



CENTRE FOR TEACHING, LEARNING AND TECHNOLOGY

2022/23 Faculty Primer

Welcome to the UBC community! Here you will find a list of curated resources, workshops and people that can help with your teaching responsibilities over the next couple of years. While this resource aims to summarize central offerings, ask your home faculty/department/unit about additional teaching and learning supports available.

Technology and UBC Systems

CAMPUS-WIDE LOGIN

Your [Campus-Wide Login](#) (CWL) provides access to UBC's online systems such as [Canvas](#), [Workday](#), and the [Faculty Service Centre](#) (FSC), where instructors access class lists (with student photos to help learn names) and submit grades.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY

UBC hosts many [learning technologies](#) (LT) to support teaching and learning. Staff in the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology (CTLT) and the Learning Technology Hub can provide training and support, and your faculty/department/unit may also have specific staff who support LT.

- Browse through the free [LT tools](#) available at UBC including Camtasia, Piazza, Qualtrics and many more.
- Register for [LT workshops](#) with the CTLT and the Learning Technology Hub.
- For support with LT in your teaching, email lt.hub@ubc.ca or visit lthub.ubc.ca.

AUDIO VISUAL AND IT SUPPORT

UBC classrooms are equipped with different types of audio visual (AV) equipment to support the delivery of lectures. Some lecture theatres also offer equipment that can be used for hybrid modes of instruction, which can simultaneously stream and record the lecture for later use. If you have issues while teaching, there is an AV phone number close to the lectern or AV projection to call for immediate assistance within that building, or call 604-822-7956 for immediate assistance.

- For support with recording and streaming in classrooms, learn about the equipment in various classrooms, how to use the equipment and schedule recordings, and more on the [Learning Spaces website](#). [UBC IT](#) is committed to providing timely and effective support for UBC's online and telecommunications services. Access the [IT Service Centre Help Desk](#) through the [self-service platform](#), [web form](#), by phone or walk-in.
- Check out the [UBC guidelines for in-class recordings](#), which include information on copyright and intellectual property, when consent for recording is required, and guidelines on sharing recordings.

CANVAS

[Canvas](#) is the centrally supported Learning Management System (LMS) at UBC. For all credit courses listed in the [UBC Course Schedule](#), a course shell will be automatically created prior to the beginning of the semester. If your course is not SIS-listed, then the [Faculty/Department Instructional Support Staff](#) can assist with manually creating your course. Use the LMS to organize course content, create Zoom online office hour sessions, and offer online assignments and assessments.

- For support with setting up and navigating a Canvas course, register for a [Canvas workshop](#).

MICROSOFT 365 OFFICE APPLICATIONS

UBC employees have free access to [Microsoft 365 Office Applications](#) that comply with privacy laws (see below). If using other tools, such as Google Drive, ensure students can maintain their anonymity with a pseudonym if they prefer.

- Access and set up [Microsoft Teams](#).
- An alternative to Google Drive is Microsoft OneDrive, which is free of cost to the UBC community and hosted in Canada.

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

UBC operates under the British Columbia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) which aims to protect the personal information of faculty, staff and students. When teaching, it is important to know how student privacy/work/information is protected and that you receive student consent for aspects of coursework made to be public. Below are some resources and considerations.

- Read the [Office of the University Counsel](#)'s privacy guide and privacy impact assessments.
- Learn about [FIPPA at UBC](#).
- Provincial law requires public bodies such as UBC to conduct a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) for all new systems and projects that support university business, and they are usually done for technological tools and platforms. A PIA is a risk management and compliance review process used to identify and address potential privacy and security issues. Learn about PIAs from UBC's [Privacy Matters website](#).
- Tools that store personal information about students (their name, their student number or other identifying information) outside Canada should have an approved PIA. [Centrally supported learning technology tools at UBC](#) have passed a PIA.
- Given privacy and PIA guidelines, it is best if student work is hosted on UBC or Canadian servers. If using non-UBC or non-Canadian servers, students should create anonymous accounts to conceal their identity.
- Also, note that many cloud storage platforms host data outside of Canada. For example, storing grades on a Google spreadsheet would mean students' personal information is being hosted outside of Canada, and there would need to be an approved PIA to do this. As noted above, a secure, privacy-compliant alternative is [Microsoft OneDrive](#).
- Learn more about [compliance with privacy guidelines when using learning technology](#) on the LT Hub website.

