CSI's Teaching Playbook
BRINGING STANDARDS INTO PRACTICE

Created by faculty, for faculty, with support from CSI's Instructional Excellence Committee and the Teaching & Learning Center, these standards invite you to begin with Essential Practices and grow into Engaged and Exemplary practices.

CONTENT	CONNECTIONS	FEEDBACK	COURSE DESIGN

★ ESSENTIAL INSTRUCTOR PRACTICES ★

CONTENT	CONNECTIONS	FEEDBACK	COURSE DESIGN
• Ensure course content meets or exceeds disciplinary and accreditation standards. • Make certain content is aligned with departmental, institutional, and accreditation standards. • Ensure SLOs and common course elements are clearly present and easily accessible.	• Provide regular, timely, and human-centered interactions to help learners feel that they belong in the course. • Provide meaningful instructor-learner and peer interactions to foster connectedness rather than isolation. • Ensure instructor presence is clear, human, and regular throughout the course.	• Give feedback on learner performance that is individualized and human. • Give feedback that is actionable for learners. • Provide opportunities for peer feedback and/or individual reflection.	• Make sure course design creates clear pathways from introductory material through content, assignments, feedback, assessments, and grades. • Clearly define the course modality for students. • Make certain each assignment's objectives, methodology, and assessments are easily discerned.

★★ ENGAGED INSTRUCTOR PRACTICES ★★

CONTENT	CONNECTIONS	FEEDBACK	COURSE DESIGN
• Ensure course content (including videos) is clear, relevant, accessible, and aligned with SLOs. • Link course elements and assessments to SLOs using learner-friendly language. • Provide activities that help learners connect course content to real-world applications of the discipline. • Use assessments to measure students' achievement of SLOs or competencies.	• Clearly communicate expectations for participation, communication, and accessing help. • Deconstruct the syllabus with learners to ensure they understand key course policies. • Use appropriate self-disclosure to foster a connection with students.	• Guide learners how to find feedback in the LMS. • Offer clear grading criteria so that learners know what to do and how they will be graded. • Provide opportunities for learners to self-assess and reflect with clear grading criteria. • Consistently self-reflect by collecting learner feedback during the course and acting on it.	• Prepare learners for the LMS with low-stakes assignments that clarify tech requirements, build digital literacy and content knowledge, and scaffold necessary skills. • Organize course content to prioritize learner experience, ensuring easy navigation and accessibility, including captioned video. • Ensure course content is presented in multiple modalities. • Ensure course navigation is clear, consistent, and simple to follow.

★★★ EXEMPLARY INSTRUCTOR PRACTICES ★★★

CONTENT	CONNECTIONS	FEEDBACK	COURSE DESIGN
• Use a variety of instructional materials-OER, case studies, interactive media, third-party tools, and images-to reinforce content. • Clearly show learners how assessments, materials, activities, and outcomes align, including relevant durable skills. • Offer differentiated, personalized content that allows choice and optional deeper exploration.	• Offer engagement opportunities to deepen interaction. • Encourage students to learn together through practices such as co-created artifacts, student-led activities, and peer review. • Use course analytics to monitor progress, provide tailored support, and guide student learning.	• Solicit course feedback from students regarding course design, content, and assessments and make changes as needed throughout the semester. • Create a grading structure in which instructor feedback encourages revision and growth over final grades. • Provide samples of exemplary work as models for learners. • Create and use rubrics as a way of facilitating self-reflections and providing meaningful feedback.	• Engage in ongoing peer review for continuous improvement. • Regularly refine the course using learner analytics and feedback. • Encourage choice and deeper learning by offering multiple activity and assessment options when possible. • Test all content, including 3rd party content, for accessibility on any platform through which students will view it. • Ensure clear, consistent course design with optimized layout, fonts, colors, and white space, and provide video transcripts. • Link all course content to outcome tracking in Canvas. • Create assessments that promote application, analysis and creativity.