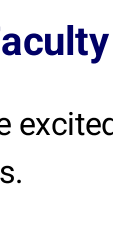


February 2025, Vol 33.

Welcome to the DFI February Faculty Newsletter!

As the Spring semester unfolds, we're thrilled to introduce two exciting new resources to support the TC faculty. First, we've launched expanded faculty office hours to better serve your needs. We're also rolling out our Immersive on-demand sessions that you can book for your class.

We hope you have a wonderful month and thank you for reading!



## What's New?

### 1. Faculty Virtual and In-Person Drop-In Office Hours

We're excited to announce our new faculty support initiative offering both virtual and in-person drop-in office hours.

Starting this month, the DFI Instructional Team will be available on-demand Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, to assist with your teaching and technology needs. Appointments can be booked for an in-person meeting or virtual meeting.

All you need to do is sign up for an appointment slot and our team will be there to assist you!

If you are unable to make it to our scheduled office hours you can always [open a ticket with DFI](#) and we will be available to assist you via ServiceNow.

[Sign up for an In-Person Appointment Slot](#)

[Sign up for a Virtual Appointment Slot](#)

### 2. Request a Virtual Reality Experience for your Class



As part of [Immersive Learning @ TC Initiative](#) which aims to support the exploration and integration of emerging technology into teaching and learning, faculty and offices/departments can now book on-demand virtual reality sessions for their course/program and choose from our curated [collection of experiences](#) spanning multiple disciplines and themes.

[View Menu of VR Experiences](#)

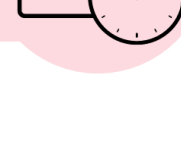
If you can't find what you need, you can [book a consultation with us](#) to discuss. Please submit your request at least one month in advance. We will meet to discuss your specific needs and attempt to accommodate the request based on our availability.

### 3. AI in 30 Minutes: A Beginner's Series

Looking to explore the basics of AI but short on time? DFI's AI in 30 Minutes is designed just for you! These quick, beginner-friendly sessions introduce essential AI tools and concepts in just half an hour. Whether you're curious about AI basics, image generation, meeting summaries, or prompting, you can join one session or all four. To further your understanding, complete the experience with our 30-minute self-paced course, tailored for students or staff.

[Register for Webinars Now](#)

## Upcoming Faculty PD



**AI in 30 Minutes: Getting Started with AI**  
Wednesday, February 5, 2025  
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Online via Zoom

In this 30-minute webinar, we will explore the fundamental concepts of generative AI and share examples of various AI tools and applications, such as text, image, video, and voice generators. You will learn about the benefits and challenges of AI and be introduced to ethical considerations associated with its use. This beginner-friendly webinar offers the perfect entry point to understanding AI.

[Register](#)

**TST + Black Paint Workshop: Curriculum Encounters**  
Saturday, February 8, 2025  
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Smith Learning Theater

Join us for the first Teachers Supporting Teachers workshop of 2025. We are partnering with the Department of Curriculum & Teaching Black Paint Curriculum Lab to help educators reimagine their teaching approaches through multimodal learning, virtual environments, and immersive technologies. This hands-on workshop focuses on incorporating sensory experiences, spatial awareness, and new technologies into classroom instruction.

You can also earn 3 CTLEs for joining this workshop.

[Register](#)



**Padlet: A Comprehensive Guide to Its Features**  
Tuesday, February 11, 2025  
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Online

Join this 30-minute webinar to explore Padlet's versatile features, from creating collaborative boards to fostering student engagement. Learn practical tips to set up, customize, and integrate Padlet into your teaching for more interactive and dynamic learning experiences.

[Register](#)

### Immersive Experience Club

Wednesday, February 26, 2025  
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

DFI - Mixed-Use Space Russell Hall 5th Floor

This workshop series invites all TC community members to delve deep into the Virtual Reality (VR) world to explore its transformative potentials through hands-on experiences with various VR applications for education and engage in discussions of its implications for teaching and learning. The club will meet three times in the Spring semester on a monthly basis and you can register for as many sessions as you would like to attend. However, since we only have a limited number of VR headsets we ask that you cancel your registration to make room for others if you are unable to attend a meeting.



[Register](#)

**AI in 30 Minutes: AI Image Generators for Beginners**  
Thursday, February 27, 2025  
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM

Online Via Zoom

Join our 30-minute webinar to get a quick overview of using AI image generators. Whether for projects or teaching, learn how to easily bring your ideas into exciting visuals. We'll demonstrate the tools' functionalities, discuss ethical use, and encourage your creativity. Perfect for educators, students, and staff—no artistic skills required!

[Register](#)

### DFI Speaker Series: An Educational Program on the Environmental Impacts of AI

Thursday, February 27, 2025  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Russel Hall 5 - Mixed-Use Space

Media coverage about the environmental footprint of AI has increased significantly in recent years. Major outlets now routinely report on the vast quantities of electricity and water needed to power various AI tools. For example, increased data center construction and use is forecasted to represent up to 12.0% of total U.S. electricity consumption by 2028. Despite these alarming trends, AI seems to remain on the rise across domains. The talk provides a summary of how AI affects the environment and proposes an educational framework that emphasizes interactive and collaborative learning designs.

[Register](#)



### Curriculum Encounters Podcast Launch

Thursday February 27, 2025  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Remote via Zoom

Black Paint Curriculum Lab is back as a podcast production of the Digital Futures Institute, Curriculum Encounters!

Just as Black Paint Curriculum Lab challenged conventional thinking about curriculum by tapping into knowledge all around us, Curriculum Encounters invites listeners to question what we know and how we come to know as they explore ordinary spaces at Teachers College. Season One explores aesthetics and academic spaces, memory and hidden spaces, sensory inquiry and social spaces. Tune in, follow the show, and be part of the conversation that explores knowledge, wherever you find it!

Join Jackie Simmons and Sarah Gerth van den Berg for a release party on February 27, from 6-8pm at the Digital Futures Institute on the 5th Floor of Gottesman Library!

We hope to see you before or after classes for celebratory food, drinks, and activities to prompt your own curriculum encounters!

[Register](#)