



VALENCIA COLLEGE  
**LEARNING  
DAY 2022**

## **LEARNING SESSION 2**

**12:00 – 12:45 p.m.**

**B1. Connecting the dots with Humanities: Pythagoras as an example of how different disciplines converge**

**Presenter:** Bob Warren, Ed Frame, Dr. Ryan Kasha

**Track:** Sustainability and Community Building

Professor Ed Frame, Dr. Ryan Kasha, and Professor Bob G. Warren discuss their ongoing collegial conversations about how the humanities and mathematics converge and shape conversations between colleagues. The aim being to enrich the connectivity between disciplines and how we address these connections in the classroom by producing a joint presentation discussing Pythagoras.

**B2. Equity Talk: Community through Communication**

**Presenters:** Chris Brown

**Track:** Equity and Inclusion

Have you ever had a conversation on equity that didn't go as you hoped? Do you wish you had more examples, concepts, and practice talking about equity issues in the college and beyond? This is your chance to hear common conversations on equity and take part when you feel comfortable. All are welcome!

**B3. “Keep Code-Meshing”: Continuing the Conversation on Linguistic Justice**

**Presenter:** Ella Raynor and Douglas S. Kern

**Track:** Equity and Inclusion

Conversations in our college regarding linguistic diversity and antiracism have expanded over the last couple years because issues of literacy and language diversity inform nearly everything we do in our teaching and other roles at the college. And yet, questions persist. How can we, as a college, promote linguistic diversity while preparing students for career and personal success? What do college rules regarding communication have to do with racism? How can we differentiate between linguistic diversity and necessary revision? In this Learning Day workshop, participants will explore answers to such commonly asked questions and uncover how Vershawn Ashanti Young's sociolinguistic concept of code-meshing can revise “the current limited rubric of what counts as linguistic success” (“Keep Code-Meshing,” 144).

**B4. Navigating Neurodiversity in the Classroom**

**Presenters:** Rachel Schwitters and Kimberly Spence

**Track:** Equity and Inclusion

We will explore different strategies and brainstorm best practices for working with neurodiverse students. Dr. Spence is an expert in the field of working with individuals on the Autism Spectrum. She works at UCF Center for Autism and Related Disabilities. This is a great opportunity to hear from colleagues and disability staff to create a more inclusive classroom.

**B5. Become a Better Chef/Pastry at Home in Your Kitchens**

**Presenters:** Steven Rujak

**Track:** Personal Development

Do you want to increase your culinary and pastry skills? Do you want to impress your friends with your creativity and culinary talents? Then this workshop is for you! Spend part of your day with the Chef Steven, and learn the art of fancy hors d'oeuvre and petite desserts. Follow Chef as he whips up amazing canapes and friandises' that you can prepare at home for your get togethers.

**B6. Powerful FOCUS improvement tricks that work**

**Presenter:** Nalini Odapalli

**Track:** Adaptability and Change

Focusing is one-pointed awareness. Continued focus is concentration. These are essential for our success in life. The mind is an energy field that works through the brain. Understanding and rechanneling our mind-body energy to work for us is a skill. Let me show you ancient and scientific focus improvement tips & tricks that you can share with your students as well. Let's aim for success without grinding or force.

**B7. Cultivating Fierce and Tender Self-Compassion**

**Presenters:** Celine Kavalec and Lianna McGowan

**Track:** Wellness

Based on the research from the book Fierce Self-compassion by Kristin Neff, which focuses on the importance of women connecting with their fiercely compassionate side, this workshop will support women as they open their hearts and minds to both fierce and tender self-compassion. Activities will guide them in connecting with these qualities within themselves.

**B8. Gardening for Health & Wellness**

**Presenter:** J. Diane Fahr

**Track:** Wellness

Gardening is a great tool for wellness. Not only does it give you the chance to be outdoors and get some exercise, but it also presents the opportunity to be present in the moment, appreciate nature, learn how to grow vegetables, flowers, and fruits, but also is a wonderful stress reliever. Gardening can happen in containers, raised beds, or in the ground – depending on what works best for you. Join me for this session where we'll explore options for backyard gardening, community gardening, resources available, and lessons I've learned over the past several years of gardening.

**B9. Expecting Integrity: The Challenges We Face**

**Presenter:** Jennifer Adams and Kelly Kozma

**Track:** Adaptability and Change

In this session, we'll talk about our role, as faculty, to ensure learning is taking place. We'll present data on the increasing incidents of academic dishonesty being reported at the college. We'll explore how and why students might be cheating and what we can do to educate students on the importance of integrity. We'll also talk about practical strategies for preventing, recognizing, and dealing with academic dishonesty issues.

**B10. Mythbusters: Climate Edition**

**Presenter:** Kevin Chau and Carrie Black

**Track:** Sustainability and Community Building

Why does food like guacamole cost extra now? Why has the weather been so weird? What is climate and how does climate change work? Is there anything we can do about these things? This session will discuss the basics of weather and climate and dispel some myths along the way. It will also share why this relates to all faculty and staff, regardless of subject area, and talk about some of the ways Valencia College's Office of Sustainability is leading the effort towards a more sustainable tomorrow.

**B11. Anti-Racism Is A Verb**

**Presenters:** Hank Van Putten

**Track:** Equity and Inclusion

Guided by the PJI Principles for How We Treat Each Other, this interactive session will bring light to the difference between being a non/not racist, and being an anti-racist.

