

DFI April Faculty Newsletter!

With the Spring semester quickly coming to an end, we are pleased to share all of the details that you will need to request support for getting your courses up and running.

We hope you have a wonderful month, and thank you for reading!



What's New?

1. Support for your Summer 2025 Canvas courses

Individual assistance from DFI:

If you would like assistance setting up your Canvas course, please [Open a DFI Support Ticket](#), and one of our Instructional Support Associates (ISAs) will contact you to assist. We can assist with:

- Importing content from last summer
- Utilizing [one of the TC templates](#)
- Answering any questions you might have about adding content to your Canvas course
- Show you how to [request your readings through the Course Resource List](#)

Do-it-yourself:

This simple [10-step Canvas Quickstart guide](#) is a great resource for faculty who would like to set up Canvas courses on their own.

2. Classroom Technology

The [Digital Futures Institute](#) collaborates with [Media Services](#) (in TCIT) to provide you support for your classroom technology and digital pedagogy needs. See below for two ways to receive support for classroom technology use.

Open a Media Services Request:

Media Services can assist you with getting started at the beginning of each class session. Complete a request early to make sure you are on their schedule by filling out a [Media Services request form](#).

Classroom Specific Questions:

If you have a classroom specific technology question, [open a ticket](#), and Media Services will work with you to find an answer.

3. Important Information Regarding Your UNI Passwords

Did you know that you now have two separate UNI passwords?

- One password is for accessing the [Teachers College \(TC\) portal](#).
- Another password is for accessing Columbia University (CU) websites and resources, such as [CU Libraries](#) (CLIO) and Columbia Health.

Resetting Your Passwords:

- You can reset your CU password through the [Manage My UNI page](#). This will not change your TC password.
- You can reset the password for the TC portal by clicking Forget Password on the TC portal.

Need Help?

For TC Portal assistance, contact the TC Service Desk:

Phone: 212-678-3300 Option 2

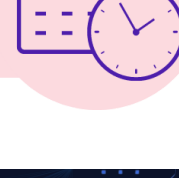
Email: servicedesk@tc.columbia.edu

For Columbia University sites, contact CUIT:

Phone: 212-854-1919

Email: askcuit@columbia.edu

Upcoming Faculty PD



How to Customize Your TC Canvas Template: Tips and Tricks

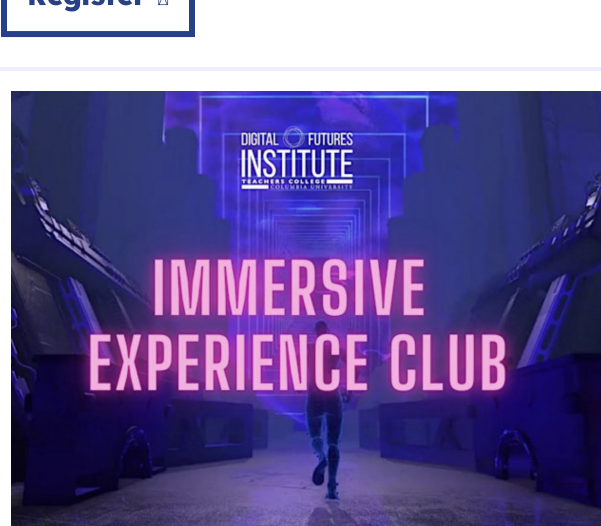
Monday, April 14, 2025

11:00 - 11:30 AM

Online

This 30-minute webinar is ideal for faculty looking to personalize their Teachers College Canvas template. You'll learn practical tips and tricks to customize your course layout, organize content effectively, and enhance the student experience. Whether you are new to Canvas or looking to optimize your course design, this session will help you make the most of your TC Canvas template while providing a valuable opportunity to ask questions about using or modifying it.

[Register](#)



Immersive Experience Club

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Smith Learning Theater

This workshop series invites all TC community members to delve deep into the Virtual Reality (VR) world to explore its transformative potentials through hands-on experiences with various VR applications for education and engage in discussions of its implications for teaching and learning. The club will meet three times in the Spring semester on a monthly basis and you can register for as many sessions as you would like to attend. However, since we only have a limited number of VR headsets we ask that you cancel your registration to make room for others if you are unable to attend a meeting.

[Register](#)

AI in 30 Minutes: Prompting for Beginners

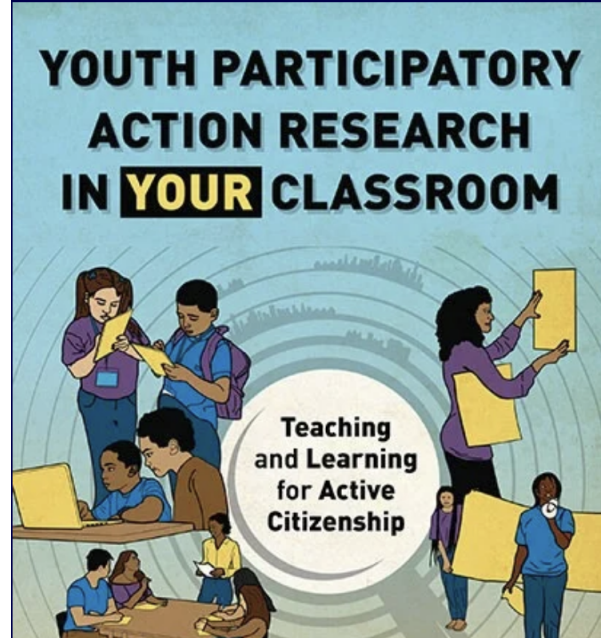
Wednesday, April 16, 2025

12:00 - 12:30 PM

Online

Discover the basics of AI prompting in our 30-minute webinar tailored for beginners. If you are new to AI tools, this session will provide practical insights and strategies. Learn how to craft effective prompts and engage in meaningful conversations with AI models. Join us to explore key concepts, best practices, and real-world applications that will help you achieve more accurate and creative outputs from your AI interactions.

[Register](#)



Youth Participatory Action Research in Your Classroom: Book Launch and Workshop

Monday, April 21, 2025

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Smith Learning Theater

Youth participatory action research (YPAR) can turn your classroom into a site of meaningful, relevant civic learning in which young people gain a sense of civic empowerment as they discuss, investigate, analyze, and speak with authority on issues that directly affect them and their communities. YPAR in Your Classroom: Teaching and Learning for Active Citizenship brings the process of civic action research to life, through stories, examples, and the reflections of youth and adults who have participated in these projects.

This new book, a joint publication of Teachers College Press and the National Council for Social Studies, is a step-by-step guide to bringing the power of youth participatory action research into the classroom. Organized around the five-stage civic action research cycle, it is illustrated with vivid examples from 15 years of school-based projects, and chock full of concrete descriptions of lessons and activities for elementary, middle, and high school classrooms.

In this interactive book launch and workshop we will share examples of YPAR in action, describe how to use this book and associated resources to bring YPAR into classrooms, and consider the ways that YPAR can foster belonging, enhance communication within schools, and create nurturing ecosystems of civic learning.

Dr. Beth Rubin will describe the collaborative work that, over 15 years, led to the development of this field-tested approach to integrating YPAR into the classroom. She will situate the book's approach within an expansive understanding of civic learning that values youth as civic agents and essential members of their civic communities.

Authors of the book's four case studies, Laura Arredondo, Tristian Cox, Brandi Gustafson, Orion Nolan, and René Roundy, will share their experiences integrating YPAR into high school and middle school social studies classrooms, elementary and special education classrooms, and classrooms for multilingual learners.

[Register](#)