"The OLC ID Certificate program and OSCQR online course gave me the opportunity to learn, then to apply my learning experience, compare it and gain confidence upon exposure to the different methods, tools, and technology, that inspired me and excited me to share all this know how with the faculty within my organization."

Lorena Harris, Faculty and CSTEP Director, SUNY Schenectady County Community College

"From week one, lesson one I learned new strategies and tools among others software approaches to improve, learn and apply."

Increased Network, Knowledge, and Application

Why did you choose the OLC/SUNY Instructional Designer Certificate Program? The OLC ID Certificate Program (and specifically having completed the SUNY OSCQR Course Quality Review) allowed me to review different Rubrics, to network, and compare with others. Moreover, upon completion of the OSCQR review online course, I became proficient in the use of the rubric system, and as an outcome I learned a few strategies to motivate other faculty to use the OSCQR methodology. SUNY SCCC is introducing these as an opportunity for professional development and it actually allowed me to connect, interact, and network with other online educators and specialists, and learn about a variety of rubrics to compare them and become proficient upon the practice, completion and immersion in this four-week program.

How did the program help you in your position/career? The OLC ID Certificate program and the OSCQR rubric program is helping me reevaluate and enhance my instructional design and style. It is also helping me connect with others to learn important strategies to strengthen our online teaching format. From week one, lesson one I learned new strategies and tools among others software approaches to improve, learn and apply. There is a great and beneficial set of resources that I have been using and implementing since then. I hope I can give back to our community, perhaps mentoring others and sharing these resources.

To whom and why you would recommend the program? This is a great program I will recommend to faculty teaching online or hybrid courses to become proficient and to make their course a better one. Faculty, administrators, and graduate students -- everybody in academia could benefit from these course strategies.

TOP PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Connection with colleagues in my field
- Learned and gained access to new technology software
- Learned great strategies, like using badges to motivate faculty, advisors and administrators
- Gained experience learning, practicing and using the OSCQR rubric program
- Developed an online community with our faculty and staff; enabled collaborations with other institutions and our community

About Lorena

As a Faculty and CSTEP Director at a Suburban Schenectady County Community College, I have worked with faculty from all STEM disciplines that currently teach General education subjects in different formats (i.e. online, hybrid or in classroom lectures). I am part of the first cohort of online professional development faculty and administrator training strategy at SUNY SCCC. I have been learning and applying research best practices in online programs to enhance the different classroom experience for our plural and diverse student population. My position's main objective and mission is to support underrepresented, minority and disadvantaged students throughout their college experience, included but not limited to their academics, emotional and social wellness, from their application process to their first incursions to research experience to applied learning. Moreover, to enhance their learning experience so they have access to internship opportunities, laboratories enhanced research opportunities, industry connections and aid them with their transferring to decrease the barriers that may exist for completion and continue their education.

Also, I have introduced and connected two STEM programs from their inception at SUNY SCCC to faculty, advisors, administrators and industry partners as well as other CSTEP/STEP institutions.

Take your online teaching skills to the next level.

For over ten years, the OLC has offered certificates for online teaching. The Instructional Designer Certificate Program is for experienced online instructional designers, librarians, and multimedia specialists who work with online faculty and other online learning support professionals.