

Keynote 1: Applying the Science of Learning to the Teaching of Psychology

Monday 1 September 2025 12:30 (1 hour)

Abstract:

Educational reforms intended to address problems and improve student outcomes often involve a complete overhaul of curricula and/or pedagogy. The science of learning offers a different approach in focusing on how small changes can have a big effect on student success. This session will reveal simple, but powerful principles that can be implemented within any curriculum or pedagogical approach, including those used in the teaching of psychology. Guidance about how to make evidence-based decisions when designing learning experiences will be framed within a larger pedagogical approach that aims to improve long-term retention, promote deeper understanding, and motivate engagement and persistence in the face of challenge.

Biographical information:

Dr. Andrew C. Butler is a Professor in the Department of Education and the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. His research focuses on applying the science of learning to enhance educational practice with an emphasis on understanding the complexity of implementation within different educational contexts. He is interested in student-centered interventions that leverage simple but powerful principles to improve long-term retention, promote deeper understanding, and motivate engagement and persistence in the face of challenge. In addition, he is interested in helping teachers to acquire knowledge about how to use the science of learning to improve and expand their pedagogy.

Is the first author also the speaker?

Yes

If first author is not the speaker, please indicate speaker's name here:

Please indicate up to five keywords regarding the content of your contribution

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