

2024

# Cougar Capstone Badge OEI Alignment Academy

## Online Education Initiative

The Spring 2024 California Virtual Campus (CVC) Online Education Initiative (OEI) Alignment Academy is developed as an effort to coordinate and support district-wide efforts to increase enrollment and deliver quality online courses by aligning them to the CVC-OEI Course Design Rubric. In Fall 2018 the Cuesta College Local Peer Online Course Review (CC-POCR) team was developed with trained online faculty to provide personalized feedback to assist faculty in aligning existing online courses to the adopted OEI Rubric. Studies conducted by the CVC-OEI have shown that courses aligned to the OEI Rubric have almost a 5% greater student success rate than courses which are not aligned.

The OEI Alignment Academy is unique opportunity where you will work collaboratively with a team throughout this process. Your team includes a faculty facilitator who is an experienced online instructor and instructional designer who has both course design and accessibility expertise. Participants will attend meetings on each element of the OEI Rubric, then work asynchronously and collaboratively with their facilitator and instructional designer in the modality of your choice (in person or remotely).

The OEI Alignment Academy will include required in person or synchronous meetings with your mentor where you will collaborate to gain a better understanding of the OEI rubric elements. The remainder of the academy will be asynchronous where you will be working at your own pace, with access to resources and personalized support from your OEI Team and instructional designer over a predetermined time frame set by you. The main outcome of the Academy is to re-design your course(s) and provide exemplary online learning opportunities for your students. Upon completion and submitting your OEI Rubric aligned course(s) to the POCR team, you will receive the coveted CVC-OEI's Quality Reviewed badge.

### Participants are expected to:

- Meet regularly with your mentor on a personalized timeline
- Participate in milestones in Canvas
- Use various resources to align your course(s) to the OEI Rubric
- Make substantive revisions to your online course(s)
- Submit a fully online course to the CC-POCR team for review
- Receive feedback and make necessary revisions
- Earn the OEI Badge
- Your course will be submitted to the CVC and recognized on the CVC Exchange

Each **participant** will be required to submit an aligned course to the CC-POCR team review and badging. All participants who complete the OEI Alignment Academy will have an OEI aligned course and receive electronic decals for their email signatures. Two or three faculty are welcome to collaborate on the same course, however each faculty member will be required to submit their own course for review in order to receive the OEI badge for their course.

### In order to earn the badge, the course must align to the OEI Rubric which includes the following:

- **Alignment to Section A: Course Content**  
Objectives, Navigation, Unit and page level chunking, effective use of Canvas Tools, use of multimedia, instructions for learners, learning support, learner feedback, course policies, student services, technical support
- **Alignment to Section B: Interaction**  
Pre course contact, regular effective contact, student-initiated contact, participation
- **Alignment to Section C: Assessment**  
Authenticity, validity, variety, frequency, rubrics, assessment instructions, feedback, self-assessment
- **Alignment to Section D: Accessibility**  
Within Canvas, documents, videos and publisher content: Heading styles, lists, descriptive links, tables, color, images alt text, slides, video/audio

### Requirements

- The participants must be an active faculty member; part-time or full-time
- The faculty member is recognized to teach in the online modality
- The faculty member has taught the identified course in the online format for at least 1 year
- The course chosen to align has received the regular course approval and includes 100% Distance Education addendum

### How to Register:

We highly recommend that before registering, you have completed formal online teaching training. Some examples of training can be found on our [Online Teaching Training](#) page. If you would like to discuss training you have completed, or may want to pursue, please contact the DE standards subcommittee. We want to help make sure you are prepared for the OEI alignment process.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT [cwilshus@cuesta.edu](mailto:cwilshus@cuesta.edu)