**Liberating Structures Faculty Development in Blackboard Collaborate: Session 1**

Note that this lesson plan was created for use with Blackboard Collaborate; therefore individuals using other platforms (e.g. Collaborate Ultra, or other platforms) will need to revise/adjust for their particular platform’s capabilities.

**Overall Purpose of Sessions:**

* Explore participatory Liberating Structures activities in synchronous online sessions
* Provide an opportunity for faculty to discuss teaching opportunities and challenges

**Length of Sessions:** 45 minutes for the intro and structure pieces; plus an optional 15 meta-level debrief at the end of each session = 1 hour in total for each

**Debriefing Video:** See our [debriefing video on the CTET RRU YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2O_GovyvorU&t=119s) to learn what we learned from facilitating this session and how we might change the lesson plan below for next time.

**Advertisement Used for Session**

You’re invited! Join us in an exploration of two Liberating Structures in the first in a series of one hour synchronous, participatory Blackboard Collaborate sessions. For the first session, the theme is Teaching with Technology” and the question we ask you to think about before you join: “*How have you used technology in your teaching to deepen your students’ learning?”* You’ll have the opportunity to participate in and observe two structures: 1-2-4-ALL and Fishbowl

Requirements: Please register in advance and be prepared to use a headset and/or webcam with microphone

Note: This is the first in a series a series of open, participatory, fun and informative explorations of Liberating Structures online sponsored by Royal Roads University’s Centre for Teaching and Learning.

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**SESSION 1**

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| **Time** | **Topic: Teaching with Technology**  **Liberating Structures: 1-2-4-All and User Experience Fishbowl** | **Resources** |
| Before the session | Send session ad: Link to the Liberating Structures website, highlighting the 1-2-4-All <http://www.liberatingstructures.com/1-1-2-4-all/> on the Menu |  |
| -30 | Set up Collaborate room before people arrive   1. Tools > Allow Participants to Move Themselves Option 2. Tools > Breakout Rooms to create empty rooms for pairs |  |
| -10 | Entering the room welcomes; encourage to do audio setup wizard, etc.  As people come into the room, start typing their pairs on the table on the hidden second slide to sort people into room pairs |  |
| 5 min | **Intro, official welcome.**  Highlight that this is a participatory session. Let’s try to use appreciative inquiry approach. This is a confidential space so we won’t be recording but results will be shared.  Invitation: *How have you used technology to support activities that deepen your students’ learning?* | Welcome slide |
| 25 min | **1-2-4-All**  3 min - restate invitation, instructions (note that if people haven’t used tech in their own teaching, they can think about what they’ve seen others use; refer people to the table on the screen to find their pair and move themselves into the breakout room)  1 min - individual reflection about invitation question (take notes)  1 min instructions & break into pairs in first set of breakout rooms   * Tools > Whiteboard to send instructions on whiteboard into breakout rooms   2 min - pair exchange in breakout rooms  1-2 min - Bring people back to main room. Give instructions & ask them to move themselves into breakout rooms (allow troubleshooting time?) for new groups of fours. Intact pairs stay together and just add to a new pair to make four.  4 min “4 person group” sharing - ask one person to take notes to be able to verbally report back (don’t use the whiteboard)  5-10 “ALL” share ideas and how they change | Instructions slide with steps of the activity on the whiteboard in the Collaborate main room; note to turn talk button on after get into breakout room  Send the main room whiteboard to the breakout rooms if possible |
| 20 min | **User Experience Fishbowl**  Invite participants to optionally stay for a “meta-level” discussion of what it felt like to use the Liberating Structure and facilitate the session; others can leave if they wish.   * Two facilitators take 5 minutes to describe their experience facilitating the session and what they may have learned about using LS, using Collaborate in this way, etc. What went well? What might they have done differently? (Note: This is a meta on the process of the session, not on the content that was discussed.) * Facilitators invite participants to pick up the mic and “enter fishbowl” if they see one is available; max of 4 mics on at any given time. Encourage participants to share questions and experience.   Some other questions to explore during this time: what if this were f2f? what if this were blended? what could have been alternative invitations to use for the same structure that might work in their classes? Discuss pros and cons of using LS.  Wrap-up and invite to next session |  |