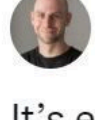




Issue 1 - Fall 2022

Connection Matters!

Watch for our new CTL Connects twice a semester and connect to your CTL team and to awesome opportunities to develop your teaching and learning practice.



Adam Grant
@AdamMGrant

It's enjoyable to learn from others.
It's invigorating to learn with others.

A good conversation opens your eyes to new thoughts. A great conversation opens your mind to new ways of thinking.

Want to hear more from Adam Grant? Check out his [ReThinking](#) podcast on your favourite podcast service.

Speaking of the marking pile...let's consider marking hacks...

How do you motivate yourself to make it through the marking pile and survive the stack? Here are some tricks for pushing forward and persevering: Timothy Mugabi shares [12 effective grading tips for teachers](#).



You probably have your own tricks and tips. Please share your thoughts in this [Padlet](#). (PS, the ID team talks about Padlet below. It is an awesome tool).

Here is the Padlet QR code if you'd rather complete it on your hand-held device. Just point your camera and press the yellow web address that pops up. Yep, it is that simple. And a great tool for student engagement.



Oh, and anyone who shares a hack, piece of advice, strategy, or general positive sentiment will be entered into a random draw.

To participate you must sign off with your name on your Padlet post.

You know what else can help? HACK alert...

The **Pomodoro Technique** is a [time management](#) method developed by Francesco Cirillo in the late 1980s. It uses a kitchen timer to break work into intervals, typically 25 minutes in length, separated by short breaks ("Pomodoro technique," 2010).

Pomodoro technique. (2010, February 11). Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Retrieved November 20, 2022, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pomodoro_Technique

Adopting an equity, social justice and reconciliation lens

Decolonization Café is a virtual drop-in for faculty and staff who wish to decolonize and Indigenize post-secondary classrooms and spaces. These Cafés serve as a forum for open discussion. Sometimes, the Café will focus on relevant topics (such as land acknowledgements, vetting resources about Indigenous people, and much more).



Join Emma Greenfield, Faculty Developer Teaching Guide, to co-create an educational environment at Georgian College that fosters reconciliation.

Starting January 10th, these Cafés run every Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning.

Tuesdays 1-2 p.m.
Thursdays 9-10 a.m.



Reconciliation Education

Georgian's new Indigenization Strategy, Maajiskaadaa, calls for an increase of awareness among Georgian employees of their responsibilities to reconciliation, decolonization, and Indigenization. The Strategy also calls upon faculty to increase opportunities for Indigenous history and presence to be meaningful integrated into curriculum.

A way to begin (or strengthen) your journey towards reconciliation education is by engaging with Indigenous-created learning resources that foster a deep understanding of Indigenous histories and perspectives. At Georgian College, all employees have access to a free online resource that fosters this very understanding.

The 4 Seasons of Reconciliation is a 3-hour, self-paced, online course designed for Georgian College employees. It includes award-winning films and interactive ways of learning. Topics include pre-contact, colonization, Residential Schools, Truth and Reconciliation, and so much more. Upon completion, you will receive a certificate provided by the First Nations University of Canada.

Meet the CTL Teams

Blackboard LMS Team

The Faculty Blackboard Support Team provides support for those teaching in Blackboard Original providing training, drop-in sessions, and email support for all questions and requests while simultaneously leading Georgian through a college-wide transition to Ultra, an enhanced version of Blackboard.

Ultra Gems:

The big changes in Ultra are obvious but here are a few hidden gems that may not be as obvious as first glance but definitely worth highlighting:

- Ability to provide video recordings as feedback on student submissions humanizes the assessment experience.
- Ability to include pronunciation of names in text and audio format models and facilitates inclusive practices.
- Copying and moving content (learning material and tests) within and between courses is a breeze!



Got a question? Not sure where to turn?

The list below will help you decide who to ask.

New Blackboard ORIGINAL inquiries:

- [Faculty Blackboard support - Georgian College](#)
- Send directly to FacultyBbSupport@georgiancollege.ca. We can assist you with course design, content management

strategies, and more. You'll be taken care of by the first member of our team. It might even be me

Blackboard ULTRA Training and Migration inquiries:

- <https://georgiancollege.ca/BbUltra>
- Send directly to Move2Ultra@georgiancollege.ca. If your question is related to Ultra Training or Migration, including PREP shell requests and other how-to help, contact us here and the Move2Ultra team will respond to you as soon as possible.

Non-Blackboard educational technology:

- TurnItIn, MS Teams, WebEx, H5P, and so on
- Send directly to FacultyEdTech@georgiancollege.ca. The Instructional Design Technologist Team are the experts on these tools and would love to help you with them.

