

# CELT Newsletter: October 2022

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Dear CELT Colleagues:

Happy Fall! We hope that everyone has settled into their teaching routines and are excited to be back in their classrooms!

As we head into midterms, the CELT Board is already starting to plan for the spring semester. We would like to hear what new pedagogical strategies you are using in your classes. Do you have an idea for a workshop to share with your Middlesex colleagues? Have you discovered any new tech? Tried any new games? Let us know what ideas that you can share, but also what you want to see in our workshops. We'd love to have you present to your colleagues, but we also want to plan workshop that you need, want, and support your teaching.

CELT is ready to help you with consultations on specific pedagogy, questions, or help you with research to support your teaching. Please reach out if you need our help!

Regards, Susan

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## Register for our October CELT Workshops on *Eventbrite*

To help us keep track of attendance and facilitate sending reminders to registered faculty, please sign up in advance on [Eventbrite](#) to join us! We will send a reminder email to all registrants (at their Middlesex email) the night before the event. If you have any last-minute problems or questions, email: [saltman@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:saltman@middlesexcc.edu)

We hope that you will all join us at the following in-person events:

Thursday, October 13 at 2 PM in CB 144: **Next Level Tech: Experiments in Social Media** *Sheri-Rose Rubin*

Join us to discuss using game play and technology in the classroom. This month we are focusing on using social media. Come and share your ideas, and leave with new ones!

Thursday, October 25 at 2 PM in CB 122 **Deconstructing the Syllabus** *Guiseppa Rotolo*

We all know that students do not read the syllabus. Why, and is there a solution to this problem? Can we deconstruct the syllabus to make it less "terms and conditions" and more like an actual dynamic process that has at its center the learner rather than stale "policies?" During this workshop I will share strategies and tips that have helped me identify what might make our syllabi "unreadable" and what are some more readable alternatives.



## Upcoming Events

**October 13: Next Level Tech: Experiments in Social Media**

**October 25: Deconstructing the Syllabus**

**October 26: Conversations in Teaching: Midterm Reboot** (*on Zoom for adjunct faculty*)

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## Helpful Articles

*EveryLearnerEverywhere*, has published student reflections on meaningful learning experiences. Read [What Our Best College Instructors Do](#).

In *Faculty Focus*, Dr. Katherine Orlando shares a strategy for returning to the classroom, [Ready for an In-Class Sharing Reset? Try the "TRI" Method!](#)

[When Student's Critique Each Other's Work, Learning Happens](#) talks about using peer feedback to improve student's writing and reviewing skills and in turn, increase their confidence.

Wednesday, October 26 at 4:30 – 5:30 PM on Zoom **Conversations in Teaching: Midterm Reboot** *This Zoom session is specifically for adjunct faculty.* Please register on [Eventbrite](#) to receive the Zoom link.

Join your adjunct colleagues for **Conversations in Teaching** on Zoom. This month we will be discussing **Midterm Reboot**, and sharing strategies to assess how our classes are going and how to make changes as we move forward through the semester. It is an opportunity to share ideas, ask questions, and meet your adjunct colleagues.

**Meet your new faculty colleagues:** CELT welcomes two new full-time faculty members to Middlesex College!



Dhruv Chunawala, *Business and Computer Science*

**What do you love about teaching?** Students walk into class with great enthusiasm to learn various computer concepts. I love when students show and share their feelings of being confident in course material and show their satisfaction with learning. Moreover, at the end of the semester, seeing “Thank you” notes flooding my email inbox motivates me more.

**Three words that describe your teaching style.**

Warmhearted. Energetic. Passionate.

**What are you currently reading?**

I am currently reading “*The AI Advantage: How to Put the Artificial Intelligence Revolution to Work*” by Thomas H. Davenport. It delivers a guide to using artificial intelligence in business and describes what technologies are available and how companies can use them for business benefits and competitive advantage.

**What is something that your students or colleagues would be surprised to learn about you?**

I am Middlesex College graduate (class of 2014). At Middlesex College, I served as Mathematics and Computer Science tutor, and taught as an adjunct.

**What is the best advice you can give your younger self as a student?** Knowledge is power. Make the best use of technology, tools, and resources to educate yourself and become successful.



Timothy Shamus, *Natural Sciences*

**How long have you been teaching?** I was a TA at Middlesex for about 7 years before becoming an adjunct last Spring and Summer II semester. I am coming up on one full year as a professor.

**What classes do you teach at Middlesex?** Currently I teach Introduction to Geology and Planetary Astronomy. In the Spring I will start teaching Stellar and Galactic Astronomy.

**What is something that your students or colleagues would be surprised to learn about you?** I am an avid ice hockey enthusiast. I have played ice hockey for over 23 years. I was actually coached by several 1980 Russian Olympic players. I also volunteer at a sea turtle rescue in my free time.

**What are you currently reading?** The Cosmic Perspective 9<sup>th</sup> Edition

**What is the best teaching advice that you have ever received?** Always try to expose the material in different ways (lecture, video, hands-on activity, etc.). Every student learns in a different way, exposing all of the students the same material in different ways will let them learn in the way most suitable for them while reinforcing the learning outcome