# Innovative Edwarton

The AI Powered Course Makeover: A Case Study From USF

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# Session Objectives





# **Identify**

**Identify** strategies for using GenAl to improve course quality and engagement.



# **Examine**

Examine practical methods to transform static course components using GenAl tools.



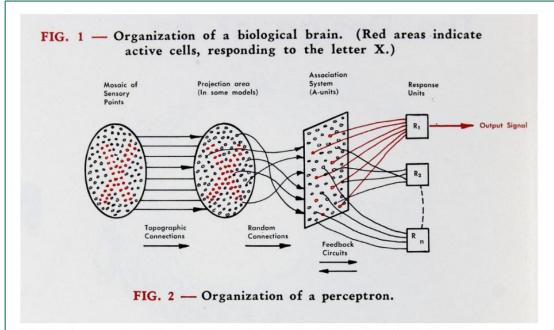
# **Explore**

**Explore** how to use GenAl tools to determine their best use cases for quality course redesign.

# THE COURSE: "Al In Media"

# Challenges

- Insufficient introduction and overview section (Standard 1)
- Course learning objectives needed refinement and consolidation. Module learning objectives and overviews did not exist, nor how they aligned with assignments. (Standards 2 & 3)
- Instructional materials were walls of text with no visuals, interactivity, or engagement. (Standards 4 & 6)



Welcome to MMC 4936: Al in Media and Society, a special topic class offered this spring, for the first time, by the Department of Journalism and Digital Communication.

Our goal this semester is to emerge with a comprehensive understanding of artificial intelligence and its implications for news, media and society at large. To do this, we'll explore the topic through various lenses—to

To get started, please turn your attention to the following item:

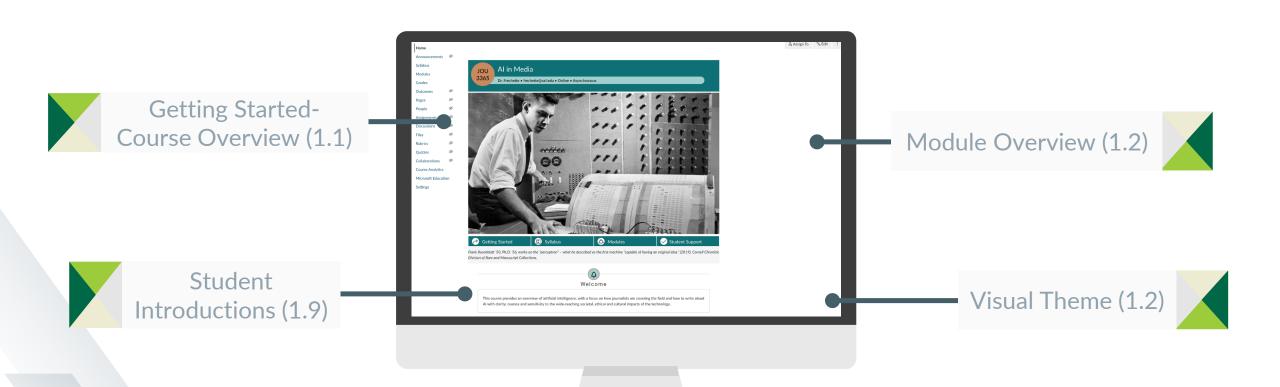
- The course syllabus. This is our roadmap for the semester, and it contains important details about the structure of the class, the major topics and the graded component:
- The first batch of lessons. Course content will be released in a staggered nature as a series of chapters. Some chapters will be text-based; others will incorporate multimedia and interactive elements. Today, you Wednesday morning.
- The first discussion post. This post encourages you to examine how you already encounter Al in your day-to-day life. It's due end-of-day Wednesday and, importantly, represents our First Day Attendance activity due date, Jan. 11, at 11:59 p.m., to avoid getting dropped from the class.

