



Creating a Welcoming Classroom: Fostering Belonging **CELT Workshops for Fall 2025**

Welcome Back! This year's CELT theme is **Creating a Welcoming Classroom: Fostering Belonging**. How can we create a classroom environment to make every student feel welcome? How can we support our students with kindness, belonging, and connection to build a community to support their learning? Join our program of workshops throughout the Fall 2025 semester for the sharing of best practices to help all of our students learn.

Please **register** for all CELT events by clicking the following link:

- [CELT Fall 2025 Workshops](#)

All CELT events are open to all full-time and adjunct faculty at Middlesex College and are in person. For more information, please look at the [CELT webpage](#). We look forward to being together to share ideas and learn from one another!

September Events:

Thursday, September 4 at 2 PM: CELT Welcome Back Celebration in ACE Center (JLC 230)
Join your CELT Colleagues in the **ACE Center** for conversation, community, and refreshments to start off the Fall 2025 semester.

Thursday, September 11 at 2 PM: Tech Thursday: Teach Smarter, Not Harder: AI Tools That Work for You Katalin Gyurian Toth (*CB, Raritan Bay Room*)

Discover how to make your teaching more interactive while cutting down prep time in this hands-on workshop. You'll explore powerful AI tools like **Claude Sonnet** for building interactive learning tools, **Tango** for creating step-by-step how-to videos, **GoblinTools** for refining tone in written content, **Mapify** for visual mind maps, and **Gamma** for generating polished presentations. Whether you're new to AI or looking to deepen your toolkit, you'll leave with practical skills and ready-to-use examples to enhance your courses today. Participants are encouraged to bring a laptop.

Tuesday, September 30 at 2 PM: CELT Tuesday: Short, Sweet, and Smart: The Art of the Microlecture Katalin Gyurian-Toth & Shannon Pullaro (*CB, Raritan Bay Room*)

During this interactive workshop, learn the value of embedding mini- or microlectures into your class content, as well as how to pair such content with an activity to increase resonance and retention for students. We'll introduce a few theories supporting the microlecture concept - including chunking, cognitive-load, social-agency, and active learning theories. Paired participants from different disciplines will also have time to develop and then present their own microlecture to share ideas and feedback.

October Events:

Thursday, October 9 at 2 PM: Tech Thursday: Community of Practice for Technology (CB 222)

Interested in bringing more technology to your classes? Talk to your colleagues! A community of practice is an informal group of colleagues with similar interests who come together to share ideas and learn from each other. We will be meeting to discuss specific strategies to support your teaching with technology. Attend one session or both. Each session will address different topics of interest to participants such as Artificial Intelligence, educational apps, and other Edtech. Talk about what interests you, or what you have questions about and leave with new strategies for your classes.

Tuesday, October 28 at 2 PM: CELT Tuesday: Flipping the Classroom: Empowering your students to Learn Stefanie Rufo and Cindy Braun *(CB, Raritan Bay Room)*

Interested in utilizing a flipped classroom and don't know where to start? Do you think you have too much material to cover and don't have time for flipped learning? Join in this discussion on how you can incorporate flipped learning as a teaching strategy to get students engaged and be an active participant in their scholarly journey. We welcome you to bring your ideas and experiences to share with the group.

November Events:

Thursday, November 13 at 2 PM: Tech Thursday: Community of Practice for Technology (CB, Raritan Bay Room)

Interested in bringing more technology to your classes? This month we will continue to discuss ways to bring technology to your classes. A community of practice is an informal group of colleagues with similar interests who come together to share ideas and learn from each other. We met over the semester to discuss specific strategies to support your teaching with technology and each session addressed different topics of interest to participants such as Artificial Intelligence, educational apps, and other Edtech. Talk about what interests you, or what you have questions about and leave with new strategies for your classes.

Tuesday, November 25 at 2 PM: CELT Tuesday: Bridging Coursework and Community: Reflection Tools that Deepen Learning Kim Silverio Diaz & Pattiann McMahon *(CB, Raritan Bay Room)*

In this workshop, we will explore best practices in reflective pedagogy to help align and deepen learning both within and beyond the classroom. Participants will gain practical strategies for facilitating meaningful reflection, particularly as a way to thoughtfully conclude the semester. While this session is designed for faculty engaged in Community-Engaged Learning (CEL), the insights and takeaways are applicable to all educators. We welcome all members of the college community to join the conversation and share their insights.