

**Texas A&M International University**



*12<sup>th</sup> Annual*  
**LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES**  
**WEEK**

*November 8 - 12, 2021*

The purpose of the Learning Technologies Week is to generate greater awareness and appreciation for using technologies in the classroom. The events this week will highlight emerging technologies and best practices in online, face-to-face, and blended learning.

**PROGRAM**

Texas A&M International University

*e*Learning  
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## MONDAY, 11-8-21

### 9:00-10:00 A.M.: Cracking the QM Rubric: Tips and Tricks for Developing Online Courses

**Presenter:** Dr. Jared R. Dmello, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** This workshop will provide participants with an overview of the most common pitfalls seen during the Quality Matters (QM) course reviews from the lens of an experienced QM Reviewer. Oftentimes, items that result in a QM standard being marked as "Not Met" could be easily avoided. As we discuss the standards, the facilitator will provide tips and tricks for avoiding these errors, along with best practices for developing an effective, learner-oriented online course.

### 11:00-11:45 A.M.: USDLA Webinar - Online Learning: What Was, What Is, and What Could Be

**Presenter:** Dr. Kelvin Thompson, University of Central Florida

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Online teaching and learning is not new. There is a rich history and robust literature(s) emerging from the 20+ years of "web-based" online courses, 15+ additional years of non-web, internet-powered teaching and learning, and, of course, 100+ years of non-internet distance education preceding the modern era. We've learned a few things about empowering student learning and enabling successful teaching. But, Pandemic. More than a year of nearly ubiquitous use of online tools and techniques as part of education's response to COVID-19 has been disruptive. Many faculty and students discovered (a form of) online teaching and learning for the first time. Some hated it. Some excelled. But, either way, our field has been disrupted. Between distancing ourselves from poor implementations and championing a high bar for quality online design and teaching, we have run the risk of living in the past and being left behind by the future. The challenge before us is to hold on to what is essential from our successful past while reaching toward the possibilities inherent in our field's new future even while our transitional present is still underway. This session will offer for consideration some themes that might help us shape a future of our field that we want to live in.

### 1:00-1:45 P.M.: USDLA Webinar - Pandemic-Forced Improvement on Perceptions of Digital Learning and Future Expect

**Presenter:** Dr. Julia Seaman and Mr. Jeff Seaman, Bay View Analytics

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** The world of higher education has been irreversibly changed by the experiences of teaching during the Pandemic. This study examines these changes through the eyes of higher education faculty, academic administrators, and students. What do they think higher education will look like post-Pandemic? How has their Pandemic experience changed their opinions and desires? Which changes will stick, and which will not?

### 3:00-4:00 P.M.: Jump into RIO: Contribute your scholarship to the TAMIU institutional repository

**Presenter:** Eva A. Hernández and Jeanette Hatcher, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Find your flow with this quick introduction to Research Information Online (RIO), TAMIU's new open access institutional repository. RIO is home to scholarly, creative, educational, and research works created by TAMIU faculty, staff, and students, and for digitized materials from Killam Library's Special Collections and Archives. Learn how to create your own account in RIO, upload scholarly works, and access materials in the collection for use both in and out of the classroom.

## TUESDAY, 11-9-21

### 9:00-10:00 A.M.: Graduate Students' Perceptions of Online Learning

**Presenter:** Dr. Lourdes Viloria, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** The presenter will discuss the factors that contribute to graduate students' success in an online environment. The session will address two research questions: 1. What effect does the instructional design of a course have on student success? 2. What student roles and responsibilities are important for a positive online class experience?

