



Center for Teaching
and Learning
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Active Learning Course Redesign Blitz Program

December 14 - 18, 2026

"I've been able to better articulate my goals for the course and align class activities and assignments with these objectives in a way that supports meaningful active learning and innovation."

- 2025 Course Redesign Excellence Faculty

Open to all full-time faculty, this **week-long course redesign program** promotes increased student engagement and success through the implementation of **active learning techniques**.

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Program Synopsis

Active learning strategies engage students in constructing knowledge through activities that foster higher-order thinking. Research shows active learning enhances engagement, retention of course content, competencies, and course grades in the college classroom.

The Active Learning Course Redesign Blitz (CRB) program supports instructors who have gained foundational knowledge from the [Active Learning Workshop Series](#) or the [Active Learning Summer Institute](#), to (re)design a course by incorporating effective active learning practices.

The faculty participants will collaborate with the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) to implement evidence-based instructional strategies that actively engage students in the learning process. This week-long course (re)design process, scheduled from December 14-18, 2026, provides faculty participants with structured support for the course (re)design. Like the Active Learning Summer Institute, successful completion of the CRB program leads to UGA's Active Learning Leader Certificate, advancing university-wide adoption of active learning.

Schedule Overview

In this program, scheduled sessions will include discussions of course design, active learning pedagogy, and other evidence-based teaching practices, workshops to explore the application of pedagogical techniques, and structured work time where faculty will make progress on the design of their course. Participants will work towards finalizing their redesigned modules and/or course components for implementation during the 2027-2028 academic year. Note that the CRB program is scheduled in December every year (immediately following the conclusion of the Fall semester). Participation in all scheduled sessions is required for this program.

Day 1		Welcome & Course Design 101
December 14 (Monday) 1:00 – 4:30 pm		During the first day, you will meet your CRB colleagues and your CTL consultants. Find out what to expect as a participant in this program, kick off with the Backward Design approach, and then focus on the fundamentals of course design. We will consider contextual factors that impact everything about how we teach, engage, and assess our students.
Day 2		Course Design 102
December 15 (Tuesday) 9:30 am – 4:00 pm (Lunch provided)		In our second day, we will build on the course design basics to review student learning outcomes that better prepare students for success. We will also work on identifying student learning bottlenecks and uncovering mental tasks that students need to master threshold concepts.
Day 3		Assessments: Basics, Planning and Implementation
December 16 (Wednesday) 9:30 am – 4:00 pm (Lunch provided)		We will learn about the landscape of assessment, focus on the nuts and bolts of assessment tools, and explore the use of formative assessments of student learning. Building from our learning outcomes, we will look through the lens of transparency in learning and teaching to enhance our ability to engage

	students in major assignments. We will explore the BOPPPS framework and apply it to design structured lesson plans that keep students actively engaged.
Day 4 Building an Effective Learning Environment	
December 17 (Thursday) 9:30 am - 4:00 pm (Lunch provided)	On our final day, we will explore concrete strategies to engage students on the first day of class and apply principles of Universal Design for Learning to build a supportive learning environment. You will also meet with Active Learning Faculty Mentors over lunch to learn from their experiences and wisdom. We'll then draft your Active Learning Statement together and conclude with a reflection on how far we have come and the journey ahead.
Coffee Hours and Consultation	
December 18 (Friday) 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Join us on Friday in the CTL North Instructional Plaza or on Zoom for any questions about the “Draft Your Assessment Plan” assignment (due 11:59 am, Friday), your course redesign, or simply hang out.

Eligibility

The Active Learning Course Redesign Blitz is open to all full-time faculty of all ranks. Instructors who satisfy one or both of the following prerequisites are eligible to apply for the CRB program:

- Completion of a minimum of eight workshops from the [Active Learning Workshop Series](#). These include all four Fundamental workshops and four Special Topics workshops by the end of the Fall semester of the application year; and/or
- Prior completion of the [Active Learning Summer Institute](#). Candidates who have previously completed the Active Learning Summer Institute are invited to submit a proposal to redesign another course using active learning pedagogy.

Expectations

Each participant in the Course Redesign Blitz program will be expected to:

- Attend all scheduled sessions and workshops (occurring December 14-17, as schedule notes above);
- Complete course redesign work started during the CRB program, for implementation in the following academic year;
- Complete pre- and post-assessment surveys about current teaching practices and turn in existing course artifacts (e.g., syllabus) before and after participation in the CRB program;
- Submit draft course artifacts by designated deadlines during the CRB program, in line with work done during the program;
- Meet with your designated CTL consultant in during Spring and/or Summer 2027, at least once before the first day of your redesigned course, and once more between the end of the first implementation and the start of the second implementation;
- Schedule a [Mid-Semester Formative Evaluation](#) with the CTL in the first semester of implementing your redesigned course.
- Engage in assessment of the effectiveness of your course redesign, in ways discussed during the Course Redesign Blitz.

Upon successful completion of the CRB program, instructors will receive a \$2,000 stipend, eligible for use as summer salary or operating expenses.

Selection Criteria

Sixteen faculty members will be selected to participate in the CRB program each academic year.

The CRB Program Selection Committee evaluates applications based on the following criteria:

- **Scope of course redesign:**
Consider the extent to which the proposed course will be redesigned with active learning. Highlight specific changes in course structure, teaching approach, and any existing challenges related to this transformation.
- **Anticipated impacts:**
The expected impacts of the proposed course redesign on both instructors and students. This includes, but is not limited to, enrollment numbers, curricula or pedagogical development, and student development of knowledge and skills.
- **Sustainability:**
Evidence that the adoption of active learning and evidence-based teaching practices will likely continue beyond the program duration.
- **Readiness and commitment:**
Applicants' readiness and availability to actively participate throughout the course redesign process during the week of December 14-18. This involves attending all sessions and completing course redesign action items between meetings, with implementation planned for the following academic year.
- **Alignment with other University initiatives:**
Consider the proposed course redesign aligned with broader university initiatives. This encompasses the redesign of gateway courses (i.e., introductory courses or a prerequisite), general education courses, major requirements, and multidisciplinary studies. Focus on improvements that bolster student competencies in writing and communication skills.

Application Process

To apply to the Course Redesign Blitz, applicants will submit the following:

- Your responses to a set of application questions (a Word template containing these questions is provided at the top of the form linked below).
- Confirmation of teaching the proposed courses for the academic year 2027-2028.
- Commitment to meeting the expectations, if being accepted into the CRB program.
- A support letter from your dean, associate dean, or department head (a Word template for this support letter is provided in the form).

All applications will be submitted via online form (link below) by **5:00 p.m., September 21, 2026**.

Applicants will be notified of their standing in the selection process in early October 2026.

For additional information, contact Ching-Yu Huang, Associate Director for Active Learning Initiatives via chingyu@uga.edu.

**Click here to apply by
September 21, 2026**