Course Components and Considerations

UBC VANCOUVER ACADEMIC CALENDAR

For information related to programs, courses, services and academic policies, visit calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver.

COURSE MODES OF DELIVERY

Within the UBC Course Schedule, each course activity (e.g. lecture, lab, tutorial) will show a “[Mode of Delivery](#)” to describe how it will be delivered.

SYLLABUS

The syllabus is an important document/contract that provides information on the course structure, communications, assessments, learning objectives and policies/support. It's a student's first introduction to a course and is where you can set expectations for a respectful and inclusive classroom climate.

- According to the UBC Vancouver Senate policy, “course instructors must provide the syllabus including the grading scheme, within the first week of class unless the syllabus will be created in consultation with the student(s) at the beginning of a course section, in which case the syllabus must be finalized prior to the last date by which students are permitted to drop the course without receiving a “W” on their transcript.”
- There are designated pieces of information that must be present in a syllabus. To assist faculty in preparing a syllabus that fits the guidelines and contains all the necessary information, the UBC Vancouver Senate has prepared a [syllabus template](#).
- You can read the full set of guidelines for syllabi on the [Content and Distribution of Course Syllabi Policy](#) (the full policy can be found on the [UBC Senate Syllabus policy](#)).
- You may reach out to colleagues in your department to access previous versions of the syllabus for the course(s) you are teaching.
- Consider additional advice for creating syllabi that are [inclusive](#), support [student learning and wellbeing](#), and are learner-centered (see [high-level guidance](#) or this [in-depth toolkit](#)).

INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT

Indigenous Strategic Plan

UBC launched an updated [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) (ISP) in 2020, which provides a framework for units and the institution to support Indigenous people's human rights and advance meaningful reconciliation, guided by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's [94 Calls to Action](#), the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls' [231 Calls for Justice](#), and the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#). Units and programs at UBC are engaging with the ISP and developing their own plans and actions; there are multiple [ISP implementation tools and resources](#) available to support this work.

As UBC Community members, we are all responsible for advancing the institution's commitments to Indigenous human rights, truth and meaningful reconciliation.

Land Acknowledgments

At UBC, many events and large meetings begin with a land acknowledgement as one way to continually remind ourselves and each other that our activities take place on unceded Indigenous territory, and of our responsibilities on these Indigenous lands. Consider including a land acknowledgement in your syllabus and/or in class at the beginning of the term.

- Use [native-land.ca](#) to locate Indigenous nations and regions around the world. This website is useful for finding out where you are located if you are not on campus, so that you can appropriately and accurately acknowledge the land on which you are situated.
- Land acknowledgements should be expressed as meaningful and personal statements as opposed to rote statements with standardized language. To help you craft your own personal land acknowledgement, you can take the [Respect, Sincerity & Responsibility: Land Acknowledgements @ UBC](#) asynchronous module created by the CTLT Indigenous Initiatives & HR Workplace Learning and Engagement teams.

- To learn more about respectful use of language relating to Indigenous topics at UBC, please refer to the [UBC Indigenous Peoples' Language Guidelines](#).

Further support for Indigenous engagement in teaching and learning

- The [CTLT Indigenous Initiatives team](#) runs workshops and events, offers resources, and hosts regular [Coffee Drop-in sessions](#) where anyone can stop by to discuss questions or share resources related to Indigenous topics in teaching and learning.
- Review the [Indigenous Portal](#): A curated collection of professional development resources focused on Indigenous topics.
- Subscribe to receive the [CTLT Indigenous Initiatives e-newsletter](#).

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Institution-wide plans and initiatives

- UBC recently adopted an [Inclusion Action Plan](#) for the institution with actions in multiple areas including recruitment and retention, capacity building, and learning and research. The [Activating Inclusion Toolkit](#) offers many resources for units and programs to help guide implementation.
- An Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence (ARIE) task force released the ARIE report and recommendations, [54 Steps on the Pathway to an Anti-Racist and Inclusively Excellent UBC](#), in 2022.
- The [Positive Space](#) campaign is a campus-wide initiative intended to raise awareness and visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, two-spirit, trans and queer students, staff, faculty, alumni and allies at UBC. Take the new [Positive Space: Foundations course](#) to learn about topics such as amatonormativity, how to respond if you make mistakes such as misgendering, and how you can engage in respectful interactions related to names, pronouns and inclusive language.

