**WKU Faculty Professional Learning Community
Introduction to Project Based Learning
Spring 2019**

Professional learning communities (PLC) provide the opportunity for a group of interdisciplinary faculty to discuss and reflect on a variety of topics related to teaching, the scholarship of teaching, active and deep learning, and other forms of faculty life, including scholarly and creative activities. The Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL) uses PLCs

* to support the teaching and learning mission of the university;
* to provide a collegial, supportive, collaborative, and transdisciplinary environment for faculty to discuss and reflect on their practice as educators;
* to disseminate information on best-practices in teaching, pedagogy, and assessment of student learning, and to provide support to faculty with implementation;
* to build awareness and engage faculty in the scholarship of teaching; and
* to disseminate information on high-impact practices and their role in promoting deep learning and student engagement.

The PLC on Introduction to Project Based Learning will provide the opportunity for a group of no more than 15 faculty to discuss and learn more about the basics of project based learning and building a learner-centered project based learning experiences. Faculty participants will:

* Compare and contrast assigning projects with assigning project based learning experiences;
* Choose objectives to assess through project based learning;
* Choose and discuss appropriate tools for facilitating project based learning;
* Choose and discuss appropriate means for assessing project based learning;
* Design a project based learning experience that meets gold standard project based learning as described by the Buck Institute for Education;
* Contribute to the professional learning community; and
* Continue to pursue professional growth beyond PLC.

This PLC is all about learning the basics of project based learning. There will be readings and activities to complete before each meeting and three in-person meetings to attend that are planned for key points in the course. The PLC will provide a safe, supportive, collegial, and confidential environment for faculty participants to receive instruction, share what others are doing in the realm of project based learning, and receive feedback on creating effective project based learning experiences. We will learn from each other through conversations and reflection at three meetings. Therefore, regular attendance and participation at PLC meetings are essential as is completing tasks between our scheduled meetings.

**Timeline of Activities**

February

Registration deadline Friday, February 15, 2019.

**Initial In-Person Meeting: Wednesday, February 27 from 1:00-3:00pm (HCIC 1011)** Topics to be covered:

* Introduction to Project Based Learning
* Gold Standard Project Based Learning
* Small Group Brainstorming Session

March

**Second In-Person Meeting: Wednesday, March 13 from 1:00-3:00pm (HCIC 1011)** Topics to be covered:

* Faculty Experiences with Project Based Learning
* Potential Issues Associated with Project Based Learning
	+ Teams
	+ Online
	+ Class Time Usage
* Assessments and Grading
* Small Group Brainstorming Session

**Third In-Person Meeting: Wednesday, March 27 from 1:00-3:00pm (HCIC 1011)** Topics to be covered:

* Share potential Project Based Learning experiences

Contact Hannah Digges Elliott at hannah.digges-elliott@wku.edu or Aquesha Daniels at aquesha.daniels@wku.edu if you have any questions.