

May Workshops 2011

Tentative Schedule, revised May 18

compiled by Joel Relihan

Monday, May 23

1. Prolegomena to Departmental Review: Theory, Praxis and Planning
a full-day English Department retreat
Location: Austin House Time: 9:00—3:00
contact Mike Drout
[NOTE: This workshop has been rescheduled from Friday, May 27]

Tuesday, May 24

2. "Understanding and Transforming the Capstone Experience: What Have We and Our Students Learned?"
Location: May Room, Mary Lyon Time: 9:00—12:00
Coffee and pastries: 8:45
contact Evie Staudinger or Claire Buck
This workshop will disseminate information and generate discussion around the work faculty completed as a result of being awarded Course Transformation Awards for the Capstone Experience this past year. Each faculty was asked to address the following: What knowledge and skills in your discipline do you want your student to acquire by the end of their major Capstone experience? How will you know that the students have succeeded? Designed, and required, for those who received Course Transformation Capstone Awards. Anyone wishing to learn from their experiences is most welcome.
3. Departmental Websites Workshop
Location: Library, Woolley Electronic Classroom Time: 9:00—12:00
To RSVP or get more information about the workshop, please contact Scott Hamlin (hamlin_scott@wheatoncollege.edu, 3767).
Join us for the second episode of Departmental Websites: Extreme Makeover. This workshop will transform you into a web communicator extraordinaire and make you a guru of web communication principles. You will undergo a mix of demonstration, discussion, and individual consultation with faculty liaisons wearing capes and tights. You will see the radically renovated websites from Episode One, revealed for the first time by faculty contestants selected last fall. While wearing neither tights or capes, they will share their Makeovers, their good ideas and some "lessons learned." Members of Wheaton's Web Team will also join us to reveal a new way to update your profiles. Everyone is welcome to attend the first part of the workshop; selected departments will attend the second half. For departments selected for round 2, this required workshop will take you many leaps forward in a single morning: understanding the makeover

process, envisioning possible designs with your liaison, and scheduling meetings for the Makeover Milestones.

[NOTE: The new Faculty Profile will be unveiled at the Faculty Workshop on May 24, 2011. Access and online instructions will be available beginning on May 21.]

4. Summer Course Transformation Grants 2011: Infusion and Pedagogy

Location: Woolley Room, Mary Lyon

Time: 1:30—4:30

contact Joel Relihan

This workshop is required for all those who have just received a course transformation stipend. The goals of the workshop are two: 1) to allow all recipients to familiarize themselves with the work of the others, thus to create a general discussion of innovations in pedagogy across the disciplines; 2) to engage in a lively discussion of assessment as both a teaching tool, and an evaluative device, thus to define the assessment components of each recipient's proposal. Attendees should bring whatever materials, outlines, syllabi, etc., that are relevant to their projects; if possible, bring a laptop as well to speed the work of collaboration.

5. Exploring the e-Portfolio at Wheaton College

Location: Filene Center, Filene Center

Time: 1:30—4:30

Contacts: Grace Baron (gbaron@wheatonma.edu) and Lisa Gavigan (Gavigan_Lisa@wheatonma.edu)

At Wheaton e-Portfolios can facilitate teaching, deepen learning, and assist institutional assessment of the college experience. This workshop aims to move forward the conversation that began in the May 2009 e-Portfolio faculty workshop. Whether a veteran or a novice, please join us to share your experience, perspectives & questions. At this half-day workshop, we'll

- revisit Wheaton's rationale for the fit of an ePortfolio with our curricular and co-curricular goals
- learn from colleagues currently using ePortfolios
- see a sampling of ePortfolio models, practices and vendors
- form working groups and discuss individual plans for exploring e-Portfolio use at Wheaton.

For more info, see the developing Wheaton e-Portfolio resource page:
<https://sites.google.com/a/wheatoncollege.edu/eportfolio/home>

Wednesday, May 25

6. International Students: Challenges, Rewards, Opportunities

Location: Woolley Room, Mary Lyon

Coffee and pastries: 9:00

Time: Session A: 9:30—12:00

contact Alex Vasquez, coordinator

Time: Session B: 1:00—3:30

contact Lisa Lebduska, coordinator

Participants have the option of attending either or both sessions. The morning session will be devoted to advising and administrative concerns. The afternoon will focus on teaching strategies designed to help international and all other students succeed in the classroom. Each of the sessions is designed to allow participants to ask questions and to share their own approaches to a more globalized classroom. All are invited.

Lunch Talk

Location: Holman Room

Time: 12:00—1:00

Professor of Hispanic Studies Fran de Alba will share his experiences as an international student and faculty member in the U.S., as well as a teacher of international students. Participants in either session are invited to the lunch; please RSVP to the coordinators so they can estimate the lunch attendance.

7. Film and New Media Studies Workshop

Location: May Room, Mary Lyon

Time: 9:00—12:30

Coffee and pastries: 8:45

contact Josh Stenger

The Film & New Media Studies workshop will provide an opportunity for faculty members associated with or interested in becoming associated with the new FNMS program to discuss issues such as

- recruiting and advising majors
- scheduling, coordination, and communication — opportunities and challenges for interdepartmental programs
- teaching and learning technology — uses, limitations, resources, best practices, etc.
- teaching and working with students with wide-ranging skills, goals and interests
- learning goals and outcomes for FNMS majors
- the FNMS web site
- possible programming opportunities for 2011-12 and beyond

PLEASE NOTE: Although our focus will obviously be on the FNMS major, anyone who is interested in incorporating visual media and/or information & communication technology into their teaching is also encouraged to consider attending.

