FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FALL 2021
I’m excited to present to you the Fall 2021 Professional Development Catalog in support of our new professional development model at Calhoun. **In a nutshell, the goal is for each faculty member to achieve 12 (or more) professional development hours annually – August through July.** Professional development activities are not limited to internal opportunities. External conferences, workshops, webinars, CEUs, and required certifications or licensures are all included.

Each professional development hour is equal to 60 minutes. PD credit for internal activities will be granted through registration and attendance at events. To submit verification of external professional development hours, please use this [form](#). Please note that you will be required to submit documentation to support the external PD hours. This documentation could include completion certificates, conference programs, etc. A link to this form will also be available on the [Faculty Development webpage](#).

Fall and spring kickoff events will continue, but in an abbreviated format. Every faculty member who attends fall kickoff will receive 2 professional development hours this year. There will no longer be required professional development in October or March. The “Closing the Loop” event to review the results of our institutional student learning outcomes will continue next year in October but will not be considered a professional development day.

To register for an activity or workshop, click on the title (highlighted in blue) and you will be taken to the registration page. Complete the required information and you’re all set! You will receive information and updates via email for the activities and/or workshops that you register for. When the workshop is held, there will be digital sign in so that you get credit for attending the activity and/or workshop. This information is also available in a [monthly calendar](#) on the Faculty Development webpage.

At the beginning of the spring semester, I plan to send a report to each faculty member documenting professional development attended during the fall semester. This process will be repeated in the summer semester. If at any time you want to know which professional development you’ve attended, just send me an email – jennie.walts@calhoun.edu – and I’ll send a report to you.

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to let me know. I believe this is a wonderful opportunity to pursue professional development that is meaningful, relevant, and timely to each individual faculty member.

Have a great semester!

Jennie Walts

Director of Faculty Development
8/11/21  8:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  2 PD Hours
Fall Kickoff
Closing the Loop – Outcomes and Assessments Analysis
Huntsville Campus Sparkman Student Center

8/24/21
Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly  1 PD Hour
• Using Active Listening to Deepen Student Engagement in Live Remote Classes – *This seminar will deliver multiple proven strategies for teaching active listening across various online teaching formats.*
(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

8/25/21  2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  9 PD Hours
*America’s Critical Thinking Crisis* (Pearlman) – Literary Circle Kick Off
Decatur Campus – Noble Russell 155
Facilitated by Ms. Jennie Walts
Please note that literary circles run both fall and spring semesters

8/30/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour
*Blackboard Essentials*
Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 133B
• This workshop introduces Calhoun’s learning management system, Blackboard. Attendees will learn about the Blackboard environment, building Blackboard courses, and the Blackboard Grade Center.

8/30/21  3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  1 PD Hour
*Teach Students How to Learn* (McGuire)
*Microsoft Teams* Literary Circle Kickoff
Facilitated by Ms. Odessa Jordan
Please note that literary circles run both fall and spring semesters

8/31/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour
*Blackboard Essentials*
Decatur Campus – STAR Institute 238 (Student Center)
• This workshop introduces Calhoun’s learning management system, Blackboard. Attendees will learn about the Blackboard environment, building Blackboard courses, and the Blackboard Grade Center.
Blackboard Training Series – Level 1 (Blackboard Essentials) Self-Paced Online Course

2 PD Hours

- This level of training is designed to introduce you to, and help you navigate through, Blackboard, Calhoun’s learning management system. In this online, self-paced course, participants will learn about the Blackboard environment, building Blackboard courses, and the Blackboard Grade Center. Time to complete this training will vary depending upon technical expertise and the level at which you wish to explore supplemental resources. Upon successful completion of this level (80% or higher on the final assessment), participants will be eligible to earn 2 professional development (PD) hours.

