

**Faculty Learning Community for Digital Storytelling for Educators:
Creating Voices and Connections Inside
and Outside the College Classroom**

Leader(s): Lucia Gordon, Faculty, Communication Department and
Fred Avalos, Faculty Fellow, Beloved Community

Description

Good story telling reaches down deeply into our minds, hearts, and spirits. Digital stories are both a process and a product designed to allow us to see each other's humanity from a richer and more nuanced perspective. These brief 2-3 minute videos invite the storyteller to share a decisive moment of triumph, joy, and personal, professional and institutional challenges they have experienced as a member of the campus community.

Now, more than ever, as we move through these tumultuous and challenging times, the need to create a campus community of caring and compassion has never been more critical. Our educational and professional journeys, the details of the work we do, the culture of characters that inhabit our workplace, and our philosophical relationship to the profession that we have chosen contains many stories. As we write, create, reflect, and listen deeply to our own stories and those of our colleagues, we will create an organizational narrative mosaic that will help us share our voices so that others may be inspired to find theirs.

Digital stories themselves become instruments for intercultural discussion and team building. Digital stories provide an excellent vehicle for deep personal reflection about us and our lived experience. There is much evidence-based research that reflects how digital stories can address difficult topics including issues surrounding race, class, gender, and social inequality.

FLC Learning Outcomes

This FLC will have three learning outcomes/goals:

- 1) Participants will learn the mechanics and multiple pedagogical approaches of digital story telling.
- 2) Participants will make 1-2 Digital Stories about campus life and learning. I will work in collaboration with Dr. Fred Avalos, Faculty Fellow, Beloved Community, to use digital stories to help create a more connected and reflective campus community. Engaging in the digital story process will allow participants to reflect on their own pedagogical journeys and positionalities, while at the same time learning the creative process and protocols of Digital Story Telling.

3) Participants will be given pedagogical tools that support student learning outcomes and best practices for using Digital Stories in classrooms. These tools will also include assessment/evaluation rubrics. It is important to note that no specific video processing technology skills will be required.

Who should apply?

Digital stories are both a process and product. Faculty who are interested in developing new and creative ways to engage students are encouraged to apply. Furthermore, faculty who are interested in engaging in an introspective and reflective journey about their own lives and pedagogical practices are also welcomed to apply. No specific video processing technology skills are required.

How will faculty be selected?

Successful candidates should indicate how they think storytelling might enhance and add value to their current course(s). Particular attention will be given to applicants aiming to focus their FLC work on: diversity, commitment to equity, dialogue, and seeking new innovative pedagogical approaches.

What are the deliverables?

- Participants will create 1-2 Digital Stories.
- Participants will integrate their personal Digital Stories into the organizational narrative mosaic of CSUSM through the Beloved Community initiative.
- Participants will develop one activity/project to incorporate Digital Stories into their courses.

Time Commitment

The FLC will meet for two hours every three weeks for the entire 2021-22 academic year. Below are the dates and times for each semester:

Fall Semester Dates: 10/1, 10/22, 11/12, 12/3
11:30am-1:30 pm

Spring Semester Dates: 02/04, 02/25, 03/18, 04/08, 04/29
11:30am-1:30 pm

Compensation

Faculty will receive \$500 compensation for participating in the FLC, upon completion of action plan and missing no more than 2 meetings.

Application:

Please make a statement (no more than 500 words) that details how you think storytelling might enhance and add value to your course, and professional lives at CSUSM. Fill out this [application](#). Priority will be given to faculty who submit their application by **September 10, 2021**.