



2021 WORKSHOPS

The following workshops are just a selection of the short virtual sessions that Beth can offer to groups related to the design and facilitation of meetings or learning experiences.

Want something slightly different, or are interested in a longer multi-week course? Beth facilitates both asynchronous and synchronous online learning experiences and has her own learning management system. Connect with her about creating something just for your group.

An Element of Fun: Virtual Games and Activities for Groups

1.5 - 2 hours

When groups get together online, sometimes they just want to have fun! While no one wants to look stupid or feel uncomfortable online, there are ways we can have fun in virtual spaces that will help us breathe life into our meetings and bring our teams closer together. Join this session to have fun – comfortably – and experience some activities and games that you can take back to your teams or groups online.

Beyond the Ordinary: Getting Creative in Virtual Facilitation

2 hours

After dozens or even hundreds of online meetings and training events, all of us crave seeing and doing something a little different in virtual spaces. In this session, we'll use Zoom like you may not have experienced before, pushing the limits of the technology and using it in creative ways. Come expand your thinking about what virtual meetings can and should look like, and add some innovative – and effective – new activities to your repertoire. We'll explore little-done activities using annotation, chat, video & audio, and breakout rooms in this fast-paced and fun session. Leave with more ideas to draw on to continue to strive to make your virtual meetings interactive and engaging.

Liberating Structures Online: Introduction

1.5 - 3 hours

Liberating Structures are a set of 33+ “seriously fun” activities which are also powerful enough to bring groups effectively together in inclusive and collaborative ways. In this virtual session, you’ll learn what Liberating Structures are, why and when you could use them, and how they can enhance interactivity in your online meetings and learning events. You’ll experience several basic Liberating Structures that you’ll be able to turn around and use right away in your own group collaborations. This introductory session is intended for people who have little to no experience with Liberating Structures, or are familiar with them in person but would like to experience them online.

Creating Effective Virtual Learning Experiences

3 hours

While the whole world continues to work on making the shift to learning together online, we need to remember to keep grounding ourselves in what effective participant engagement looks like in any mode. In this session, discover the foundational design best practices we can use to create effective and successful virtual learning events. Join Beth for this interactive session to explore how to plan and design effective virtual sessions that involve and engage your participants.

By the end of the session you will be able to:

- Identify some of your beliefs about what effective learning looks like
- Indicate ways to keep participants at the centre of your design process
- Define the necessary elements to constructively align your agenda
- List a number of participatory activities to use in your virtual sessions

The Business of Breakout Rooms

2 hours

What drives collaboration in online meetings and learning events? Giving people the chance to discuss and brainstorm together in breakout rooms. In this session, we’ll explore everything there is to discover about facilitating breakout room activities in Zoom. You’ll not only experience going into breakout rooms as a participant, you’ll get a chance to facilitate them and press all the buttons. Since you can’t practice breakout rooms alone, come to this session to practice them together with a supportive group. Let’s engage in useful conversation about best practices with breakout rooms that will support you in your online facilitation.

Getting Comfortable with Online Meetings

1.5 hours

In the world we are living in right now, our ability to connect with others depends on our ability to use online tools and platforms. But if you still are experiencing uncertainty about facilitating meetings or learning events online, this session is for you. We'll explore the attitudes and mindsets that are helpful to bring to online facilitation as well as strategies to assist you to build connection with your participants and get comfortable with your technology.

Three Keys to Great Learning Design

1.5 hours

In this session, we'll explore the important topic of learning outcomes and why they are so crucial to the design of our learning events. We'll demystify how you can leverage learning outcomes to create online events where participants actually learn – not just be a fun place to hang out for a while! You'll come away from this engaging session with three key strategies to apply right away to the design of your learning-related events, both face-to-face and online.

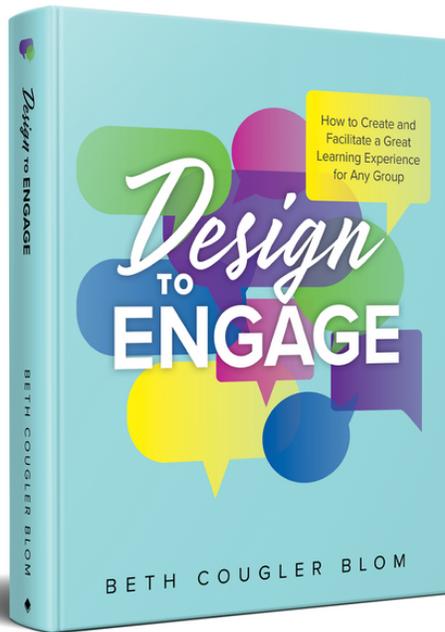
Creating Engaging Online Meetings

1.5 hours

Bringing people together online for meetings should be both meaningful and engaging, but accomplishing it takes intentional design. In this session you'll learn some useful strategies about how to make your meetings more engaging and inclusive and discover where to source participatory activities that work for the online environment. We'll talk about potential activities for opening and closing sessions and for managing people's energy levels as well as basic processes that will work in almost any online meeting.



Beth has created several digital downloads to help you design and facilitate better meetings and learning events and more are on the way. Visit bethcouglerblom.com/shop to see what's available.



BOOK

Design to Engage: How to Create and Facilitate a Great Learning Experience for Any Group

By Beth Cougler Blom

Design to Engage is a "how to" book that will help people become effective designers and facilitators of learning events.

Anyone who works in a community organization, a corporation, a government, a healthcare environment, or otherwise finds themselves facilitating a workshop or course will find priceless advice in this book to help them create engaging and interactive learning experiences.

DESIGNTOENGAGEBOOK.COM

REACH OUT



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BIO

BETH COUGLER BLOM, MEd

Beth Cougler Blom has over 20 years of experience in the field of education, having worked in post-secondary institutions, municipal government and community organizations, and now as an entrepreneur. Beth is a learning designer and facilitator who, through her business, Beth Cougler Blom Facilitation, works with clients across all sectors to design and facilitate effective learning experiences, both face-to-face and online. Beth holds a Master of Education in Adult Education from The University of British Columbia. She lives outside Victoria, BC, Canada with her husband and daughter.

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