

Fall Learning Days 2026

Schedule of Events

Monday, August 24, 2026 – Faculty Monday



2:30 – 2:35pm	Welcome & Speaker Introduction, <i>Dr. Michelle Allmendinger</i>	Pioneer Gym
2:35 – 5:45pm	Presentation & Workshop, <i>Dr. José Antonio Bowen</i>	Pioneer Gym

Dr. José Antonio Bowen—higher education innovator, former college president, and co-author of *Teaching with AI: A Practical Guide to a New Era of Human Learning*. In this session, he will walk faculty through actionable strategies for integrating AI literacy, rethinking assignment design, and raising standard expectations while keeping critical thinking, equity, and student engagement at the core of learning. Attendees should bring a charged laptop. Box lunches are provided.

A Note from the Delta College Food Pantry:

Food insecurity takes more than meals. It takes birthdays. Celebrations. These small moments of joy help to remind us we are valued and seen. This fall, the Delta College Food Pantry is pushing back.

During Fall Learning Days, we are collecting supplies for Celebration Boxes — because we believe dignity does not have an income requirement and joy should never be a privilege. Every Delta College student deserves to celebrate birthdays and milestones, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Please donate any of the following:

- Boxed cake mix
- Cooking oil
- Sprinkles
- Frosting
- Birthday candles

We Also Welcome:

- Non-perishable, unexpired food items
- Monetary donations
- Payroll deduction contributions

Every student deserves a candle to blow out. Help us make sure they have one. See you on August 24th!

Tuesday, August 25, 2026 – All College Day

7:45am – 8:45am	President’s Breakfast		Pioneer Gym
8:45am – 9:30am	President’s Address and Q&A, Dr. Michelle Allmendinger		Pioneer Gym
9:30am – 9:45am	Introduction of New Employees, Wendy Childs		Pioneer Gym
9:45am – 10:00am	Employee Safety Training & Updates, Chief Robert Battinkoff		Pioneer Gym
10:00am – 10:15am	Break		
10:15am – 11:30am	Keynote Speaker, Dr. José Antonio Bowen (Speech w/Q&A)		Pioneer Gym
11:30am – 11:45am	Celebration of Endowed Teaching Chair Recipients, Dr. Reva Curry		Pioneer Gym
11:45am – 12:45pm	Lunch Break (Cake in Founder’s Hall)		
Concurrent Sessions (see descriptions on page 3-7)			
1:00pm - 4:00pm	LivingWorks SafeTalk Training (limited to 60 participants – register here)		
12:45pm – 1:30pm (45 min sessions)		12:45pm – 2:15pm (90 min session)	
Accessibility with Yuja Panorama	K105	OER, Softchalk & You: A New Tool for Teaching	K116
BEDI Learning Series: Intercultural Dev. Inventory	J138		
General Education Assessment: Results, Refinements, and What’s Next	J132		
How to be a (Microsoft) Teams Player	J131		
Inside Prison Education: Delta Faculty Share Their Experience & Answer Your Questions	K108		
Saginaw Poet Theodore Roethke: A Model of Joseph Campbell’s Hero’s Journey	K113		
Using Notebook LM for Study Guides	K115		
1:40pm – 2:25pm (45 min sessions)			
Data Literacy at Delta College – Level 2 Training		J130	
Faculty Dashboard Walkthrough and Tool Demo		K105	
From Inquiry to Impact: Integrating Research Projects in the Classroom		K115	
Healthcare Simulation Lab Showcase: Exploring the Future of Healthcare Education		F283	
Join the FAB Conversation: Supporting Faculty Voice & Curriculum Collaboration		J137	
Stalking on College Campuses		J134	
2:35pm – 3:20pm (45 min sessions)		2:35pm – 4:05pm (90 min session)	
eLearning & D2L Updates	K105	Developing a Fully OER Course	K110
Capital Renovation of the Library/Resource Center	J138	Non-Academic Student Needs: Current Landscape & Available Supports	J133
Creating an Impactful Promotion & Tenure Packet	J137		
Empathy for Teaching and Learning	K113		
Mandated Reporter Training	J134		
Personal Counseling Services	J140		
A World in Flux: Making Sense of AI	J131		
3:30pm – 4:15pm (45 min sessions)			
AI in Action: Practical Strategies for Faculty and Student Engagement		J135	
From Paper to Practice: Experiential Learning Workshop		K115	
Ghost Students		J138	
Student Success Modules: Connecting Students to Support When They Need It		J137	
Sustainability at Delta College: Updates and Townhall Discussion		J132	
Transitioning to Colleague SaaS – Project Update		J131	
Writing to Learn: A Tool for Thinking and Participating in the Classroom		K108	

