

Program Overview

The AI Fellowship Program at Foothill College is grounded in the college's mission and values. Guided by our values of integrity, curiosity, inclusion, collaboration, and compassion, the fellowship invites faculty and classified professionals to explore the role of artificial intelligence in education through both its opportunities and its challenges.

Fellows will work collaboratively to advance AI literacy across the college campus. By identifying and addressing potential risks related to equity, privacy, and access, fellows will design approaches that align the use of emerging technologies and employee learning with Foothill College's mission. The program welcomes participants from across the college, with varied levels of experience with AI, and requires dean approval for participation.

The AI Fellowship Program is designed to position Foothill College at the forefront of ethical and equity-minded integration of artificial intelligence in higher education. This fellowship intends to iteratively resource existing professional development efforts, such as the [AI Learning Community](#), Bridging AI Navigation (BRAIN) and the Coalition of the Willing. By bringing together faculty, classified professionals, administrators, and students, the AI Fellowship program will serve as a hub for dialogue, innovation, and scalable implementation. Fellows will work collaboratively to build trust across constituencies, ensure student-centered policy development, and advance AI literacy across the campus community.

Fellowship Structure

- The fellows will have the executive support of the Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Stacy Gleixner, and leadership and organizational support of the project lead for Objective 2.1 of the Blueprint for Success.
- Participants:
 - 2 instructional
 - 2 non-instructional
 - 2 at-large
- Compensation/Support:
 - Faculty: Partial reassigned time for Winter and Spring 2026 or stipend.

Major Fellowship Activities

- Equity-minded Community Forums
Fellows will host recurring forums designed to:
 - Facilitate open dialogue between students, staff, and faculty
 - Surface concerns about AI implementation including equity-based, ethical, environmental, privacy of data and intellectual property rights
 - Build trust and shared understanding of opportunities and risks
- AI Framework Development
A subset of Fellows will collaboratively create the District's AI Plan/Framework, addressing:

- Ethical principles rooted in equity and student success
 - Guidelines for responsible AI use in instruction, services, and operations
 - Recommendations for supporting AI literacy and upskilling across the campus
 - Alignment to work at the State Chancellor's Office
- Policy Recommendations

Fellows will make local policy suggestions and provide insight to developing district policies (outside of 10+1 academic and professional matters), focusing on:

 - Operational practices
 - Equity safeguards and transparency measures
 - Implementation pathways for cross-campus adoption
 - Sustainability--in all of its many meanings
- Professional Development & Representation

Fellows will attend Future's Summit and/or Educause, ensuring that Foothill College stays aligned with leading AI innovation and national higher education trends.

Participants will return with actionable insights to inform local activities and frameworks.
- Fellows may vet and recommend many
- Liase Across the District

Fellows will engage with the AI activities across the College (such as in ETI, professional learning committee, technology committee, etc.) and the district to help synergize and align the work
- Technology Implementation & Testing

Fellows will assist ETS in:

 - Adoption and integration of Google Gemini tools across academic and administrative functions
 - Prioritizing and "pressure-testing" scalable AI products that enhance student success and efficiency

- Supporting the potential integration of [DataKind](#) tools or other predictive analytic data in the institutionalization of Career and Academic Pathways (CAPs)
- Curriculum and Literacy Development
Fellows will curate and share resources that assist faculty in embedding AI literacy into existing curriculum. Resources may include case studies, toolkits, and open media such as [Our Media](#). These efforts will help faculty design assignments and courses that prepare students for an AI-transformed workforce.

Resources Provided

- Funding for stipends/reassign time for fellows
- Administrative coordination and facilitation
- Access to professional development funds for national conference participation
- Support for technology procurement and integration testing conversations
- Access to external partners such as Our Media for resource library development

Deliverables

1. A published FHDA AI Plan/Framework guiding institutional adoption of AI.
2. Cross-constituency forums that build trust, increasing student and employee confidence in ethical AI use.
3. Policy proposals recommending ethical, transparent, and student-centered AI practices, if needed.
4. Integration of Google Gemini tools across instruction and services.
5. Expanded use of data tools in CAP institutionalization.
6. Shared toolkits and resources to support AI literacy and fluency in classrooms and services.
7. Fellows serve as an emerging cohort of AI leaders, building long-term institutional expertise.

AI Fellows Application for Faculty

Contact Information

- Name
- Foothill email
- Department / Division
- Dean Name
- Dean Email

Which compensation format would you prefer if selected?

- Winter 2026
 - ☐ Reassigned Time
 - ☐ Stipend
 - ☐ No preference / Either is fine
- Spring 2026
 - ☐ Reassigned Time
 - ☐ Stipend
 - ☐ No preference / Either is fine

Short-Answer Prompts

Equity, Inclusivity and Purpose (150–200 words)

1. How do Foothill's values of equity-mindedness and inclusion shape your interest in the AI Fellowship? In what ways do you hope to ensure that emerging uses of AI at the college promote access, fairness, and belonging for students and colleagues?

Collaboration and Community (150–200 words)

2. Describe a time when you collaborated on a project that connected people across different areas of the college or community. How would you bring that same spirit of partnership and shared learning to this fellowship?

Innovation and Impact (150–200 words)

3. How do you think about innovation within the context of higher education? What principles guide you when considering new tools or approaches—especially those, like AI, that bring both potential benefits and risks?

Reflection and Perspective on AI (150–200 words)

4. Describe your perspective on the role AI should play in education and society. What excites you most, and what concerns or ethical questions do you believe we must address?

AI Literacy & Educational Impact (150–200 words)

5. Share a brief description of a project or initiative you would like to develop during this fellowship. What educational challenge or opportunity does it address? How will you implement it, engage colleagues and/or students, yo align it with Foothill College's mission and values?