AI Learning Journey for Faculty Microcredential

The AI Learning Journey is a stackable, three-tiered microcredential pathway designed for educators who seek to integrate generative AI responsibly and ethically into their instructional practice. The pathway supports professional growth from basic experimentation to advanced leadership and advocacy. Each badge aligns with the NACE Career Readiness Competencies ensuring that participants develop transferable skills relevant to teaching, learning, and workforce readiness.

Tiers:

1. Badge A – Emerging AI User: Foundational understanding and experimentation.
2. Badge B – Practicing AI User: Consistent, ethical classroom integration.
3. Badge C – Leading AI User: Program-level leadership, mentorship, and advocacy.

Practicing AI User

The *Practicing AI User* badge recognizes faculty who consistently and ethically integrate AI into instructional design. Earners create differentiated, multimodal lessons; design adaptive formative assessments; and support learner autonomy while maintaining transparency and protecting privacy. Portfolios include sustained classroom application, evidence of student impact, and reflective analysis of ethical decision-making.

Aligned NACE Competencies

- Technology – Applies AI strategically and responsibly.
- Critical Thinking – Uses data to refine AI-enhanced instruction.
- Communication – Shares AI practices with students and peers.
- Equity & Inclusion – Applies AI to foster fairness and accessibility.
- Leadership – Models ethical practice and supports peer learning.
- Professionalism – Demonstrates integrity, transparency, and accountability.

Passing Criteria:
Attend/facilitate ≥ 3 study-circle meetings · Complete Tier 2 Checklist · Submit portfolio · Achieve *Competent* or higher in all areas.

Rubric

Competency	Definition	Evidence	Developing	Competent	Accomplished
Technology	Integrates AI tools to enhance instruction and assessment.	Lesson/unit plan showing AI use in ≥ 2 modalities (text, image, audio, interactive).	Limited or inconsistent AI use.	Intentionally aligns AI tools to objectives and verifies outputs.	Designs multimodal, ethical AI experiences with clear documentation.
Critical Thinking	Uses learning data to refine AI-supported instruction.	Adaptive quiz/prompts + summary of instructional decisions.	Minimal use of data for revision.	Interprets results to adjust instruction.	Demonstrates iterative improvement with documented impact.
Communication	Shares AI practices clearly with others.	Slide deck or guide for training colleagues or students.	Describes AI use without clarity or purpose.	Explains applications and rationale clearly.	Provides replicable training resources for others.
Equity & Inclusion	Promotes accessible, fair AI use.	1-page statement on privacy and bias mitigation.	Mentions ethics but not applied.	Implements privacy and fairness practices.	Models inclusive AI design and shares strategies.
Leadership	Contributes to peer learning and problem-solving.	Study-circle participation or peer support evidence.	Participates but rarely shares.	Collaborates and offers solutions.	Facilitates peer learning and contributes resources.
Professionalism	Acts with integrity and ethical awareness.	Reflection on ethical AI alignment with policy.	Minimal reflection.	Thoughtful ethical analysis of practice.	Anticipates emerging ethical issues and models best practice.