

AI Readiness in a Multi-Section Introductory Course

Discipline: Agriculture, Food and Environment

Focus: First-year, Multi-section, Instructor training

Overview

This introductory foundation course on issues in agriculture, food, and the environment has 26 sections taught by 25 instructors who have varying comfort with AI and with teaching. The project builds one shared AI lesson and prepares instructors to teach it.

Plan

1. A lesson within the course that gives students hands-on experience using AI.
2. Pre- and post-lesson assessment of comfort, resources, instructor usage, and tools.
3. Results used to inform college-wide AI initiatives.
4. A training session for instructors on how to facilitate the lesson.

Questions the project is tracking

- How will AI tools change between lesson development, instructor training, and implementation?
- How will instructors and students respond to the lesson?
- How can AI discussion connect to other course themes such as environment, family and communities, and belonging?

Goals

- Students gain the knowledge and skills to incorporate AI thoughtfully into their learning and future careers.
- Instructors gain proficiency and confidence using AI for instruction and student engagement.

Adapting it

Large multi-section courses can share one common AI lesson with a short instructor training, which keeps student experience consistent across sections.

From the 2025–26 Teaching Innovation Institute (TII) cohort, University of Kentucky. Sources: 2025 TII Showcase posters (December 3, 2025) and the 2025–26 TII Project Takeaways survey.