Concurrent Sessions (sessions are listed alphabetically by title)

J131
2:35-3:20pm **A World in Flux: Making Sense of AI**
Adam Dickinson

How do we, as educators, respond to the rapid transformation being precipitated by the Artificial Intelligence revolution? Come join the Delta Office of Information Technology to ask questions and stay informed about AI innovations, modernization projects (including the SaaS project and SP2 updates), and how Delta College is responding to these landscape changes.

K105
12:45-1:30pm **Accessibility with YuJa Panorama**
Justin Bamberg & Kayleigh Nelson

Learn how to use YuJa Panorama to improve the accessibility of your course materials. This session will introduce Panorama's key features, demonstrate how to identify and resolve accessibility issues, and provide practical tips for creating more inclusive content in Brightspace. With the upcoming Title II ADA compliance requirements on April 26, 2027, ensuring digital course materials are accessible is more important than ever. Learn how Panorama can help you meet accessibility standards and support all learners.

J135
3:30 – 4:15pm **AI in Action: Practical Strategies for Faculty and Student Engagement**
Audra Swarthout & Kelsey Pressler

Ever feel like the work of making or delivering content gets in the way of your best teaching? Or have you ever felt frustrated by the irresponsible or ineffective ways students use AI? You're in good company! Drop in to this session to hear some easily implementable strategies to reduce faculty workload and engage students in worthwhile applications of AI. These strategies are all accessible to beginner level AI users from all disciplines.

Using AI to Reduce Faculty Workload

- *Using AI to Create a Library of Case Studies*
- *Bring Course Content to Life with AI Generated Podcasts & Transcripts*

Engaging Students with AI

- *Critical Evaluation of AI Generated Content (ex: Experimental Design)*
- *Use AI to Develop Student Study Skills*

J138
12:45 – 1:30pm **BEDI Learning Series: Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)**
Chris DeEulis

During this session, we will explore perspectives on intercultural communication and sensitivity. Once you have participated in this session, you will have the opportunity to complete the IDI (Intercultural Development Inventory) and create a development plan.

J138
2:35 – 3:20pm **Capital Renovation of the Library/Resource Center**
Pam Clark, Jon Foco & Rob Young

Delta College has worked with architects to envision what a renovated Library space could become in A-wing, to include numerous student resources. The state of Michigan approved the first step in the process for us to receive \$10 million toward this project. Join us to learn more about the project, the next steps and what the estimated timeline may be.

J137
2:35-3:20pm **Creating an Impactful Promotion & Tenure Packet**
Karen Randolph & Donny Winter

A successful promotion and/or tenure packet requires consideration from multiple perspectives. Join us to see how both candidates and PRC chairs can make that happen.

