

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20**RECORDINGS FROM SESSIONS ON THE TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUS**

Time	Sessions						
9:00 – 10:30	Welcome by Victoria Zeppelin and Provost Aaron Tolbert Plenary Session: “Universal Design for Learning & Digital Accessibility to Meet Federal Requirements” - recording Digital Accessibility plenary slide show with link to resources						
10:45 – 12:00	Use of AI for Writing Feedback <i>ENGL, writing intensive courses</i> slide show	Teaching Civics in the Modern Age <i>POSC103/104</i> session materials	Handling AI in Language Classes <i>FREN, SPAN</i> session materials	Updating the Personal Money Management Course <i>BUAD109</i>	Lessons in Psychology - recording <i>PSYC103</i>	“Maker Day” in Graphic Design & Painting Studios <i>ART</i>	Teambuilding Activities <i>Open to all</i>
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch						
1:00 – 2:15	Understanding TC3’s Academic Writing Sequence - recording <i>ENGL100/101</i> slide show	Teaching Students to Think Like Historians Using Primary Sources <i>HSTY</i> session materials	Open Discussion for Language Instructors <i>FREN, SPAN</i> session materials	Engagement in the Business Classroom <i>ACCT, BUAD, HRMG, SPMT</i>	Ideas for College Success Courses - recording <i>ACAD100/150</i> session materials	“Maker Day” in Graphic Design & Painting Studios <i>ART</i>	AI & Digital Literacy- recording <i>Open to all</i> slide show
2:20- 3:00						Audio Activity & COMM Update - overview	

[Evaluation Form for Campus Sessions](#)Off-campus Conference Session: [Early Childhood Discussion about Assessment plus Focus on Science Process Skills – materials](#)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

RECORDED SESSIONS IN ZOOM

Time	THURSDAY, AUGUST 21 (in Zoom)	
8:30 – 10:00	What Happens at CERN? - recording (PHSC, ASTR, open to all STEM instructors) session materials	
10:15 – 11:30	Biology Roundtable - recording (BIOL) session materials	Project Ideas for Math - recording (MATH) session materials
11:45 – 12:45	Growth Mindset & Bloom's Taxonomy - recording (Open to all) presenter slides	Music Discussion (MUSI) <i>No recording</i>
1:00 – 2:30	Environmental Science Activities - recording (ENVS, BIOL102/105) session materials	

[Evaluation Form for Zoom Sessions](#)



CollegeNow Conference 2025

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20 – ON-CAMPUS

Tompkins Cortland Community College campus in Dryden ([Google Maps](#))

Sign-in open from 8:30AM-12 Noon

Welcome at 9:00AM

Lunch provided

AUG 20 ON-CAMPUS: OPENING PLENARY FROM 9:15-10:30AM

Universal Design for Learning and Digital Accessibility (*for all instructors*)

Facilitators: Breton Bienvenue (TC3 Instructional Designer) and Karen Rachetta (TC3 Coordinator of Access and Equity Services)

Join us for a workshop on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Digital Accessibility. This workshop will introduce participants to the concepts of UDL and Digital Accessibility, offer practical guidance for implementing it in your courses, and provide a forum to ask questions and discuss challenges.

This topic is especially important given that **federal guidelines will require all online content for courses to meet the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.1](#) AA by the spring 2026 semester for communities with more than 50,000 people, and by spring 2027 for smaller communities.**

AUG 20 ON-CAMPUS: MORNING OPTIONS FROM 10:45AM-12:00PM

Using AI for Writing Feedback (*ENGL and any writing intensive class*)

Facilitators: Jeffrey Young (CollegeNow English Instructor at Edmeston High School) and Heather Zaia (TC3 English Adjunct Faculty and CollegeNow Instructor)

An introduction on how to effectively prompt AI to assess and provide feedback for student prewriting, drafts, and writing throughout the writing process. You may submit an essay and its rubric to demonstrate how the technology can be used. Materials may be sent in advance to Heather Zaia (hz008@tc3.edu).

Teaching Civics in the Modern Age: Challenges and Options for Government Courses (*POSC*)

Facilitator: Tim Baker (CollegeNow Instructor at LaFayette High School) and Dave Flaten (TC3 History Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

Taking a roundtable approach, in this session, we will collectively build a small repository of articles and/or primary sources for POSC courses. How do we as educators use core political science materials? How do we navigate the current US climate and instill in our students the core comprehension of government and governance?