### 11:00-11:45 A.M.: USDLA Webinar - Discussion Panel with Leaders of National Organizations

**Presenter:** Panelists listed below

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Join this session to glean insights on blended learning from the unique perspective of the executive leaders of the National Council for Online Education member organizations and the United States Distance Learning Association. Serving on this panel are, in alphabetical order:

- Dr. Deb Adair, Quality Matters Executive Director
- Mr. Eric Jones, USDLA President-Elect
- Dr. Jennifer Mathes, Online Learning Consortium CEO
- Mr. Russel Poulin, WCET Executive Director
- Dr. Julie Uranis, UPEA Vice President for Online and Strategic Initiatives

### 1:00-1:45 P.M.: USDLA Webinar - Learning for the Now, Tomorrow, and Beyond

**Presenter:** Ms. Jaynie Malorni, Ms. Cindi Chang, and Mr. Dave Brancamp, Nevada Department of Education

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Have you asked why learning has looked the same for 200 years? It is a question that is constantly on our minds. Come see how Nevada is reimagining learning for students and families. Come take a ride through our educational gateway and see what innovations are in store for students of Nevada. This is a fully comprehensive approach to teaching the whole student while preparing each and every student to be Future, Community, and Civic Ready - The Battle Born Way!

### 3:00-4:00 P.M.: Integrating Microlearning and Video-based Learning in a Software Course

**Presenter:** Dr. Yong Chen, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** In recent years, the combination of inexpensive portable devices with high-quality video recording feature, high-speed internet connection, and the increase in the numbers of Internet users and video-sharing platforms is accelerating the expansion of people's access to videos. Particularly, videos have become the main means for content production and consumption among the Millennials and iGeneration. Traditional software learning methods usually give learners a long video at once. The content in the video which may exceed the capacity of a human's working memory. According to research conducted by Microsoft, the average attention span of a human dropped from 12 seconds to 8 seconds between 2000 and 2013. Microlearning delivers content in small chunks and focuses on a single definable idea or topic in a short time. It breaks down a learning task into a series of short bite-sized lessons, which usually have a length of not more than 5 minutes. Microlearning provides learners bite-sized content to facilitate quick knowledge consumption and better retention. It allows knowledge and information to be divided into small chunks, which grants learners easier access to learning content in specific moments and conditions in their individual life. Therefore, integrating microlearning and video-based learning might be an effective approach for teaching software courses.

## WEDNESDAY, 11-10-21

### 9:00-10:00 A.M.: Essential Video Tips for Personal (Home/Office) or Classroom Capture

**Presenter:** Mr. Vincent Moreno, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** In this session you will learn some essential tips on how to capture yourself for lecture recordings in your home as well as in the classroom. Proper lighting and sound goes a long way to make a lecture video more appealing. We will also touch on Echo Capture and editing within Echo as well as how to in Blackboard Collaborate.

**REGISTER FOR SESSIONS AT [HTTPS://TRAININGS.TAMIU.EDU](https://trainings.tamiu.edu)**

## WEDNESDAY, 11-10-21

### 11:00-11:45 A.M.: USDLA Webinar - Discussion Panel with Online Higher Education Leaders

**Presenter:** Panelists listed below

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Join this panel to hear from the unique perspective of leaders in online higher education as they discuss flexibility in the second year of the Pandemic. Participating in this panel, in alphabetical order, will be:

- **Dr. Amanda Major**, University of Central Florida (UCF) Instructional Designer and TOPKit Project Manager
- **Dr. Angela Gunder**, Online Learning Consortium (OLC) Vice President of Learning
- **Dr. Carl Moore**, University of the District of Columbia (UDC) Assistant Chief Academic Officer
- **Dr. J. Garvey Pyke**, University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC-Charlotte) Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning
- **Dr. Karen Pedersen**, Kansas State University (K-State) Global Campus Dean

### 12:00-1:00 P.M.: QM Webinar - Principles and Best Practices for Using Visuals in Course Design

**Presenter:** Quality Matters and Course Arc

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Discover how visual design can enhance online learning and hear an overview of basic graphic design principles, components and considerations. Ideas for incorporating visuals into the design of your online course will be presented, as well as a downloadable resource — the Bridge to Quality Design Guide — that walks you through all facets of designing a quality online course. Participants will also receive a downloadable course design guide.

