



ON COURSE®

EMPOWER | ENGAGE | EVIDENCE | EQUITY

Jonathan Brennan

On Course Facilitator

DR. JONATHAN BRENNAN is a faculty member in the English Department at Mission College in Santa Clara, California. He is a researcher in best practices in student success, holds a BA/MA in English, an MA in Counseling Psychology, a PhD in Ethnic Studies (UC Berkeley), and an EdD in Leadership and Change (Fielding University). He has chaired the Student Success Committee, served as VP of the Academic Senate, and on multiple distance learning committees. He has led best practices workshops in engaging learners for over 5000 educators. He received the California State Hayward Education Excellence and Stanback-Stroud Diversity awards.

Brennan has been teaching online courses since 2003, and was a member of the Academic Senate Committee on Distance Learning. He has taught using multiple cms platforms, including ETUDES, Blackboard, Angel and Canvas. He has assessed online courses for the demonstration of regular, effective student contact and engaged learning. He developed the new On Course Online workshop in 2018 and is the lead designer of the new, engaging On Course Zoom workshops. On Course workshops offer educators the opportunity to acquire new best practices in both supporting online learners in strengthening non-cognitive variables and in designing and implementing active online learning structures.

A Few Testimonials for Dr. Jonathan Brennan

It was definitely to "practice what you preach." It felt a lot more effective than some other workshops I've been through. I enjoyed being able to talk things through with colleagues. I also have previously bought Jonathan's book and I liked this method of going through examples more than just reading. –Barbara Kramer, Professor of Chemistry, Truman State University, MO

The move to Zoom worked really well and provided me with useful online strategies and tools I will use in future online class environments. All the different opportunities for interaction were really helpful. –Laurie Bauer, Developmental Reading, UC Blue Ash, OH

That was the longest Zoom session I have participated in, but it was one of the most engaging Zoom sessions I've participated in. Jonathan and Carolina did a great job and kept it very interesting and varied the whole way through. –Lesley-Anne Loon, Administrative Assistant III, Cypress College Foundation, Cypress College, CA

Jonathan Brennan is the best facilitator I have ever worked with. Thank you for such a wonderful experience.... Where were you when I was in college? –Suzanne Goodrich, LAS / Social Science, Milwaukee Area Technical College, WI

I enjoyed this workshop. You are a great presenter, Jonathan. Thanks! –Mariah Beck, Chair, Math and Developmental Education, Umpqua Community College, OR

Jonathan did an excellent job of modeling the concepts he was presenting. He listened well and acknowledged people's concerns by reframing them beautifully. –John Osborne, Faculty, English, Butte College, CA

Your teaching technique is superb. I have learned so much and commit to using as much as I can with students, staff and even my family. –Maddy Jeffs, Vice President for Student Services, Columbia Basin College, WA

Jonathan is a master teacher. I have been teaching for 35 years and have never seen better teaching. I'm in awe. –Marybeth Mason, Faculty, English, Chandler Gilbert College, AZ

The workshop last week was a resounding success, and everyone appreciated Jonathan's expertise, willingness to hear and work with varying points of view, and his great sense of humor. I'm sure this college will want to host another workshop in a year or so, and we're already working on identifying people to attend the On Course I and II Workshops, as well as the National Conference. Everyone who was there wants to be on the On Course newsletter mailing list—that says it all, doesn't it? –Diana Babayan, Chair and Faculty, ESL, Santiago Canyon College, CA

Thank you so very much for coming to Lane and beautifully facilitating the On Course Workshop. The participants really appreciated the opportunity and felt the day was well worth their time. I respect your ability to be so open to all questions and comments. –Mary Parthemer, Director, TRIO Learning Center, Lane Community College, OR

I had no idea I would benefit so much by going through [the On Course I Workshop] again...I learned as much the second time as I did the first time when I took it with Skip...I came away with more ideas, motivation, friends, and enthusiasm than I thought possible. You are an outstanding instructor. –Alice Franey, Faculty, Mathematics, US Air Force Academy Prep School, CO

Jonathan made me feel valued personally in the way he listened to my comments and the comments of others. –Kate Beley, Counselor, El Camino College, CA

I appreciate the completeness and the thought that has gone into the workshop, as well as the social skills evidenced in Jonathan's facilitation of it. –Jim Handy, Director, Counseling & Advisement Center, El Centro College, TX

Jonathan is a phenomenal facilitator. I'm paying \$10/hour for a babysitter today, and I must say that this workshop is worth every penny I spent. Thank you! –Roberta Tragarz, Associate Professor, Santiago Canyon College, CA

Your presentation provided an excellent model for expert teaching, class management and the power of expert discourse. All combined made for an excellent professional development journey. –Milagros Asperin, Guidance Instructor, Chaffey College, CA

Dr. Brennan is a wonderful facilitator. He is engaging, patient, a strong listener. This workshop was not what I expected, which is good because it exceeded my expectations! It is an excellent experience in learning that I can't wait to share with my classes. –Vel Wiley, Faculty, Business and Leadership, Milwaukee Area Technical College, WI