The course's landing page before development



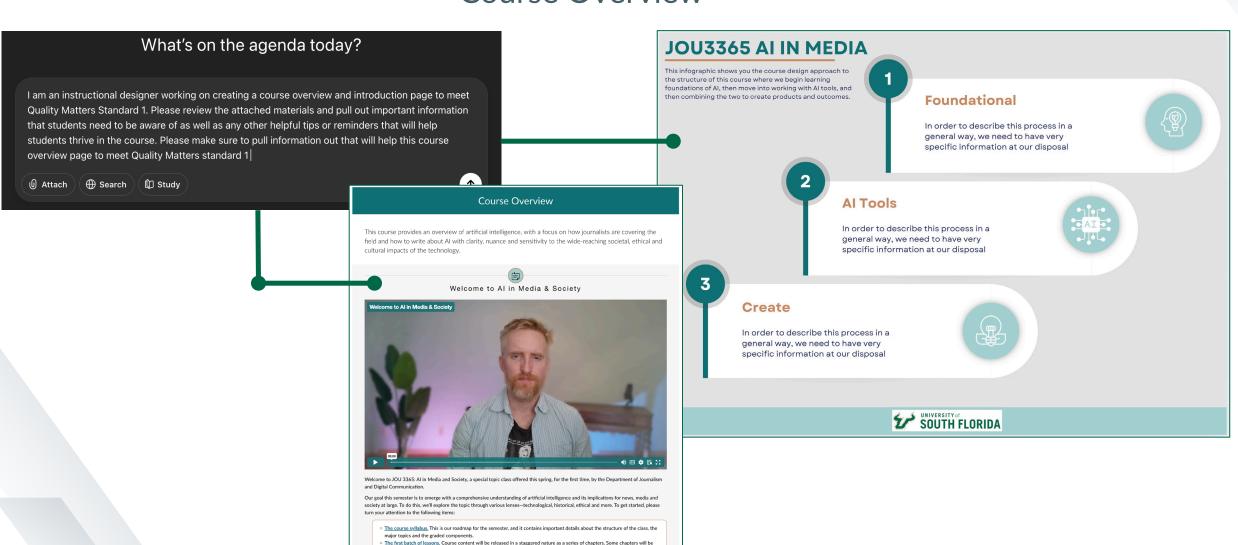
# Lack of introduction/overview

Standard 1: Course Overview and Introduction- It focuses on how clearly the course sets expectations, establishes presence, and guides learners.





# Challenge 1 **Course Overview**



text-based; others will incorporate multimedia and interactive elements. Today, you can access chapters 1-5, and more will be The first discussion post. This post encourages you to examine how you already encounter Al in your day-to-day life. It's due end-of-day Wednesday and, importantly, represents our First Day Attendance activity. You must participate in this discussion by

the due date, Jan. 11, at 11:59 p.m., to avoid getting dropped from the class.



# Challenge 1 Module Overview

### Content

### Chapter 6: Champions of Responsible Al

Responsible AI (RAI) refers to the development and implementation of artificial intelligence in ways that ensure fairness, transparency and accountability penefits for society at large, RAI addresses concerns related to privacy, security, bias and the broader ethical implications of AI on individuals and comm nsuring that AI systems operate responsibly is essential to mitigate risks of harm, discrimination and erosion of trust in technologies that can greatly e

RAI Champion Groups

Focus Area

Al Now Institute Focuses on the social implications of artificial intelligence and advocating for ethical practices in Al. Partnership on Al A collaboration between major tech companies and academic institutions to promote ethical Al. Works to mitigate existential risks facing humanity, with a focus on AI safety and ethical alignment Future of Life Institute

Center for AI and Digital Policy (CAIDP) Promotes democratic values in digital policy, including responsible AI. Aims to increase diversity and inclusion in Al education and development

RAI Champion Individuals

Stuart Russell A professor at UC Berkeley and author, focusing on the implications and ethics of artificial intelligence. Kate Crawford A researcher and author known for her work on understanding the social implications of AI and data.

Timnit Gebru An Al ethics researcher, known for her work on bias in facial recognition and other Al systems oy Buolamwini Founder of the Algorithmic Justice League, focusing on fighting bias in Al algorithms.

