



# CITL

Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

FALL 2026 CONVOCATION

# WELCOME BACK!

AUGUST 11-14

Northwest Florida State College does not discriminate  
in its programs, activities, or employment. For more  
information, visit [nwfsc.edu](http://nwfsc.edu).

# TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH

## START OF TERM & COURSE PREPARATION

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. | Bldg. 350, Rm. 110

### **Academic Updates**

Academic Affairs and Academic Services & Support leadership will provide updates for faculty and Academic Affairs staff for the 2026-2027 academic year. Then, learn about available services, resources, and support from the CITL, Library Services, Testing and Accommodations, and ZLC.

10:30 - 11:15 a.m. | Locations Vary

### **Division Meetings**

Faculty members will meet with their respective divisions for important updates, priorities, and information to support a successful academic year.

- Health Sciences Division Meeting
- Workforce Education Division Meeting
- Arts & Sciences Division Meeting

11:15 - 12:00 p.m. | Locations Vary

### **Department Meetings**

Faculty members will meet with their respective departments for information and updates necessary to have a successful and productive academic year.

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

### **Open/Lunch Time**

Faculty are welcome to use this time for lunch, course preparation, or to stop by the CITL for support with their Canvas courses.

1:30 - 2:30 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **New Faculty Orientation**

*Facilitated by CITL Staff*

This session welcomes new faculty to the College and introduces the resources and support available to help them get started. Topics include professional development, the Professor Connect mentoring program, and guidance on building a well-organized Canvas course aligned with the New Term Checklist.

2:45 - 3:30 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Campus & Classroom Safety**

*Facilitated by Michael Howell, Chief of Police & Executive Director of Campus Safety and Security*

In response to faculty discussions across campus, the session is intended to offer practical information, a clearer understanding of safety protocols, and opportunities for faculty to ask questions and engage directly with campus safety leadership. By working together, we hope to strengthen communication, preparedness, and our collective commitment to maintaining a safe and supportive campus environment.

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Canvas Updates & Accessibility by Design**

*Facilitated by Kelly Elliott, CITL Associate Director/LMS Administrator and Jess Hughes, Lead Instructional Designer*

Prepare for the semester with the latest Canvas updates and reminders. This session will highlight new features, recent changes, and key information to help you start the term smoothly. Faculty will also explore practical ways to use DesignPLUS and UDOIT to build clear, accessible Canvas courses that meet online and accessibility requirements. Examples will be demonstrated throughout the session, followed by open lab time with support from the Lead Instructional Designer.

# WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. | Mattie Kelly Arts Center

### **Breakfast**

Breakfast will be served for all faculty and staff prior to the College-wide convocation.

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. | Mattie Kelly Arts Center

### **Convocation**

All College faculty and staff will kick off the new academic year with presentations from College leadership, recognition of employee achievements, and a keynote address.

11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

### **Open/Lunch Time**

Faculty are welcome to use this time for lunch, course preparation, or to stop by the CITL for support with their Canvas courses.

12:30 - 1:15 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **New Faculty & Professor Connect: Mentor Mixer**

New faculty and Professor Connect mentors are invited to join this informal mixer designed to encourage conversation, networking, and collaboration. Enjoy light refreshments while learning more about the mentorship program and connecting with fellow faculty members across disciplines.

1:30 - 2:15 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Faculty Approaches to AI and Academic Integrity**

*Facilitated by Dr. David Schjott, Professor of Social Science and Dr. Heather Hartness, Professor of English*

Hear how faculty are navigating AI and academic integrity in their courses. This session includes a brief overview of the College's AI Acceptable Use Guidelines, followed by practical strategies and classroom approaches to reduce misuse and support student learning.

2:30 - 3:15 p.m. | Virtual or Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Respondus for Assessment Security**

*Facilitated by Julie McCarty, Respondus Representative*

Explore how Respondus LockDown Browser and Monitor can enhance assessment security in your online courses. This session will cover how to prevent digital cheating during online exams, use automated proctoring to confirm student identity, and efficiently review student activity and results. The presentation will also highlight the student experience and share best practices for successful implementation. You may participate virtually or join the group viewing session in the CITL.

