



Invitation: Spring 2022 Disciplinary Communities of Practice

We invite you to participate in the Spring 2022 Disciplinary Communities of Practice, hosted by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), in collaboration with the Every Learner Everywhere Network and our partner organizations Online Learning Consortium and Achieving the Dream. Launched in Fall 2021, this initiative brings together faculty and instructional staff in the disciplines of **writing, math, biology, and chemistry** for a unique opportunity to collaborate with like-minded peers across institutions. We will identify, share, and develop discipline-specific teaching and learning strategies, with a focus on effective and equitable digital learning and teaching with technology. The communities are designed to encourage professional development, mentorship, and support for innovation in instruction, and all participants will earn a badge for participating in one or more monthly sessions. We encourage you to [register for the Spring 2022 sessions](#) and to share this invitation with your colleagues from 2- and 4-year institutions.

The theme for Spring 2022 is ***Developing Critical Engagement in and across our Disciplines***. We will hold three monthly synchronous sessions, during which we will meet both in discipline-specific communities and as a single, interdisciplinary group. We also host a structured asynchronous platform where you can continue discussions, share resources, and advance the field's understanding of how to best implement digital learning in your subject area. Dedicated faculty leads in each of the four disciplines facilitate discussion and activities in the synchronous and asynchronous environments. Please see below for details about the Spring 2022 monthly sessions.

Please [register here](#) for the live sessions. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to Mike Brokos, Program Manager for the Personalized Learning Consortium at APLU, at mbrokos@aplu.org. We look forward to engaging in this work with you!

Session 1: Sharing Discipline-Specific Resources for Building Critical Engagement

Friday, February 11, 2022, 12-2 pm ET

During this session, we will synthesize key learnings from our Fall 2021 focus on getting to know our students, and engage in disciplinary conversations related to understanding rather than presuming students' needs and goals, utilizing students' prior knowledge to scaffold assignments and mitigate gaps in preparation, and handling divisive topics that may arise in class discussions or projects.

Session 2: Implementing Open Pedagogy and Culturally Responsive Teaching Practices

Friday, March 11, 2022, 12-2 pm ET

During this session, we will share a framework that explores several dimensions of and instructional practices for open and culturally responsive teaching, including reimagining the student-teacher relationship as a partnership, creating intellectually and socially safe learning environments, and exploring discipline-specific social justice issues while meeting learning objectives.

Session 3: Supporting Instructors and Students as Agents of Change

Friday, April 8, 2022, 12-2 pm ET

During this session, we will examine the ways in which digital literacy is integral to each discipline, discuss assignments that promote conceptual awareness and applied knowledge, and share examples of service learning and authentic assessment projects that connect course content to students' communities and lived experiences.