Support for EDI in teaching and learning

- The CTLT has [workshops on inclusive teaching](#), as well as [anti-racism in teaching and learning programming](#). The CTLT Indigenous Initiatives (II) team also runs Classroom Climate workshops; look for these in the [II events listings](#).
- Review the [Inclusive Teaching modules on Canvas](#), created through a collaboration between people at the CTLT and Queens University.
- Explore a [curated collection of resources on inclusive teaching](#), created by the CTLT and the Equity and Inclusion Office, on the Inclusive Teaching at UBC website.
- Review the [UBC Equity and Inclusion Office events listings](#).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Teaching and promoting academic integrity and responding to academic misconduct allegations are all part of UBC's culture of academic integrity. Below are useful websites and resources to support how you teach, discuss and engage.

- [Academic Integrity](#): Provides clarity and general awareness about the academic misconduct process and offers resources for those impacted by it.
- [Teaching Academic Integrity](#): Includes suggestions and resources for creating a syllabus statement, discussing academic integrity in classes and assessment design.
- [Student Conduct and Discipline](#): Introduces information regarding statutory authority, and student declaration and responsibility.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Utilize these UBC resources to help students who might need additional support. If you are concerned about a particular student, you can also speak with the faculty advisor in your department for additional support and guidance.

- [Green Folder for Supporting Students in Distress](#): A concise and helpful way to assess the urgency and type of students' concerns and direct them to proper support. It is recommended to be familiar with this tool before the need arises in order to refer to it while working with a student.
- [Early Alert](#): A system where faculty and staff can quickly identify their concerns about students. It is recommended to submit early alerts for even minor concerns because if multiple instructors submit minor concerns about a student, the Early Alert staff can reach out to the student.
- [UBC Centre for Accessibility](#): Facilitates disability-related accommodations and helps remove accessibility barriers in all aspects of students' university life. Students register at the Centre by providing documentation and discussing their needs with an Accessibility Advisor in a confidential setting. Students will then provide a letter to their instructor that outlines applicable academic accommodations. Instructors are also welcome to reach out to the Centre for guidance and support in working with students requiring accommodation.
- [Responding to Collective Tragedies and Hateful Incidents](#): Guidelines for instructors to respond to incidents of identity-based discrimination and violence.

COPYRIGHT AND COURSE RESOURCES

When gathering resources for your course, there are a few things to consider concerning copyright, online and hard copy resources, and fair use.

- The [UBC Library](#) can help you gather resources for your courses and ensure your resources align with copyright laws.
- Understand [copyright at UBC](#), how it applies to your teaching and how to comply. The library offers a convenient [syllabus service](#) which provides the learning content you have assigned as Library Online Course Reserves.
- Familiarize yourself with the specifics about "[fair dealing](#)" for faculty and staff (e.g. how much can you use of a particular text/resource in your course without purchase).
- Find [who to contact](#) with questions related to copyright, permissions for materials in course instruction, library reserves, etc.
- Learn about incorporating [Open Educational Resources](#) and practices within your courses.
- Read the [Open Education Guide](#) for a comprehensive set of resources on OER.
- If your course requires a text, reach out to the [UBC Bookstore](#) to discuss ordering textbooks for student purchase. Note that information in the bookstore database feeds into the "book summary" section for each course on the [course schedule](#). That way, students know what resources are required, when registering for the course.

POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND CONCESSIONS

UBC has several campus-wide policies and regulations for faculty, staff and students. Review the following resources and policies that relate strongly to teaching and learning.

- [Campus-wide Policies and Regulations](#)
- [Academic Concessions for Students](#)
- [Academic Accommodations for all Students' Religious Observances and the Cultural Observances of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Students](#)
- [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Content and Distribution of Course Syllabi](#)
- [UBC Statement on Respectful Environment for Students, Faculty, and Staff](#)

There is also a policy and procedure related to [non-academic misconduct](#), these are situations in which a student's behaviour is problematic, but the behaviour is not related to academic dishonesty.

