Navigating Times of Transition
Winter 2021 in Review

3CSN’s Theory of Change

If we provide training on networking and we use action research methodologies, community college professionals will transform their identities and environments to create communities of practice that will produce powerful learning and working across campuses. This will lead to greater student success.

In response to practitioners’ expanding capacity and desire for more in-depth, intensive learning, planning, and application in community with 3CSN, over the winter break we offered four multi-part intensive professional learning Design Labs where participants engaged in knowledge-building and intentionally designed elements of equitable student-centered courses. We also continued to offer our eight-week Equity 101 course and ongoing STEM and Math Learning Communities.

This brief is intended to share some highlights of Winter 2021.

"With a name like ‘Design Lab,’ who wouldn’t want to be part of the experience?"  - Participant

85% of Winter Design Lab survey respondents reported having attended one or more 3CSN events. What brought them back for more?

WHAT MOTIVATED COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRACTITIONERS TO PARTICIPATE IN 3CSN'S WINTER DESIGN LABS?

- 73% wanted to see examples of other educators' use of online teaching tools
- 67% wanted to prepare for spring courses by learning new lessons and communications for their students
- 64% wanted to learn how to engage students in an online environment
- 63% wanted to learn more about a particular topic or skill

"With so much going on... I chose this workshop of course to learn more, but also to be in community with others as I develop my Spring teaching materials and think long term about my teaching online in a way that supports student equity practices and affirms an anti-racist teaching praxis"  - Participant

Ungrading in (and After) a Pandemic

This three-part Zoom series provided opportunities for participants to learn what ungrading is and how to ungrade assessments in the classroom in order to increase student learning and success in times of crisis and beyond. The three sessions focused on an overview of ungrading classroom assessments, ungrading and the syllabus, and discussing...
Phenomenal session, so much to consider and implement immediately...I love the acknowledgement that this may be a messy process! - Participant

Building a Student-Centered Canvas Course

This six-part design lab, facilitated by Josh Miller (Peer Online Course Reviewer and Communications Studies Department Chair, Los Angeles Valley College), focused on designing an accessible, student-centered course, in community with educators across the state, considering backward design, rich content editor, accessibility, syllabus, pages, modules, and more. Peruse the lab resources here.

Like what you see? Pre-register for our Summer 2021 design lab

"I often feel that the classes that make me feel the most human are the ones that give me an incredible degree of control of the content which we are learning. Classes that have a constructivist/generation philosophy and that incorporate learner expertise and learner choice" - Participant

Hello, Is it Me You're Looking For?: designing an ePortfolio-centered course

This four-part design lab facilitated by Kelan Koning (3CSN), Diana Bonilla Hein (3CSN, Los Angeles Mission College), past participant Trang Abeid (Cosumnes Valley College), and students Jared Balduzzi, Iris Guerrero Morales, and Isaac Bolaños, provided the opportunity to learn about the various possibilities for, and value of, e-portfolios, and to design an e-portfolio-centered course in community with educators across the state. Wix, Google Sites, and Portfolium were explored as options.

Like what you see? Pre-register for our Summer 2021 design lab
"I will never stop appreciating 3CSN for including students in this conversation and allowing the students to lead the sessions with their own examples and insights" - Participant

"I am reminded and (re-)appreciate the social dimension of learning. I enjoy learning from colleagues outside my discipline. I found myself scribbling down notes throughout the session on ways to fine-tune my lessons, rubrics, feedback, etc." - Participant

"We Can Do This: Learning & Teaching Online, Through Crisis, & Beyond"

This four-part design lab, facilitated by 3CSN Coordinators Sarah Sullivan (Mission College) and Nicole Bryant Lescher (College of the Redwoods) in community with faculty colleagues from across the state, focused on building relationships and knowledge together, learning about effective online pedagogy and student-centered active learning, and directly applying this learning and metacognitive reflection to design elements of spring courses.

