

[Learn More about Dr. Pringle](#)

Nominate a Colleague for the UT Faculty Spotlight! □

The UT Faculty Spotlight is an opportunity to commend and recognize the outstanding contributions of our colleagues! If you know a faculty member who goes above and beyond in their role—whether through groundbreaking research, extraordinary teaching methods, or community engagement—we invite you to nominate them for this prestigious acknowledgment.

[Nominate a Faculty Member!](#)



Jake Buller-Young

"Throughout my master's program, I fell in love with teaching—which led me back to these important questions because teaching is the practical application of my theoretical research on rhetoric and writing. Teaching and research have a circular

relationship because I test new ideas in my classes, and those classes, in turn, raise new questions for further research. I continued this research trajectory, with a renewed focus on civic discourse and composition pedagogy, in my PhD program in Rhetoric, Writing, and Linguistics (also here at UTK)."

[Learn More about Jake](#)

Nominate Your Graduate Student for the UT Grad Spotlight!

Our UT Grad Spotlight is a fantastic way to celebrate the achievements and dedication of our graduate students. If you've been particularly impressed by a graduate student's research, teaching assistance, community service, or any other noteworthy endeavor, now is your chance to help their star rise.

Nominate a Graduate Student!



TLI Faculty Innovator Award

In Spring 2024, selected faculty members received our Faculty Innovator Award, designed to recognize innovative teaching at UTK. We will share a new video from one of our award winners each month!

This month, we feature Dr. Matthew Pittman from the Tombras School of Advertising and Public Relations. In his video, he discussed how social media can be used as a teaching tool in the classroom.



Volunteer Faculty Launchpad (VFL)

VFL invites new-to-UT faculty to participate in a year-long experience of professional growth and camaraderie. As a participant, you will be part of an exclusive cohort that connects you with two fellow new-to-UT faculty members and pairs your trio with an experienced UT faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in teaching.



*Due to the enthusiastic response, registration for this opportunity is closed. Click on the button below to learn more.

[Learn More](#)



Cultivating Excellence in Teaching (CET) Grant

Teaching & Learning Innovation proudly announces the Cultivating Excellence in Teaching (CET) Grant, an

initiative designed to support departments to enhance teaching excellence by focusing on one or more of UTK's four Teaching Principles:

- Clarity in design and communication of course content, policies, and standards
- Approachability, empathy, and respect for all students
- Engaging and student-centered classroom teaching
- Reflective improvement of teaching practice and content knowledge

Through the CET Grant, we invite departments or colleges to propose innovative projects reinforcing these core tenets within their spheres. Grant recipients are expected to design and implement department-wide initiatives or strategies that change the culture around teaching.

[Learn More](#)

Take your SoTL study to the finish line!

Beginning in the fall of 2024, TLI offers a new flexible program supporting “last mile” work on studies in college-level teaching and learning. If you have already secured IRB approval, collected your data, and maybe begun your analysis, this program is for you!

SoTL Finish Line Award

Beginning Fall 2024

[Learn More](#)



Graduate Support

C.I.R.T.L. F.U.E.L.

About this seminar: Are you a graduate student or postdoctoral fellow interested in enhancing your teaching? Join us for the

“Facilitating Undergraduate Evidence-Based Learning” (F.U.E.L.) professional development seminar in the Fall 2024 semester.

This fall, C.I.R.T.L. F.U.E.L. will be offered in two ways:

1. Synchronously via Zoom
2. Asynchronously using Canvas

For more information on meeting times and modules, [Visit our C.I.R.T.L. F.U.E.L. Page online!](#)

[Click here to register by Friday, September 3rd](#)

Register Here

Faculty Support

Attitudes, Agency, and Action: Understanding the Impact of Our Personal Conceptualizations of AI on How We Approach it in Our Work

Tuesday, September 10th | 12:00pm - 1:30 pm | Zoom

In this engaging session, Dr. Chris Kilgore from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville will facilitate and guide participants in an exploration of our thinking about what Generative AI is, what roles we think it might play in our work, and how we seek to prepare students to use it in the teaching and learning enterprise. This is the first session in our learning community series that brings together faculty from across the UT system to share their experiences with AI in their academic work.

Participants will have an opportunity to listen to different strategies, practices, and information about AI and reflect on how they might use what they learned to positively impact teaching and learning in their context.

[Register Here](#)

Crafting Civil Dialogue in the Classroom: Lessons from Current Scholarship and Practice

Wednesday, September 18th | 11:00 am | Zoom

In this workshop, co-facilitated by Jake Buller-Young (English), the presenters will guide the participants through evidence-based / researched approaches to guiding students into having difficult conversations in a productive, empathetic, and civil manner. Participants will learn about current scholarly approaches to student dialogue, listening, and empathy, try them out in a practical demonstration, and design an action/lesson plan for implementing these techniques in their own classrooms.

[Register Here](#)

TLI Reads: Teaching with Extended Reality Technology

Friday, September 27th | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm | Zoom

In this series of events, we will read and discuss scholarly articles documenting and evaluating the use of virtual reality, augmented reality, and related technologies grouped under the general category of "extended reality." These events will take place via Zoom and will begin with a brief interview with one or more of the article authors. They will be followed by additional discussion within the main Zoom room or breakout rooms, with a final share-out session if the group is large.

In the September 27 session, we will discuss an article by Amelia

Perez and colleagues (2022) evaluating the use of virtual reality technology to facilitate education in conducting "difficult conversations" in nursing courses.

[Register Here](#)



Summer SoTL Recap

Although campus might have been quiet in these warmer months, don't be fooled into thinking nothing was happening here on Rocky Top!

This summer, UT faculty, and graduate students advanced their scholarship on teaching and learning in two TLI SoTL programs: In May, TLI hosted its [2024 SoTL Funding Support Program](#), where two faculty members worked on projects in two different tracks. Across the summer, faculty and graduate students across 99 departments also initiated or advanced projects in the [SoTL Incubator Program](#), which offers more extended logistical support for research on teaching at UTK.

Thank you to all those who participated in our offerings this summer! We hope these programs have provided you with new tools to add to your teaching kit this semester. We also hope to see you again this fall at our [workshops and learning communities](#) as we continue to ensure a path to success for every faculty member at UT.



[Syllabus Resources](#)

Visit our webpage for current academic policies, health and safety guidance, civil discourse information, and suggested course syllabus statements for AI tools. Also, learn how to create a learner-centered syllabus by using our resources.

[Teaching Tip: AI in the Classroom](#)

Artificial Intelligence programs present new opportunities and challenges for everyone who teaches at the University of Tennessee. These technologies advance rapidly, so most faculty must be mindful of their existence as they prepare and teach their classes. Whether you have never used one of these programs or are seeking to advance your approach to the next level, TLI is here to help!

[Inclusive Teaching Certificate](#)

The five-module Inclusive Teaching certificate provides professional development and guidance on implementing inclusive teaching practices in the college classroom. In each session, individuals will better understand practices and approaches that motivate and engage all learners.

TLI is Here to Help!

You can request TLI support in various areas via our [Service Request form](#). We offer several services for both individual instructors, as well as departments and colleges, including:

- Classroom Observations

- Course Design
- Document & Material Review
- Mid-Course Feedback
- End of Course Evaluation
- Scholarship of Teaching & Learning Support

Contact Us

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