

2-3-2020

#HashtagPedagogies Workshop

The Humanities Edge

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Recommended Citation

The Humanities Edge, "#HashtagPedagogies Workshop" (2020). *Humanities Edge Archive Faculty Programs*. 15.

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What: #HashtagPedagogies, a workshop by Micah Oelze

When: February 3, 2020 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Where: Panther Suite, Graham Center 3rd floor, FIU MMC

#HashtagPedagogies:

Every year professors are flooded with new platforms, new textbooks, and new initiatives. And digital platforms often seem to come and go like fast fashion. As professors, we might feel skeptical of the programs, much less have the patience for the learning curve necessary to adopt such a program.

In this workshop, Micah Oelze reminds professors that these fears and frustrations are valid. But he then tackles the issue from a new perspective. Instead of learning the platforms themselves, what happens when we as professors learn about the mental architectures they create inside our students? Oelze lays bare that architecture, and he then explains how we can tap into and work alongside that schema. By making small interventions in our course design and vocabulary (such as putting #hashtags on course concepts), we can help students digest complex topics with greater ease and a sense of familiarity.

While digital platforms come and go, the mental architecture they have created in students is surprisingly stable. Recognizing and engaging that schema can mean opening the doors for students to step into the highest levels of undergraduate scholarship.

Biography:

Micah Oelze is Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Pennsylvania's Franklin & Marshall College. In the classroom he pushes for the use of digital platforms while sustaining critical engagement; his pedagogy strategies have most recently been featured in *Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning*. Oelze also conducts historical research on the political use of music and architecture in 1930s Latin America. His work has been supported by such groups as the Department of Education and the Tinker and Fulbright-Hays Foundations.

