

To: CPP Faculty

From: Victoria Bhavsar

Subject: Save time with final grades! Plus, lots of opportunities

Date: Mon, Dec 9, 2024

Dear faculty,

Here is my traditional December note regarding making our way through the gargantuan task of giving final grades: ***Don't spend much time giving feedback.***

Feedback is only useful if there's time to use it. Here at the end, there's no more time. Extensive comments will not help most students to learn more, and it won't help anyone get a better grade. Don't spend time giving feedback that is more about justifying a grade than it is about learning. Use checks on a rubric for that.

If you have promised final feedback, or if in your situation feedback *will* help them, then of course give feedback. Try pointing out strengths to build on, as this is more energizing for both you and your students than dissecting weaknesses.

I want to highlight [CAFE's Winter Institute](#)! This is the LAST CALL for participation – we have a few spaces left. Join colleagues from around the university to explore practical pedagogical tools and robust scholarship to create classes that promote equity, justice, and success for all students. I'm excited about this program and honored to work with scholarly colleagues to provide it. I also extend special thanks to the Office of Student Success & Innovation for funding support.

Take care,

Victoria

PS: Speaking of time, [“The Truth about Time Management”](#) is coming up soon!

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In this email:

- [Special Programs](#): Motivating Learners
- [Career & Community](#): “The Truth about Time Management,” Spring book group, Learning community for those considering retirement
- [Teaching Nuts & Bolts](#): Canvas office hours; Canvas Gradebook recording
- [Teacher-Scholar](#): Extended deadlines for publication opportunities; SPICE grant feedback
- [Friends of CAFE](#): OIES Symposium & grants

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Special Programs

- **LAST CALL: <10 spaces left for [CAFE's Winter Institute 2025](#): [Register now for Jan. 7-9 and 13-14, 2025](#).** Get empowered with practical pedagogical tools, robust scholarship, and a community of peers to create classes that promote equity, justice, and success for all

students. Special guests *Pure Praxistheater* group provide an interactive performance, too! Faculty of any discipline and any stage in the faculty career are welcomed and encouraged; stipends are available for completion.

- **[Faculty Reciprocal Peer Coaching Spring 2025](#)**: The single most popular program CAFE has ever offered! In short: I visit your class. You visit my class. We talk! (There's more to it than that, of course.) We have funding for 20 STEM faculty and 12 non-STEM faculty. Applications from faculty who have not participated before are particularly welcome.
- **[Motivating Learners Course](#)**: Learn about three key learning mindsets and customize strategies for using them with respect to your own teaching methods and style of communication. Motivating Learners is a very well-designed and facilitated experience that includes a mix of asynchronous and synchronous components. This a paid opportunity. [Learn more and register](#).

Career & Community:

- **[“The Truth about Time Management”](#)**: **Monday December 16, 11:00am – 12:30pm via Zoom**. The truth about time management is...time management requires telling the truth. Our calendars can be truth-telling documents to help us keep promises -- including to ourselves. This session will set you up for winter break and provide useful strategies for spring semester. [Please register](#).
- **[Book Discussion “Say the Right Thing”](#)**: **Spring Semester**. *Say the Right Thing: How to Talk About Identity, Diversity, and Justice* by Kenji Yoshino and David Glasgow is a “practical, shame-free guide for navigating conversations across our differences.” Facilitated by Cindy Pickett (Psychology), take time to explore tangible strategies for fostering understanding and not alienate each other. Choose from in-person and Zoom options to accommodate your schedule, and choose a hard copy or Kindle book. [Please register](#).
- **Thinking about retiring?** Spring 2025, join the “Finding Retirement Fulfillment Learning Community (FRFLC)” for all faculty thinking about retirement and/or FERPing. Share strategies and plans for a successful retirement in a confidential, caring community. Contact [Lisa Kessler](#) to learn more or be contacted in spring.

Teaching Nuts & Bolts:

- **[Canvas Zoom office hours](#)**: **Tuesday Dec. 10, 4:00 – 5:00pm, Wednesday Dec. 11, 9:00 – 10:00am and Thursday Dec. 12, 12:00 – 1:00pm**. Canvas administrator Ann Loomis offers [drop-in Zoom hours](#) for help with grading in Canvas.
- **[Canvas Gradebook workshop recording](#)**: Ann Loomis talks us through using the Gradebook function.
- **[Canvas help in general](#)**: Submit a [Canvas ticket](#), email Canvas@cpp.edu, OR call 909-869-3099, M-F 8am – 5pm.

Teacher-Scholar:

- **Call for chapter proposals**: [Dr. Neil Chaturvedi](#) (Political Science) seeks chapter proposals for an edited volume entitled *The 2024 Election and the Politics of Identity: Intersections of Representation, Backlash, and Change*. **Proposals are due December 16**. Please contact Dr. Chaturvedi for the full CFP.

- **SPICE grant feedback:** [Lisa Kessler](#), CAFE Faculty Fellow, is available to provide feedback on [SPICE grant proposals](#), which are due February 10, 2025. Please email Lisa directly – and don't wait until February!

Friends of CAFE:

- **[CSU Certificate Program in Student Success Analytics](#): January 24 - April 18, 2025, via Zoom.** Turn institutional data into action! A special faculty-only track is offered this spring, that includes access to your own individual [Course Equity Portal](#). No previous experience with data is required. [Register by Friday Dec. 13, 2024](#).
- **[2025 Academic Innovation Winter Institute](#): January 15 & 16, 2025, in person.** Learn about innovative practices in research mentorship, strategies to maximize mentoring efforts, enhance student success, and create inclusive research environments. [Register now!](#)
- **[Office of Interdisciplinary Ethnic Studies Teaching & Scholarship Symposium](#) [Instagram link]: Friday Feb. 21, 2025, 8:30am- 3:00pm, in person at Kellogg West.** Join scholars from CPP and the region to discuss “Returning to the Roots: Creating a Community-Responsive Ethnic Studies in Higher Education.” OIES also offers [conference travel awards](#) and [grants to co-sponsor events](#); proposal due Feb. 28, 2025. For questions, contact oies@cpp.edu.

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