HARNESSING AI FOR TEACHING & LEARNING

Faculty Learning Community

Center for Teaching Excellence
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Information Technology
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
Center for Instructional Technology and Training
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What is the Harnessing AI for Teaching & Learning FLC?

The Harnessing AI for Teaching & Learning FLC collectively explores the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) for teaching & learning. In the fall semester, members of this FLC will participate in a series of active learning workshops to apply AI within a diverse range of educational contexts. In the spring, members will develop or revise course content with AI in mind, leveraging the new opportunities created by AI tools. The FLC will collaborate on Research in Teaching & Learning (RiTL) projects that will be shared with the wider UF community at the semi-annual symposium.
UF’s Center for Teaching Excellence promotes student success through transformative learning environments. We invite instructors and graduate students to connect with us, explore innovative strategies, and share best practices that support quality and inclusive teaching for the benefit of all students.

UFIT’s Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT) partners with instructors to create and develop engaging learning experiences that enable student success. Our services include course development, instructional design, video production, educational technology consultations, and learning analytics.
Meet Your Lead Learners
Given the exponential growth of AI, we are all learning alongside each other! Experts in the field of AI are continuing to learn and explore applications. For this FLC, your facilitators will act as lead learners to encourage conversations with expert educators from across UF’s campus who are actively engaged with AI for teaching & learning.

Dr. Alexandra Bitton-Bailey discovered her passion for teaching in 1998 as a graduate student instructor. She has been teaching ever since. She joined the Center for Teaching Excellence in 2015. Since then, she has worked closely to support excellence in teaching and learning across the University of Florida. She works on a wide variety of initiatives and projects including the Passport to Great Teaching, Pathways to Online Teaching Excellence, Interface, First Year Faculty Teaching Academy, Faculty Learning Communities, the Teaching Beyond the Podium Podcast Series, and the Inspired Teaching Newsletter. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Florida in Higher Education Administration, her M.A. in Romance Language Linguistics from the University of Florida, her M.S from Florida State University in Information and Library Science, and her B.A. in History and Anthropology from the University of Florida.
Chris Sharp is an educational technologist with the UFIT Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT). Chris is part of the Learning Innovation & Technology team that explores emerging technologies and how they can be applied to improve teaching and learning across many disciplines. Chris is a member of the UF Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) task force for integrating AI across the curriculum. Through the CITT, Chris consults with faculty regarding AI, extended reality applications, innovative online teaching tools, and other educational technologies.

Margeaux Johnson is a Learning Tools Specialist with the UFIT Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT). She has designed learning experiences for diverse fields including Dentistry, Nursing, Public Health, Engineering, and Mathematics. With 20+ years of experience in higher education, her expertise has focused on pedagogically sound integrations of emerging technologies. Her current research interests as a doctoral student in Educational Technology examine AI/AR/VR learning tools for Interprofessional Education experiences in the health sciences.
Michael Barber Ph.D.,
Assistant Director
Center For Teaching Excellence

Michael was thrilled to join the team at the Center for Teaching Excellence at UF in 2022. He is passionate about learning and teaching, and loves the synergy that he feels when a group gathers to discuss how to improve as learners and teachers. With over 25 years of teaching experience in higher education and a doctorate degree in educational psychology, Michael is always excited to share things he’s learning. He is on a mission to dismantle the paradigms that have made learning and teaching feel artificial and institutional rather than instinctive, social, experiential, and fun. Outside of work, he enjoys baking, DIY projects, and spending time with his family.

Leota O’Malley
Online Course Quality Specialist
Center For Teaching Excellence

As an EduGator and life-long resident of Gainesville, FL, Leota is very excited to join the Center for Teaching Excellence at UF after a nearly 30-year odyssey in teaching. She collaborates in the online course review process, consults on best teaching practices as part of the course review process, and provides Academic Integrity support. She earned her BA in English and M.Ed in Secondary English Education from the University of Florida.
Schedule
Schedule

Workshop 1
**Introduction & Creative Use of AI**
Wednesday, September 6 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center

Workshop 2
**Harnessing AI to Create Content**
Wednesday, September 20 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center