WORKING WITH TEACHING ASSISTANTS

You will likely work with or manage undergraduate and graduate teaching assistants (TAs). The TAs are part of the CUPE 2278 union, which supports bargaining, grievances, and lobbying between TAs and UBC. Below are a few things to keep in mind as you work with TAs.

- [Pay rates and classifications for TAs](#)
- [CUPE 2278 Collective Agreement](#)
- [CUPE 2278 September 2019-2022 Quick Guide](#)

PLEASE NOTE:

- In most departments, a full-time TA position is 192 hours per term. An anticipated workload form is required to be filled out and signed by both the TA and supervisor. If you are teaching a multi-section course with a coordinator, someone else might be responsible for filling out this form.
- TAs cannot work overtime.
- Daily TA duties cannot exceed 8 continuous hours without consent. If this is required, consult your department for how this is typically handled.
- A full-time TA position includes 8 hours of vacation per term and 12 hours of paid sick leave per term. Vacation time will be included in the anticipated workload form.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE OF INSTRUCTION

UBC has shifted from “Student Evaluations of Teaching” to “[Student Experience of Instruction](#).” Students are asked to provide feedback near the end of the term on their course experience and the quality of learning. Students access the survey in their Canvas shell and receive reminder emails. You can monitor the survey completion rate on Canvas and will receive results within a few weeks of the end of term, only once your course grades have been submitted.

Examinations and Grading

MIDTERM EXAMINATIONS

The following items offer logistical information and a few suggestions about administering midterm exams.

- Whether midterm exams can be scheduled during or outside of class time varies across faculties. Check with the head of your department/program to learn about the practice in your unit.
- It is increasingly common for faculties and departments to gather information regarding midterm scheduling to limit student conflicts. Check with your department administrators to see if you are required to add your midterm date/time to this schedule.
- If scheduling a midterm outside class time, include the date and time within the syllabus course schedule so students can plan ahead. Check that no other major midterms are happening on that same date/time or offer students alternate options. Work with your departmental colleagues and administrators when booking a midterm outside of class time. Additionally, if you administer a two-hour midterm outside of class time, you should cancel two hours of lecture time to balance this out.
- Midterms or other exams cannot take place within the [last two weeks of the term](#). However, according to the [Senate Policy](#) and current practice on term and examination scheduling, it is acceptable to have regularly scheduled quizzes and assignments due during these two weeks.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

The following items offer logistical information about final exams in your courses.

- According to the [UBC Vancouver Senate Policy on the Use of the Formal Examination Periods](#), first and second-year courses should have formal final exams, “unless the relevant dean and head, for sound academic reasons, grants an exemption.”
- The [final exam schedule](#) is arranged centrally and announced sometime in the second month of the term. Your department administrator will reach out to you early in the term to solicit requests for specific final exam scheduling, which can sometimes be accommodated with sufficient reason.
- Final exams must be kept for one calendar year after the exam date. After that, they can be shredded.
- A student can apply for an out-of-time final or Standing Deferred (SD) under the [Academic Concession Policy](#), which states that there are three grounds for academic concession in three circumstances: (1) conflicting responsibilities, (2) medical grounds, and (3) compassionate grounds. Students apply for SD through their faculty advising office, who may contact you to provide an interim account of student academic performance or to provide additional information that may be helpful for the SD request to be assessed. If a student contacts you about having missed their final exam after the fact, for any reason, you can refer them to their faculty advising office to go through the SD application process.

GRADING SCHEME

UBC uses a [percentage scale \(100%\) and equivalent letter grades](#) for grading purposes. Grading schemes must be provided in the syllabus as written guidelines to students about how their final grade is calculated (according to the [UBC Vancouver Syllabus Policy](#)). At the end of the course, you will be responsible for calculating and submitting a percentage grade for each student. Check with your department about grading policies and norms.

GRADE SUBMISSIONS

Grades are submitted via the [Faculty Service Centre \(FSC\)](#); check with your department administrators or course coordinators for additional information about when to submit grades. Normally, grades should be submitted 7 business days after your final exam date, or after 5 days if your exam is on the last 2 days of the exam period. However, some departments and programs may ask you to submit grades before that so they can be reviewed internally before final submission. Grades are not released to students until after the end of the final exam period.

