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GENERAL EDUCATION NEWS

Vol. 7 Issue 1

Tucson, AZ

Feb. 3, 2021

The New Gen Ed Program Has Launched!

Happy Spring Semester! After years of development and input from hundreds of instructors, staff, and students, the new General Education program at the University of Arizona soft launched this semester. Students who began taking courses at the UA in Spring 2022 can choose from 45 courses in Exploring Perspectives and Building Connections.

Importantly, many of these students have enrolled in UNIV 101: The General Education Experience. This new 1-unit course encourages students to understand General Education as an experience that will greatly impact the rest of their academics, their careers, and their lives. By introducing students to reflection, the curriculum, and to the concept of being a lifelong learner, UNIV 101 is helping students to make more meaning and connections from their General Education courses.

Interested in learning more about UNIV 101? Please join us for the upcoming **Deep Dive into UNIV 101: Launching the GE Journey on March 2nd from 10-11am.**

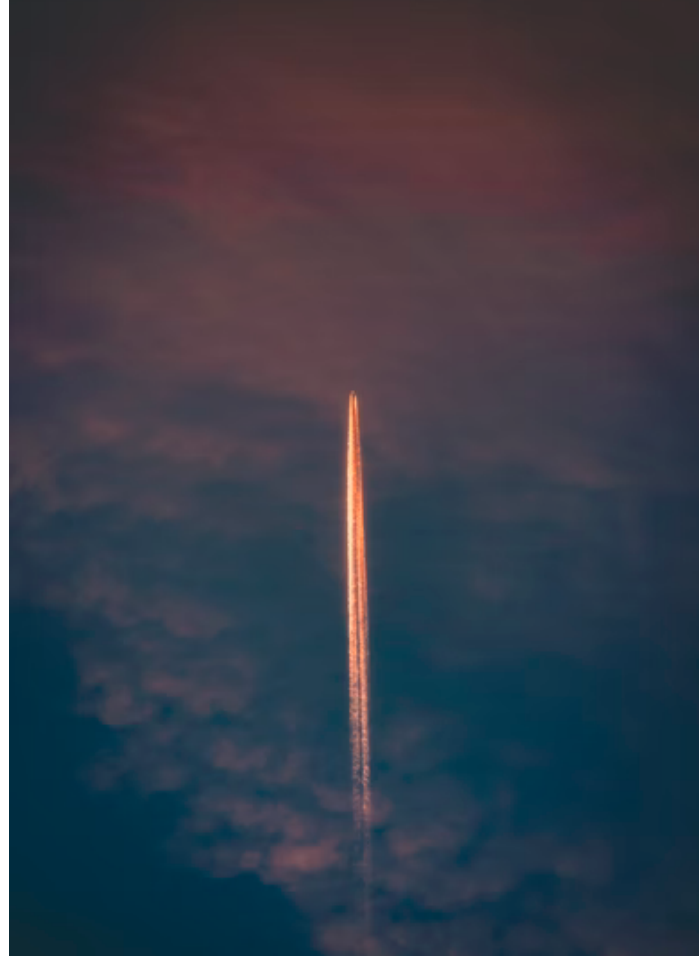


Image: Martin Jaros, Unsplash

Register Now for Spring Quick Start Live-Online!

Registration is open for our spring semester offerings of the Quick Start Live-Online! This is an intensive, cohort-based mini-course that will enable instructors to rapidly adapt their course for the new GE program. This two-week course includes both asynchronous engagement (M/W/F) and live-online workshops (T/Th). For more information, click the cohort links below.



**Cohort 10:
Feb 14-25**

**Cohort 11:
Mar 21-Apr 1**

Call for Authors: UNIV 301 Gen Ed ePortfolio Course Reader



Image: Florian Klauer, Unsplash

The Office of General Education is seeking authors for an edited Open Educational Resource (OER) tentatively titled *Wildcat Connections*. This OER will include many voices and perspectives of the Wildcat community, including students, alumni, faculty, administrators, and staff. The purpose of this community text is to engage current students in the process of reflection and meaning-making during their General Education experience at the University of Arizona.

If you are interested in authoring a chapter in this reader, please complete the **Call for Authors form** by Tuesday, February 15. In addition to welcoming people who identify as “writers”, we welcome authors with no previous professional writing experience, from various backgrounds and interests. We are most interested in authors who have enthusiasm for sharing their personal connection to General Education and the meaning-making they have derived from their own learning experiences.