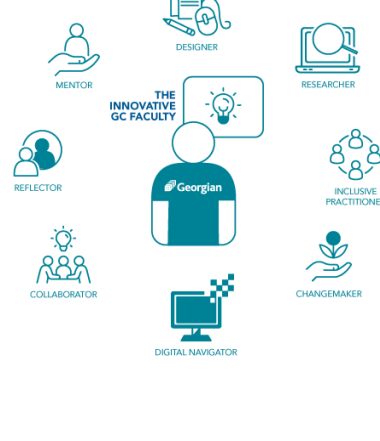
None of the above?

- Send directly to ITSupport@georgiancollege.ca. For all other issues, including questions related to login trouble, The ITSupport team would be happy to assist you

Faculty Developer Team

How can our faculty development team help you on your teaching journey?

In our role, we focus on supporting you as you consider the alignment of your course outcomes, your assessment strategies and the teaching and learning activities you design. How these key elements are connected can help your students succeed. We focus on universal design for learning and on creating learning spaces that offer a climate that helps every student feel that they belong.



We support you as you explore ways to encourage students to see themselves as agents of change. We rally for experiential learning opportunities and support you along your journey from emerging to transformative teaching.

Teaching is really complex. According to Lee Shulman, “Classroom teaching is perhaps the most complex, most challenging, and most demanding, subtle, nuanced activity that our species has ever invented” (2004).

We offer a variety of professional development opportunities, including asynchronous learning, synchronous workshops, intensive courses, and one-on-one consultations.

We also support the development of inclusive and anti-racist practices; Indigenization and equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging strategies; and support connection to the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) through changemaking and social innovation.

Let us help you navigate the challenges of teaching and explore the roles associated with being a faculty member. Check out our Innovative Teacher Faculty Competency Framework which shares our roles in our new Academic Plan.

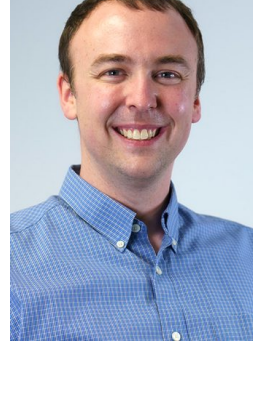
A great and timely read that your FD team would like to suggest: [Five Things to Do During the Grumpy Time of the Semester | Faculty Focus](#).

Instructional Design Team

Instructional Designers here at Georgian, we see our role as being a bridge or a conduit between faculty and information, resources, and training to enhance the teaching and learning experience at Georgian. Our goal is to help faculty design, develop, and deliver authentic, cohesive, meaningful, inclusive, and enjoyable learning environments and experiences that both faculty and students can thrive within.

One of the main roles of the ID team since the pandemic has been designing, developing and facilitating the Pathway programs. The Pathways include comprehensive professional development for faculty who will be teaching the online, hybrid or GC Flex modalities.

The ID team can also provide one on one support to faculty who are not yet in the Pathway programs.



A tool the ID team is loving right now: Padlet

Padlet takes the idea of the notice board and makes it digital, so it's enhanced. Unlike a physical notice board, this space can be populated with rich media, including words and images as well as videos and links too. All that and it's instantly updated for anyone sharing the space to see right away. Everything can be kept private, made public, or shared with a specific group. This is just one of the education specific features that shows the company built this with the needs of teachers and students in mind. Padlet is free to use once you create an account. Visit <https://padlet.com>.

Instructional Design Technologist Team

What do Instructional Design Technologists do? It is a great question. The CTL team has both Instructional Designers (IDs) and Instructional Design Technologists (IDTs), and it can be confusing to know who to reach out to for your instructional needs. In short, the two positions are similar:

IDs focus on working with faculty to enhance their instructional design, while IDTs do the same, but with the addition of ed-tech as a primary component.

Educause Review posted an excellent article that maps out these roles across many different organizations, detailing the variations and overlapping duties.

So, when you are wondering about who to connect with regarding your instructional practice – it is most likely that either ID or IDT can help, but to take a deeper dive between the roles, check out [Ed Techs and Instructional Designers – What's the Difference?](#)

Or, if you have specific ed-tech needs, use our new point of contact:

facultyedtech@georgiancollege.ca

Multimedia Team

Ryan is here to support faculty and his amazing CTL team with planning and guiding the digital production process from concept to completion.

Do you have a video idea you'd like to explore? Maybe an infographic or banner you'd like to design to spice up your presentation? Or maybe you'd like to update content or add a new page to our comprehensive CTL website. Ryan has got you covered!



We just finished updating our GC Flex Classroom Introduction video with some new tips on new technology in classrooms K226 and 232. While you're there feel free to browse some of the other videos on our [CTL YouTube channel](#) also.

