

Workshop: Strategic Development of AI in Teaching and Learning

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Abstract

The workshop session will allow participants to take a strategic view of the development of artificial intelligence (AI) in learning and teaching (T&L). No prior knowledge of artificial intelligence will be required, and a range of experience and knowledge will enhance the experience of participants. The workshop design is based on a new 'lens' tool which aligns to the Jisc Beyond Blended strategic pillars (Beetham, MacNeill & McGill, 2024). The tool includes prompt questions which will be used to stimulate discussions about AI in blended learning and teaching. The strategic level of the workshop and lens will be ideal for individuals leading curriculum change, designing and redesigning curricula, and implementing curriculum change.

The AI in T&L Strategic Lens is a new adaptation of the existing Jisc Beyond Blended strategic lenses. The lenses are a tool which provide perspectives on designing blended learning and they are positioned within the organisational digital culture and knowledge development components of the Jisc Digital Transformation Framework (McGill, 2023). The lenses were developed by the Jisc Beyond Blended authors (Beetham, MacNeill & McGill, 2024) and include 6 perspectives: holistic strategic issues; learning space design; learning platform design and implementation; teaching time and workload; equality, diversity and inclusion; data collection and analysis. The new AI in T&L Strategic Lens has been created by the workshop facilitator, Alison Purvis, to supplement and complement the existing Jisc Beyond Blended lenses. The development is being shared with the original Beyond Blended authors. The lens been designed to explore strategic aspects of AI in blended learning and teaching. Participants will be able to contextualise their thinking and contributions to discussions based on their role and the strategic projects that they are involved with.

The 90-minute session will include the following components:

- **Introduction (15 minutes):** A short introduction to the facilitator, aims of the session, Jisc Digital Transformation Framework, Jisc Beyond Blended Pillars, and the development of the new artificial intelligence lens.
- **Photo elicitation (15 minutes):** this initial activity will act as an ice breaker and introduce participants into thinking and talking about artificial intelligence in teaching and learning. It is a playful and creative method that can be used to explore many topics. An alternative elicitation method will be offered for participants, such as those visually impaired, who may not be able to engage with visual materials.

- **Discussion (45 minutes):** The AI in T&L lens prompt questions will be used to support a dialogue-based method where small groups will engage in conversation. The prompts explore the concept of strategic development of AI in teaching and learning. Participants will write their thoughts in response to the prompts on provided sheets.
- **Summary (15 minutes):** Key points from each group will be sought to gather shared learning. Participants will also be encouraged to think about the photo elicitation activity, and the lens tool, as methods they can use in their own practice. Tools will be shared with participants to allow them to adapt for their own uses in future. Written outputs from discussions will be captured and shared.

Participants will be given the opportunity to opt into research data collection through capture of their responses during the session. Informed consent to participate will be voluntary and any decision not to participate will be without prejudice. Participants who do not opt in to the research element will have an identical experience to those who opt in. Full research ethics approval will be sought following acceptance of the workshop proposal and in advance of the workshop taking place.

Keywords: AI, Blended learning, Curriculum design, Digital transformation

McGill, L. (2023). Digital transformation in higher education. Jisc Guides available online at:

<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/guides/digital-transformation-in-higher-education>

Beetham, H., MacNeill, S., and McGill, L. (2024) Beyond Blended. Jisc Guides available online at:

<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/guides/beyond-blended-rethinking-curriculum-and-learning-design>