

# INNOVATIONS IN TEACHING SERIES 2013

Each year the Department of Instructional Design celebrates RWU faculty expertise and creativity in teaching with technology during an **Innovations in Teaching Series** held during Spring semester.

The Innovations in Teaching Series is a lunch-and-share format that features three one-hour sessions throughout the Spring. We provide lunch and offer different dates and times to accommodate varied teaching schedules.

Past presentations have been outstanding and offer a wonderful opportunity not only to see some of the unique strategies faculty are using on campus but also hopefully provide an opportunity for lively discussion among faculty and interested staff.

The lunch-and-learn presentations will be held in the **Upper Commons Private Dining Room**. Each session will have a theme and presentation(s) by an RWU faculty member(s).

## Session I: Applying Inquiry-Based Learning

**Date: Thursday, February 21**

**Time: 1 – 2 PM**

**Featured Presenter: Jennifer Pearce, Assistant Professor. CAS Department of Chemistry & Physics**

Students often have trouble connecting the ideas discussed in class with their own real life experience. Labs associated with science lectures try to give students first hand experiences with the theories developed in lectures. However, in physics this becomes challenging as the physics of everyday life is more complex and interesting than the equations given in an introductory class. Students can become frustrated and begin to believe that physics is not correct since the contrived experiments in lab don't give them the answer they are told is the right one. A classic example is that in physics class, students are told that a piece of paper and a rock should fall identically. Everyone knows this is not true in everyday life. We are revamping our physics labs to shift the focus from finding the right number to exploring motion of everyday objects using video cameras and a free video analysis tool, Tracker. Students are given general, rather than specific, instructions so that they may play and experiment with everyday objects. We hope that this will make their laboratory experience more fulfilling and students will leave the course with a more positive attitude towards physics.

**Registration Required** at <http://tiny.cc/innovationsinteaching>



## Schedule at a Glance

- **Applying Inquiry-Based Learning**

Thursday, Friday 21, 2013

1-2 p.m.

- **Using iPads in the Classroom**

Friday, March 22

Noon – 1 p.m.

- **Flipping Lessons in a College**

**Course**

Friday, April 19

1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

*All sessions are held in Upper*

*Commons Private Dining Room*

Lunch will be provided

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