

## [Website Review] *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning* Created by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Kennesaw State University, USA

https://facultydevelopment.kennesaw.edu/scholarly-teaching/scholarship-teaching-learning.php

The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning website falls under the umbrella of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) at Kennesaw State University (KSU). The goal is to "offer programs and services rooted in learning science, process education, human development, organizational development, and assessment theory." Hillary Steiner, Associate Director for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, manages the content and the development of the website.

The website is mainly intended to support KSU faculty members who are planning to engage or are already engaged in conducting SoTL research. It provides information on local SoTL programs and initiatives, such as the SoTL Scholars program, listserv, and faculty learning communities, as well as on the SoTL Summit, an annual conference held at KSU.

Perhaps most relevant for a wider audience are the SoTL resources that the website maintains, including a directory of SoTL journals and one of SoTL conferences. The website also includes a list of topics and questions that might be of interest to someone new to SoTL. These are linked to additional pages or documents with more thorough information. For example, one such question is: What is SoTL? Clicking the link takes the user to a brief video that introduces SoTL's focus and goals as well as a PDF with information on what SoTL is, why do SoTL, examples of SoTL projects at KSU, and frequently asked questions about SoTL. An additional document includes tips, developed by KSU SoTL scholars, for those new to SoTL. The list of tips is comprehensive, ranging from general questions to advice on research design, literature review, and data collection and analysis.

A particularly interesting resource is a toolkit called <u>Hopscotch 4-SoTL</u> intended for those who are new to SoTL and would like some help with project planning. It is a "conceptual model and a webtool created with the aim of helping novice researchers in the development of solid and well-informed research designs." The tool was developed collaboratively by KSU and Universidad Complutense de Madrid faculty and is available in two languages: English and Spanish. The model can be used in different ways, but its main goal is to help SoTL newcomers learn about the steps involved in SoTL research. These include how to: generate and develop a research design using qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods; create a visual representation of a research design; conduct a literature review; and create a visual representation of the conceptual framework supporting the research study. Teachers can use Hopscotch 4-Teachers to create a design for a classroom study.

Overall, KSU's *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning* website is a trustworthy and professionally designed site that provides up-to-date information to the academic community. It is mainly text-based, although some links lead to brief audio and video materials, as well as an interactive toolkit. The website is predominantly geared towards local faculty as it provides detailed information on the funding,

research, and collaboration opportunities available to KSU faculty through CETL. It is also extremely useful, however, for scholars who are new to SoTL and are looking for guidance in terms of how to approach a SoTL project, how to design their research, and how to engage with a wider community of scholars with similar interests.

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