3:30 - 4:15 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Turnitin: Promoting Original Work**

*Facilitated by Brian Majka, Instructional Technologist and Dr. Anne Southard, Professor of English*

See how Turnitin can be used in Canvas to promote original student work and support meaningful feedback. This session will walk through how to set up Turnitin for assignments, interpret similarity reports, and incorporate it into your grading process. A faculty presenter will share practical tips and examples from their own courses.

### **Support the CITL**

Support the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITL) through the Foundation and help expand opportunities for faculty development, instructional innovation, and student success. Donations to the CITL help provide professional development, instructional resources, emerging technologies, and innovative learning experiences that positively impact teaching and learning across the College.

Faculty and staff may support the CITL through a one-time gift or payroll deduction through the Faculty and Staff Campaign at [NWFSC Foundation Faculty & Staff Campaign](#)



# THURSDAY, AUGUST 13TH

## TEACHING & LEARNING

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Coffee, Conversation, & Canvas Catastrophes**

*Facilitated by Jess Hughes, Lead Instructional Designer and Kelly Elliott, CITL Associate Director/LMS Administrator*

Start your morning with coffee and conversation. Join colleagues for an informal time to connect, catch up, and try your hand at Canvas Catastrophes, a quick activity where you'll spot and recommend fixes to common course issues. Drop in at any point during the session, grab a cup, and start the day with connection and a little problem solving.

9:45 - 10:45 a.m. | Bldg. 500, Media Production Studio

### **Introducing the Lightboard Studio**

*Facilitated by Tim McSwain, Media Production Coordinator and Jennifer Brown, Math Faculty*

Take a tour of the CITL's new Lightboard Studio and see how it can be used to create engaging instructional content. This session includes a live demonstration of the technology and an overview of how to schedule time in the studio for your courses.

11:00 - 11:30 a.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 215

### **Microsoft Teams Essentials for Faculty**

*Facilitated by Brian Majka, Instructional Technologist*

To support the College's transition to Microsoft Teams as the official virtual meeting platform, this session will help faculty confidently make the switch from Zoom. Learn how to use Teams to host virtual office hours, meet with students, record lectures, and more. We will also review important meeting settings and options to consider when scheduling and managing meetings, along with practical tips and best practices you can immediately apply to support teaching and learning.

11:30 - 1:00 p.m.

### **Open/Lunch Time**

Faculty are welcome to use this time for lunch, course preparation, or to stop by the CITL for support with their Canvas courses.

1:00 - 1:45 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Supporting High School Students in College Classrooms**

*Facilitated by Tracy Wysack, Collegiate High School Faculty*

Teaching courses that include high school students can bring unique dynamics to the classroom. In this session, a CHS instructor who also teaches college classes will share practical strategies she has found effective for engagement, classroom management, and setting clear expectations.

2:00 - 2:30 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Partnering for Success: Maximizing the Impact of Embedded Tutors**

*Facilitated by Courtney Conn, Director of Academic Success & Retention*

Learn about the Embedded Tutoring Program, effective strategies for partnering with embedded tutors, and highlights of recent student success outcomes. As part of the College's strategic plan, embedded tutoring is creating new pathways to student success. The session includes a Q&A with Math and English Intervention Specialists, Caleb Stowers and Judy Welch, who will share insights and answer questions about implementation, collaboration, and best practices.

2:30 - 4:30 p.m. | Bldg. 500, Rm. 210

### **Open Lab or Prepare for Class**

Use this flexible, come and go session to work on courses, finalize materials, complete New Term Checks, and receive support from CITL staff with Canvas, accessibility, and course setup.

#### **2026 Faculty Retreat**

Friday, August 14 | 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
*Hilton Garden Inn, Fort Walton Beach*

Join us for this year's Faculty Retreat as we kick off the academic year together. Enjoy breakfast, interactive activities focused on relaxation and creativity, team building, and discussions on Academic Affairs goals for 2026-2027. The day will conclude with a brief reflection and networking opportunity.

#### **AFC Sneaker Ball**

Friday, August 14 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
*Raider Room, Raider Arena*

Faculty and staff are invited to come together for a high energy night filled with bright colors, great company, and your favorite sneakers. Dress to impress in your favorite semiformal or formal attire – paired with your coolest sneakers – and enjoy an evening of music, fellowship, and unforgettable moments.