### 2:00-2:45 P.M.: USDLA Webinar - Creating Relevant Virtual Field Clinical Experiences for Teacher Candidates

**Presenter:** Dr. Rebecca J. Blankenship, Ms. Temecia Shelton, and Ms. Shannon Davis, Florida A&M University

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Creating authentic and relevant field clinical experiences for teacher candidates is an essential foundational component of an effective educator preparation program (EPP). It is through these classroom interactions that teacher candidates gain meaningful insight into the day-to-day processes that accompany them. Once remote instruction began during COVID-19, field clinical placements were immediately suspended leaving faculty in EPPs having to turn to virtual alternatives to complete course hours and key assignment requirements. These changes included the introduction of online venues such as tutorials, webinars, and even faculty and alumni-generated online learning series to compensate for the lack of contact hours.

### 3:00-4:00 P.M.: Innovative Ideas for Implementing Active Learning Using Top Hat

**Presenter:** Dr. Mustafa Al Lail, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Active Learning is generally defined as any instructional method that engages students in the learning process. In short, active learning requires students to do meaningful learning activities and think about what they are doing (metacognition). While this definition is fairly broad, typically active learning refers to activities that are designed and used to enhance the classroom experience (Prince, 2004). This talk will engage participants in refining their definition of active learning and explain its benefits, share data on efficacy, and identify and share some technology tools that facilitate active learning.

## THURSDAY, 11-11-21

### 9:00-10:00 A.M.: Learning in a Hybrid World: How Social Media Became a Popular Teaching Tool for Educators

**Presenter:** Dr. Jan Brott with guest presenters: Dr. Lina De La Garza and Dr. Cynthia Piña, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** The Pandemic suddenly changed the way we work, learn, and connect with others. Zoom meetings and online classes became the norm as we settled into a new way of life. While these changes have been stressful, they have also served as a catalyst for creativity and problem solving. One such outcome has been the use of social media for learning and support. Educators have embraced social media for fostering active learning, community building, and engagement. In this presentation, participants will examine popular social media platforms and how they can be used for teaching and support, as well as discuss strategies for integrating social media into class assignments. Throughout the session, we encourage participant engagement with live online polling and breakout groups.

### 11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.: Achieve your #AccessibilityTools Goals

**Presenter:** Dr. Cynthia Piña, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** In this session, participants will learn about easy to use Microsoft and Google Accessibility tools that can be easily integrated in your lectures, assignments, or in class activities.

### 1:00-2:00 P.M.: Create Your Own Unicorn: how to adopt/adapt OER

**Presenter:** Mr. Benjamin Rawlins and Ms. Elizabeth DeZouche, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Many of us know what open educational resources (OER) are but not how to adopt or adapt them for their teaching and learning needs. This hands-on workshop will lead educators in the act of finding, adopting, or adapting OER for a specific course. Attendees should bring in a course title and outline in which they want to utilize OER. (Course can be theoretical or in-progress.)

### 3:00-4:00 P.M.: Weaving threads together, using VoiceThread for Discussion forums in class and online

**Presenter:** Dr. Donovan Weight, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** In this session we will discuss the impact of using VoiceThread as an assistive technology to facilitate Discussion Forums, not only for online classes, but also for larger classrooms where professors want to try and initiate more class discussion.

## FRIDAY, 11-12-21

### 9:00-10:00 A.M.: 10 Engaging Ideas to Rejuvenate Your Online Courses

**Presenter:** Dr. Cynthia Piña, TAMIU

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** In this session, participants will explore different strategy and activity ideas to make online courses more engaging while students become more participatory and collaborative.

### 1:00-1:45 P.M.: USDLA Webinar - The Future of Academic Integrity: Privacy, Proctoring, and Protection in 2040

**Presenter:** Ms. Maureen O'Brien and Carissa Pittsenberger, Western Governors University

**Location:** Webinar

**Description:** Join this session to brainstorm the future of academic integrity. What challenges do you anticipate? What technologies will challenge us, and what technologies will assist us? How will micro-credentials, life-long learning, the monetization of cheating, and employer training programs impact our approaches to defining academic integrity? How will robots, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and other innovations change how we detect and determine authentic work? Will personal identity protections change or influence acceptable practices? In this session, participants will formulate answers to these questions and work to define the most likely scenario for 2040, all designed to help inform strategy.

