Rainy Day Lesson Plans Workshop

Introductions – Have participants share their names, departments, and what brought them to the workshop. Ask participants to share any concerns they have about recent snow days.

Workshop Objectives

- Define best practices for rainy day lesson plans
- Share examples of rainy day lesson plans
- Brainstorm ideas for "rainy day" lesson plans
- Provide resources for developing additional lesson plans

What are rainy day lesson plans? Why would you want to have a rainy day lesson plan?

- Snow days or other inclement weather campus closures
- Class cancellation due to illness
- Flu pandemics or other health emergencies
- Class cancellation due to instructor travel
- Other ideas?

What makes a good rainy day lesson plan?

- Evergreen content (i.e. content will not need updating every semester)
- Could fit anywhere in the semester (i.e. not dependent on certain content coverage)
- Works for multiple classes (i.e. could be included in a course for undergraduates or graduate students; or could be used in a range of courses regardless of content)
- Skill-based or process-oriented (i.e. focuses on skills rather than content)
- Reinforces an important idea or concept in your field (even if not covered directly in the course)
- "Bullet-proof" (i.e. make sure that all technology works, etc. so that you are not adding to student frustration by making their work harder)
- Try to make it fun (the idea is to mitigate student frustration)
- Includes online component (i.e. is not dependent on face-to-face interaction)
- Other ideas?

Formats
- Video lectures w/ active learning component
- OERs
  - Demo TED talks, Khan Academy, etc.
- Discussion boards
- Simulation or virtual lab
- Training/tutorial (ethics & plagiarism, CITI training for IRB, lab safety, etc.)

- Peer review
- Conference call (when power outage makes online options difficult)
- Surveys
- Other ideas?

Provide examples
- Bloom's taxonomy list of potential activities (handout)
- "Non-Content Content" list (handout)
    o "non-content content" are things that you want to teach that might not be covered in the textbook; these are often skill-based; see list for ideas
- Online scavenger hunt (handout) or webquest
- Other examples?

Think-Pair-Share
- Guiding questions for individual & pair
    o Think about a course (or several courses) and brainstorm potential activities for a "rainy day lesson plan" using the guidelines and examples we just discussed – try to come up with at least two examples
- Large group share (add ideas to the Resources for Learning Continuity Google Doc: *http://bit.ly/1vEH11h*)

Additional Resources
- OER (handout)
- Online materials checklist (handout)