Max Tegmark A physicist and AI researcher, advocating for the beneficial use of AI and founder of the Future of Life Institute.







### Assessments

### Discussion 4: Research a Key Project from Al's History

Select a project from the list presented in this week's Chapter 1 and conduct some research online to learn about the background and significance of the effort Aim for about 300-500 words, and include the following elements in your post:

- 1. An overview of what the project aimed to do, and what the results of the efforts were
- 2. Notable people/organizations involved in the project
- 3. Why the project was noteworthy for its time
- A list of your sources

Important: To ensure everyone covers a different project, choose something that hasn't yet been claimed on this editable spreadsheet 🗈. Upon making your s



# Module 4 Overview



Welcome to week four of AI in Media and Society.

In this second of five parts, we shift our focus, from the foundational concepts of AI, to the historical path and contemporary landscape that will further inform how we report on and write about the people, products, perils and possibilities of artificial intelligence.

Our goal over the next few weeks is to develop a framework for producing in-depth, accurate, ethical news stories about AI – stories that inform readers and enhance public understanding.

This week is about mapping the key projects and players — organizations, researchers, funders, technologists and scientists — past and present who have shaped the field. In doing so, we'll begin to see the patterns and connections that have led us to the current moment and portend what might happen next.



### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, you will be able to:

Pitch Al-related stories likely to appeal to editors and interest readers.

- Identify compelling story angles by analyzing the impact of historical AI projects and figures, such as the Logic Theorist and key developments up to current Al models like ChatGPT.
- Assignments and activities used to assess Module Learning Outcome: (1) Discussion 4: Research a Key Project from Al's Hist
- Develop pitches that highlight the influence of current Al players, funders, and influencers, emphasizing the narrative of their roles and contributions to the field
- o Assignments and activities used to assess Module Learning Outcome: (1) Exercise 4: Think Tank Round-Up



# Challenge 1 Student Introductions

# Discussion

Al In Your Life

### Instructions

For better or worse, AI systems already touch our lives in myriad ways. Even if you're not an avid user of a generative AI tool like Midjourney or ChatGPT, the companies with which you interact are using AI to manage their operations, fine-tune their content, interact with their customers and accomplish various other tasks.

To jump into this discussion, first pick a company that you interact with daily, or near-daily, and investigate their use of AI. Here are just a few examples you can view by clicking on the accordion:

### List of example companies to choose from

Feel free to pick a company that isn't on this list.

If the company you choose to focus on is heavily involved with AI and utilizes lots of AI systems in its operations (Amazon or Google, for instance), pick a specific example of how it's using AI.

### Deliverables

Provide a summary of what's been published about the company's Al adventures, and be sure to address the following points:

- 1. What does the AI accomplish for the company?
- 2. What makes it "smart," or intelligent?
- 3. How do you suppose the AI changes your personal experience with the app/company/tool? Does it add convenience? Satisfaction?
- 4. What do you see as potential pitfalls or challenges with the technology?

### Grading Criteria

Check out the grading criteria in the attached rubric! To open it, just click on the three dots icon in the top right corner.