### 1:00-5:00 P.M.: Learning Technologies Week SMASH Tournament

**Participants:** TAMIU Students

**Location:** Student Center Ballroom

**Description:** OIT eLearning and TAMIU Smash have joined forces to bring TAMIU students a 1-on-1 match Super Smash Bros. Ultimate event! Only TAMIU students eligible to enter tournament. Spectators allowed.

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# TAMIU PRESENTERS

**Dr. Mustafa Al Lail** has been an assistant professor of Computer Science and Engineering at TAMIU since fall 2018. He is passionate about teaching with technologies and has obtained advanced certificates from the Association of College and University Educators and Top Hat.

**Dr. Jan Brott** is an instructional designer at TAMIU with a research specialization in social media for learning. She also has experience as a video producer, and multimedia production trainer. She works with faculty to integrate technologies into course design as well as using social media to support learning objectives.

**Dr. Yong Chen** received his Ph.D. degree (2018) in Business Administration (Information Systems) from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. Since 2012, he has taught face-to-face courses and online courses at Old Dominion University. He values the principle "learn by doing." He positions himself as a facilitator for student learning.

**Ms. Elizabeth DeZouche** assists with the OER initiatives at TAMIU and has experience utilizing and leveraging OER in her instructional and liaison roles. She was involved in the creation of the TAMIU OER website and is invested in the discoverability and usability of OER inside and outside of the classroom.

**Dr. Jared Dmello** is an award-winning educator and highly productive scholar. He was awarded the 2020 Ken Peak Innovations in Teaching Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and more recently, was selected for the 2021 Instructional Technology Excellence Award from TAMIU.

**Ms. Jeanette Hatcher**, M.A.P.AFF., M.L.S., has led the Special Collections and Archives at Killam Library since 2003 and is the liaison to Social Sciences and the Humanities. She serves as an administrator for RIO.

**Ms. Eva A. Hernández**, M.L.S., is TAMIU's catalog librarian and head of the Metadata and Discovery division at Killam Library. She serves as liaison to Business, Nursing, and Engineering and is one of the administrators of RIO.

**Mr. Vincent Moreno** is an Instructional Technology Specialist at TAMIU with the audio visual media team for over four years. He is a video specialist with O.I.T. focusing on events as well as lectures, keynote speakers, and production.

**Dr. Cynthia L. Piña** is a College of Education assistant professional of Curriculum and Instruction. Topics of interest include professional learning, education technology, and curriculum development. She is a part of the TAMIU TAC and DEITC committees and serves on the TAMUS CATIE Council. Dr. Piña is a TCEA Area 1 Director. Follow on Twitter: @CynthiaLPina

**Mr. Ben Rawlins** is the library director and leads the OER initiative at TAMIU. He also serves as a member of the TAMUS Council for Academic Technology and Innovation Education OER Working Group.

**Dr. Lourdes Viloría** received her doctorate degree from Texas A&M University at College Station in Educational Administration. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the College of Education at Texas A&M International University. Her primary research interests are place-based perspectives on educational leadership, rural education, STEM educational pathways for underserved students, and third generation Mexican American teachers. Dr. Viloría has 29 years of public school experience. In 1998, she initiated her career as an EC-5th public school administrator in South Texas. With a unique way of encapsulating her experiences as a principal, she has published in peer-reviewed journals like the *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education*, *Chicana/Latina Studies*; *Journal of Latinos in Education*; *The Journal of Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social* and *The Journal of the Effective Schools Project*.

**Dr. Donovan Weight** graduated with a Ph.D. in History from Southern Illinois University Carbondale where he focused on Early America, Atlantic America, and African America. He came to TAMIU in 2013 and teaches survey courses of American History and upper division courses related to Early America and race and ethnicity in America.

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For more information, contact:  
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956.326.2792

\* Must show video via webcam to be counted as present for TAMIU webinars.