



## Adjunct Faculty Academic Calendar

### June:

- 22 Final Exam week
- 29 Summer Classes Begin

### July:

- 1 Spring Grades due to Registrar by noon
- 3 Independence Day – No Classes

## Workshops

(Register at: [svsu.edu/workshops](http://svsu.edu/workshops))

### June:

- 2 Canvas – An Introduction  
C 141  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 9 Canvas- Modules  
C 147  
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

### July:

- 18 Adjunct Faculty Summer Technology Institute  
SE 201  
10:00 – 2:00 p.m.

For more workshops available in June, please visit: [svsu.edu/workshops](http://svsu.edu/workshops)

## New Adjunct Faculty Seminar

Starting this fall semester, the Office of Adjunct Faculty Support Programs will be offering a new program for adjunct faculty who have taught three semesters or less. The intent of this program is to connect new classroom instructors to the University and its policies and procedures. As well, topics related to classroom management, course design, the philosophy of teaching and other relevant issues will be discussed. The program will begin on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 in Science East 201. From there the group will meet every other Friday for five weeks, concluding on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. A book will be provided to each participant and you will be compensated \$250 if you attend all five sessions. If you are interested in participating in this valuable seminar, please contact our office by mailing us at [adjunctfaculty@svsu.edu](mailto:adjunctfaculty@svsu.edu) or calling (989) 964-4050.

## Three Professional Development Opportunities

Over the past seven years Adjunct Faculty Programs has developed some rich professional development activities for SVSU's adjunct faculty. The first program is LEAD, a yearlong mentoring program intended to offer those adjunct faculty who have taught at SVSU two or more semesters, the opportunity to share in discussions of teaching and learning with a full-time faculty member. The second is the Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Plan which is a means of gaining compensation for attending professional meetings and/or presenting at such meetings. This Plan is open only to faculty who have taught here two or more semesters. The last opportunity is become a member of the Adjunct Faculty Learning Community (AFLC) which is intended to help improve teaching practices by engaging a community of teachers who are seeking methods for greater student success for first year students. If you are interested in either of the first two opportunities, please go to [www.svsu.edu/adjunctfaculty/facultydevelopment](http://www.svsu.edu/adjunctfaculty/facultydevelopment), for more information. If you are interested in the AFLC, feel free to contact Ann at [acoburn@svsu.edu](mailto:acoburn@svsu.edu) or dial (989) 964-2130.

## Summer Technology Institute

The Summer Technology Institute being offered on July 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 until 2:00. Not only will you receive Canvas training at this workshop but there will also be an opportunity for Podium Training and information on pedagogical best practices for technology use. You can register for this workshop by going to [www.svsu.edu/workshops](http://www.svsu.edu/workshops). There will be a light lunch and you will be compensated for your time.

## Do You Have a Teaching Philosophy Statement?

We teach because we love to teach but sometimes we feel undervalued by our students and overwhelmed by the work required of us. It is during these times that faculty need to bring their work into focus and concentrate on their core beliefs. This is why all faculty should develop a teaching philosophy statement. By composing teaching philosophy statements faculty are able to reflect on their values about education and how they teach.

According to a wonderful occasional paper by O'Neal et al (n.d.), teaching philosophy statements contain clear and concise statements which describe your teaching style. The following are questions to consider when beginning to construct a teaching philosophy statement:

1. Why do you teach?
2. What do you teach?
3. How do you teach?
4. How do you measure your classroom success?

Additionally, good teaching philosophy statements often contain examples of assignments, evaluations, and syllabi which demonstrate the strategies you use to teach effectively. A few other important thoughts to include in your statement are:

1. Your central beliefs for how education works and how students learn
2. A discussion of your strengths as a teacher and how these play a role in your teaching success

Kemis (1985) stated, "(w)e are inclined to think of reflection as something quiet and personal. My argument here is that reflection is action-oriented, social and political. Its 'product' is praxis (informed, committed action), the most eloquent and socially significant form of human action." This fits perfectly with the process of creating a teaching philosophy in that it can inform and improve your teaching practices as you put your philosophy into action. And, if you already have a teaching philosophy statement, now is as good a time as any to review and tweak it! Fall classes are just around the corner, you know.

Reference:

Kemis, S. (1985). "Action Research and the Politics of Reflection" in Boud, D., Keogh, R. & Walker, D, eds., *Reflection: Turning Experience into Learning*. New York: Kogan Page, LTD. Pp. 141

O'Neal, C., Meizlish, D. & Kaplan, M. (N.D.). *Writing a Statement of Teaching Philosophy for the Academic Job Search*. Occasional Papers No. 23. Ann Arbor: MI: Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan. Accessed from [http://www.crlt.umich.edu/sites/default/files/resource\\_files/CRLT\\_no23.pdf](http://www.crlt.umich.edu/sites/default/files/resource_files/CRLT_no23.pdf)

## Google Power Searching Workshop

Google is the world's most frequently used search engine, but finding the most relevant information can be a challenge. To help you face this challenge the Library has created a workshop which will focus on the advanced searching features in Google, Google Scholar, and Google Books. Learning about these features will save you time and energy in the research process. Please consider attending this workshop for personal interest or, you might consider previewing this session because it can be customized and delivered to your students in future classes upon your request. Two sessions are being offered this summer. The first will be held on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 to 12:30 in Zahnow 111. The second offering will be on Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-3:30 also in Zahnow 111. If you have any questions about this workshop please contact, Margaret Phillips at [mlphill1@svsu.edu](mailto:mlphill1@svsu.edu) or 964-7071.

**Returning This Fall-The First Four Weeks Challenge- Be Prepared!**