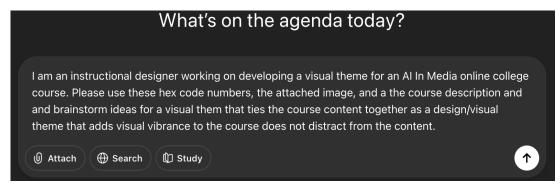
Using AI to draft engaging activities

Aligned with QM Standards and Course Outcomes

Asking students to work WITH AI



## Course Theme





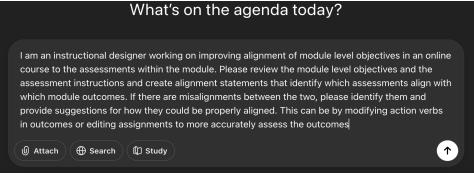


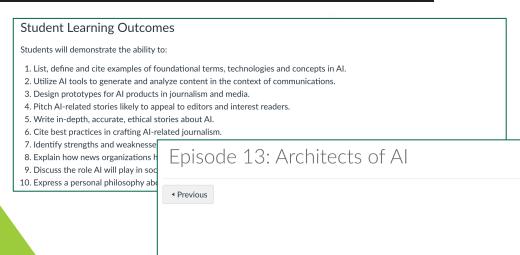


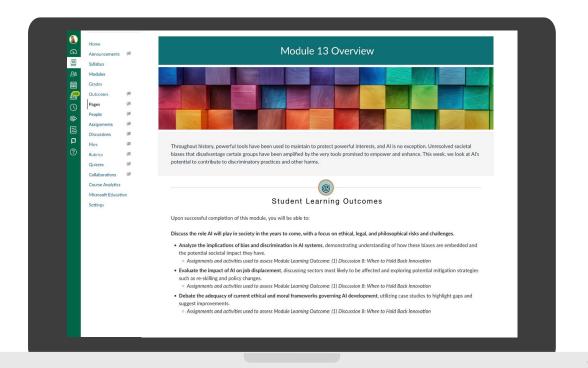


# Challenge 2 **Module Level Outcomes**

Standard 2: Learning Outcomes - Learning objectives, or competencies, describe what learners will be able to do upon completion of the course or module. They are measurable, clearly stated, and aligned with assessments and instructional materials.









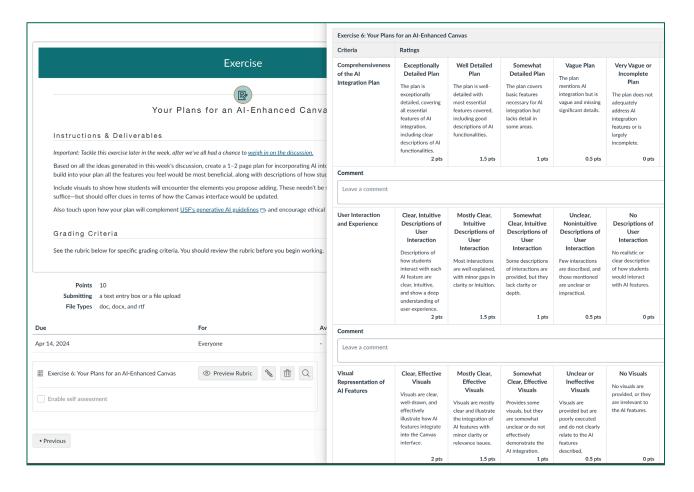
# Rubrics/Grading Criteria



### **Standard 3: Assessment and Measurement**

Assessments are integral to the learning process and are designed to evaluate learner progress in achieving the stated learning objectives

- Module Level Outcomes- To guarantee more molecular alignment and true measurement of outcome achievement
- Assignment Instructions- Helps create clear and concise alignment and explanation between the directions and rubric
- Additional Goals- Include preferred requirements"Included one real world experience in your response"



Pages consisted of static text blocks and linked readings, offering little visual or interactive engagement.



### **General Standard 4: Instructional Materials**

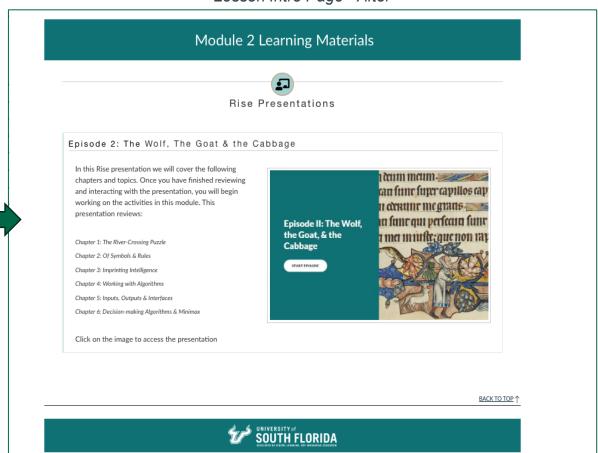
A variety of contextualized instructional materials enables learners to achieve the stated learning objectives

Lesson Intro Page - After

# Lesson Intro Page - Before Episode 2: The Wolf, the Goat & the Cabbage

This week, we take a close look at the paradigm that most heavily influenced the early development of artificial intelligence, and remains an important influence: symbolic Al.