Support for Curricular and Pedagogical Practices

UBC TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Below are some of the resources, programs and support units available to UBC instructors to enrich their teaching. Several faculties and departments have discipline-specific centres, resources and people that can support your teaching.

Support Units

- [Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology \(CTLT\)](#): Centre for [resources](#), [events and workshops](#), and [one-on-one consultations](#) to support faculty with all facets of teaching and learning.
- Many Faculties also have [local teaching and learning support units](#).
- [Institute for the Scholarship for Teaching and Learning \(ISoTL\)](#): Collaborations across the institution to provide resources, workshops, events and funding opportunities related to research about teaching and learning.
- [Centre for Workplace Accessibility \(CWA\)](#): Central hub for resources, tools and programs that help remove barriers for faculty and staff with disabilities or ongoing medical conditions.

Resources

- [New Faculty Orientation Guide](#): Resources to support your teaching (first day of class, assessment and feedback, pedagogical approaches) and better understand student experiences and challenges at UBC.
- [Inclusive Teaching @ UBC](#): Information about resources, professional development and funding opportunities for instructors to create more inclusive learning spaces for students.
- [Introduction to Teaching Online](#): A concise, self-paced online course about online teaching.
- [Keep Teaching](#): Resources to support academic continuity in the course of unexpected events.

Programs/Events

- [Teaching Development Program for New Faculty](#): A 10-month program to help new faculty build a foundation for their teaching careers by providing a network of support and PD opportunities focused on teaching practices.
- [CTLT Institute](#): Focuses on the fundamentals of teaching and learning for new and experienced instructors and teaching assistants. The Winter, Spring and Summer Institutes are a forum to collaborate, network, and engage in knowledge exchange.
- [Celebrate Learning Week](#): An annual week-long initiative in May that offers workshops and events to celebrate teaching and learning opportunities at UBC.
- [Faculty Instructional Skills Workshops](#): Workshop series designed to give new and experienced educators an opportunity to try new teaching approaches and sharpen their skills in a supportive atmosphere.

TEACHING AND LEARNING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Check with your faculty/department/unit for internal funding opportunities to support curricular and pedagogical development and research within your courses. Department heads often share information about these calls as they come up.

- [SoTL Seed Program](#): Offers graduate research assistants, collegial collaborations and complementary funding for teaching and learning projects.
- [SoTL Dissemination Fund](#): Open on a rolling basis, and faculty members can apply for up to \$1,000 to support conference registrations and travel costs or for up to \$2,000 for Article Processing Charges or other fees related to publishing open access.
- [Students as Partners \(SaP\) Fund](#): Supports UBCV faculty and undergraduate students working together on undergraduate course re-design, with up to \$7,100 per project.
- [Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund \(TLEF\)](#): Supports projects that advance UBC's strategic goals relating to transformative learning to enrich and improve student learning experiences. UBCV faculty, staff and students can apply for a multi-year Large TLEF Transformation Project grant, eligible for up to \$250,000, or a Small TLEF Innovation Project grant of up to \$50,000.
- [Open Educational Resources Fund](#): Supports affordable and inclusive access to learning materials through two types of funds: [OER Implementation Grants](#) and [OER Rapid Innovation Grants](#).

Each September, the CTLT and faculty support units host a series of [virtual online drop-in sessions](#) to help applicants develop their TLEF and OER project proposals.

TEACHING AND LEARNING NEWSLETTERS

Sign up to receive updates about upcoming workshops, speaker series, and consultation sessions about teaching and learning, Indigeneity/reconciliation, and equity, diversity, and inclusion.

- [CTLT Events, CTLT Dialogues and Edubytes](#)
- [CTLT Indigenous Initiatives](#)
- [Equity and Inclusion Office](#)
- [Institute for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning](#)

Faculty and Department Resources

Check with your faculty/department administrators or colleagues for additional instructional resources and policies and inquiries about course/program components such as prerequisites, progression and resources (photocopying, instructional tools, demonstrations). Some faculties and departments have internal support for learning technologies, curriculum and pedagogy, IT and communities of practice.