

eLearning Innovation Grant Program

The eLearning Innovation Grant Program supports the development of innovative solutions addressing instructional challenges in online, hyflex, hybrid/blended, or web-facilitated learning (as defined below), in collaboration with instructional designers from the Center for Faculty Excellence (CFE) eLearning team. Grants are competitively awarded to benefit-eligible individual faculty and staff, or collaborative teams who teach, for \$500 as a one-time funding opportunity. Up to four (4) eLearning Innovation Grants will be awarded, twice within an academic year. The program was created in Spring 2024.

Type of Course	Typical Description	Proportion Delivered Online
Web-facilitated	Course that uses web-based technology to facilitate what is essentially a face-to-face course. May use a learning management system (LMS) or web pages to post the syllabus and assignments.	1 – 29%
Hybrid/Blended	Course that blends online and face-to-face delivery. Substantial proportion of the content is delivered online, typically uses online discussions, and typically has a reduced number of face-to-face meetings.	30 – 79%
Hyflex	Offers multiple delivery modes so that students can choose which delivery mode(s) to use for instructional and other learning purposes.	N/A
Online	A course where most or all the content is delivered online. Typically have no face-to-face meetings.	80+%

Source: Allen, I. E., & Seaman, J. (2013). *Changing course: Ten years of tracking online education in the United States*. Sloan Consortium.
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED541571.pdf>

Selection Criteria and Eligibility

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated according to the grant application rubric. Projects already receiving funding (e.g., Haddix Research, Kingfisher, President’s Grant, etc.) will not be considered. Eligible proposals encompass those addressing a problem or challenge within a credit-bearing course or contributing to fulfilling academic program requirements. Applicants proposing course challenges will be paired with an assigned instructional designer to collaboratively develop a project aimed at addressing the presented issue.

Focus of Proposal

One or more areas of focus should be identified in the proposal and listed in the application. Examples include:

- Generative AI
- Digital accessibility
- Universal design for learning
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Team-based learning
- Converting an in-person course to online, hybrid/blended, or hyflex course
- Applying academic technology in an innovative way
- Converting a synchronous course to asynchronous
- Increasing engagement in the virtual classroom
- Other

Program Requirements

The grant is awarded to individuals/teams who successfully complete all the following requirements:

- Collaborate closely with an instructional designer from the CFE eLearning team, engaging in regular meetings to refine course development plans and integrate innovative eLearning practices. This collaboration involves addressing accessibility concerns, ensuring alignment with institutional and program goals, and leveraging the instructional designer's expertise in pedagogy and technology integration. Ongoing communication and feedback exchanges aim to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the online, hybrid/blended, or hyflex learning experience.
 - Grant project must be completed by December 11, 2025.
 - Present to home department (e.g., faculty meeting, etc.) on project outcome and collaboration experience with CFE eLearning team. We ask that you please plan on co-presenting with your assigned instructional designer.
 - Complete an exit survey. This survey will allow you to report on your completed project and presentation to colleagues, serving as an indicator for the stipend to be processed. You will receive an email with the survey link closer to the December 11, 2025 project completion deadline.
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Recipients of the eLearning Innovation Grant Program

2025 Spring

- **Brian Kokensparger, MCS, MFA, PhD**, Computer Science, Design and Journalism, College of Arts and Sciences is partnered with **Erica Lamm-Denny, PhD**, eLearning, Center for Faculty Excellence
- **Jinmei Yuan, PhD**, Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences is partnered with **Natalie Boulton, MS. Ed.**, eLearning, Center for Faculty Excellence

2024 Fall

- **Leigh Ellis, JD**, Law School with **Cristina Vélez, MS. Ed.**, CFE Instructional Designer

2024 Spring

- **Brenda M. Coppard, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA** and **Angie Lampe, OTD, OTR/L**, Occupational Therapy, School of Pharmacy and Health Professions with **Cristina Vélez, MS. Ed.**, CFE Instructional Designer

- **Hollie Siebler, PhD**, Biology, College of Arts and Sciences with **Molly Hines, MS**, CFE Instructional Designer
- **Paul McGreal, JD**, Law School with **Molly Hines, MS**, CFE Instructional Designer
- **Megan Falke, DNP, APRNM, NNP-BC**, and **Jocuelin Jones, DNP, PNP, NNP-BC**, Graduate Nursing, College of Nursing with **Jackie Happer, M.Ed.** and **Laura Praus, M.Ed.**, CFE Instructional Designers

This information sheet provides an overview of the eLearning Innovation Grant Program.