- Chapter 1: The River-Crossing Puzzle
- · Chapter 2: Of Symbols & Rules
- · Chapter 3: Imprinting Intelligence
- Chapter 4: Working with Algorithms
- Chapter 5: Inputs, Outputs & Interfaces
- . Chapter 6: Decision-making Algorithms & Minimax





While Rise provided the structural tool, Generative AI tools made custom imagery achievable at scale.

### Rise Presentation - After

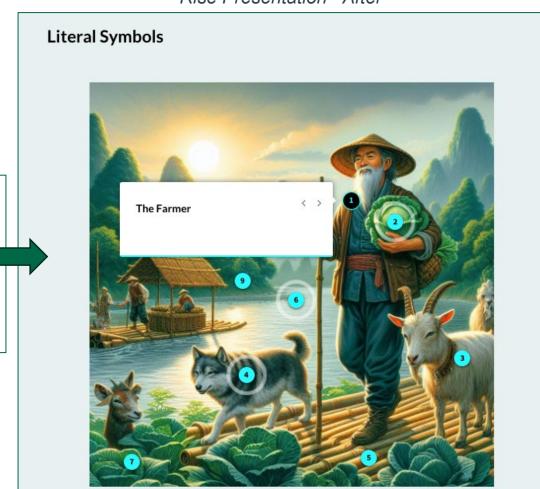
### Canvas Page - Before

### Symbols

Symbols are all the discrete elements that make up the puzzle or problem. They can be both literal and conceptual elements. Let's break down the symbols in the river-crossing puzzle.

### Literal symbols

- The farmer
- 2. The cabbage
- The goat
- 4. The wolf
- The raftThe river
- 7. The first shoreline
- 8. The second shoreline





# Challenge 3 Image Generation

### Source Text

### **Chapter 1: The River-Crossing Puzzle**

As dawn breaks, a farmer stands at the edge of a riverbank, a makeshift raft of bamboo and river reeds at his feet. In his hand, he holds a head of green cabbage. To either side, a wolf and a goat mill about.

The farmer squints across the river to the opposite shore, about 50 yards away. He steels himself for the task ahead: Somehow, he needs to cross to the other side and bring with him his three prized possessions.

But there's a hitch.

To safely cross, he can only bring one item at a time. What's more, his cabbage, goat and wolf aren't known for getting along well.

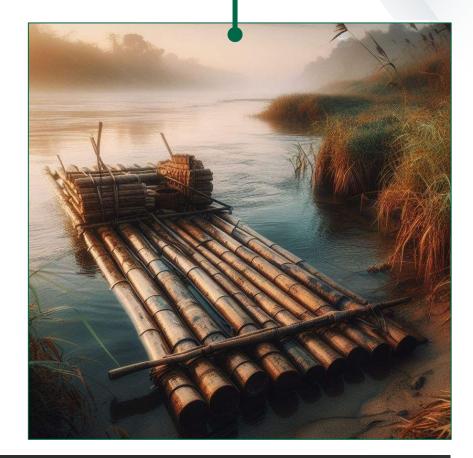
Indeed, if he leaves the cabbage and goat alone for too long, the goat will surely eat the cabbage.

And if he leaves the goat and the wolf alone for too long, the wolf will surely eat the goat.

Nonetheless, the farmer needs to get everyone over to the other side of the river, and he only has his raft to do. What's more, the current is picking up, and he needs to be on the raft whenever it's in the water to ensure it makes it from point A to point B.

### Adobe Firefly Prompt

Image output



Prompt

Bamboo raft floating near the riverbank at sunrise, surrounded by morning mist and golden light. Warm, natural tones, with gentle reflections on calm water. The atmosphere is peaceful. In the style of a fantasy landscape painting.