Jonathan was a great model of how to present material in a way that makes the audience feel valued and useful. I signed up for this workshop because after more than 20 years of teaching I began to feel burned out and ineffective this year. I felt a real need to inject something new into my teaching to make it fun again for me and my students. I can hardly wait to get back to it now! –Hugh Read, Faculty, Writing, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, CN

I liked how Jonathan was able to be flexible and allow more time for an activity if needed. I have been to many workshops and this was by far the best. –Nancy Roe, Enrollment Support Specialist, Columbia Basin College, WA

The facilitation was flawless. –Greta Hendricks, Faculty, El Camino College, CA

This is an excellent workshop and an excellent instructor. –Salwa Rashad, Faculty, Mathematics, Madison Area Technical College, WI

Thank you. These words simply cannot express how thankful I am to you for making the On Course training a huge success. When I read the testimonials from Mt. SAC faculty about the training, I was moved to tears. You are an incredible facilitator who demonstrates passion, devotion, and a true calling to change lives. –Patricia Maestro, Bridge Faculty Coordinator, Mt. San Antonio College, CA

Jonathan is truly empathetic, demonstrates care, and listens actively. Thank you! You created a safe and warm environment to share. –Denise Saucedo, Counselor Apprentice, Chaffey College, CA

What a great model Jonathan is—you are peaceful, wise and non-judgmental! Our students are blessed to have you as a model. –Debbie Beall, Faculty, Psychology, Corning Community College, NY

Jonathan is engaging and informative. I feel empowered to be a stronger teacher and more responsible leader. –Marcelle E. H. Stay, Faculty, Communication Studies, Lane Community College, OR

Jonathan did an outstanding job. One of my goals was to experience value...Jonathan, you got the job done! –Hector Sanchez, Counselor, Mount San Antonio College, CA

This workshop has equipped me with Power Tools! to do the best that I can with what I have to work with. I plan on building our students up with the tools that I've acquired from On Course. Jonathan Brennan is a phenomenal facilitator who I believe has met his calling. Bravo! –Karen Stills-Jones, Coordinator, School Alliance Coordinator, El Centro College, TX

I enjoyed Jonathan's manner and feel he did an excellent job role modeling the skills. He obviously walks the talk. Thank you. –Dave Schmaus, Faculty, Mathematics, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, CN

Jonathan rocks! Very motivational and rewarding. He has such a positive attitude and is an outstanding role model! –Kristen Kendrick, LSSU Escanaba Regional Center Director, Bay de Noc College, MI

Jonathan demonstrated and set a perfect model of how invisible and visible a guide one can be in a learner-centered learning environment. I was very grateful to have the opportunity to walk this path with him and the supportive and dedicated participants. –Yuki Yamamoto, Faculty, ESL, Cuyamaca College, CA

Jonathan is a master at modeling the concepts/strategies/disposition of learner-centered instruction. Thanks for walking the talk. –Sue Ellen Warren, Faculty, El Camino College, CA

Jonathan modeled the behaviors I'd like to have when I teach; he also modeled using the very strategies he taught us to use with our students. Thank you, Jonathan! –Meghan Chen, Director, Learning Assistance Center, Mount San Antonio College, CA

Thank you, Jonathan, for the most enjoyable 3 days I have had in years. You have inspired me to return to my classroom with new found confidence and reminded me of why I chose teaching as a profession years ago. I wish I had even half of your energy. –Lawrence R. Peterson, Academic Support Centers, Milwaukee Area Technical College, WI

I appreciated Jonathan's leadership style. He was very informative as well as fun to be around. He did a super job! –Matt Diehl, SSS Program Coordinator, Central College, IA

Many thanks to Jonathan for his creativity, his expert role modeling of effective facilitation, his deep commitment to our campus and our faculty, his extraordinary listening skills and his sense of fun and the enthusiasm he brings to everything he does. –Kristie Daniel-DiGregorio, Faculty, Behavioral and Social Sciences, El Camino College, CA

Jonathan did so much good modeling. I have been a developmental educator for 35 years so I have been to many workshops. This is the only one where the presenter has walked the walk and talked the talk so well. –Bev Bruner, Faculty, Reading, Phoenix College AZ

Jonathan, you have a great way of modeling the skills you present. You definitely practice what you preach, and I learned a great deal about how I can improve my presentation delivery skills as well as my personal communications. –Allison Lomond, Counselor, College of the North Atlantic, Qatar

Jonathan is a fabulous facilitator! Educators can be a hard audience. He did a great job of acknowledging expertise and moving toward further learning. –Jane Lowe-Webster, Counselor, Bellingham Technical College

Jonathan “walks the talk!” He provides an excellent demonstration of effective, learner-centered instruction. –Martin Bednarek, Counselor, College of San Mateo, CA

I appreciate Jonathan’s skill and expertise as a teacher and workshop facilitator. He modeled what we were asked to learn and made learning fun and exciting. I’m eager to use these strategies with my students. –Sally Beck, Program Coordinator, Chemeketa Community College, OR

Jonathan, you’re so polished as a facilitator/presenter. I specifically like how well organized and timely you are. You’re the professional’s professional. –Steve Schommer, Counselor, San Diego City College, CA