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## Can I Use a LifeLine? Hand-Offs and High Fives Between The Library and Instructional Design Teams

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# Can I Use a Lifeline? Hand-Offs and High Fives Between the Library and Instructional Design Teams

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Draw a Venn Diagram of librarians and instructional designers and it is likely to result in significant overlap, which is why they make natural and excellent allies in working together, cross-promoting their own projects, and soliciting input and advice. While often housed in different parts of the institution, they are natural and complementary partners that can do much more by working together and drawing upon one another's expertise. At Brandeis University, the Library and Instructional Design team have paired up to work on a variety of projects including:

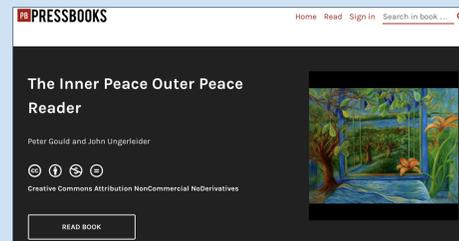
## Social Justice Wins!

To address the high costs of textbooks and other academic resources, the Library, Rabb School of Graduate Professional Studies, and the Center for Teaching and Learning sponsor grants for faculty who are interested in incorporating open and affordable educational resources into their courses. Grant funding awards are between \$500 to \$1,000. These funds can support a variety of efforts towards the reduction of costly course materials, including:

- The development of original teaching materials.
- The integration of publicly accessible articles or text.
- The incorporation of library materials available.

### ProTips

- The grant amount must be enough to motivate faculty.
- Education before the grant cycle is key--most faculty are not aware of the rising costs of textbooks, or even the cost of their own materials in the bookstore.
- Advertise the grant early and often--send emails from high level administration if possible.
- Reach out to department heads and specific faculty members.
- Assign a team to each faculty member, which includes an instructional designer and librarian; these individuals can anticipate challenges (Creative Commons licenses, copyright, accessibility, organization, etc).



"My experience in pulling together the content for the Open and Affordable Resources course was a positive one, and I found that it forced me as the instructor to 'own' the content that much more because there was no standard text to drive the flow of the course."

## Affordable/Open Educational Resources Grant

"It allowed me to introduce additional viewpoints into the course materials, which has expanded the scope of the course. Students have all responded positively to the lack of expense related to textbooks, and the course feels more personal to them."

## Digital Pedagogy Graduate Workshop Series

### Graduate Departments

1. Ancient Greek and Roman Studies
2. Anthropology
3. Biology
4. English
5. History
6. Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
7. Psychology
8. Politics
9. Russian
10. Sociology

## Teaching with Technology!

Digital skills are essential for our graduate students looking to enter the academic job market and other fields outside of higher education. To help graduate students enhance their skills in teaching with technology, we worked with colleagues who train graduate students to teach in the University Writing Program and with the Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs in the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences to develop a Digital Pedagogy Certificate workshop series.

### Workshop Series

1. Accessibility
2. Course Management Systems
3. Digital Tools for Research
4. Digital Tools for the Humanities
5. Digital Tools for the Sciences
6. Capstone Presentations

"The interactive nature of the sessions were great!"

"I liked sharing class ideas and practical uses."



### ProTips

- Collaborate with campus partners.
- Involve a diversity of scholarship and departments.
- Focus on learning goals, not the technology.
- Create innovative workshop sessions.
- Relate workshops to the methods of teaching graduate students are already doing.
- Build in room for experimentation.
- Celebrate accomplishments.

## Instruction, Massages, and Food, Oh My!

Course Refresh and Spa Day is a one-stop-shop for faculty members to get organized with their Fall semester courses. They work with staff members, attend workshops, brainstorm with other faculty, and put the finishing touches on their course materials. We hosted the day as an add-on to New Faculty Orientation in August to provide support to incoming and returning faculty.

### Activities

- 1:1 Meetings
- Group Workshops
- Collaboration Room
- Lunch
- Soothing Music
- Massages

### By The Numbers

- 80+ appointments
- 23 Faculty Participants
- 19 Massages
- 15 Departments
- 5 Workshops
- 1 Day

"The individual sessions offered a great opportunity to discuss my own doubts."



"It was an opportunity to consult with different experts; get some energy around teaching for the start of the new semester."

"Just having a specific date set helped. Usually, I plan to schedule appointments and never get to it! The timing was perfect, too."

"A really great finisher to the orientation overall :)"

## Course Refresh and Spa Day

### ProTips

- Invite a wide range of staff and services.
- Link with a mandatory event (i.e., Orientation).
- Cap attendance for meaningful interactions.
- Feed faculty often!
- Project the appointment schedule to avoid confusions.
- Designate a welcome
- Follow up with individual faculty members after the event for further support.

Instructional Design Teams

- Outreach
- Programming
- Support
- Technology
- Pedagogy

Library Teams

## Learning Never Ends!

BOLLI is a community for "intellectually curious adults" who participate in seminars, courses, and a lecture series. Typically, members are around retirement age and use BOLLI as both social connection and personal development.

- A five-week course for six BOLLI members facilitated by a librarian and instructional designer.
- Facilitators guided participants navigating and experimenting with learning opportunities, communities, and tools available in the digital world.
- Participants had the opportunity to demonstrate a toolbox of resources and learning strategies on how to pursue any topic of interest.

"It genuinely opened my eyes to redefinitions of education in this digital age. Having been educated in the "classical" model, like most of my generation, this course raised provocative questions about what education is, provided a wealth of digital resources (some familiar, many new to me), and encouraged the use of digital education tools."



## Education Without Borders

"The homework assignments promoted and facilitated extended learning and interesting discussion in class through sharing discoveries."

### ProTips

- Plan time for participants to discuss and reflect.
- Provide support materials (e.g. YouTube videos, text/image guides, etc) to work with when outside the class.
- Gather their interests early to help direct participants towards resources that are relevant.
- Balance the learning materials as a self-selected buffet and the class time as a deeper dive/concentration on one or two tools along with participant discussion and questions.

Additional materials & resources to help you replicate these events on your campus can be found at:  
<http://bit.ly/NEARCL2019>

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