Workshop 3
**Harnessing AI for Assessment**
Wednesday, October 4 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center

Workshop 4
**AI Agents**
Wednesday, October 18 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center

Workshop 5
**Harnessing AI for Grading & Stealth Assessment**
Wednesday, November 1 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center
Workshop 6

**Machine Learning**
Wednesday, November 15 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center

Workshop 7

**AI Ethics and Accessibility**
Wednesday, November 29 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center

Workshop 8

**AI Student Panel & AI Tool Showcase**
Wednesday, December 6 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center

Workshop 9

**Final Capstone**
Wednesday, December 13 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Location: The Center for Teaching Excellence
202 Bryant Space Science Center
Introduction & Creative Use of AI

Wednesday, September 6 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Dr. Reed has been at the forefront of the AI initiative at UF. From the initial discussions about the gift of HiPerGator AI, to the buildout of AI Across the Curriculum, Reed has helped to steer the University of Florida on this new path. Dr. Reed created the Artificial Intelligence Academic Initiative Center (AI2 Center) to support faculty interested in learning about AI and building out new AI courses. The Center also supports UF students who want to learn AI skills and move into AI-empowered jobs. Dr. Reed has worked across the entire campus to make this large initiative a reality. Before leading UF in its artificial intelligence initiative, Dr. Reed was the PI of a genetics/genomics lab that was funded by the National Science Foundation for twenty years in the Florida Museum of Natural History.

Positioned within writing studies, Dobrin’s research focuses on aspects of the Digital Humanities (DH) and Environmental Humanities (EH). Specifically, his work considers the relationship between writing and emerging technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Augmented Reality (AR), and Virtual Reality (VR). Dobrin is the Founding Director of the Trace Innovation Initiative, a research hub that studies emerging writing technologies such as AI, AR, and VR.
Harnessing AI to Create Content

Wednesday, September 20 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Leslie Mojeiko has experience designing, teaching, and advising in higher education settings for the past 15+ years. Throughout those experiences, Leslie has facilitated courses, projects, and workshops designed to impact student success through learning strategies, technology, flipped advising, faculty development, and more. She is passionate about utilizing technology with intention to help meet learning outcomes, make learning more accessible for all, deepen student engagement, and more. Her most recent workshop was Tech Byte: AI Prompt Cookbook: Using Generative AI to Enhance Teaching and Learning.

Chris Sharp is an educational technologist with the UFIT Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT). Chris is part of the Learning Innovation & Technology team that explores emerging technologies and how they can be applied to improve teaching and learning across many disciplines. Chris is a member of the UF Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) task force for integrating AI across the curriculum. Through the CITT, Chris consults with faculty regarding AI, extended reality applications, innovative online teaching tools, and other educational technologies.

Leslie Mojeiko M.Ed.
Instructional Designer
Center for Instructional Technology and Training

Chris Sharp
Educational Technologist
UFIT Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT)
Harnessing AI for Assessment

Wednesday, October 4 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
George Hack is the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions’ Associate Dean for Educational Affairs. Dr. Hack received his PhD in Educational Technology from the University of Florida and currently provides administrative leadership to academic programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels, including program evaluation, academic advising, and student services. Dr. Hack’s research and development interests have focused upon pedagogical approaches, blended learning applications, and the interactions of educational technologies, teaching methods, and student attributes as they impact levels of learning. He has developed undergraduate and graduate courses addressing AI in Public Health and Healthcare, including an undergraduate AI certificate.

Laura Jervis, M.Ed.
Instructional Designer
UFIT Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT)

Laura has worked in higher education for almost a decade. During that time, she has overcome her Luddites tendencies and become more comfortable adopting new technology for teaching and learning. While she is open to new tools, she always puts pedagogy first and recently co-presented an event on adapting assignments with AI in mind.
Panelists

Chris Sharp
Educational Technologist
UFIT Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT)

Chris Sharp is an educational technologist with the UFIT Center for Instructional Technology & Training (CITT). Chris is part of the Learning Innovation & Technology team that explores emerging technologies and how they can be applied to improve teaching and learning across many disciplines. Chris is a member of the UF Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) task force for integrating AI across the curriculum. Through the CITT, Chris consults with faculty regarding AI, extended reality applications, innovative online teaching tools, and other educational technologies.
AI Agents

