Our Learning Community Experiences

- Fully integrated courses
  - Content-content: PSY (Human Sexuality) and PHI (Introduction to Ethics)
  - Content-skill: PSY (Introduction to Psychology) and ENG (Composition 2)
- Linked classes
  - ENG (Composition 1) and Robotics
- Developmental linked and integrated classes
  - ENG, MAT, SOC, and Support class

- Each of these different courses have their own challenges and advantages
Innovation and Collaboration

By their nature, learning communities and co-teaching experiences promote innovation and collaboration as you are forced to view your content through the lens of another subject area.
Preparation and Cross-Pollination

Working with an expert from another field changes how you prepare and deliver course material and brings new perspectives/material into traditional courses as well.
Learning Communities Affect...
Personal and Professional Development

- Learning to value and trust colleagues
- Learning from colleagues – relevant material from outside your field
- Seeing colleagues’ strengths and weaknesses
- Learning to balance in a team effort
- Connecting with colleagues to facilitate work on other projects, seeking input, exploring optional approaches
General Teaching Philosophy

- More tolerance of testing as a valid tool for demonstration of knowledge
- More tolerance for textbook-based courses in content-rich courses
- Increased application of research in the discipline
- More appreciation of “skills” teaching
- Acknowledgement of the transfer of skills problem
Traditional Classes

- MindSpeak on Comp II
  - More research methodology content, such as representative sample being more important than sample size, and why
  - More APA comparison content, including differing priorities of various disciplines expressed in different sentence structures and formatting
  - More awareness of unsupported claims, less tolerance of exaggeration and casual language
  - More insistence on student statements, less tolerance for implications and assumptions

- MindSpeak on Intro to Psych
  - Writing has always been a focus, but more frequent, shorter assignments
  - Incorporate specific lessons: synthesis video and thesis PowerPoint

- Talking Dirty on Human Sexuality
  - Focus on logical, consistent arguments (can lead to “biting the bullet”)
  - Include information on history and religion (e.g., idea of immediate ensoulment)
TAKE A TWOFER!

MindSpeak

Talking Dirty

Should juries trust eye-witness testimony? Is there a perfume that really drives men wild? Have you wondered if ADHD is just an excuse for bad parenting? In this writing-focused psychology class, we'll look at the science behind human behavior—from learning and brain development to phobias and disorders.

Visit www.mchenry.edu/twofer for more information.

McHenry County College

6 credits
Instructors: Seitz/Grela

Yes, this class is all about sex—what's not to like? Join in this fascinating study of ethics as it relates to the many forms and facets of human sexuality.

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