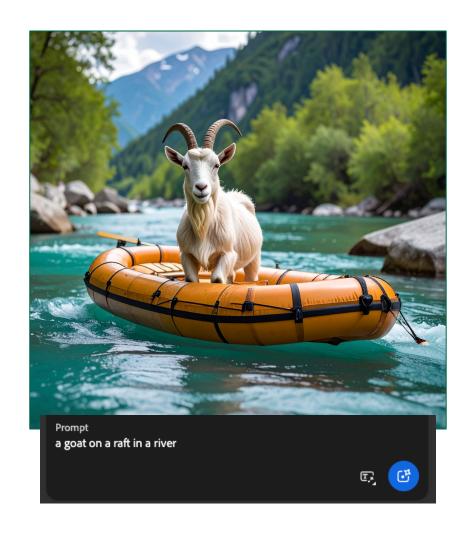




Uses 1 credit



Precise prompting is key to generating quality images





A serene morning scene of a white goat standing on a bamboo raft floating down a calm river surrounded by lush green forest. Soft sunlight filters through the mist, creating golden rays that illuminate the goat's fur and shimmer on the water's surface. In the background, wooden huts and other bamboo rafts with people can be seen along the riverbank. The atmosphere is peaceful, painterly, and dreamlike — in the style of a hyper-realistic fantasy landscape painting.











# Key Takeaways for Designers

**Decision Making Guide** 

AI + QM Standards = Efficiency with Integrity

Use QM as your guardrail

Iterate intentionally



# Key Takeaways for Designers

# **Decision Making Guide**

### Guiding Questions for Al Use in Quality Course Design

Does the AI use support or enhance a QM Standard?

Does it improve clarity, variety, or accessibility?

Is the content accurate and bias free?

Has the content undergone human verification and judgement?

# Al Tools for Course Development

Enhance creativity, streamline workflows, and align with QM standards



Scan with your smartphone to explore the list

# Syllabus & Course Guidance on Al

Get information on syllabus statements and guidance on AI use in your course



### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is a cornerstone of any educational institution, and it is especially crucial in an online education course where the opportunities for collaboration and information sharing are vast. As a student in this course, you are expected to uphold the highest standards of honesty and personal integrity in your academic work.

It is important to note that \*\*all assignments should be completed independently\*\* unless explicitly stated otherwise. While you are permitted to use Al tools to assist you in your assignments, it is essential to understand that the true value of your education comes from your own critical thinking and effort. Relying solely on Al may not provide the deep understanding and skills that you will need in the business world.

When using any external sources, including AI, \*\*citations must be provided\*\* where required. This not only gives credit to the original creators but also reinforces the transparency and honesty that are expected in all your academic endeavors

Please be reminded that \*\*quizzes and exams are closed notes\*\*. This means that you must rely on your knowledge and understanding of the course material without the aid of external resources during these assessments. The use of AI in quizzes and exams is not permitted

By adhering to these principles, you demonstrate your commitment to academic integrity and the value you place on a genuine and meaningful education. Let's work together to maintain a culture of honesty and respect in our academic community.

Template designed by Digital Learning, USF Innovative Education









Erin Nolan Online Success Coach Schedule a Call erinnolan@usf.edu



### Activate Al. Shape the Future.

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Artificial Intelligence is no longer on the horizon-it's already here, influencing how we work, learn, connect, and live. From personalized learning and healthcare diagnostics to hiring algorithms and financial services, AI is embedded in the tools and systems we

As these technologies rapidly advance, there's an urgent demand for professionals who can thoughtfully assess Al's broader impact on people, communities, and society. That's where you come in.

The Al and Everyday Impact: Applied Practices Graduate Certificate empowers you

- . Understand Al's real-world applications in everyday systems and services
- . Explore ethical, social, and cultural implications of emerging AI technologies
- . Join a growing network of forward-thinking professionals invested in

Developed with flexibility and real-world relevance in mind, this online graduate certificate gives you the tools to critically engage with Al-and shape its impact for good.



# Want to Learn More?









# Thank you!



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MEET OUR TEAM

Get to know our team of experts



SEE OUR WORK

View a portfolio of our work