Wednesday, October 18 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Pasha Antonenko integrates AI in his research, service and teaching. He has two active NSF projects where he a) uses a convolutional neural network with eye tracking data to adapt and personalize multimedia learning environments for undergraduates students (PI), and b) contributes to the design and study of a curriculum for middle schoolers from Title I schools that focuses on kids using computer vision to classify shark teeth based on their structure and function. In his teaching, Antonenko uses machine learning to teach how to classify cognitive load during learning using EEG data. Pasha also organized the 2022 AI in Education in-person symposium that brought together more than a hundred educators, researchers, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders interested in AI in education.

Benjamin Lok is a Professor in the Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering Department at the University of Florida and entrepreneur, having previously co-founded Shadow Health (now a part of Elsevier). Professor Lok’s research focuses on using conversational virtual humans and mixed reality to train communication skills within the areas of virtual environments, human-computer interaction, and computer graphics. Professor Lok received a Ph. D. (2002, advisor: Dr. Frederick P. Brooks, Jr.) M.S. (1999) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a B.S. in Computer Science (1997) from the University of Tulsa. He did a post-doc fellowship (2003) under Dr. Larry F. Hodges.
Harnessing AI for Grading & Stealth Assessment

Wednesday, November 11 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Dr. Heather Maness is the Assistant Director for Learning Analytics and Assessment with the Center for Instructional Technology and Training in UF Information Technology. She partners with instructors to implement evidence-based pedagogical strategies and adopt educational tools for enhanced learner outcomes. She is an advocate of authentic, equitable assessment practices and has a passion for leveraging technology to solve education challenges. In particular, she has extensive experience with implementing AI-driven education tools, such as Perusall and Gradescope. With a background in using machine learning algorithms for viral phylogenetic modelling before shifting to an education focus, she holds a M.S. in Veterinary Medical Sciences and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Education and Communication with a minor in Higher Education Administration. Her current research focuses on learning analytics, educational technology evaluation, and stakeholder (e.g., student, instructor, employer) evaluation of curricula elements for continuous quality improvement. In her previous work as an instructional designer, she consulted with subject matter experts from an array of UF colleges to develop 6 award-winning courses and transform the student learning experience.
Seyedahmad Rahimi, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Educational Technology in the School of Teaching and Learning at the University of Florida. He is the director of Game-based Assessment & Measurement (GAME) Lab. Dr. Rahimi’s research focuses on assessing and fostering students’ 21st-century skills (e.g., creativity) and STEM-related knowledge acquisition (e.g., physics understanding). Toward that end, Dr. Rahimi designs, develops, and evaluates immersive learning environments (e.g., educational games) equipped Stealth Assessments, Educational Data Mining, Learning Analytics, and Natural language Processing models. These learning environments can diagnostically assess students’ various competency levels, predict different outcomes, and act accordingly in real-time (e.g., adapt the game challenges to students’ level of competency or support students’ learning by triggering the appropriate learning supports). Dr. Rahimi is also actively researching various aspects of educational games (e.g., game mechanics, game difficulty, cognitive and affective supports, dashboard design, and incentive systems) and how they affect students’ motivation, performance.
Machine Learning

Wednesday, November 15 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Erik has held faculty positions in Medicine and Nursing at the University of Florida since 2009; he also serves as the Associate Director of the Office of Interprofessional Education at the University of Florida Health Science Center. His research primarily focuses on health sciences, public health education, and evaluation. Throughout his career, Erik has maintained a focus on quantitative methodology. To date, his AI-focused work has included identifying struggling physician assistant students early, incorporating natural language processing into evaluating a longitudinal community-based interprofessional service learning experience, and developing a decision-support tool for pediatric surgeons and neonatologists.