**B12. The Art & Science of Home Brewing**

**Presenters:** James May

**Track:** Personal Development

Interested in the art & science of home brewing? This session shares brewing basics for beer, wine, mead, hard cider, and hard seltzer. Learn about the ingredients, tools, and techniques that home brewers use to create and clone their favorite beverages.

WARNING – It is a fun hobby!

**B13. Meetings Managed: Engaging with Students and Colleagues using Microsoft Bookings**

**Presenters:** Laura D'Alessio

**Track:** Engagement Through Technology

Tired of emailing back-and-forth with students or colleagues as you try to schedule times to meet? Annoyed when people forget to attend? Microsoft Bookings can help!

This free tool is provided to all employees and integrates seamlessly with Outlook. It offers a simple user interface and lots of settings to get your calendar events under control. Attendees will learn how to set up and customize their Bookings website and create a bookable calendar link.

**B14. Step Up to Antiracist Work**

**Presenter:** Carmen Laguer Diaz and Mark Rivera

**Track:** Equity and Inclusion

Join us in a conversation about the need for antiracist work at Valencia. In this session, our conversation will use a practice called "Step up, Step back," which encourages classroom participants to examine their expectations about participating in communal activities and open up space for everyone to contribute.

**B15. Building Capacity for Equity-minded Assessment**

**Presenters:** Nichole Jackson and Darren Smith

**Track:** Equity and Inclusion

We have developed and implemented a new learning outcomes assessment model that incorporates significant support for faculty assessment work and emphasizes the importance of promoting equity in the assessment process. In this session, we will describe the development and basic outline of our assessment model and how it has foregrounded equity approaches. We will also describe the supports embedded in the model, including designing feasible assessments, instructional design, interpretation of data, and faculty peer facilitation.

**B16. Generative Art - Programming Code for Artistic Expression**

**Presenter:** Gerald Reed, Ben Reed, Jeff Reed

**Track:** Engagement Through Technology

Participants will learn about how creativity in tech is often underestimated and how emphasizing the creative and artistic applications of code helps student learners.

We'll look briefly at a web-based tool (p5js) that we can use to make creative code sketches. Using this tool and the hints from our presentation, participants will try out some easy sketches, inserting their own creative elements using p5js.

**B17. Learn How You Can Take Advantage of Valencia's Educational and Professional Development Leave (EPDL) Opportunity**

**Presenter:** Tracey Partin and Nelson Placa

**Track:** Personal Development

The goal of this session is to share information with attendees about the Educational and Professional Development Leave (EPDL) opportunity available to full-time Valencia College staff members. A brief overview of the EPDL application process will be given. Tracey Partin, a 2021-2022 recipient of the EPDL, will discuss her recent Professional Leave experience in Cairo, Egypt where she recently spent time studying in an Intensive Arabic Language Program. Join us for some inspiration on how you can take advantage of this wonderful and unique Valencia College employee benefit.

**B18. Finding your FLOW**

**Presenter:** Jen Danilowski and Leah Basaria

**Track:** Wellness

Individuals are struggling with pandemic fatigue, constant waiting, isolation, and feelings of being stuck. One way to get out of this rut is through FLOW, a state of transformative wellbeing. In this session, participants will learn to identify the nine dimensions and cultivate feelings of FLOW in our constantly changing world, because the best moments in our lives are not the passive, receptive, relaxing times . . . The best moments usually occur if a person's body or mind is stretched to its limits in a voluntary effort to accomplish something difficult and worthwhile (Csikszentmihalyi, 1990). And who wouldn't want to experience that?

**B19. Challenges Encountered During the First Week of the Term**

**Presenter:** Daniel Rubin

**Track:** Adaptability and Change

A discussion forum on the various challenges faced during the first week of a term. I will present and facilitate audience participation for an exchange of ideas and experiences on how to cope with those challenges. Examples would include things like: "I don't have my textbook" and "Students who don't seem to read or follow instructions".

**B20. Trends in Higher Education Workshop – Part 1 of 2. Joint session of C20**

**Presenters:** Amy Bosley and Carla McKnight

**Track:** Adaptability and Change

During this presentation, CampusWorks will introduce and lead a discussion on trends in higher education, identifying themes related to enrollment, student success, technology, and accountability that can support institutional transformational objectives. This workshop sets the stage for organizational change and is designed for a representative audience at the College, including leadership, faculty, and staff.

**B21. AIG Retirement Services Workshop: Principles To Prioritize Before Retirement**

**Presenters:** Kelly Craft and Tom Keller

**Track:** Wellness

Retirement is getting close, so make sure you're prepared to make the transition when the time comes. What happens when your paycheck stops, will you be ready? We will discuss the importance of various catch-up contributions, designating beneficiaries, new retirement-era risks and the high cost of healthcare. Valencia's AIG Financial Advisor Kelly Craft will present this interactive workshop.

**B22. Vision Reboot 2022**

**Presenter:** Berline Jean-Baptiste

**Track:** Sustainability and Community Building

Welcome to Vision Reboot 2022 Session. Where you will learn how to make a Virtual Vision Board for your phone screens, or Screensavers for your desktop, laptop, or IPAD. Time to crush and meet your Goals and start reaching your God given purpose. What are your personal, spiritual, and professional goals? This session is all about you and growth. Do not be afraid to dream, learn, and grow. We were all created for a purpose here on Earth and I would love to help you get to that vision or purpose. We will be planning for the rest of the year 2022 – 5 years. You are the first prophets of your life. We will Journal and Assess where we are , where we want to be, and create Big visions with realistic goals and action steps to meet those goals. Welcome to the best year of your life because the best is yet to come. Your latter days will be better than your former days.

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