Deep Dive into UNIV 101: Launching the GE Journey

As a part of the new General Education program, new first-year students will take UNIV 101: Introduction to the General Education Experience. The course seeks to give students a foundation for their Gen Ed, helping them find their own purpose and meaning for the program. This Deep Dive will highlight the course’s history, design, and implementation in the Spring 2022 launch of the program. Participants will then join a breakout room to learn more about the class as it relates to their own professional interests.

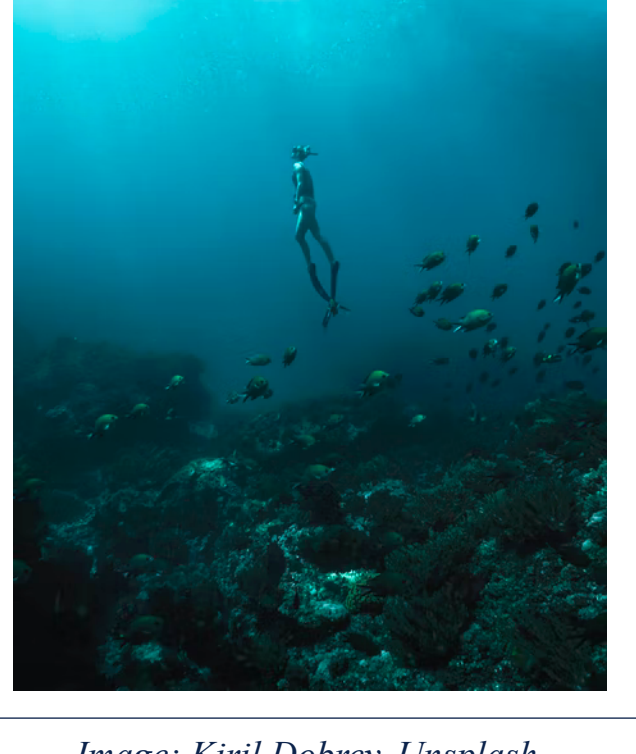


Image: Kiril Dobrev, Unsplash

Webinar Information:
Wednesday March 2
10:00-11:00 AM (AZ time)

Click [HERE](#) to Register

Questions about Deep Dives? EMAIL Katie Southard (ksouthard@arizona.edu)

Participate in University-wide assessment of student writing!



Image: David Maier, Unsplash

The Office of General Education and the Office of Instruction and Assessment invite you to contribute to the university-wide assessment of student writing. UArizona’s assessment of written communication will help identify how Writing Across the Curriculum can support university students to meet demands for writing in their future professions. We are seeking instructors to read and evaluate student writing samples. Participants will receive a \$500 stipend* and will be acknowledged with a certificate of completion.

To learn more about this opportunity, click the headline above. If you are interested in doing this work, complete [this brief survey](#).

New GE Faculty Learning Communities!

This semester, sign up for one of the new Faculty Learning Communities (FLCs) centered around the new General Education curriculum. Choose from Alternative Classroom Assessment in General Education, Building Connections in the Classroom, and Teaching from an Artist Perspective in the New General Education. More information about these exciting communities can be found by clicking on the headline of this article!



Image: Helena Lopes, Unsplash

New Library Workshops: Ace your Research Assignments!



Image: UX Indonesia, Unsplash

The University of Arizona Libraries are excited to announce new workshops. Instructors: please feel free to share the information with your students!

“Ace Your Research Assignments!” is a one-hour workshop that will help you take your research to the next level by teaching you ways to locate scholarly articles faster and more efficiently. All workshops will take place in the Main Library, room B252 in CAT-lyst. Click on the headline above to learn more!

Feb. Teaching / Tech Tip

Low-Stakes Assignments for Technology

If you are using technology in your classroom, it is a wonderful idea to scaffold in low-stakes assignments for students to practice, play, and experience the technology before preparing higher-stakes assignments. That way students and the instructor will have more confidence, clarity, and troubleshooting before final projects. These activities can include: in-class writing, reflections, lab work, reading responses, peer reviews, etc. in the various technologies such as VoiceThread, Digication, PlayPosit, etc. For more information we recommend working with our Digital Learning team!

Image: thisisengineering, Unsplash



COMMENTS? SUGGESTIONS? EMAIL RYAN WINET (rwinet@arizona.edu)