Small Team Problem-Based Learning in an Interdomain Course

Presenter: Tim Kelsey, Professor of Agricultural Economics, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences

In this interactive session, Tim Kelsey will share the design and implementation of a large enrollment, inter-domain general education course (CED 102N ‘Wicked Problems: What’s the Right Thing to Do?’) which focuses on empowering students to wrestle with so-called wicked, or highly complex, global challenges. The course uses collaborative learning models in which small groups are tasked with writing research case studies addressing wicked challenges (of their choice), including topics such as homelessness, small town revitalization, adoption of electric vehicles, solar energy and farmland loss, and invasive species. Data collected from students in the inaugural offering of the course suggest that desired learning outcomes, such as critical thinking, creative problem solving, and intrinsic motivation, can be reached through scalable, peer-driven approaches to teaching and learning.

Thursday, March 21
Noon–1:30 p.m., via Zoom

Register at forms.office.com/r/tHgKrmwYzm.

With registration, the Zoom link will be provided via your Penn State email 48 hours prior to the event. You will need to be authenticated as a Penn State user to enter the Zoom room.

General Education Colloquium events are a collaboration of the Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence and the Office for General Education.