SEPTEMBER 2021

9/7/21
Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly

• Engaging and Interacting with Students in Online Courses – *This seminar outlines practical approaches to student engagement, interaction, and feedback that can immediately impact student success outcomes.*

(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

9/8/21 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. 1 PD Hour
Microsoft Teams Workshop with Boyd
Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 318
Facilitated by Mr. Boyd Mizell

- A hands-on class on how to navigate, communicate, and operate using Microsoft Teams. Bring a laptop, headset, or webcam if you like.

9/10/21 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 9 PD Hours
Super Teacher – Teachers for Excellence
Kick Off Meeting – Location: TBD
Facilitated by Super Teacher – Teachers for Excellence Committee

Do you want to take a deeper dive into the art of communication? Do you want to take time to explore and collaborate with fellow faculty about communication? There are so many facets to explore when it comes to being an effective communicator. Included are: a) effectively using oral and written communication, b) helping students learn effective communication skills, c) being available, approachable, and really listening, and d) bridging language and cultural barriers, not just with students, but colleagues too. If so, please consider joining the Super Teacher – Teachers for Excellence 2021-2022 cohort. There will be short meetings each month, both on and off campus. As a participant, you are allowed to flex your office hours to participate in this program. (Please note this program runs from 9/21 through 4/22)
9/15/21  11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  9 PD Hours
**Small Teaching Online** (Flowers/Lang) – Literary Circle Kick Off
Decatur Campus – MSA 113
Facilitated by Ms. Dana Burton
Please note that literary circles run both fall and spring semesters

9/15/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   1 PD Hour
**Intermediate Blackboard**
Decatur Campus - STAR Institute 238 (Student Center)
- This workshop covers Blackboard features used by more experienced Blackboard users. Attendees will learn about tests, surveys, and pools, availability controls for content items, aligning student learning outcomes to activities or assessments, and copying and reusing course content.

9/16/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   1 PD Hour
**Intermediate Blackboard**
Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 133C
- This workshop covers Blackboard features used by more experienced Blackboard users. Attendees will learn about tests, surveys, and pools, availability controls for content items, aligning student learning outcomes to activities or assessments, and copying and reusing course content.

9/21/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   1 PD Hour
**Blackboard Ally – Top 5 Accessibility Issues**
Microsoft Teams
- This workshop introduces Ally, a Blackboard integration that promotes accessibility in course design. Workshop attendees will become familiar with Ally and its functions in order to provide a more accessible online experience for all students. The primary focus will be the top five accessibility issues and how to fix them.

9/21/21
**Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly**   1 PD Hour
- **Creating a Sense of Belonging for BIPOC in College Courses** – This seminar explores two evidenced-based interventions – normalizing struggle and values affirmation – demonstrated to close the education debt for BIPOC Students.

(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

9/27/21  3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.   10 PD Hours
**Creative Teacher Series – Inquiry Based Curriculum**
Online Course facilitated by Ms. Odessa Jordan
Microsoft Teams  Kickoff Meeting
- Inquiry-Based learning (IBL) is an approach that emphasizes the student’s role in the learning process. With inquiry-based learning, students are encouraged to explore material, ask questions, and share
ideas. Students learn by doing instead of memorizing facts and material. This approach can be applied to a lesson, a module, or an entire course. It’s up to you how to incorporate IBL into your curriculum. Ongoing support will be provided to faculty who want to implement this type of learning into their course. Time commitment – 2 hours per month. This series begins in October, 2021 and concludes in April, 2022.

9/28/21 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. 1 PD Hour
QEP Critical Thinking Strategy Series
Brief Writing Exercises to Encourage Reading, Enhance Critical Thinking, and Energize Classroom or Online Discussion
Decatur Campus – Harris Hall – Room 346 (Writing Lab)
Facilitated by Ms. Phyllis Brewer
• In this one-hour workshop, we will explore how to create Blackboard writing exercises that encourage students to engage with written texts, think critically about the readings, and prepare for classroom discussion. I will share an exercise that has worked well in my classes, and together we will create an assignment that you can use to engage your students in the learning materials. To prepare for the workshop: (1) bring a piece of writing that you assign in your course (textbook section, handout, web link, etc., (2) think about the specifics you want students to learn or think critically about from that reading assignment (vocabulary, a process, a concept, a specific idea presented in the text, etc. We will also discuss tips and tricks for easy grading and how to get students to produce work that meets the standards.