[Upload files \(or document with links\) to this shared Google folder.](#)

Handling AI in the Language Classroom (*FREN, GERM, SPAN*)

Facilitator: Christine Evans (TC3 Spanish and ESL Adjunct Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison) and Angela Palumbo (TC3 ESL Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

How are you dealing with AI in your language teaching? In this sharing session, we can discuss ideas and techniques. Does your school have an AI policy? Do you have one for your classes? Are you leveraging AI in your teaching in any way? How are you using it? Let's bring our ideas and learn from each other.

Lessons in Psychology (*PSYC103*)

Facilitator: Gerri-Ann Hartnett (TC3 Psychology Adjunct Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison; former CollegeNow instructor)

During this session, we will discuss trends and share instructional ideas for PSYC103. First, how is AI impacting your course? Then, let's share instructional ideas! Please bring at least one lesson or PPT that you can share with the group. These first two topics will help us as we brainstorm ideas for more effective teaching and increasing student engagement. We can wrap up with Q & A about SLO's, Brightspace, the OLI textbook, etc.

Maker Day in the Graphic Design and Painting Studios (*ART*)

Facilitators: Michelle LaMorte (TC3 Art Paraprofessional) and Megan VanKanegan (TC3 Art Adjunct Faculty)

Both the Graphic Design and Drawing/Painting Studio will be open for art instructors to choose projects to complete and take home! Both spaces will be open throughout the morning and afternoon sessions, allowing one to complete multiple projects.

For the Graphic Design side, bring a flash drive or hard drive with digital files ready to print. Files should be saved in multiple formats such as SVG for Cricut and Glowforge, as well as PDF for ink jet and multimedia printers. You will be able to create unique items such stickers, magnets, t-shirts, mugs, and more. You will see how the files are loaded into the software and created in real time.

For the Studio side, we will be offering a Gel Plate Print session. Please bring items with fun and interesting textures that you do not mind getting paint or ink on. If you plan to do this project, we advise doing this during the morning timeslot to give enough time for it to fully dry.

We will have on display the course kits we use for campus art classes, as well as some examples student works and projects.

Due to the nature of this workshop, it will not be recorded.

Teambuilding for Any Class (*Open to All*)

Facilitator: Margaret DeGaetano (TC3 Math Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

Bring joy back to your classroom through teambuilding! Margaret will demonstrate various activities that you can use in your class, whether early in the semester, or anytime you need to inject a little fun to de-stress!

This is an active session and will not be recorded.

AUG 20 ON-CAMPUS: AFTERNOON OPTIONS FROM 1:00-2:15PM

Understanding TC3's Updated Academic Writing Sequence (*ENGL100 and ENGL101*)

Facilitator: Virginia Shank (TC3 English Faculty)

As a new teacher to TC3, Virginia struggled to figure out what was really different between ENGL100 and ENGL101. The English department worked hard to clarify these differences through updates to the Course Syllabi. In this interactive presentation, you'll learn about the changes to ENGL100 and ENGL101, what differentiates these two courses in our college writing sequence, and share ideas for building a successful semester of assignments in either or both classes!

Most of the session will be devoted to workshopping syllabi and assignments to be sure they align with the two courses. Bring your own syllabi and course assignments to share and discuss!

Teaching Students to Think Like Historians Using Primary Sources (*HSTY*)

Facilitators: Tim Baker (CollegeNow Instructor at LaFayette High School) and Dave Flaten (TC3 History Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

What are the core strategies and tried and true methods we all employ to maximize our students' extraction and comprehension of primary sources? Let's start with some common documents, then take a roundtable approach and share our professional experiences! [Please upload what you are sharing to this Google folder.](#)

Open Discussion for Language Instructors (*FREN, GERM, SPAN*)

Facilitator: Christine Evans (TC3 Spanish and ESL Adjunct Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

An *informal* discussion time for CollegeNow language instructors. This is a time to split into groups based on the language/level taught to talk about what we are doing in our classrooms and share ideas.

Ideas for College Success Courses (*ACAD100 and ACAD150*)

Facilitator: Rick Grossman (Retired TC3 Learning Specialist and ACAD CollegeNow Liaison)

Let's learn from each other! Come ready to share an activity, lesson plan, assignment directions, student work, or resource materials you have used successfully in your ACAD course. (And if you are new, what are you excited to try?)

[Please upload materials here.](#) There will also be time to ask questions and share concerns.

This is **not** a general session about college success skills, but is directed towards instructors of these [ACAD courses](#).

Artificial Intelligence and Digital Literacy (*Open to All*)

Facilitators: Karla Block, Eric Jenes, and Susanna Van Sant (TC3 Librarians)

Our TC3 librarians will facilitate a conversation about AI and digital literacy, sharing some of what they are seeing at the College, but with most time being a chance for attendees to talk about what they are experiencing and share ideas.

