

Faculty Voices

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence is proud to highlight Dr. Austin Trantham, whose innovative approach to teaching Political Science helps students connect complex ideas through immersive learning.

Dr. Trantham uses experiential simulations that place students inside real-world decision-making environments. "My American Presidency students engage in a White House Crisis Simulation where they assume the role of an administration official to assess and advise a sitting president on a domestic or foreign policy crisis. Each of my Constitutional Law classes features an end-of-term Moot Court Simulation that transforms the classroom into a courtroom. Students role-play attorneys or Supreme Court justices in an oral argument about a fictitious case illustrating a key course topic."

He explains, "In both types of simulations, students must constructively engage with one another while continually making choices about the proper advice to give or evidence to present while staying true to their role. I find it extremely rewarding to witness students using terminology correctly, tying concepts together, and demonstrating our Core Values of Respect and Excellence with their peers."

Dr. Austin Trantham -

Assistant Professor of Political Science
Department of Social Sciences



Connect with Austin:
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Read the full article here:
[linkedin.com saintleo](https://www.linkedin.com/saintleo)



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from the CTLE

Exploring SLU's Microsoft CoPilot 365



In 5 minutes learn how to find SLU's CoPilot, check out all the awesome features at your fingertips, and see why Saint Leo University's Microsoft Copilot has an advantage over other Large Language Models.

SLU's CoPilot365 Teach for Lesson Planning

SLU's CoPilot has your back when it comes to lesson planning! Whether you're organizing activities or assessments, this smart tool lets you build, shape, and personalize your plans all in your own teaching style. Pull content straight from your OneDrive or start from scratch, tweak it to fit your needs, and make it uniquely yours. Dive in and discover how CoPilot Lesson Plan can turn planning from a chore into a breeze!

Save the Date Faculty Development Day 1/6/26 @ 9:00 am

Faculty Development Day Spring 2026



Teaching Tips

Want to spark deeper thinking during lectures? Use [Microsoft Forms](#) to add quick multiple-choice or open-ended questions to your slides. Students respond from any device, and instant results help you guide discussion and clarify misconceptions. A short pair-share after open-ended questions strengthens understanding. Start with one or two questions per class to keep it simple and engaging.



Now Open! CTL 240: Assessment Strategies in the Age of AI

AI is transforming how we teach and assess learning. This practical, hands-on course will help you design assessments that either minimize AI use or harness its potential—while keeping student learning and critical thinking at the center.

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Courses for Teaching and Learning

