Center for Teaching and Learning

The Center for Teaching and Learning is a University-wide resource on effective teaching and public speaking for faculty, lecturers, and teaching assistants, on public speaking for undergraduate and graduate students, and on effective learning for undergraduates. All courses listed with CTL promote acquisition of public speaking skills, enhanced learning skills, and/or teaching excellence. Courses offered by the Center for Teaching and Learning are listed under the subject code CTL=on. Explore the catalog or the CTL online course search for the most current course offerings. For further details, see the CTL (http://ctl.stanford.edu) web site.

CTL Services to Faculty, Lecturers, and Teaching Assistants

CTL provides the Stanford community with services and resources on effective teaching. The center’s goals are to:

- Engender and disseminate knowledge and understanding of the newest research on student learning
- Network and support instructors seeking to share ideas and community around teaching
- Stimulate faculty involvement in the scholarship of teaching and learning
- Identify and involve successful faculty, lecturers, and TAs who are willing to share their talents with others
- Provide those who are seeking to improve their teaching with the means to do so
- Acquaint the Stanford community with important innovations and new technologies for teaching
- Prepare new faculty and TAs for their responsibilities
- Contribute to the professional development of teaching assistants
- Expand awareness of the role of teaching at research universities
- Increase the rewards for superior teaching.

CTL is also available to help departments/programs in the design of effective TA training programs.

CTL provides opportunities for undergraduates and graduate students to develop or improve their oral communication skills.

Courses and workshops offer a comprehensive approach to speech communication, including training in the fundamental principles of public speaking and the effective delivery of oral presentations. The goal is to enhance students’ general facility and confidence in oral expression. The program also provides innovative, discipline-based instruction to help students refine their personal speaking styles in small groups and classroom settings.

Those interested in individualized instruction or independent study are invited to make an appointment to use the program’s Speaking Center in Meyer Library, room 123, where trained student tutors, multimedia, and instructional resource materials are available on an ongoing basis.

Students with a passion for public speaking are encouraged to apply to become oral communication tutors; the application process takes place each January.

To schedule appointments, see the Oral Communication Program (http://ctl.stanford.edu/speaking/oralcomm.html) web site. For further details, call (650) 725-4149 or 725-7667 or email speakinghelp@stanford.edu

CTL Services to Undergraduates

CTL provides academic coaching for undergraduates who want to enhance their study approaches and clarify their learning strategies. Through courses, individual counseling, and workshops, CTL helps students build skills that are the foundation for continuous improvement and lifelong learning. Students benefit from developing and applying individually crafted strategies that build on their existing strengths. Time management, test preparation, note taking, reading comprehension and retention, and procrastination are common topics for discussion. Contact adinag@stanford.edu for more information.

Free tutoring is available to undergraduates in many subjects; see the Tutoring and Academic Support (http://www.stanford.edu/dept/undergrad/cgi-bin/drupal_uai/ARS_) web site for details on where and when tutors can be found. Students with strong academic records, especially in the subject areas that they would like to tutor, may apply and, if accepted, are expected to take CTL’s course on tutoring; the application process takes place each February.

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For questions or requests, email TeachingCenter@stanford.edu.