

University of Portland • May 9-10, 2024



OUR GOALS FOR THE INSTITUTE

Use the engaged humanities to help implement the interdisciplinary vision of the revitalized University Core by facilitating the development of high-quality X courses, drawing upon the tools and methods of the engaged humanities;

Share resources and incubate ideas for great courses by offering materials, time, space, and feedback for faculty to make tangible progress on teaching projects that support individual creativity and a sense of collaborative endeavor.

DAY 1 SCHEDULE

9:00-10:30am Introductions: To Each Other, to the Institute, to the Engaged Humanities & the Core During our opening session, participants will introduce themselves and the course they're working on, and organizers will introduce the Institute and the goals for the coming two days through a discussion of David Scobey's "E Pluribus Plenum: Why We (the People) Need the Humanities"-coffee, tea, and pastries provided. 10:30-10:45am Break 10:45-12:15pm **Session 1: Leading Engaging Discussions** Jennifer Alkezweeny (program director, Oregon Humanities) is a long-time practitioner of and advocate for engaged pedagogy who has led community conversations and trained people to lead conversations across Oregon and in other parts of the world. Her session will start by engaging us in a conversation to offer an experience and a model of humanities-oriented conversation. She'll then guide us through exploration of how conversations like this can be crafted as engaged learning experiences and help build educational community. Participants should take away a vision of their own hopes for engaged conversations as part of their teaching, along with specific tools for leading meaningful discussions and engaging student participation. 12:15-12:30pm **Preview Small Group Lunch Discussion** 12:30-1:30pm Lunch & Small Group Discussion Over lunch in DB 134 or outside, participants will break into small groups to reflect on their pre-Institute worksheet responses, discuss approaches to course development, and brainstorm goals for the next two days.



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1:30-2:45pm	Session 2: Designing Interdisciplinary Courses This session will involve collaboratively working through a backward course design process intended to put interdisciplinarity into practice (particularly in X classes for the UP Core). We'll start by defining our greatest hopes for our courses and our teaching. We'll then connect those hopes with the UP Core – and talk through how to best design for the interdisciplinary goals of a liberal arts curriculum. Those efforts will result in drafting course learning goals and the start of a (re)imagined
	syllabus, including connecting X course goals with engaged humanities approaches.
2:45-3:45pm	Individual Work Session Participants will have an hour to begin (re)imagining your syllabus, drafting learning outcomes and a course description/rationale based on starting points from the prior session. The goal is to return with some specifics to both share in workshop groups and take forward into tomorrow's sessions on designing learning experiences.
3:45-4:30pm	Session 3: Workshopping Course Descriptions and Learning Outcomes In your small groups, participants will share and offer feedback on what they developed during individual work sessions.
4:30-5:00pm	Debrief of Day 1 & Preview of Day 2 Participants will discuss their course development work so far; organizers will preview Day 2 activities and invite participants to tag a learning experience to focus on tomorrow.



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DAY 2 SCHEDULE

9:00-9:15am	Day 2 Introduction As we settle in with coffee and pastries, organizers will preview Day 2 goals.
9:15-10:30am	Session 4: Designing Engaged Learning Experiences In this session, we'll explore avenues for creating learning experiences that use humanities approaches to help students engage with timely issues, interdisciplinary thinking, and/or a public audience. Organizers will introduce the Engaged Humanities online toolkit to offer a series of sample activities and assignments, from brief in-class activities to low-stakes work to major course projects—and will solicit examples from Institute participants to share as well.
10:30-2:30pm	Individual Work Session Participants will work on developing 1-2 new learning experiences, along with student-facing prompt, with plans for scaffolding and transparency of goals and criteria in mind. Additionally, participants can continue to build out their course descriptions from Day 1 along with a topical outline and/or readings and materials.
2:30-3:30pm	Session 5: Workshopping Engaged Learning Experiences Participants will meet again in small groups to workshop their learning experiences/assignments, troubleshooting them for possible pitfalls and considering connection with the engaged humanities and interdisciplinary/UP Core goals of the course.
3:30-4:00pm	Reflection and Next Steps Organizers will lead discussion of next steps in participants' course design process; participants create a "to-do list" for how to capitalize on the work of the past two days.
4:00-5:00pm	Institute Close Out Happy hour in the DB Lounge to celebrate participants' work and a successful Core x Engaged Humanities Institute!