



VALPARAISO  
UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR INNOVATION IN TEACHING,  
ASSESSMENT, AND LEARNING

MARCH 26, 2024



Dear Colleagues:

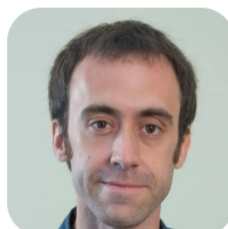
## CITAL

Welcome back from Spring Break! With the second half of the semester upon us, CITAL stands ready to collaborate with you to better meet the needs of students. In this issue, we take a look at what some of your colleagues are doing to increase engagement by traditionally underrepresented voices in the classroom. We also highlight an easy way to use Blackboard to provide extra credit opportunities for students. Finally, we explore the various benefits for faculty surrounding Valpo's Quality Matters membership. This includes self-help, professional development, and an exciting certification opportunity co-sponsored by the Committee to Enhance Learning and Teaching (CELT) and CITAL with partial funding by the Lilly Endowment. As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions, concerns, or suggestions.



Sincerely,

**The CITAL Team (Ed, Gina, and Cindy)**



# Reimagining the Curriculum

Several of your colleagues have been working to increase underrepresented voices in their courses as part of the "Reimagining the Curriculum" (RIC) Initiative. These faculty attended a three-part workshop series last spring and then implemented their curricular projects this year. In this article, Theresa Carroll (CONHP) talks about a case study she used for occupational therapy students, Alberto López Martín (World Lang & Culture) explains how he included texts from the diasporic communities and migrants in Spain in a recent course, and Karen Hernes (CONHP) describes her new seven-week course on inequities in our healthcare system. The RIC initiative was sponsored by the team implementing one aspect of the Action Agenda for Racial Equity and Inclusion.

To read more, click here: [Reimagining the Curriculum](#)

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## How were your students' midterm grades?

**Would you like to give your students an opportunity to earn some extra credit points?**

That is easy to do with an auto-grading test (quiz) in Blackboard. Here's how:

1. [Create your quiz](#) and assign a calculated total point value for the extra credit.
2. Add the quiz to a content area or learning module.
3. In the Grade Center, scroll to your Extra Credit Quiz Column.
4. From the drop-down menu, Choose "Edit Column Information."
5. Select the Check Box to Manually override the calculated total.
6. Enter 0 (zero) for the "Points Possible."

This process allows you to give your students extra credit points without adding those points to the total points possible for the course.

If you have questions or would like some help setting up extra credit points in Blackboard, we would be happy to help you. Just submit a [CITAL Help Desk Ticket](#).

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## QM Membership = Resources for Continuous Improvement

**VALPO's QM membership** provides you with tools, resources, opportunities, and connections to optimize your courses and provide high-quality educational experiences. You'll need a Valpo QM faculty membership account, so please submit a [CITAL Faculty Help Desk Ticket](#) to make your request.



Once your account is created, you can go to [MyQM](#) to use the [confidential course self-review tool](#) to test how your online course matches up with the best practices in the Specific Review Standards from the QM Higher Education Rubric.

### Take Advantage of QM's Free Offerings

Consider these four areas as you plan the next step on your journey of continuous improvement — and **start tapping into QM's free resources today!**

- [QM Success Stories](#) — Find out how other institutions are using QM to meet learner needs. Explore these monthly webinars, or access an archive of nearly ten years of content!
- [Accessibility and Usability Resource Site](#) — Find solutions to common accessibility and usability challenges for your students on this community-led compendium.
- [Elements of QM: Deliver on Your Online Promise](#) — Discover QM's tools and resources in this one-hour, self-paced course.
- [Quality Learning With QM Master Class](#)— Take this course to learn how to embed quality standards in your online course.

### QM Higher Education Teaching Online Certificate

With funding from the Lilly Endowment and the Center for Innovation in Teaching, Assessment, and Learning (CITAL), the Committee to Enhance Learning and Teaching (CELT) is accepting faculty applications for the Higher Education Teaching Online Certificate. This Quality Matters (QM) program provides an opportunity for faculty to begin or enhance their online teaching skills through seven facilitated courses. You can find more information on applying at the link below:

[Higher Education Teaching Online Certificate: General Information](#)

[Visit the CITAL Website, Your One-Stop-Shop for Faculty Resources](#)

[Submit a CITAL Helpdesk Ticket](#)



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