Module: Creativity and Critical Thinking in Higher Education (5 ECTS)

Module Code: DT580

Aim: This module aims to enable participants to develop an analytical appreciation of the concepts and techniques essential to creative and critical thinking, problem resolution and idea generation which can be implemented into teaching and learning strategies in their own practice.

What will I learn?
Upon successful completion of this module, participants should be able to:
- Define creativity and critical thinking
- Examine why fostering students’ development of these two sets of skills is considered a priority in higher education
- Develop a personal philosophy of creativity and critical thinking
- Compare and contrast critical thinking and creative thinking
- Understand the motivations and aspirations of ‘The Creative Class’
- Apply a range of techniques to encourage both creativity and criticality in student work
- Evaluate and reflect on current practice and implement change through new creative and critical approaches
- Analyse teaching and learning processes with a view toward discovering which strategies best suit the promotion of critical thinking and creativity
- Practice critical and creative faculties by reading, analyzing and discussing a variety of sources
- Demonstrate a balanced approach to designing effective environment to both nurture creativity and innovation in students along with criticality in their thinking.

How will I learn?
This module is an activity driven module and will be delivered through a blend of learning and teaching methods. Face-to-face workshops will include input and information on the workshop topic with structured small group discussion and activities. A range of reading resources including a module handbook will be available in advance for participants’ preparatory reading. An online support area is provided for the module utilizing the virtual learning environment webcourses.dit.ie; more creative approaches will also be used such as role-play, problem-solving exercises, video, and audio, amongst others.

When?
Tuesday mornings 10am-1pm Sample Dates: Jan. 27th for 5 weeks or March 3rd for 5 weeks.

How will I be assessed?
The module will be assessed in two forms:
- Group assessment is through submission of an infographic resource on either creativity or critical thinking for learning. Various types of multimedia can be used to develop the resource.
- Individual contribution sheet detailing with evidence each participant’s contribution to the group process and product.

Are there any pre-requisites? No specific pre-requisites but an interest in developing creativity and critical thinking within your teaching.

How do I apply? Complete the application form available online from the LTTC website: http://www.dit.ie/lttc/programmes/shortcoursescpd/