

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:

Flexibility at the Heart of Learning and Teaching

10th (with two-year interruption due to COVID) Annual
Augustana Conference on Undergraduate Research and Innovative Teaching (ACURIT)
Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta in Camrose, AB
In-Person May 8 & 9, 2025

DEADLINE - Abstracts due Monday, January 6, 2025 (extended)

Submit via the link at: <https://www.ualberta.ca/augustana/research/acurit>

The teaching landscape has changed and it is more important than ever to be flexible in our teaching methods, modalities, and assessments. The COVID pandemic exacerbated the need to change. Student expectations for flexibility in course design and delivery remain high across all disciplines. ACURIT 2025 is an interdisciplinary conference exploring the roles, strengths, and limitations of flexibility in undergraduate education.

Proposals may want to focus on one of the following themes:

1. The strengths and limits of flexibility
2. Universal design and adapting student assignments to provide flexibility
3. Hybrid and hi-flex teaching
4. Student-led course design
5. Changes in the learning environment and student needs, including: technological change, co-curriculars, challenges of teaching students who were in grade school during the height of the pandemic, or different learning needs.

Other topics are welcome.

Student participation is encouraged through reflections on the importance or experiences of flexibility, contributing to course design, navigating formal accommodations, assignment design, and choose-your-own-adventure.

University Instructors and undergraduate students from all disciplines are invited to submit an abstract for one of the following types of presentations:

- **Traditional (or not so traditional, perhaps?) Paper** presentations of 20 minutes on a topic related to the theme (including time for questions).
- **Workshops** where the presenters engage participants in a more in-depth and active exploration of their topic or practice
- **Teaching Tricks in 5 Minutes:** Share your best tip for student engagement, course management, assessments, or anything that makes teaching better! Followed by 5 minutes for questions.
- **Kitchen Table Sessions:** Presenters will lead short, intense conversations on a particular topic or technique for 20 minutes to a small group.
- **Choose Your Own Presentation - Posters, Art Exhibits, Displays, and More!** Step away from the traditional length or format of the presentation. Share in your abstract what type of

presentation you have in mind, and be sure to indicate the desired length of your presentation, too.

Elements to be submitted via the abstract submission form:

- Authors and their affiliations
- Title of the proposed session
- Type of presentation
- Abstract of a maximum of 300 words outlining the content and its contribution to the conference and the theme
- Brief description of how the presentation will engage the audience
- Short biography of the main presenter (maximum 100 words)

Abstracts are subject to a peer-review process. Applicants will be notified of submission decisions in late February 2025.

If you have any questions about the conference, please contact the organizers at acurit@ualberta.ca