Like what you see? Pre-register for our Summer 2021 design lab

"I really appreciate the breakout sessions. I love the Final Word Protocol, and how that is connected to equity. I appreciate the classroom discussions[,] the emphasis on choice in terms of what to read[,] [and] the facilitation: so supportive and positive. I feel like we are being taken care of in these sessions" - Participant

"I have already incorporated more choices for students in readings, more readings by people of color, looser deadlines, more focus on multicultural experience, more reflection, more metacognition" - Participant
"I’m already putting many into practice; for example, I am co-authoring my course syllabus with students so they take ownership of course. Furthermore, I joined a group of counselors in creating an equity task force to revisit our mission statement, vision, our literature, procedure, and how we do business to ensure we are practicing more equitably. Moreover, I reflect more often on my work, the space I take and use any privilege I have to speak out and call out inequities" - participant after completing Equity 101 and/or 102 courses

**Equity 101 Online**

Equity 101 is an eight-week asynchronous course providing a space for educators to explore various traditions and facets of equitable teaching and learning, such as multiculturalism, culturally responsive and relevant teaching, critical race theory, and more. Equity is praxis (reflection in action upon the world to transform it), the result of on-going inquiry into our theories and practices. At its core is the goal of social justice. Equity 101 participants engage in praxis and build a community of learners with the intent of achieving equity for our students.

Participants can earn optional post-baccalaureate units for the course.

Our first Equity 101 Online course of the year began on January 11th. This cohort included 34 participants representing 26 community colleges.

The next dates for Equity 101 are June 7- August 1.

Like what you see? [Register for our Summer 2021 Equity 101 course](#)

"I am a new instructor, so sometimes I suffer from impostor syndrome. Working together with colleagues who are teaching the same classes that I am helps me feel like I belong in both this community, and by extension, my own organization" - Participant

**STEM & Math Learning Communities**

These ten-month learning communities, a collaboration between 3CSN and the CSU Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL) with funding from the California Educational Learning Lab, support CCC and CSU STEM instructors to think through and plan how to explicitly teach students how to read and problem solve in context, in their discipline.

Grounding their learning in the Reading Apprenticeship framework, participants in the learning communities apply their learning by designing text-based activities (text=words, problems, graphs, images, videos, proofs, diagrams, etc) where disciplinary thinking and problem solving are modeled and practiced through metacognitive conversations.

Trying activities out with colleagues and students, participants have the opportunity to experiment with and refine strategies for creating active and equitable classes. Participants will also disseminate the artifacts of their learning to be used as resources for other STEM instructors, specifically by contributing to a library of STEM OER texts and text-based activities.

Like what you see? [Express interest in being part of the 2021-22 cohort](#)
“I didn’t really want to teach. I wanted to work on my research, but through access to all the resources, I’m now finding it very exciting and I very much appreciate being a part of the community. It wasn’t like this before COVID” - Participant

Learning is a Network-Forming Process

3CSN’s approach to professional learning is grounded in the belief that learning is a network-forming process: connections and relationships are crucial to learning and collaboration builds capacity for individuals and the system.

“It was all invaluable. I did appreciate the community aspect. It is nice to have a cohort to rely on and learn from” - Participant

“Don’t miss out! Join us next time

Pressed for time? Looking for a specific tool, skill, or community? Just want to see what 3CSN is all about?

Register for Wayfinding Online Daily Sessions.
Ready to spend some focused time exploring and trying out new ideas, perspectives, and practices?

Pre-Register for Summer 2021 Design Labs

Ready for sustained learning to transform your equity practice while earning optional postbaccalaureate units?

Register for Equity 101

Ready for sustained learning to transform your practice while earning optional postbaccalaureate units?

Express interest in our 2021-22 STEM Learning Community

On behalf of all 3CSN coordinators, we thank you for this opportunity to engage in transformational learning with you, and we look forward to seeing you in the network!

California Community Colleges