

CELT Newsletter: May 2023

Dear CELT Colleagues,

Congratulations on another successful semester of learning and teaching at Middlesex College!

The CELT Executive Board is busy working on plans for the last week in August and the 2023-2024 academic year, and we want to hear from you! Developing a workshop (on your own or in collaboration) is a fun and engaging experience. Please email us at CELT@middlesexcc.edu or Saltman@middlesexcc.edu with your ideas for workshops for the upcoming year.

Thank you for joining CELT for our many programs over the past year. We look forward to having you join us again in the fall and continuing to share ideas together. Please watch your email for information about the fall events and register on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) once they are posted mid-summer. We hope that you have a restful and rejuvenating summer, and we look forward to seeing you at our events next year! Best regards, Susan

2023 – 2024 CELT Executive Board

Director: Susan Altman

Full-time Faculty Board Members: Katalin Gyurian-Toth, Adriana Mamay, Shannon Pullaro, Crystal Quillen, Sheri-Rose Rubin, and Stefanie Rufo
Part-time Faculty Board Members: Melissa Ellis and William Lipkin

CELT Mentoring Team: Chris Drew, Brian Lavey, and Clairie Vassiliadis
We give a heartfelt thank you to Jennifer Applebee for her service as a CELT Executive Board Member!

Alternative Grading Methods

Are you exploring alternative grading methods in your courses? Colleges across the country are thinking about new ways to consider grading. CELT is looking for you to share your ideas in an **Alternative Grading Roundtable** this Fall. *Please reach out and let us know if you are willing to present as part of this sharing of ideas.*

If you are using Alternative Grading methods, please consider filling out this Survey on Grading Practices in Higher Ed

Please consider completing this [10-minute anonymous survey](#) seeking insight into grading practices used by teachers in higher education. This study, by [Eugene Kim](#) and [Marilyn DeLaure](#) (faculty at the University of San Francisco), aims to discover the extent to which university faculty and administrators are exploring and implementing alternatives to traditional grading practices, and the degree to which faculty are engaging in conversations about grading practices on their campuses. Those who complete the survey by June 1, 2023, can enter a raffle to win a \$100 Amazon gift card.



CELT Theme 2023 – 2024

Back to the Future: New Students, New Strategies

We will be exploring new ideas to use in our classes, while looking back at some of the successful techniques that we have forgotten.

Save the date for our CELT Professional Day!

Tuesday, August 29 @ 11 AM

Workshops on 8/30 and 8/31

Everyone is welcome to attend!

Summer Reading

What are you reading this summer?

The New College Classroom by Cathy N. Davidson and Christina Katapodis is a practical guide to engaged college teaching and ideas about active learning.

The Secret Syllabus: A Guide to the Unwritten Rules about College Success by Jay Phelan and Terry Burnham. While written for students, this book looks at ways to navigate the unwritten rules of college that are keys to student success.

Learning with Others: Collaboration as A Pathway to College Student Success by Conrad and Lundberg makes an argument for collaborative learning as a core principle for undergraduate education.

CELT Teaching Corner: Congratulations to the 2023 Middlesex College Adjunct Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient, Julie Panetta



Julie Panetta

Adjunct Instructor, Dental Hygiene

How many years have you taught, and what do you teach? I have been teaching for the past 7 years in the MC dental hygiene program. I teach dental anatomy, and freshman and senior clinic. This spring semester I am working as a full time one semester only as the lead instructor for DHY 212 Senior clinic and lecture.

What is your favorite things about teaching? My favorite aspect of teaching is seeing and sharing the joy of our profession to our students. As we prepare our students for their future career in dental hygiene, it is very rewarding to see them transition from entry level students to professional healthcare providers. The teachable moments I experience with each student keeps my joy in our profession.

What is your favorite advice to your students. As a wise dental hygiene instructor before me used to say, “be present”. Enjoy and absorb the material being learned by always being present.

What is something your students/colleagues would be surprised to learn about you? I was not the smartest in my class. I was not the best test taker. My grades and placement were always in the middle of the class. Remembering my challenges as a student, I try to teach towards the improvement of a student with those qualities. If I can reach and teach that type of student, then the top students will excel as well as students who are struggling. Identifying and adapting to learning styles within a class is the key to my teaching success so far.

What are your summer plans? I plan to enjoy the summer with my family. I will be working as a temp in dental offices per diem. I will also do some tutoring for the Dental Hygiene National Board Exam.

What are you currently reading?

I am currently reading *Darby’s Comprehensive Review of Dental Hygiene* as I prepare our dental hygiene seniors for their National Board exams.

New Ideas/New Pedagogy

Thinking about what worked and didn’t work this semester? Reflective teaching allows you to think critically about your courses and consider how to make meaningful change for the future. Thinking about our teaching from different vantage points (Brookfield 1995) helps us to gain awareness of whether our students are learning effectively. UC Berkley talks about [four approaches](#); the autobiographical, the student’s eyes, our colleague’s experiences, and theoretical literature with evidenced based strategies for supporting student learning. While the University of California, Irvine recommends a reflective teaching statement as part of their faculty review, writing a [Reflective Teaching Statement](#) can help you assess and revise your teaching practice over time. *The Teaching in Higher Ed* [podcast series](#) has several podcasts that talk about reflective practice, including [Teaching as Listening](#), and [Inspiration, Failure and Everything in Between](#).

Did you miss our spring walk across campus? Consider joining us for our second CELT “walk and talk” to be held sometime in the fall as we build community and connections and reflect on our own teaching practices at Middlesex College.