



Creating a Science Community of Practice with Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Many students are academically capable, but not “ready” for an unsupportive college environment. Utilizing social emotional practices in your classroom can facilitate a positive and supportive learning environment. The following 1-hour interactive, guided sessions will focus on utilizing social emotional learning (SEL) strategies in science classes. Drop by, and learn about and discuss strategies to increase your students’ academic engagement and success in your science courses. The sessions are led by **Dr. Marisha Humphries in Educational Psychology** and are sponsored by the **Center for the Advancement of Teaching-Learning Communities (TLC)**.

Session Dates

Session 1: Monday March 6, 2017, 2:00-3:00 pm, 2214 SES

Session 2: Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 12:00-1:00 pm, 2214 SES

Session 3: Thursday, March 30, 2017, 12:30-1:30 pm, 2214 SES

Session 4: Tuesday, April 11, 2017, 11:00 am-12:00 pm, 4440 SES

Session 5: Monday April 17, 2017, 1:00-2:00 pm, 4286 SES

Session Focus

Session 1: Understanding SEL & the Connection to Learning

Social emotional skills influence students’ ability to learn, solve problems, and work successfully in groups. Social emotional skills can be better predictors of student academic success than test scores. In this session, we will discuss the connection of social emotional skills and students’ academic success. Be ready to share and discuss your questions, and successes and challenges in your classes.

Session 2: Facilitating Academic Success with SEL

We will focus on social emotional teaching practices that increase student engagement and achievement. A lack of social emotional support in the college classroom can impede academic success. We will discuss strategies you have used in your classes and others that you may consider using.

Session 3: Maximizing the Success of Group Activities

Creating a classroom community is the foundation that effective group interactions are built upon. In this session, we will focus on strategies to facilitate more effective group work and student interactions. Your successes, challenges, tensions that you have encountered in your classes will offer us a foundation for our discussion.

Session 4: Creating a Science Community of Belonging

Learning is a social enterprise even in courses with 100+ students. Many students in this type of classes can often feel out of place. This lack of belonging impedes their academic success. In this session, we will discuss how we create a supportive, safe, and well-managed learning environment to foster students’ sense of belonging and academic success in our classes.

Session 5: SEL and Science Classes—Continuing the Conversation

There is no specific focus for this session. We will take stock of the conversations we have had over the semester with those you have attended one or more of the previous sessions, and we will welcome newcomers you may want to find out what their colleagues have been thinking about and working on in relation to their teaching.