

Call for proposals [Fall 2025]

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Mini-Grants for Course Integration

The Center for Instructional Design and Educational Technologies, in partnership with the Center for Faculty Excellence, is pleased to announce AI Mini-Grants for Course Integration to faculty for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Summary

Ten stipends of \$500 will be awarded to faculty as an incentive to develop student-facing instructional units that integrate AI into existing courses, thereby enhancing student "AI Literacy" within their discipline. The instructional unit may include lessons, activities, and/or projects that require the use and/or critical analysis of artificial intelligence. Faculty are expected to disseminate the insights and outcomes from their work, promoting a campus-wide community of practice that improves AI understanding and teaching methods.

***** Due date for Fall 2025 Courses is Monday, May 26, 2025, 11:59 PM *****

Purpose

As artificial intelligence (AI) and generative large language model tools such as ChatGPT become increasingly prevalent, it is crucial for faculty and students to understand its applications across various disciplines. For better or for worse, artificial intelligence tools will be infused into all areas of society including academia, politics, business, work, health care, entertainment, and art. AI will impact how we teach, create, think, and learn. It is essential that faculty understand the potential, pitfalls, and ethical considerations and be able to provide students with both hands-on experiences and a critical perspective on current and future AI developments.

Eligibility

- Proposals may be submitted by continuing faculty members regularly employed at Ithaca College and teaching during the 2025-2026 academic year.
- No previous AI experience is necessary.

Stipend

Individual stipends are \$500, distributed in two \$250 payments. Five (5) stipends will be awarded to faculty teaching Fall 2025 courses and another five (5) to faculty teaching Spring 2026 courses.

An additional limited pool of funds may be available for learning materials, books or subscriptions.

***** These stipends are pending approval of the 2025-2026 budget
by the Board of Trustees at the May 2025 meeting*****

Timeline

For Fall 2025 Courses

- May 5, 2025: Call for proposals goes out.
- May 26, 2025: Proposals due 11:59 PM
- June 2, 2025: Awardees announced (Five).

For Spring 2026 Courses

- October 21, 2025: Call for proposals goes out.
- November 10, 2025: Proposals due.
- November 17, 2025 Awardees announced (Five).

Proposals

Criteria:

- The course is taught in Fall 2025 or Spring 2026.
- Title and description of instructional unit and general description included.
- Unit integrates student use or critical analysis of AI.
- Student learning outcomes and feedback or assessment for the instructional unit are included.
- Project is feasible in time, cost, and scope.

Submission Form

Submit your proposal using the following form by the deadline listed in the timeline section.

>> [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Mini-Grants - Web Page with Proposal Form](#) <<

The form asks the following:

- Applicant information
- Course information
- Title and description of the instructional unit.
- Student learning outcomes.
- What kind of AI tool do you think you may use? (If known and applicable.)
- Prior experience with AI and/or what you intend to learn.
- Resources needed.
- Willingness to share at end of project.

***If you do not have all the details on exactly what you are planning, we still encourage you to apply. ***

Selection process

A small committee of faculty and staff will review applications and select recipients based on a selection rubric. *The selection committee will try to balance awards amongst the schools and disciplines.*

Expectations for sharing project and experiences

Center for Instructional Design and Educational Technology (CIE) will coordinate with the Center for Faculty Excellence to create some mechanisms for sharing which could/will include:

1. Lunch & learn session with past/present AI Mini-grant award winners.
2. Short written report on your project.
3. In-person session or panel discussion.
4. Participate in an Ed Tech Day session or showcase.

Resources and ideas

See below for resources as you develop your proposal or your project. Instructional designers in the CIE are willing to meet with you to brainstorm ideas for your proposal.

- Ask ChatGPT or Microsoft Copilot on how to integrate AI in your discipline. (or try a search)
- [AI Pedagogy Project](#): This has an excellent primer on AI and a searchable list of assignments that integrate AI tools.
- [Where are the crescents in AI?](#) Maha Bali, Feb 26, 2024.
- [University of Maine Learn with AI](#) -activity search.
- [Art Schools Get Creative Tackling AI](#) article.
- [Embracing Creativity: How AI Can Enhance the Creative Process](#).
- [CU Committee Report: Generative Artificial Intelligence for Education and Pedagogy](#) see Appendices in different disciplines. [AI Assignment Design](#).

Questions?

Please contact Marilyn Dispensa, mdispensa@ithaca.edu or Jenna Linskens, jlinnskens@ithaca.edu for questions about this opportunity. [Book a time](#) with one of the instructional designers to discuss your proposal.

FAQs

Are existing courses eligible for the grant?

- Yes, the expectations are the upcoming iteration of the course would include a unit relevant to this endeavor that would occupy roughly one week's worth of the course; the expectation is not that the full course be devoted to this initiative.

I know little about AI. Am I eligible to apply?

- Absolutely. You are an expert in your own discipline and are best able to evaluate how to use and critique AI. This is a learning process for all of us.

Do I have to use any specific AI tool?

- No, you do not have to use any AI tool but could scope your project for students to engage in investigating and analyzing the potential and ethics of AI in your field. You may use ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, image or video creation AI tools, data analysis and more. We caution you to be mindful on any issues with privacy or intellectual property.