

CELT Newsletter: October 2025

Dear CELT Colleagues:

We hope you are off to a successful start to your semester.

CELT is off to a great start with this year's theme **Creating a Welcoming Classroom: Fostering Belonging**. Thank you to everyone who joined our August and September events, we had fantastic attendance including over 138 people at our keynote! Strong attendance is continuing into the fall semester and we look forward to having you join in on the conversation.

All of our workshops are posted to the CELT homepage at www.middlesexcollege.edu/celt Please register by clicking the link for [Fall 2025](#) and signing up on Microsoft forms. We will send a reminder email the day before the event.

Whether you are teaching online, hybrid, remote live, or on campus, CELT is here to support you. Reach out to us if you need help, or just want to chat about teaching. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Best, Susan

Opportunities to Present Workshops

CELT is always interested in ideas from our faculty and we are already busy planning for Spring 2026. Do you have an idea for a workshop for the Spring semester? Please let me know. We welcome faculty to present next January and throughout the Spring semester.

Learning Community: The Pedagogy of Kindness

Interested in expanding on the ideas from this year's Keynote? CELT has 12 copies of Dr. Cate Denial's book, *The Pedagogy of Kindness* for a book group. This group will be open to the first 12 people who sign up and will meet online at a time convenient to all members. The books are in and we hope you will join us! Please [sign up](#) and we will contact you about times to meet.

CELT Events for October:

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.



Upcoming Events

October 9: Tech Thursday: Community of Practice for Technology

October 28: Flipping the Classroom: Empowering Your Students to Learn

Interesting Articles

Assigning Group work? Students having trouble coordinating a project? *Faculty Focus* shares [A Student's Guide to Success: 6 Strategies to Reduce Team Conflict](#).

[Three Facets to Learning to Focus Our Choices about AI](#) offers sample approaches for application and ways to continue to promote connection for our students.

[Strategies for Navigation AI Use in College Courses](#) addresses the questions that we all have about AI and how to set our expectations.

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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.

CELT Mentoring Program for Faculty

The CELT Mentoring program for new tenure track faculty is heading into its 11th year. Collaborating with two former Middlesex colleagues, Christine Harrington and Crystal Quillen, Susan Altman is pleased to share the recent publication of an article on Middlesex's mentoring program. [Supporting New Faculty at Community Colleges Through Mentoring Circles](#), was just published in the journal, *New Directions for Community Colleges*. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the mentoring program, and a big thank you to everyone who has mentored their new colleagues!

New Ideas/ New Pedagogy

AI in Higher Education: In September, we had a great session on using AI tools to help support your teaching. Katalin Gyurian Toth shared programs such as Goblin Tools, Claude, Gamma, Mapify and others to help make our jobs easier. Has anyone tried these? How did they work for you? Join our **Tech Thursday Community of Practice** to share technology tips with your colleagues. Edutopia shares [10 Teacher Tips for Best Tech Tools](#). While some may be geared towards K-12, many can be modified to work in your college classroom. [The Top 23 Ed Tech Tools Revolutionizing Higher Education](#) lists many tools that we may already use (such as Kahoot which is integrated into Canvas and PollEverywhere), it also lists others that you may want to try in your classroom. In the article, [Teaching with AI in Higher Education \(2025\): Curriculum, Assessment and Faculty Literacy](#) the authors share how to incorporate AI as a learning tool in your classroom and ways to personalize learning. Need to catch up with AI and learn more? Cornell University's Center for Teaching Innovation will update you on [Generative Artificial Intelligence](#). While we know both students and faculty are using AI in their classes, an interesting case came up at the Northeastern University, [The Professors are Using ChatGPT, and Some Students Aren't Happy About it](#). To quote the professor in the article, "The embarrassing situation made him realize, he said, that professors should approach A.I. with more caution and disclose to students when and how it is used".

Reflection at Midterm: As we move into midterm (midterm grading starts October 16) how can we help our students continue to be successful until the end of the semester? Harvard University recommends [The Importance of Gathering and Incorporating Mid-Semester Student Feedback](#) and using it to encourage self-reflection and continuous improvement to support your own development as an educator. Not all of our students know where to begin when studying for a big exam. One way to help your students is to provide study strategies to help them prepare for mid-term assessments, whatever type of assessment that works for your class. [5 Midterm Prep Tips to Help You Study Smarter and Stress Less](#) may give them some additional strategies to help your students be successful. One way to assess your course and see how it is going for your students (and ultimately you) is to ask students two simple questions. One, "What is working well for you in the class so far, and why do you find it helpful"? And the second question, "Is there anything that is not working well for you, and how can I address this"? Both questions can give you valuable feedback to help you reflect on teaching as you move forward into the second half of the semester.