J130 1:40 – 2:25pm	Data Literacy at Delta College – Level 2 Training <i>Tyler Shea</i>
<i>We'll cover common terms and acronyms associated with Delta College data and ways to access data. Then we'll test our knowledge with a fun activity.</i>	
K110 2:35 – 4:05pm	Developing a Fully OER Course <i>Carrie Burdzinski & Cindy Drake</i>
<i>Have you thought about using open educational resources for your classes but aren't sure how to begin? Are you interested in developing your own materials but need help getting started? In this active workshop, we will give a tour of our fully OER Anatomy & Physiology courses that we developed over the past two years through an Endowed Teaching Chair grant, as well as a Brightspace Resources site for faculty to use in any course format. You will then have an opportunity to begin designing your own activities and resources in Brightspace and come away with new materials to use in your online, CNET, or face-to-face classes. Note: Participants may bring their own laptop or use one of the computers in the computer lab. We recommend creating a sandbox site in Brightspace where you can try out some techniques and activities that you may want to incorporate in your own classes.</i>	
K105 2:35 – 3:20pm	eLearning & D2L Updates <i>Justin Bamberg</i>
<i>In this session, we will review the changes that have occurred over the past year in D2L and the Faculty Dashboard.</i>	
K113 2:35 – 3:20pm	Empathy for Teaching and Learning <i>Abigail Van Vuren</i>
<i>This session explores the psychology of empathy, and how it can be used as a tool in the classroom. We will explore the different facets of empathy, the role it plays in our learning process, and how we can encourage its development in our students at a time when it is becoming more necessary than ever.</i>	
K105 1:40 – 2:25pm	Faculty Dashboard Walkthrough and Tool Demo <i>Justin Bamberg & Kayleigh Nelson</i>
<i>We will walkthrough the importance of the Faculty Dashboard, located inside the D2L system, and provide a live demonstration of tools.</i>	
K115 1:40 – 2:25pm	From Inquiry to Impact: Integrating Research Projects in the Classroom <i>Peter R. Nkhoma</i>
<i>This session highlights how research-based projects can be integrated into teaching and curriculum through a geography case study on the Colorado River Basin. Using this project as a model, it will show how students engage in structured inquiry, analyze real-world data, and develop evidence-based solutions to environmental challenges. Attendees will gain insight into project design, scaffolding research skills, and connecting content standards to meaningful, student-driven learning.</i>	
K115 3:30 – 4:15pm	From Paper to Practice: Experiential Learning Workshop <i>Elizabeth Arroyo & Carolyn Teppo</i>
<i>Experiential learning helps students connect classroom learning with the skills, confidence, and professional awareness they need beyond college. This interactive session demonstrates experiential learning, how it supports the overall student learning pathway, and how the new Experiential Learning and Workforce Development Center can build on the applied learning happening across the learning environment. Through a hands-on origami duck activity, participants will explore how guidance, reflection, and peer support can strengthen learning outcomes. The session will also identify ways Experiential Learning and Workforce Development can support learning opportunities taking place while helping connect students with additional employers, community, and workforce experiences.</i>	

J132 **General Education Assessment: Results, Refinements, and What's Next**
12:45 – 1:30pm *Casey Armour, Mark Balawender and Dennis Roebuck*

This session will provide an update on the assessment of General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs), highlighting results from the Utilize Technology Effectively and Think Critically outcomes. We will discuss key findings from the 2025 assessment cycle, recent updates to the assessment process and schedule, and plans for upcoming General Education assessment activities.

J138 **Ghost Students**
3:30 – 4:15pm *Don Duchene & Kim Katzer*

Learn more about identifying ghost students in classes and how to alert the appropriate people.

F283 **Healthcare Simulation Lab Showcase: Exploring the Future of Healthcare Education**
1:40 – 2:25pm *Nola Barres, Asia Beamon, Liz Gramza, Kara Reder & Leah Rouleau*

Join us for an engaging and interactive showcase designed specifically for non-medical faculty and staff. This unique event offers a behind-the-scenes look at the innovative technologies that prepare our future healthcare professionals for real-world patient care. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the Anatomage Table, an advanced digital anatomy system that allows users to visualize and interact with detailed, life-sized human anatomy in three dimensions. You can also experience how students study anatomy using virtual dissections and interactive learning tools. The showcase will also feature a High-Fidelity Patient Manikin, a sophisticated simulator capable of mimicking realistic patient conditions, including breathing, heart sounds, vital sign changes, and responses to medical interventions that attendees will be able to complete hands on activities. Demonstrations will highlight how healthcare students develop clinical decision-making and teamwork skills in a safe, controlled environment. In addition, attendees can experience the VR Desktop Simulation System, which immerses learners in virtual clinical settings where they can practice patient assessments, procedures, and communication skills through interactive simulations. Whether you are curious about emerging educational technologies or interested in understanding how simulation-based learning supports student success, this will be an exciting opportunity to discover how innovation is transforming healthcare education. No medical background is required—just bring your curiosity and be prepared to experience learning in a whole new way.

J131 **How to Be a (Microsoft) Teams Player**
12:45 – 1:30pm *Wendy Ramirez & Anna Williams*

Microsoft Teams is more than a chat tool—it is a central hub for communication, collaboration, file sharing, and project management. This session provides a practical overview of Microsoft Teams and demonstrates how novice users can use it to streamline everyday work.