Maker Day in the Graphic Design and Painting Studios (*ART*)

Facilitators: Michelle LaMorte (TC3 Art Paraprofessional) and Megan VanKanegan (TC3 Art Adjunct Faculty)

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POST-CONFERENCE FROM 2:20-3:00 PM: Audio Production and Communication Updates (*COMM*)

Facilitators: Don Perkins (TC3 Communications Adjunct Faculty) and Theresa Tambascio (TC3 Department Chair for Creative Arts and English Faculty Liaison)

In this session, Don will lead you through one of his favorite audio production activities. Then, Theresa will provide updates about TC3's Communication and Digital Cinema degrees and the impact on CollegeNow course offerings.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21 - ZOOM

What Happens at CERN? (*PHSC, ASTR, all STEM*) – 8:30AM-10:00AM

Facilitators: Joseph Grassi (PhD student in Physics at Cornell University) and Fred Farah (TC3 Science Adjunct Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

Joseph Grassi is a fifth year PhD student at Cornell University studying experimental high energy physics. For the past year, he has been based at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland working with the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) particle detector to improve its ability to track the trajectories of hundreds of charged particles coming from collisions every 25 nanoseconds. In addition to hardware research and detector operations, Joseph is part of a team studying the rare decay of a Higgs boson to a Z boson and a photon. (If this rare and hard to detect process is different than we expect, it would be compelling evidence that the particle which gives mass to matter is more complex than we thought.)

Joseph will share “behind the scenes” footage of control room activities and maintenance work in the experimental caverns of CMS, showing life at CERN, while demystifying research work, its day-to-day activities, and the skills required.

Then, we will talk about connections to the STEM classroom, including resources such as CERN Open Data or detectors you can build in your class. Outside of Joseph’s research responsibilities, he also leads tours of the Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source (CHESS) particle accelerator in Ithaca.

Biology Roundtable (*BIOL*) – 10:15AM-11:30AM

Facilitator: Kelly Murray (TC3 Biology Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

This will be an opportunity for sharing among colleagues. The goal is to ensure consistency from class to class in both content and rigor, and for everyone to have a discussion around best teaching practices. What works? What doesn't? What have you tried that may help others? What questions do you have?

Instructors are strongly encouraged to bring examples of exams, slides, or any other course materials to share/discuss. [You can upload materials with your name to our shared Google folder.](#)

Projects for the Math Classroom (MATH) – 10:15AM-11:30AM

Facilitators: Danielle Bethoney and Margaret DeGaetano (TC3 Math Faculty and CollegeNow Liaisons)

In this workshop, we will do some teambuilding activities and share project ideas for our math courses. There will be time left for open discussion and questions.

Please bring your project ideas to share! We encourage you to [upload project assignments and any associated rubrics to this Google folder for sharing](#) with your colleagues. Please label the file with the course and your name.

Growth Mindset & Bloom's Taxonomy (Open to All) – 11:45AM-12:45PM

Facilitator: Scott Bennett (TC3's Coordinator of Tutoring and Accommodation Services)

The Baker Center for Learning supports the learning needs of the TC3 community through direct services and through connections and partnerships within the College. Because we firmly believe in the potential of every individual, we help each person to identify, develop, and apply his or her unique strengths for academic success.

This presentation will focus on the benefits of fostering a growth mindset and utilizing Bloom's Taxonomy as an approach to developing effective learning strategies. As time allows, Scott will also discuss services the Baker Center for Learning offers for CollegeNow.

Music Discussion (MUSI) – 11:45AM-12:45PM

Facilitator(s): Bob Sarachan (TC3 Business Faculty and CollegeNow Music Liaison; multi-talented musician about town)

Let's share ideas for Music classes, including texts and open educational resources, classroom practices, and assignments. We will also review TC3 requirements for SLO assessment. You may [upload items for discussion here](#).

Environmental Science Activities (ENVS, BIOL102/105) – 1:00PM-2:30PM

Facilitator: Fred Farah (TC3 Science Adjunct Faculty and CollegeNow Liaison)

This session will focus on sharing ideas for engaging, inquiry-based field or lab-based student research activities in environmental science. Each instructor will have an opportunity to share their idea for an activity or to share experiences with an activity that they have recently put to use in their classroom.

In advance of the conference, instructors are encouraged to [upload to this shared folder any written material, photos, or videos with instructions to students, including rubrics and relevant handouts](#). Label the file(s) with the project or topic and your name. Fred will ensure that each instructor has the opportunity to present a lesson summary.