Dr. Aaron Thomas is an Associate in Data Science within the Data Platform & Analytics team at UFIT with an emphasis upon student success and course analytics. Recent work includes deploying machine learning models and educational data mining to optimize and route student services along with evaluation of program efficacy. Dr. Thomas received a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in educational technology from the University of Florida and was a post-doctoral researcher at UF’s Online Learning Institute with a focus on analytics. He has significant experience in institutional and health professions accreditation analytics. He was a Fulbright Fellow (Bulgaria) and has received funding from both NSF and NEH.
AI Ethics and Accessibility

Wednesday, November 29 | 9:30-11:30am EDT
Panelists

Leota O’Malley
Online Course Quality Specialist
Center For Teaching Excellence

As an EduGator and life-long resident of Gainesville, FL, Leota is very excited to join the Center for Teaching Excellence at UF after a nearly 30-year odyssey in teaching. She collaborates in the online course review process, consults on best teaching practices as part of the course review process, and provides Academic Integrity support. She earned her BA in English and M.Ed in Secondary English Education from the University of Florida.

Dr. Eleni Bozia, Ph.D., Dr. phil.
Associate Professor of Classics and Digital Humanities
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Professor Eleni Bozia is an Associate Professor of Classics and Digital Humanities at the University of Florida. She studies linguistic and cultural diversity in Imperial Greek and Latin literature and its intersection with modern globalism. Co-founder of the Digital Epigraphy and Archaeology Project (www.digitalepigraphy.org), an international consortium dedicated to the digital preservation of historical artifacts, she fosters interdisciplinary collaboration between the humanities and sciences. Bozia is also a pioneer in applying AI to the humanities and is the Founder and Head of the Data-Driven Humanities Research Group.
Maya Israel, Ph.D. is an associate professor of Educational Technology and Computer Science Education at the University of Florida. She is the Kenneth C. Griffin CS for All Education Endowed professor and Director of the CSEveryone and the Creative Technology Research Lab. Her research and teaching focuses on strategies for supporting academically diverse learners’ meaningful engagement in computer science and artificial intelligence education as well as on ways of leveraging artificial intelligence to support student learning. Lastly, Dr. Israel works with multiple school districts and states on systemic and classroom strategies to more equitably include all students in K-12 computer science and AI education initiatives.

Her primary application of AI lies in conducting advanced analyses of Ancient Greek and Latin languages to gain insights into the Greco-Roman worlds, their cultures, and societies. Her work seeks to enhance accessibility to historical research, facilitating a deeper understanding of the past and drawing valuable lessons from the lived experiences of ancient civilizations, thus enabling better preparation for the future from a more informed position.

In addition to her academic endeavors, Professor Bozia has taken the stage as a TEDx speaker, delivering a talk titled “How to Predict the Future with Classics and AI.” She has also made notable appearances in podcast series, such as “Beyond the Podium,” where she engaged in discussions regarding the utilization of AI in humanities research, curriculum development, and beyond.
Amelia Winger-Bearskin (MFA, University of Texas) is an artist who empowers people to leverage bleeding edge technology to effect positive change in the world. She is an Innovation Fellow at the Land Acknowledgement Lab for the U.S. Department of Arts and Culture: Honor Native Land Initiative. She founded the project Wampum.Codes which is both an award-winning podcast and ethical framework for software development based on indigenous values of co-creation. She continued her research in 2021 at Stanford University as their artist and technologist in residence made possible by the Stanford Visiting Artist Fund in Honor of Roberta Bowman Denning. In 2019 she was an invited presenter to His Holiness, The 14th Dalai Lama, at his world headquarters in Dharamsala for the Summit on Fostering Universal Ethics and Compassion. In 2018 she was awarded a MacArthur/Sundance Institute fellowship for her 360 video immersive installation in collaboration with the artist Wendy Red Star (supported by the Google JUMP Creator program). IDEA New Rochelle, the non-profit she founded in partnership with the New Rochelle Mayor’s Office, won the 2018 $1 Million Dollar Bloomberg Mayors Challenge for their VR/AR citizen toolkit to help the community co-design their city. In 2018 she also was awarded the 100k Alternative Realities Prize for her Virtual Reality Project from Engadget and Verizon Media. Winger-Bearskin is Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation of Oklahoma, Deer Clan.
AI Student Panel & AI Tool Showcase

Wednesday, December 6 | 9:30-11:30am EDT