

Summer 2026 ITLS-6250-IO2 XL Syllabus

ITLS 6250 | Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course explores the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in educational settings, including trends, ethics, and practical applications for existing and emerging technologies. The course is project-based and will include developing several artifacts for your portfolio. Given the rapidly evolving nature of AI tools, the course will focus on those that have proven effective for designing learning experiences while still adhering to sound instructional design principles.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify different types of AI tools used in learning and design.
2. Describe the trends in AI for learning and design.
3. Apply AI tools to design learning experiences.
4. Develop a critical understanding of the potential benefits and limitations of AI in education.
5. Foster a commitment to using AI ethically and responsibly in educational settings.

Instructor Information

Instructor: Kristy Bloxham Ph.D.

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Office Hours: By appointment (Zoom) [You can schedule an appointment here.](https://studentappts.usu.edu/ramonline/BookAppt?AG=990)
(<https://studentappts.usu.edu/ramonline/BookAppt?AG=990>)

Required Materials

There is no textbook for this course. We use available online resources to learn, including websites, videos, and articles. If you find a broken link, please let me know.

Instead of a **textbook**, we will be using practical tools available online. While most offer free trials, you may be introduced to some tools that will have a monthly fee. These tools will be optional in each lesson, although sometimes highly recommended.

Course Schedule

This course is offered as an online asynchronous course made up of weekly modules. These modules primarily include learning materials (reading/videos), assignments/projects, and some discussions.

Weekly topics may include:

1. Understanding AI in Context: Trends, Privacy, and Ethics
2. AI Tools Capabilities and Limits
3. AI Tools in Education
4. AI for Writing
5. AI Text-to-Image
6. Midjourney
7. AI Tools for Assessment and Feedback
8. AI Tools for Sound Design
9. AI Tools for Video Development

Evaluation Methods and Criteria

Assignments are due **Monday nights by 11:59 PM**. You should plan on 1-3 hours for learning material and assignments each week (it will vary).

Late Work Policy

If you are having a problem getting an assignment in on time, please contact the instructor **before** the assignment is due. Otherwise, the instructor reserves the right to not accept late work.

Grade Scheme

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

Grade	Range
A	93% to 100%
A-	90% to < 93%
B+	87% to < 90%
B	83% to < 87%
B-	80% to < 83%
C+	77% to < 80%
C	73% to < 77%

Grade	Range
C-	70% to < 73%
D+	67% to < 70%
D	60% to < 67%
F	0% to < 60%

Canvas Information

Course content, grades, and communication will occur primarily through Canvas.

- usu.instructure.com (<https://usu.instructure.com/>)
- For Canvas, Passwords, or any other computer-related technical support contact the [IT Service Desk](https://it.usu.edu/) (<https://it.usu.edu/>).
 - (435) 797-HELP(4357)
 - [Live Chat](https://mylivechat.com/chatnoscript.aspx?HCCID=48409868) (<https://mylivechat.com/chatnoscript.aspx?HCCID=48409868>)
 - servicedesk@usu.edu (<mailto:servicedesk@usu.edu>)

Note About Course Development

We are excited to offer this course to you this summer (2026). Note that at the time of this writing, the course is still undergoing updates and this syllabus is subject to change as the course is finalized. I am actively developing content, assignments, and assessments to ensure a valuable learning experience. Any changes will be reflected in the weekly modules.

Course AI Policy

In trying to create an AI policy for a class where you will be learning about AI, I came across one that communicates exactly what I want to say. This source was found for me using the AI application “Perplexity” when I asked it for examples of university course AI policies. The source for this policy is <https://danielstanford.substack.com/p/the-best-ai-syllabus-policies-ive> (<https://danielstanford.substack.com/p/the-best-ai-syllabus-policies-ive>). The original author, however, is Lance Cummings, PhD from UNC-Wilmington and his policy has been designated as Public Domain. It is quoted nearly verbatim here, as I couldn’t have said it better.

This is the AI policy for our class.

Hey everyone! I take a unique approach to writing and content creation compared to some other professors. To me, writing happens in a network between people and technology (not just you sitting in front of a computer typing away). AI is now part of this network, whether we want it to be or not.

My view is that AI will impact us no matter what. But we also have the power to shape how AI develops if we engage with it thoughtfully. This class gives you a safe space to creatively experiment with AI without shame, fear, or guilt.

★ I want to be clear: You will not be penalized just for using AI in this course. Unless I say otherwise for a specific assignment, feel free to try out AI writing assistants and generate content with these tools.

While experimenting freely, keep these points in mind:

AI can demonstrate biases and inaccuracies at times. Always validate the content before accepting it.

Be cautious with data privacy. Don't input anything too personal or private. You can't control where it ends up. If you wouldn't post it on the internet, don't give it to an AI.

Recognize the limitations. AI doesn't truly comprehend facts or meaning yet. It makes guesses, which means it can confidently provide false information. AI content may initially seem impressive, but it is usually not as good as you think. I call these AI goggles. Take care whenever using AI-generated text.

★ Also, keep in mind that my AI-forward policy only applies to this class. Other professors likely have different rules. Using AI without permission could violate academic integrity policies, so always check the specific guidelines for each class first.

Let's explore AI as a creative tool to augment our skills, not replace them. I'm excited to see what we can discover together! Let me know if you ever have any other questions.

Online Course Fee

\$15 per credit course fee is applied to all online courses to support digital technologies and support services required for engaging and effective online learning.