We have recently reorganized our [CTL website](#), and have a new About Us page coming soon! A new Assessment section has also been added. New updates are always happening, so be sure to check back regularly.

If you have any questions about a multimedia project you are interested in starting, or would like to join a workshop about video editing or any other creative program that you're interested in, reach out to Ryan at

ryan.wood@georgiancollege.ca

VR/XR

This semester, the immersive technology team has been extraordinarily busy as the dark clouds of the pandemic began to part, allowing rays of light to pass through and people to gather in person once again.

In September we displayed Georgian's virtual reality activities at the SWERVE event hosted by the Nuclear Innovative Institute. There were over 3,500 attendees and over 2,000, from the young to the old, got to experience VR as it is being used at Georgian for student learning. More recently the Bruce Power Visitor Centre hosted a “bring your child to work day” and with six VR stations we accommodated 120 grade eight students.

Also recently, the Indigenous Studies program, while having been using virtual reality to give context to language learning for two years, completed all the world builds that they needed for language in the home, the community, the workplace, and the natural environment. As such, they hosted a launch, in virtual reality, to showcase their VR worlds and celebrate the milestone. The event attracted attendees from around the globe.

This semester we continue the work of a Future Skills Canada Grant. We are hosting multiple events to give students, staff, and faculty the opportunity to experience virtual reality for soft skills such as “Job Interviews,” “Workplace Communication Essentials” and “Inclusive Leadership.” Role playing in an immersive environment is proving to be a powerful learning tool. In addition, we are in the second year of a research study to look at the efficacy of VR anatomy.

If you have questions about Georgian's XR activities or would like to inquire about potential VR activities for your, do not hesitate to reach out to Rob Theriault at rob.theriault@georgiancollege.ca



So, as we near the end of the semester... and consider the next ...

Are you rethinking your assessment strategy?

Some great ideas from [U Waterloo](#) for future planning (you know, after this semester's reflections on your assessment strategy). As you plan for next semester, consider different approaches to assessment and feedback. Check out Bracke's article, "A different way to provide feedback of student learning" [here](#). And dive into the [CTL assessment resources](#) for ideas.

Moving out?
Nope... Just a teacher taking home some papers to grade



Check out these ideas for ending the semester with a twist (and a plan for next semester): [A New Twist on End-of-Semester Evaluations](#).

And an idea – collect samples of student work that match your rubric or grading scheme. Ask students if you can use these as exemplars for future students. BONUS: students just have to confirm that this is okay in an email. Remove key information, like a student number, and ask if they would like their name attached. Remind them that this is something to add to their resume!

Check out the professional learning opportunities we offer:

- Faculty Learning Communities – think book club! Join peers and CTL team members to explore readings related to our fav subject; teaching! The offerings occur in person, or asynchronously.
- Communities of Practice – join with peers and discuss, share resources, even commiserate about contemporary teaching and learning topics.
- Workshops and sessions – we offer a multitude of workshops!
- Hackathons – no not hairballs! In our Hackathons, we'll use principles of human centered design to unpack and come up with co-created solutions to some of our most prolific challenges. Watch the web for more information.
- Pathways for design sprints that help you build a course from start to finish for online, hybrid and flex course deliveries.
- Coaching and mentoring.
- Check out all our CTL offerings on our [CTL website](#).

Reach out to [Deb Moore](#), our organizer, supporter and general keeper of our schedules, with any questions.

Happy Holidays from the CTL Team



Get Involved

Interested in sharing ideas for CTL Connects? We'd love to hear your thoughts.

Please email tracy.mitchell-ashley@georgiancollege.ca

Contact Us

Guess what. There are four ways to connect with us:

Blackboard Ultra

For general questions about Blackboard Ultra:
facultybbsupport@georgiancollege.ca

Faculty Development

For questions for our faculty development team: facultydevelopment@georgiancollege.ca

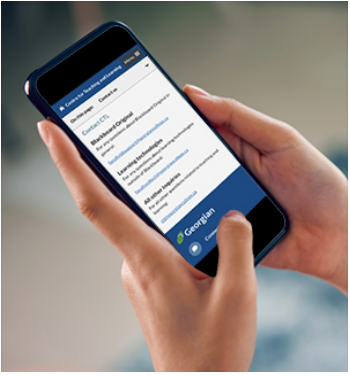
Learning Technologies

For questions about learning technologies outside of Blackboard:
facultyedtech@georgiancollege.ca

All other inquiries

For all other questions related to teaching and learning:
ctl@georgiancollege.ca

Or visit us on our [website](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#), or [X \(Twitter\)](#).



Connect with us!



GeorgianCollege.ca/CTL
CTL@georgiancollege.ca

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