Lumen Learning Circles 10 PD Hours
Nine-week pedagogy circles
Pre-registered – summer 2021
If interested in learning more about Lumen Learning Circles, please contact Jennie Walts, Director of Faculty Development – jennie.walts@calhoun.edu

OCTOBER 2021

10/5/21 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. 1 PD Hour
Facilitated by Mr. Tyler Andrews
Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 305
• This will be a two part workshop where participants will learn to create a framework for critical thinking that can be applied to their classroom that is focused on building a repeatable process. Participants will learn the benefits of presenting critical thinking to students in a way that allows them to apply it to any line of inquiry or academic discipline. Part one will focus on using consistent language in teaching and presenting critical thinking to students, providing instructors and students a shared vocabulary to utilize when thinking goes awry. This allows for clear and immediate intervention whenever thinking becomes mud-
In the second session in November, participants will be an opportunity to create and share a framework developed by participants showing how they plan to implement their new approach within their courses. It will allow us to learn from each other, and to clarify any unresolved questions or overcome any issues that may have arisen during the development and application process.

10/5/21
Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly 1 PD Hour
• Engaging College Students Using Active Learning Techniques – This seminar guides you in engaging your students at a deeper, more cognitive level while learning the barriers to learning and how to effectively overcome them.

(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

10/6/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour
Facilitated by Mr. Tyler Andrews
Decatur Campus – MSA 150
• This will be a two part workshop where participants will learn to create a framework for critical thinking that can be applied to their classroom that is focused on building a repeatable process. Participants will learn the benefits of presenting critical thinking to students in a way that allows them to apply it to any line of inquiry or academic discipline. Part one will focus on using consistent language in teaching and presenting critical thinking to students, providing instructors and students a shared vocabulary to utilize when thinking goes awry. This allows for clear and immediate intervention whenever thinking becomes muddled or goes off-track. In the second session in November, participants will be an opportunity to create and share a framework developed by participants showing how they plan to implement their new approach within their courses. It will allow us to learn from each other, and to clarify any unresolved questions or overcome any issues that may have arisen during the development and application process.

10/13/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour
Blackboard 3rd Party Tools
Decatur Campus - STAR Institute 238 (Student Center)
• This workshop dives into Calhoun’s third party tools. Attendees will learn about video management and video conferencing software, proctoring and plagiarism software, tools for creating and editing tests, and tools for improving course function and management.

10/14/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour
Blackboard 3rd Party Tools
Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 133C
• This workshop dives into Calhoun’s third party tools. Attendees will
learn about video management and video conferencing software, proctoring and plagiarism software, tools for creating and editing tests, and tools for improving course function and management.

10/19/21  
Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly  
• Implementing Mindful Online Teaching Using Zoom – This seminar provides strategies on how to use the synchronous environment more intentionally and mindfully to foster student learning and to also create a more supportive space for students’ social and emotional well-being.  

(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

10/20/21  2:00 p.m.– 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour  
QEP Critical Thinking Strategy Series  
Using Discussion Methods to teach Critical Thinking  
Facilitated by Dr. Isaac Sakyi-Addo  
Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 305  
• A status is a socially defined position in a group or society characterized by certain expectations, rights, and duties. Examples are athlete, student, female, social class. A set of behavioral expectations are associated with every status, known as a role. For the status of student, examples of roles would include completing assignments and attending class. Come to this workshop to learn more about how this discussion prompt is used to help students understand the various statuses they occupy and how their associated roles impact their lives and that of others in groups or society daily.

