Accessible by Design:
A Faculty Workshop Series

Session 1: Introduction to Digital Accessibility: Supporting Every Student

21 January @ 10am/In-Person, 27 January @9:30am/Teams
Facilitator: Mitchell Haas, LIS & CFDI

Digital accessibility is about more than compliance—it's about creating learning experiences that work for everyone. This workshop introduces faculty to the essentials of digital accessibility; we'll cover common barriers students encounter, share best practices and resources for creating accessible content, and recent updates to ADA Digital Accessibility guidelines. Most importantly, we'll explore the "why" behind this work: fostering an environment where all learners have equal opportunities to succeed. Faculty will leave with actionable strategies, clarity on expectations, and resources for ongoing support as we work together to make accessibility achievable.

[Register for Session 1]

Session 2: Digital Accessibility for Text-Based Resources

4 February @ 10am/In-Person, 10 February @9:30am/Teams
Facilitator: Britt Peterson, Biological Sciences & CFDI

Text-based materials remain at the core of most courses—syllabi, handouts, readings, assignments—and small choices in formatting can make or break student access. This workshop focuses on creating accessible text documents across common platforms like Word, PDF, and PowerPoint. We'll walk through essential practices such as using headings correctly, improving readability, crafting alt text, structuring documents for screen readers, and avoiding common accessibility pitfalls. Faculty will leave with practical techniques and templates to ensure their course materials are usable for all learners from the start.

[Register for Session 2]

Session 3: Digital Accessibility for Digital Media

18 February @ 10am/In-Person, 24 February @9:30am/Teams Facilitator: Meg Smith, IRIS

Audio, video, and visual content offer rich learning experiences, but they also introduce unique accessibility challenges. This workshop helps faculty build accessible media by demystifying captions, transcripts, audio descriptions, color contrast, and alternative text for images. We'll review campus-supported tools, discuss common media barriers students face, and share workflows for embedding accessible media into courses. Participants will leave with clear guidance and easy-to-adopt practices to make digital media more inclusive and effective for every student.

[Register for Session 3]

Session 4: Blackboard Ally

4 March @ 10am/In-Person, 17 March @9:30am/Teams
Facilitators: IDLT

Blackboard Ally is a powerful tool that can help faculty identify, understand, and reduce accessibility issues in course content—without needing to be an expert. This hands-on workshop walks through Ally's features, including accessibility scoring, instructor feedback, quick fixes, and alternative format generation for students. We'll explore how Ally fits into everyday teaching workflows and how it can support continuous improvement across a semester. Faculty will leave with confidence using Ally's insights to enhance course accessibility and provide a smoother learning experience for all.

[Register for Session 4]

In-Person sessions are limited to 25 attendees. All sessions will be recorded and made available for review on the CFDI website. In addition to this 4-part series, the CFDI will be hosting a help-desk for digital accessibility compliance training for all faculty. This one-on-one training and troubleshooting will be offered first come, first served M-F from 8-4:30pm in the CFDI (Lovejoy 2040). Links to Teams sessions are sent out the morning of the event. Questions? Contact facultycenter@siue.edu

Generative AI in Practice
What Faculty Need to Know Now

Generative AI is reshaping how faculty teach, design assignments, conduct research, and think about authorship. This five-session series is designed to help faculty move beyond hype and anxiety toward informed, intentional, and ethical use of generative AI in higher education. Participants will begin with a shared foundation, develop competency in leveraging AI for their day-to-day, craft assignments that foster student learning and integrity, consider how AI can be used in scholarship, and discuss the intellectual property considerations when AI is used. This series focuses on empowering faculty to navigate the landscape of the changing world higher education.

Session 1: Generative AI: Concepts, Ethics, and the Future of Higher Education
Date/Format: 29 January 11am /In-person, 4 February/Teams ***Click here to register***
Facilitator(s): Mitchell Haas
> *This workshop offers faculty a clear, accessible introduction to AI's core concepts, capabilities, and limitations, alongside ethical considerations such as bias, transparency, and academic integrity.*

Session 2: A Hands-On Introduction to Prompt Engineering and AI-Enabled Teaching
Date/Format: 12 February 11am /In-person, 18 February/Teams ***Click here to register***
Facilitator(s): Cassie Collier
> *In this workshop, we'll explore to two critical areas: prompt engineering and AI-enabled teaching.*
> ** These sessions are 90 minutes!

Session 3: Architecting Assignments for an AI World
Date/Format: 26 February 11am /In-person, 4 March/Teams ***Click here to register***
Facilitator(s): Mitchell Haas & Cassie Collier
> *Here we'll explore practical strategies for creating assignments that promote authentic learning while acknowledging the realities of AI.*

Session 4: Leveling Up the Research Process with Generative AI
Date/Format: 19 March 11am /In-person, 25 March/Teams ***Click here to register***
Facilitator(s): Shelly McDavid
> *We'll cover planning, searching, and analysis techniques using tools like Copilot and ResearchRabbit, and share best practices for transparency in tool use.*

Session 5: Who Owns the Output? Fair Use and IP in Generative AI
Date/Format: 26 Mar 11am/In-person, 1 Apr 12pm/Teams ***Click here to register***
Facilitator(s): Mitchell Haas
> *This session helps faculty answer critical questions: Who owns AI-generated work? How do fair use principles apply? What risks arise from using tools trained on copyrighted material?*

Attendees should bring a WiFi enabled device to all sessions. Links to Teams sessions are sent out the morning of the event. Questions? Contact facultycenter@siue.edu

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