8. Neuroscience major workshop

Location: 25 Taunton Avenue

Time: 8:30—12:30

contact Meg Kirkpatrick

The May 2011 Neuroscience major workshop will focus on issues relevant to the newly formed major. Teaching faculty associated with the major will gather to

discuss plans for recruitment and advising of new majors, scheduling of courses from multiple departments, staffing for the senior seminar and ideas for the planned website efforts this summer. Programming ideas for the opening of the new science center will also be discussed.

9. CORE (Campus Orientation & Registration Experience) Advisor Workshop

Location—Meneely 102

Time: 1:00—4:30

Contact Jim Mancall

The CORE Advisor Workshop is designed to prepare advisors for the three CORE sessions in June, the summer new student orientation program. We will discuss the role of the CORE advisor and the logistics of class registration at CORE: How will CORE advising be similar to or different from FYS advising? How will incoming students register for Fall 2011 classes? What role will the CORE student leaders play? In addition to reviewing the CORE schedule, the workshop will also provide advisors with materials for CORE advising sessions. All CORE advisors should attend.

Thursday, May 26

10. . FYS Spring Workshop

Location: Woolley Room, Mary Lyon

Time: 8:45—4:30

Coffee and pastries: 8:30

Lunch will be provided for participants.

contact Joel Relihan

The first of two workshops required for all faculty teaching an FYS in the Fall. While serving to introduce the faculty and their topics to each other, this workshop will also cover such crucial topics as pedagogy, oral presentations, writing, the summer reading, library liaisons, and general discussions of FYS goals and assessment. The August 26th workshop will concentrate on advising. In order to facilitate sharing of information and technique, participants should bring a laptop with any materials that they have developed so far.

11. . Summer Research Awards Workshop

Location: May Room, Mary Lyon

Time: 1:30—4:30

contact Joel Relihan or Dana Polanichka

This is an experimental half-day workshop for faculty who have received either individual or collaborative summer research awards (Arnold, Provost; Clemence, Mars, Hood). The workshop, which will be chaired by a faculty member who has significant experience with collaborative (summer) research with students, will consist of informal presentations by the faculty members (on their research topics), a discussion about techniques and strategies for having a successful and productive summer (and keeping students on track!), and will offer the opportunity for faculty members to set up monthly research lunches over the course of the summer.

Friday, May 27: Departmental Retreats

12. . First-year Writing (English 101) Workshop

Location: Meneely 207

Time: 8:45—4:30

Coffee and pastries: 8:30

contact Lisa Lebduska

This workshop, an annual tradition in the English Department, is designed to both introduce first-year writing faculty to recent developments in the field of composition and rhetoric and to allow them to share and discuss best practices. In addition to allowing faculty to remain current with developments in the field, the workshop provides an opportunity for the department to cultivate and renew shared objectives and practices.

[NOTE: This workshop has been rescheduled from Monday, May 23]

13. Physics MATLAB Workshop

Location: Computer Lab (Science Center 203)

Time: 8:30—12:30

contact Geoff Collins

Students at Wheaton are innately familiar with using computers to communicate, but very few of them use their computers to compute. The Department of Physics and Astronomy will hold a workshop to develop curricular activities that build our students' skill in computer-aided problem solving. We have settled on the MATLAB software package as an ideal tool for tasks at all levels, from plotting simple functions in Introductory Physics to solving differential equations in our advanced courses. MATLAB is the standard software that our students encounter after they graduate, and is better suited for numerical and data analysis work than the Maple software used in Wheaton math classes. We intend to introduce MATLAB-based computational exercises as a common theme throughout the major. Our first step is to get all of our faculty up to speed on the capabilities and basic features of MATLAB. In the first half of the workshop, Prof. Goodman will provide a tutorial on basic MATLAB use and give examples of what can be done with this system. In the second half of the workshop, Physics department members will discuss ways to incorporate scientific computing into their course materials, and how to sequence MATLAB skills through the major. Faculty in other disciplines who are interested in this effort are invited to attend.

14. Mathematics/Calculus Retreat

Location: Austin House

Time: 1:00—4:30

contact Bill Goldbloom-Bloch

The mathematicians are meeting to talk about the current state of Calculus at Wheaton. Topics will include textbook choice, WolframAlpha vs. Maple, labs for Calc I and Calc II, reports of widespread cheating, and a philosophic examination of what we teach in Calculus and why we teach it, both for majors and for our client departments.

15. Anthropology Retreat

Location: Anthropology Department offices

Time: 1:30—4:30

contact Donna Kerner

The anthropology department meets annually in May to review the past academic year and to plan for the year ahead and into the future. Routine matters covered: staffing needs for the next year, special needs of research intensive courses, catalog changes, personnel changes and development issues, identification of students for potential national fellowships, internships, graduate school programs.

[NOTE: The Friday afternoon workshops will be held when college staff is given the afternoon off in anticipation of the long Memorial Day weekend. Planning for catering and clean up may take a little extra care.]