10/20/21  1:00 p.m.– 2:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour  
Microsoft Sway  
Facilitated by Ms. Leah Fountain  
Decatur Campus – Harris Hall – Room 346 (Writing Lab)  
• Are you looking for more creative ways to present your material in Blackboard? If so, this workshop is for you. Leah Fountain, English Instructor and Decatur Honors Program Coordinator, will show you how to add some sparkle using Microsoft Sway, a platform for sharing interactive presentations using digital storytelling and live links. This makes Blackboard much more engaging for students leading to a higher level of learning and success in the classroom.

10/27/21  2:30 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.  1 PD Hour  
Careers in the Classroom  
Ms. Rachel Reid & Ms. Dana Burton  
Decatur Campus – MSA 150  
• Do you want to learn more about work-based learning (WBL) opportunities? This workshop presented by Calhoun’s Work-Based Learning Coordinator, will discuss different WBL activities you can incorporate into your syllabus to give your students more real-world industry
experiences! You will also hear from a fellow faculty member on how they have successfully incorporated numerous WBL initiatives both in the classroom and through Phi Theta Kappa.

10/28/21  2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  1 PD Hour  
**Careers in the Classroom**  
Ms. Rachel Reid & Ms. Dana Burton  
**Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 305**  
• Do you want to learn more about work-based learning (WBL) opportunities? This workshop presented by Calhoun’s Work-Based Learning Coordinator, will discuss different WBL activities you can incorporate into your syllabus to give your students more real-world industry experiences! You will also hear from a fellow faculty member on how they have successfully incorporated numerous WBL initiatives both in the classroom and through Phi Theta Kappa.

**NOVEMBER 2021**

11/1/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour  
**What Does Critical Thinking Look Like? Part Two**  
Facilitated by Mr. Tyler Andrews  
**Decatur Campus – MSA 151**  
• In this second session, participants will be an opportunity to create and share a framework developed by participants showing how they plan to implement their new approach within their courses. It will allow us to learn from each other, and to clarify any unresolved questions or overcome any issues that may have arisen during the development and application process.

11/2/21  
**Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly**  
• Topic TBD  
(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

11/3/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour  
**QEP Critical Thinking Strategy Series**  
**Using Collaborative Learning to teach Critical Thinking**  
Facilitated by Mr. Brian Oakes  
**Microsoft Teams**  
• Explore critical thinking strategies utilized in collaborative settings within Paralegal studies.

11/4/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour  
**What Does Critical Thinking Look Like? Part Two**  
Facilitated by Mr. Tyler Andrews  
**Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 305**  
• In this second session, participants will be an opportunity to create and share a framework developed by participants showing how they plan
to implement their new approach within their courses. It will allow us to learn from each other, and to clarify any unresolved questions or overcome any issues that may have arisen during the development and application process.

11/9/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour
**Advanced Blackboard**
Decatur Campus - STAR Institute 238 (Student Center)
- This workshop is for advanced Blackboard users. Attendees will learn about student performance reporting functions, groups, coding in Blackboard and SCORM packages.

11/10/21  2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  1 PD Hour
**Advanced Blackboard**
Huntsville Campus – Sparkman 133C
- This workshop is for advanced Blackboard users. Attendees will learn about student performance reporting functions, groups, coding in Blackboard and SCORM packages.

11/16/21
**Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly**  1 PD Hour
- **Topic TBD**
(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

11/30/21
**Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly**  1 PD Hour
- **Topic TBD**
(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

**DECEMBER 2021**

12/14/21
**Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly**  1 PD Hour
- **Topic TBD**
(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)

12/28/21
**Magna Webinar Series – Bi-Monthly**  1 PD Hour
- **Taking My Career to the Next Level: Educational Consulting** – This seminar offers direct guidance about why and how to execute a career change from a former educator now leading a successful consulting practice.
(Please note all webinars in this series are available for a two-week period. Log in instructions are sent to your email each time a webinar is scheduled)
YOUR COMMUNITY.

YOUR COLLEGE.

YOUR FUTURE.

calhoun.edu/faculty-development

Questions? Email jennie.walts@calhoun.edu