we did it! The combined resolve of all on campus resulted in a smooth transition as we offered courses and services in DE, EVE, ISP, and other methods. We know that our work is not done, but we proved that we could do what many thought was impossible. And, perhaps in the process, we can leave behind that question that we used to hear pre-COVID-19: “Is online education real?”

Connected to this uncertainty and the future—whatever it entails—T&L is offering a new series called Educational Futures. More is coming, including three brand-new videos on topics that include: Being More Efficient with Macros/Hotkeys; Using a Stream Deck (the thing in the photo on this page); and Using Multi-Cam/Multi-Media Setups in Campus or Class Livestreams. Check out these videos as they are released. The Educational Futures series combines cutting-edge technology, a bit of philosophical and conceptual rumination, and a little out-of-the-box craziness to ask: what can we do to adapt to the uncertainties (and promises) of the future in our educational and professional lives?

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The current number of months that we have adapted to COVID-19 as an institution.



In June, LTCC hosted the first of many student townhalls on the topic of Social Unrest. Virtual fora like these remind us that technology may help facilitate powerful discussions of pressing issues for our students and community.

EDUCATIONAL FUTURES SERIES

Until Next Time....

So, until we get back to the “normal” or the “new normal” that will follow the COVID-19 pandemic, we might repeat the phrase, “Embrace the Virtual.” In the news right now, you may have heard people say things like, “Shouldn’t DE classes be free,” and “DE classes aren’t real classes.” Unfortunately, these misunderstandings of what distance education means to students—especially those who rely on community colleges for affordable and flexible classes—really challenge our missions to educate our students and community by any means necessary to deliver meaningful, high-quality, affordable, and accessible classes and their associated skills. We can all play a part in combatting these negative messages about distance education and we can all educate others about the real work, challenges, and positive and life-changing outcomes that accompany everything that we all do (faculty, classified staff, administration, and Board of Trustees members) to provide a high-quality LTCC education. Until next time, celebrate what you have done in these challenging times to make a difference in your students’ lives and in your colleagues’ lives. They appreciate what you do!



Click to preview the Educational Futures trailer!