

MAKING CONNECTIONS: Co-creating an undergraduate biodiversity science course

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What is “Making Connections”?

- A TLEF to create a new biodiversity science course in which students, faculty, staff, and community partners are all co-creators.
- The new course features the Beaty Biodiversity Museum and the role of natural history collections in science and society.
- Students will receive a foundation in historical, contemporary and cutting-edge collections-based research and modern museum practices.
- Woven throughout the course are anti-colonial themes of inclusive science practices related to collections, the role of collections in collaborative and reciprocal climate change research, and the inclusion of work by historically-marginalized groups.

The phases of course development

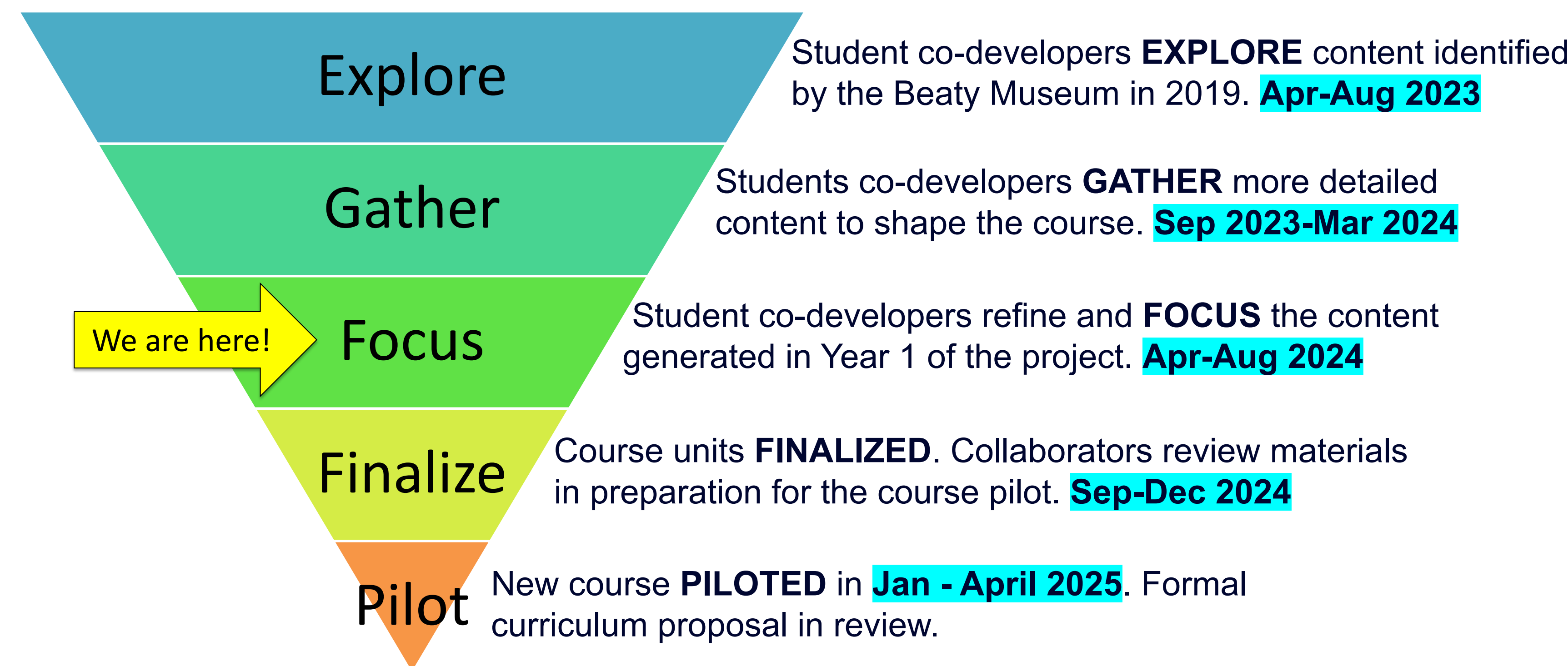


Figure 3: Project roadmap for the two-year development of the new course. Arrow indicates the current phase of the project.

The current FOCUS phase

We are hard at work building the course calendar and lesson plans, integrating all of the feedback received during the GATHER phase.

