

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the “Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Online Learning Environment” Microcredential Course?

ACUE’s microcredential course, *Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Online Learning Environment*, will provide you with research-based teaching strategies on how to engage online students through consistent and transparent communication, facilitate difficult discussions, and foster a collaborative and respectful learning community.

This nine-week course is organized around seven competencies:

- Welcoming Students to Online Learning
- Promoting Civil Online Learning
- Engaging Underprepared Students in Online Learning
- Helping Students Persist in Online Learning
- Embracing Diversity in Online Learning
- Checking for Student Understanding in Online Learning
- Providing Useful Feedback for Online Learning.

You will learn with a cohort of Rutgers University-Newark peers, with whom you will share insights and ideas. This course includes bi-weekly virtual group meetings facilitated by a P3 faculty member.

How does the ACUE Microcredential Program work?

Instructors who complete the course requirements earn a microcredential in *Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Online Learning Environment*. This microcredential may be utilized to meet the partial requirements necessary to earn the American Council on Education (ACE) endorsed **Certificate in Effective Online Teaching Practices**. In order to earn the Effective Online Teaching Practices Certificate, nineteen additional credits must be taken from three other microcredential courses– *Inspiring Inquiry and Preparing Lifelong Learners in Your Online Course* (planned for early Spring 2021), and *Designing Student Centered Courses* (planned for late Spring 2021), and *Promoting Active Learning Online* (Summer 2020, Summer 2021). Upon completion of the four unique microcredential courses (25 modules in total), coursetakers will be issued the full Effective Online Teaching Practices Certificate.

Rutgers University-Newark faculty and graduate students who have already completed the full (25 module) **Certificate in Effective Teaching Practices** (note: not Effective *Online* Teaching Practices) can enroll in the online-centered microcredential courses in order to work towards their **Advanced Effective Teaching Practices Certificate**. This Advanced Certificate requires ACUE alumni who have already earned their certificate in *face-to-face* pedagogy to earn an additional 19 credits in *online* pedagogy, taken over the following three microcredential courses: *Promoting Active Learning Online*, *Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Online Learning Environment*, *Inspiring Inquiry and Preparing Lifelong Learners in Your Online Course*.

What is the cost of the course?

Thanks to the support of the Chancellor's Office, we are able to provide a select group of teaching faculty and PhD students with the chance to learn more about online pedagogical practices proven to increase student success **at no cost to participants**.

How long does the course last?

The course runs for nine (9) weeks, October 5--December 7, 2020. Course Orientation will occur during the week of Oct. 5, 2020; see below.

How much time is required to complete the course objectives?

Participants are expected to move through course content asynchronously at a pace of one module per week (approximately 90 minutes to complete). There will also be biweekly synchronous meetings, facilitated by a P3 faculty member.

Is any member of the RU-N community eligible to apply / participate?

All Rutgers University-Newark **teaching** faculty and staff, including Tenured/Tenure-Track, NTT, PTL, and MFA / PhD students are eligible to participate. Participants are not required to be teaching while they take the course, but priority will be given to those scheduled to teach during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Is an application required for the course?

Yes, please use the link in the email to access the application. Only complete application submissions will be reviewed.

Is attendance of the orientation required?

In order to participate in this course, applicants are required to attend the online synchronous orientation, to be scheduled during the week of October 5. Additional information will be made available to participants selected for the program.