

CAUCE 2025

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Knowledge Knows No Boundaries



CAUCE

Canadian Association for
University Continuing Education





ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
UNIVERSITY

CONCURRENT SESSION 4

BEYOND THE SCREEN: SHAPING ONLINE LEARNING FOR TODAY'S STUDENTS

Presenter: Jennifer Farrell, Manager, Undergraduate & Open Learning

Jennifer Farrell, Matea Drljepan, and Shafik Nanji

Centre for Online Learning & Professional Studies





About us



Jennifer Farrell
Manager,
Undergraduate &
Open Learning



Matea Drljejan
Coordinator,
Learning
Innovation



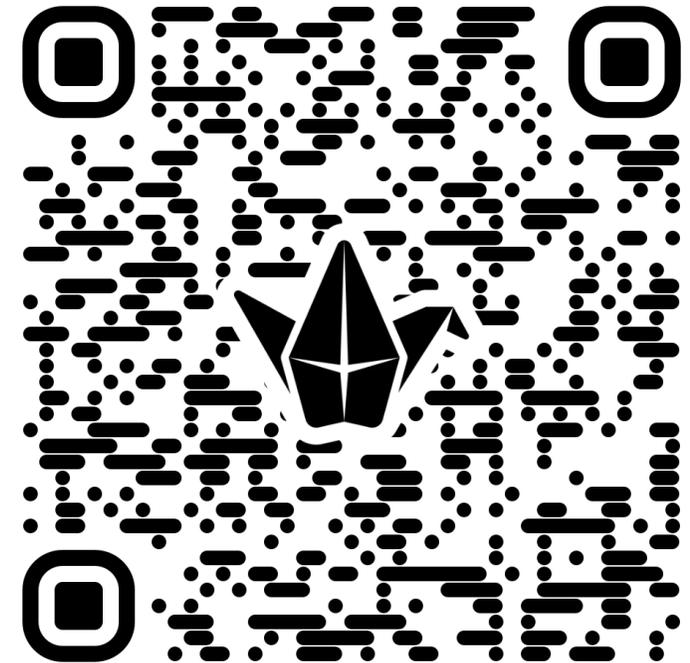
Shafik Nanji
Interim Director,
StFX Online





Lifelong Learning Means...

Padlet Activity: <https://tinyurl.com/22e43675>





How Today's Learners Have Changed

- More likely to be working, commuting, caregiving
- Non-traditional learners (25+)
- Expectations:
 - ✓ Flexibility
 - ✓ Quality multimedia
 - ✓ Peer interaction
 - ✓ Accessibility



