

TLC Symposia

Each TLC Online Symposium is an hour-long presentation that includes an open question-and-answer discussion. A Worth Faculty Advisor or Author hosts each Symposium over the phone and on the Internet via WebEx. Registration is free and open to all instructors. The TLC Symposiums may qualify as professional development hours at your institution.

Every Teacher Needs a Little TLC.

Teaching. Learning. Community.

Street Stats:

Using Real-World Examples to Teach Scientific Literacy across the Psychology Curriculum

Susan A. Nolan, Seton Hall University

Scientific literacy is arguably the most important skill for psychology majors to acquire. And as research indicates, it is a skill that can be strengthened by connecting the study of psychology to the lives students lead. Studies have shown that cognitive load is reduced when instructors present new material—say, a statistical concept like correlation—in the context of something students already understand. Thus, by applying quantitative thinking to March Madness college basketball, *Cosmo* quizzes, fake news in *The Onion*, rhyme density in hip hop songs, or *American Idol* rankings, students are able to more readily understand complex scientific ideas and methods.

In these sessions, Susan Nolan shares a framework for helping you teach students to think like scientists. Included are a wide range of sure-fire real-world examples you can embed across the psychology curriculum—from introductory classes to capstone courses—as you show students how to become more proficient in their scientific and quantitative reasoning.

To register, visit macmillanhighered.webex.com and click on "Training Center." Susan Nolan is offering her presentation at two different times. Register for the time that works best for you.

Having trouble? Contact tlc@worthpub.com for assistance.







About the Presenter: Susan A. Nolan

Susan A. Nolan is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychology at Seton Hall University. She earned her Ph.D. from Northwestern University, and conducts

research on interpersonal consequences of mental illness and the role of gender in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers, the latter funded in part by NSF. She enjoys teaching a wide range of courses, and integrates scientific reasoning into every course she teaches.

Susan is the co-author of two statistics textbooks for the behavioral sciences, and has joined Sandra and Don Hockenbury as co-author of their bestselling introductory psychology textbooks. She is a Vice President of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP), and an STP Master Teacher Speaker, having recently chaired STP's Statistical Literacy Presidential Task Force. Susan also is the Treasurer of Division 52 of APA (International Psychology), a representative from the American Psychological Association to the United Nations, and the incoming President-Elect of the Eastern Psychological Association.