Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the University Core! We hope that your Fall 2024 semester is going well so far. The Core is now in its third year with over 75% of all SLU undergraduate students in St. Louis and Madrid enrolled in our common general education curriculum. We are writing today with several announcements and information about important Core initiatives for this fall term.

New Core Instructor Resources Website

The Core Instructor Resources website has been redesigned with a new look and new information. In addition to housing Core teaching resources and course submission guidelines, the new website also includes a comprehensive calendar of Core events planned for each semester. You can **access the new site here.**

Core Re-engagement Workshops

The Core's overarching goal this academic year will be to engage instructors who deliver elements of the Core in a more nuanced awareness of how the parts fit together to create a unified curricular experience for our undergraduate students. **To this end, we invite you to attend one or more of our Fall 2024 Core Re-Engagement Workshops.**

These interactive workshops are designed to bring together instructors who deliver parts of this curriculum to discuss how these parts fit together to form a student's whole Core experience. Any and all faculty members, staff members, and administrators who teach a course or lead a co-curricular experience that satisfies a Core requirement are encouraged to attend. Please **fill out this form** **by Friday, September 20, 2024** to secure your spot in one of our workshops.

Please note: The Core plans additional events later this academic year for members of the SLU community who do not yet teach in the Core but want to learn more about this holistic 4-year curriculum.

Ignite Seminars

This fall, we have 80 Ignite Seminars running with more than 70 instructors teaching over 55 distinct topics. SLU's Ignite First Year Seminar is designed to allow faculty the opportunity to design a course around a topic, idea, or question that inspires their own intellectual and creative curiosity, and to use that course content as the vehicle through which to create community with first-year students from a range of backgrounds and levels of preparation.

Interested in teaching an Ignite Seminar? We need you! To propose an IGNITE Seminar, **click here.** Although the Core accepts Ignite Seminar proposals on a rolling basis, our **priority deadline for AY25-26 is November 4, 2024.** Once your proposal is approved, you will attend two half-day Ignite Professional Development

proposal is approved, you will attend two half-day Ignite Professional Development Workshops which run in both early December/January and mid-May/mid-August. To learn more about Ignite Seminar teaching opportunities, email **core@slu.edu.**

Collaborative Inquiry Courses

The Core's Collaborative Inquiry requirement gives all upper-level students an opportunity to integrate and collaborate. In seminars that explore complex questions without straightforward answers, students work with their peers to apply concepts, methodologies, and ways of thinking learned in earlier Core and other coursework to find multidimensional approaches to contemporary societal problems or enduring questions.

Collaborative Inquiry courses can be designed as entirely new courses or a current course reimagined for a group of students from diverse disciplinary backgrounds. Recognizing our need to build capacity for this Core component, the Core once again invites faculty to propose an idea for an experimental section of Collaborative Inquiry. The deadline for submitting an experimental Collaborative Inquiry proposal is **Monday, November 4th, 2024.** To propose an experimental Collaborative Inquiry course,
click here or email **core@slu.edu.**

Core Assessment

This year, we continue our assessment of the Core's **nine graduation-level University Core Student Learning Outcomes.** In 2022-23, we assessed SLO 1; in 2023-24, we assessed SLOs 4 and 6. This fall, we kick off our assessment of SLO 2: *Integration of Knowledge Across Multiple Disciplines to Solve Complex Problems* and SLO 9: *Acquire and Apply Knowledge Through Engagement Beyond the University.* To learn more about our assessment efforts to date, visit the Assessment section of our
Core Instructor Resources website.

Submission Deadlines for Core Courses and Experiences

The University Undergraduate Core Committee continues to solicit and review new courses and experiences for inclusion in the Core. Click here to review all approved Core courses and experiences published in the catalog to date. Please let us know if you see any errors or need for revision.

- **Monday, October 14th:** Priority Deadline for inclusion in AY 25-26 Catalog. Courses submitted to the UUCC through **CIM-Courses** by this date will have ample time to be reviewed, revised if necessary, and ratified by the UUCC in time to appear in the 25-26 academic catalog. After October 14, the UUCC will continue to review course submissions on a rolling basis through the remainder of the academic year. Courses submitted after October 14th will be reviewed and, whenever possible, approved for the 25-26 catalog. **Please note:** The deadline for inclusion in the 25-26 catalog is the first week of April 2025.
- **Rolling Submissions of Core Experiences:** Submissions for non-credit bearing Core experience requirements—Cura Personalis 2 and Reflection-in-

Action—that are not attached to credit-bearing courses are reviewed by the Cura Personalis subcommittee on a rolling basis.

- · **[Click here to submit a Cura Personalis 2 experience](#)**
- · **[Click here to submit a Reflection-in-Action experience](#)**

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions. We wish you a successful Fall 2024 semester!

Sincerely,
Dr. Ellen Crowell
Director of the University Core

Dr. Liz Burke
Assistant Director of the University Core