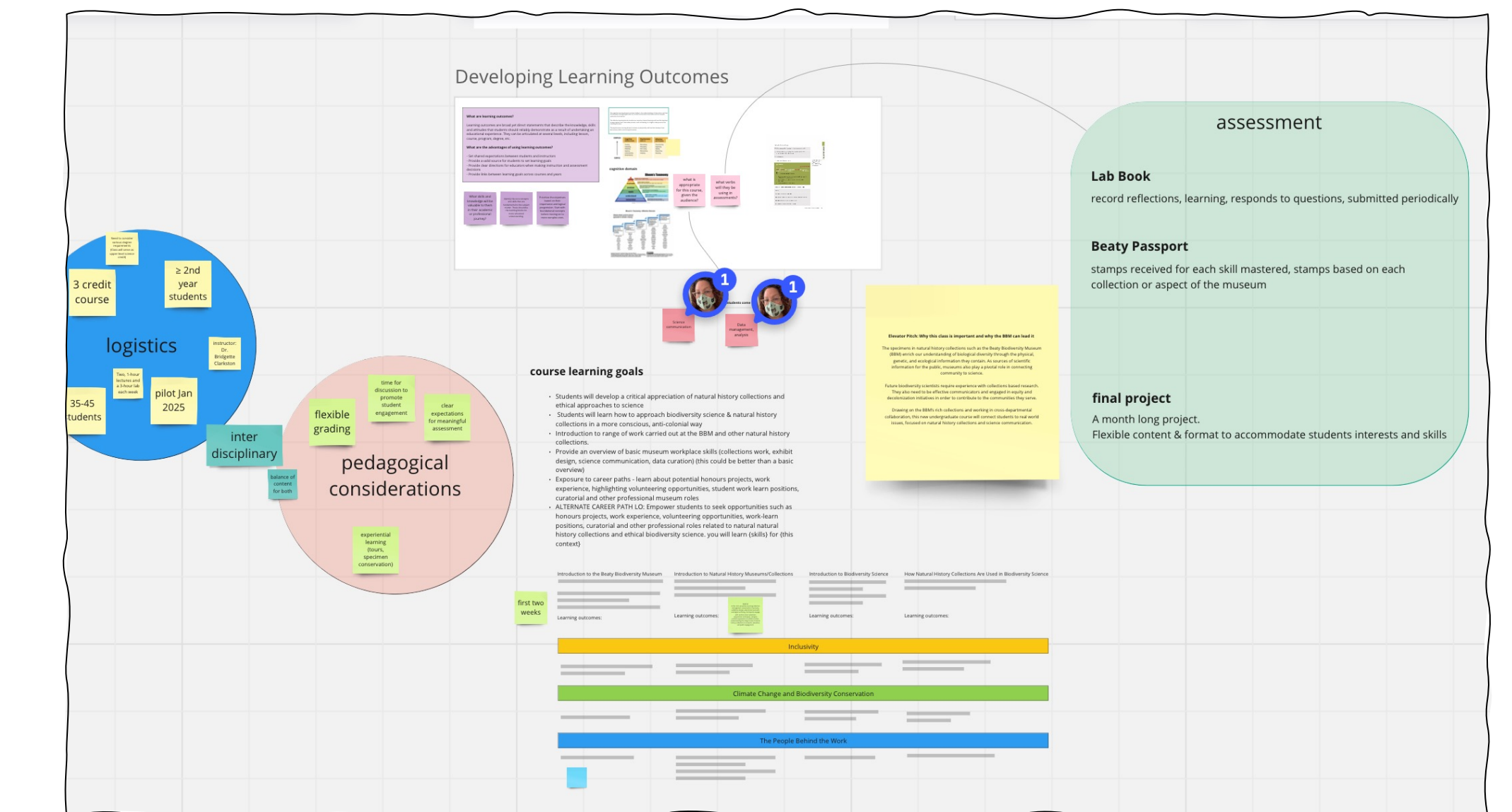


Figure 5: Snapshot of the Miro board used by the Making Connections team to draft big-picture course goals, activities and the course calendar, assisted with feedback and guidance of Nicole Ronan from CTLT



Figure 1: Snapshots of Making Connections events and the Beaty Biodiversity Museum



Figure 2: The Making Connections core team (L to R): Bridgette Clarkston, Mailyn Tran, Riley Plunkett, Fabio Peres Schneider, Jackie Chambers

GATHER Phase Sept 2023- April 2024



Figure 4: Summary of milestones accomplished during the GATHER phase of the Making Connections Project

Ongoing guidance

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