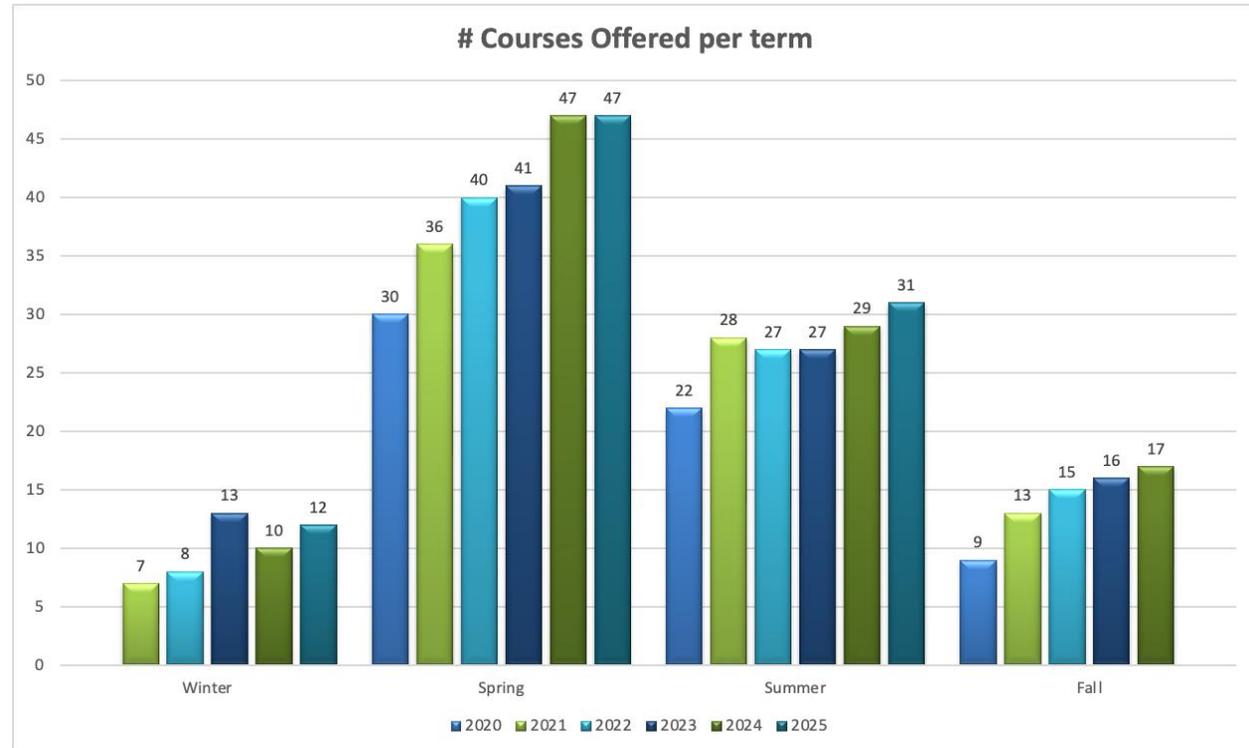


StFX Online Undergraduate Offerings

Registration Numbers



Courses Offered per term

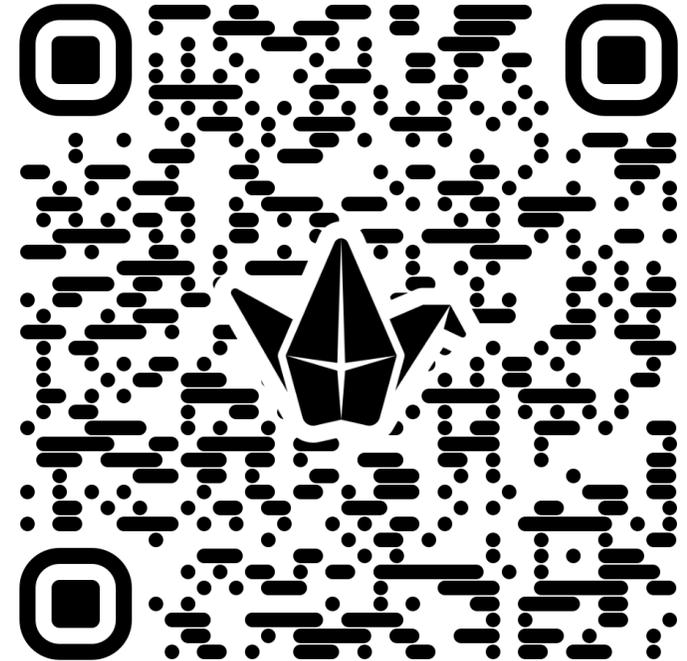




Let's check back in...

Padlet Activity: <https://tinyurl.com/22e43675>

- What challenges do your online undergraduate students face?





How do we support engaging content?

- ✓ Scaffolded assignments
- ✓ Peer-to-peer forums
- ✓ Audio-visual content
- ✓ Clear milestones and flexibility
- ✓ Accessibility





From Static To Dynamic – StFX Online Learning Innovation Hub

Empowering Faculty, Connecting Industry – On Campus & Beyond

Mission:

To drive innovation in teaching and learning through inclusive, research-informed approaches that connect faculty, students, and professional partners.

Vision:

A trusted, vibrant hub where digital and educational innovation shape the future of learning.

Two Strategic Streams:

- **Faculty Support (Mission-Driven):**
Custom course design, digital pedagogy workshops, tech training, UDL audits, multimedia support
- **Professional Collaboration (Business-Focused):**
Co-developed microcredentials, consulting, innovation forums, workplace-ready training



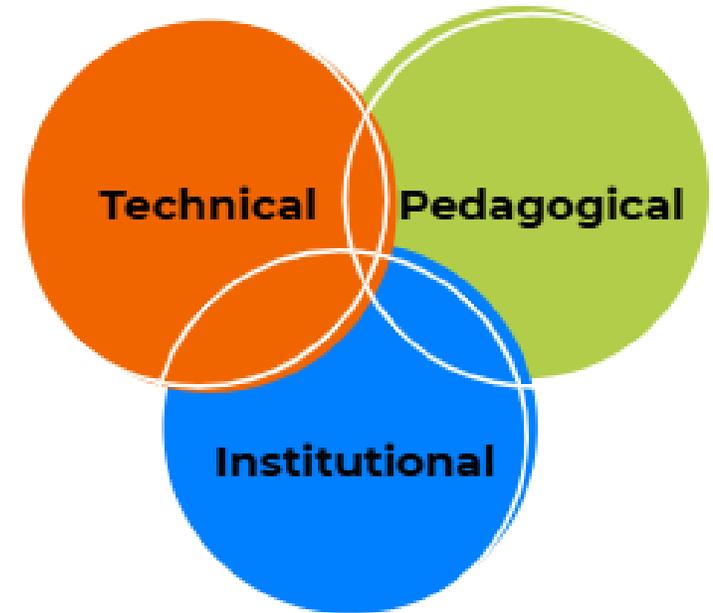


From Static To Dynamic – StFX Online Learning Innovation Hub

A simple purpose: to make all components of online courses the best they can be. StFX has:

- Technical knowledge,
- Institutional know-how,
- Pedagogical training

To facilitate success across campus and bridge that into the online world.





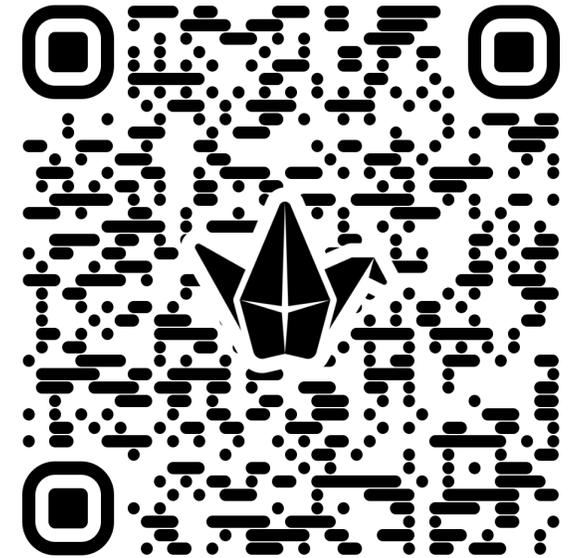
Try It Yourself

Choose one element of a traditional course:

- Midterm/Final Exam
- Essay
- Lecture
- Reading

How could you redesign that for today's learners? How could it be more flexible, more interactive, or more accessible?

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Takeaways – Adaptability

- Flexibility must be built in
- Lifelong learners need accessible, meaningful interaction
- Innovation ≠ complexity—it's about relevance and empathy
- Support – instructors and students





Thank you.

Questions?

Contact: jfarrell@stfx.ca

