## **Transparent Instructional Design Webinar**

Monday, Apr. 15, 2019, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Distance Ed Classroom, WYLL D122

Have you ever had the experience of providing a handout that clearly explains an assignment and then going over it in class only to have students seem confused and puzzled about how to get started? Well if so this is the webinar for you. It is really about a researched method that provides clear communication to all of your students without decreasing rigor. In a 2016 AAC&U study (Winkelmes et al.) identifies transparent assignment design as a small, easily replicable teaching intervention that significantly enhances students' success, with greater gains by historically underserved students. Her goal is for students to spend all of their time working on the assignment rather than a portion of their time trying to figure out what to do. I highly recommend taking the time to attend this event.

## Transparent Assignment Design Template

## **Purpose**

- Skills practiced
- long-term relevance to students' lives
- Knowledge gained connection to learning outcomes
- Task
- · What students will do
- How to do it (steps to follow, avoid)
- Criteria for success
  - Checklist or rubric in advance so students can selfevaluate
  - What excellence looks like (annotated examples where students/faculty apply those criteria)



At another level, akin to universal design, transparent instruction is an inclusive, equitable teaching practice that can enhance High Impact Practices by making learning processes explicit and promoting student success equitably. A 2016 AAC&U study (Winkelmes et al.) identifies transparent assignment design as a small, easily replicable teaching intervention that significantly enhances students' success, with greater gains by historically underserved students. A 2018 study

suggests those benefits can boost students' retention rates for up to two years. In this session we'll review the findings and examine some sample assignments. Then we'll apply the research to revising some class activities and assignments. Participants will leave with a draft assignment or activity for one of their courses, and a concise set of strategies for designing transparent assignments that promote students' learning equitably.

The National Association of System Heads (NASH) is sponsoring a webinar with Mary-Ann Winkelmes on Transparent Assignment Design. All members of the campus community are invited. Mary-Ann is the founder and director of the Transparency in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education Project (TILT Higher Ed).



Visit the TILT website

View Resources/Examples by discipline

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