

OTLC: “While We Teach, We Learn” – 02-25-2023

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The Roman philosopher Seneca coined this phrase almost 2000 years ago, and it is still true today. Oakmont Technology Learning Center (OTLC) volunteer instructors echo this phrase, most of us saying that by teaching or assisting in a class, we learn more than our students do.

OTLC spring class registration opened at 6:30am on January 31st, and almost every class was filled by 10:30am with long waiting lists. The current all-volunteer instructors love teaching and sharing their knowledge but can only teach so many classes each year.

OTLC needs more instructors so we can offer more classes, both multiple sessions of existing classes and new classes. When asked if they want to teach or assist, people say “oh, I don’t know enough”, but instructors and assistants don’t always know the answers to every question. We DO know how to use Google or other resources to find the answers.

Remember, most of us had to make presentations in our working lives. Teaching an OTLC class is easier than in the business world - fewer students, all eager to learn, course materials are developed, assistants are there to help, and it’s so gratifying. If you have an idea for a new class and want help developing it, we are open to it.

If you’re one of those people who help your friends and neighbors with their tech issues, maybe you’d like to come assist in one of our classes and see what it’s all about. Most of our instructors started by being an assistant to another instructor. We learn something new with every class, and our students are so appreciative. We all have knowledge to share with others.

For more information about OTLC, visit oakmont-learning.org. There is a CONTACT US form if you’d like to visit our classroom or talk to us about the typical experience of being an instructor or assistant in our classes.