

End-of-Program Review 2010-11

Compelling Intellectual Experience(s) and Successful Pedagogical or Innovative Practice

Scientific Inquiry Programs

Program name	Faculty	For purposes of helping reflect on the range of teaching practices and experiences at the college, please identify the most compelling intellectual experience(s) in your program or the most successful or innovative pedagogical practice in your program.
Healing the Mind-Body: Biology and Beyond	Carolyn Prouty	Students completed a 3-part essay over the course of the first quarter that asked them to define their epistemologic approach to mind-body medicine. They described "why they believe what they believe" as it evolved over the quarter, citing research as well as using their own critical thinking skills, and evaluation of the scientific method and evidence based medicine. For the best students, the extensive pensions (1-3 drafts per section plus peer review) allowed for remarkable growth as thinkers & writers, and the sum was far more than the parts.
Foundations of Health Science	Mike Paros	Thematic based interdivisional and interdisciplinary community based learning. We will be presenting at the upcoming CiFzL conference about this course!
Computers and Cognition	Ab VanEtten	Early presentation of computer basics and time to develop and master their usage in an accountable fashion at a high level. Concentration on what can be done and demonstrated, not only what is known.
Meaning, Math, and Motion	Krishna Chowdary	Learning linguistics and applying that framework to our math and physics texts and discourse; Seminar on math and physics textbooks; Aligned lecture/workshop schedule with workshop the day after lecture and workshop problems assigned in advance; Integrative writing projects; High-speed video analysis project; Math labs; Group Exam Revisions; Online physics homework submission.
Molecule to Organism	Lydia McKinstry, Maria Bastaki & Ben Simon	* Developing rational fact-based reasoning (qualitative AND quantitative) * Designing hypothesis-driven research experiments * Integrating principles of molecular science across multiple scales of matter from the sub-atomic level to complex living organisms * Building competency in deciphering primary literature, in an incremental manner including: reading parts of articles as a large group; reading entire articles as a large group; writing independent analysis of articles on a weekly basis; and conducting small collaborative group analysis in the context of student initiated research projects.
Algebra to algorithms	Richard Weiss	Tackling complex mathematical problems in context, with computer simulations.

General Chemistry	Peter Pessiki	Workshops after every lecture on the material just lectured on followed up with homework on the same topic then followed up by a quiz on the same material.
Computer Science Foundations	Neal Nelson	Abstraction and problem solving, critical and Analytical thinking Synthesis
Computability and Language Theory	Neal Nelson	Abstraction and problem solving, critical and Analytical thinking Synthesis