

PS FIT Fellows: Physical Sciences Faculty Fellows in Inclusive Teaching



Sponsored by UCLA's Faculty Forward Initiative from the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; the Division of Physical Sciences; and the Center for Education Innovation and Learning in the Sciences.

The Physical Sciences Faculty in Inclusive Teaching (PS FIT) Fellows Program provides a facilitated community to support you in making evidence-based, sustainable, and iterative changes in your classroom, creating more inclusive and effective courses, fostering a sense of community, and reducing equity gaps. Becoming a PS FIT fellow will empower you to become inclusive teaching change agents within your departments.

Who? Physical Sciences Faculty (Lecturers or Tenure-Track) who will be teaching in the 2024-2025 academic year and want space and time to discuss ideas with peers.

What have previous faculty said about engaging in CEILS professional development?

"After a long lonely summer, the teaching initiative felt like a great support, like a fresh breeze. It inspired me to introduce a focus on Group Work for the Fall offering and enhance equitable learning modules. I was able to revisit strategies I already had implemented during summer and refine these. Furthermore I also learned about new strategies and tools, which I was able to adopt and try out for the fall offering."



What topics will be discussed?

This will be your community, so we want it structured around your questions and needs. Part of the first session will involve tailoring the topics to what you all want to learn and discuss. To get an idea of topics, in August 2024, we asked 16 Physical Sciences faculty and vice chairs what they thought faculty want for teaching support. Based on these discussions, the most frequently mentioned topics were:



- Concrete lists of changes you can consider integrating research-based practices found to improve student success, which you can discuss with peers who've implemented them
- Ideas for adapting if you now have fewer TAs
- Ideas for reflecting on and assessing what is working well and what to refine further

PS FIT Fellows are supported to	Receive a \$1000 stipend for completing the following 6 tasks:
(A) Engage in learning community with peers	[1] Meet other fellows and get introduced to topics at CEILS Annual Faculty Workshop Sep. 19 + 20, 9am - 3pm . Email <u>shaked@ceils.ucla.edu</u> if you can't join or have already attended.
	[2] Discuss with peers ideas and experiences about evidence-based inclusive teaching approaches in four two-hour lunch meetings (Fall Quarter Wks 2, 4, 7 and 10), including possible peer observations.
(B)to thoughtfully make evidence-based, sustainable, and iterative changes toward creating more inclusive and effective courses	[3] Review syllabus (and revise as necessary) to reflect a more equitable environment.
	[4] Integrate at least one substantial shift in practice (e.g. Learning Assistants; more frequent assessments to reduce exam weight; integrate more engaging and active learning; add/adapt group project to be more inclusive and effective; etc.)
(C)fostering a sense of community and reducing equity gaps.	[5] Use student surveys (or other assessments) to reflect on what's working, what's not, and ways you want to continue iterating to make your course more inclusive and effective.
(D) Empower you to become inclusive teaching change agents within your departments.	[6] At the last lunch, determine what your next steps will be (e.g. Who is in your sphere of influence? Would you like to mentor anyone in the next PS FIT cohort?)

This program was partially inspired by and builds on the success of UCLA's <u>Center for Diverse</u> <u>Leadership in Science Faculty Fellows program</u> and UCLA's <u>Out of the Box program</u>.