

Cindy Klevickis

SENCER Leadership Fellow

Biosketch

Dr. Cindy Klevickis has taught Biotechnology, Cell Biology, Human Genetics and Science for Future Teachers at James Madison University and has been the recipient of a number of teaching and service awards. Cindy is the advisor for a residential learning community for JMU freshmen who are going to be teachers. She is also the Professor in Residence at Huguenot High School in Richmond, VA.

Cindy played a major role in developing an integrated science core curriculum at JMU called "[Understanding our World.](#)" The objectives of these courses are based on National Science Education Standards and Virginia Science Standards of Learning including earth and space science, chemistry, physics, life sciences, and environmental science. As an integrated package, this course sequence addresses basic science content, calculation skills, the philosophy and history of science, the process of how science is done, the role of science in society, and applications of computers and technology in science. Keeping in mind that students tend to teach in the same way they were taught, ³Understanding our World² core classes embrace the concepts associated with reform in elementary math and science. Beyond content, these courses emphasize inquiry-based learning, student centered classrooms, group learning, creating contexts for learning, treating students with respect, facilitating learning with multiple learning modalities, stimulating interest in science among minorities and women, and alternative methods of assessment. Our goal in creating this new course sequence has been to integrate science content with active learning strategies and models of effective science teaching.