IGNITE Your Course with Active Learning

Course Description

A portion of the IGNITE QEP focuses on incorporating active learning as part of the teaching and learning process. This IGNITE Your Course short course focuses on the use of active learning to promote student engagement with the course content, other students, and the professor.

The course begins with a reading assignment from the “textbook” for the course, Student Engagement Techniques: A Handbook for College Faculty which will be completed prior to the first class meeting. During the first class meeting we will participate in several learning activities to help you form your conception of what active learning is and the benefits and challenges it provides. Additional reading and research will help you determine how you might incorporate active learning in your course, and you will present your vision for implementation in the second class meeting. For the final class meeting you will present a briefing about active learning designed to introduce your colleagues to active learning.

Project Goals

• Advance teaching practice at ERAU.
• Advance student achievement.
• Explore the efficacy of active learning.
• Promote faculty collaborations.

Program Incentives

• Participants will be recognized for their work.
• Participants will have opportunities to collaborate with colleagues.
• Participants will be given priority opportunity for follow-on IGNITE course redesigns.

Project Process and Timeline

• Meet weekly for three weeks, 12:45-2:00, January 22, 29, and February 5, with fellow participants to explore active learning. The meeting times will be determined by the availability of the participants.
• Identify active learning strategies that could be incorporated to facilitate student engagement.
• Identify opportunities to incorporate active learning in your course and create a vision statement of how it might be done.
• Create a briefing to introduce your colleagues to active learning.

Completion of this active learning short course is the beginning of your opportunity to become an IGNITE mentor. The next step in the IGNITE mentor program is to redesign at least one of your courses to implement the vision you developed in this course, assess its effectiveness, and report on the results. There will be a follow-on CTLE program to assist you in those endeavors.