K108 **Inside Prison Education: Delta Faculty Share Their Experience & Answer Your Questions**
12:45 – 1:30pm *Ethan Short, Liz Ullrich, Cynthia Grether and Dawn Fairchild*

Teaching in a correctional facility is unlike any other educational experience—and it is often one of the most rewarding. Join a panel of faculty members who have taught college courses at the Saginaw Correctional Facility in Freeland as they share candid stories about what it's really like inside the classroom. Learn what to expect, how classes are conducted, the challenges and rewards of working with incarcerated students, and the support available to instructors. Whether you're simply curious or seriously considering teaching in a prison education program, this open conversation offers an opportunity to ask questions, dispel common misconceptions, and discover how your expertise can make a meaningful difference in the lives of students seeking a second chance through higher education.

J137 1:40 – 2:25pm	Join the FAB Conversation: Supporting Faculty Voice & Curriculum Collaboration <i>Faculty Assembly Board: Darci Doll, Lisa Lawrason, Karen Randolph, Kendra Rogers (co-chair) and Christine Yaroch (co-chair)</i>
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Let's create and maintain spaces for faculty to have meaningful conversations. Come support FAB's mission in getting faculty voices heard, especially in regard to curriculum. Let's foster the dialogue together. Please join us!

1:00 – 4:00pm	LifeWorks safeTALK Training <i>Daisy McQuiston & Meredith Nixon</i>
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*LivingWorks safeTALK is a half-day community helper training aimed at increasing learners' ability to recognize when someone may be having thoughts of suicide, engage in open discussions about suicide, and connect individuals with appropriate intervention resources. **(limited to 60 participants – [register here](#))***

J134 2:35 – 3:20pm	Mandated Reporter Training <i>Allie Martinez</i>
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This session will review Title IX and Equity mandated reporting procedures. Delta College employees are considered mandated reporters and required to attend annual training. The session will cover sensitive topics such as dating abuse, domestic violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and stalking.

J133 2:35 – 4:05pm	Non-Academic Student Needs: Current Landscape & Available Supports <i>Karry Kiste-Toner & Brad Fotopoulos</i>
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Karry Kiste-Toner (Dean of Student Success) and Brad Fotopoulos (Student Care Coordinator) will present an overview of the results from the 2025 administration of the Hope Center Student Basic Needs Survey, along with sharing the Coordinated Care Network efforts designed to provide holistic student support. The session will highlight trends identified through the survey, discuss their implications for faculty and staff, and provide opportunities for reflection and discussion on strategies to better meet student needs. Attendees will leave with a deeper understanding of the student experience, available assistance resources, and practical ideas for applying the survey findings to support student success and completion at Delta College.

K116 12:45 – 2:15pm	OER, SoftChalk, & You: A Tool for Thinking and Participating in the Classroom <i>Donna Giuliani, Kara Jimenez, Michele Pratt, Audra Swarthout & Donny Winter</i>
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The Delta College OER (Open Educational Resources) Steering Committee introduces a new tool, SoftChalk, which can be used for OER creation. This session is divided into two parts. The first 45 minutes consists of a brief overview of OER and a panel discussion from SoftChalk users. The second 45 minutes consist of a hands-on, workshop-style session allowing participants to use SoftChalk, discuss pedagogy, and pose questions.

J140 2:35 – 3:20pm	Personal Counseling Services <i>Tim Cole & Karlie David</i>
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Awareness of the impact of mental health on student academic and social-emotional wellbeing has increased dramatically over the past 10 years, yet many barriers still exist in supporting students as they navigate the process of accessing counseling services. Come meet part of the Delta College Personal Counseling Services team as we explore current and upcoming counseling opportunities, as well as empower all staff to serve as an ally in connecting students with the supports needed to grow in their overall wellness.

K113 12:45 – 1:30pm	Saginaw Poet Theodore Roethke: A Model of Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey <i>Jeff Vande Zande</i>
<i>Originally presented at the SVSU Theodore Roethke Poetry and Arts Festival as a Ted Talk, this program explores first Joseph Campbell's idea of the stages of the Hero's Journey that he discovered by studying myths from around the world, which would result in his groundbreaking book, The Hero with a Thousand Faces. In the presentation, Vande Zande will show how Roethke rises from the soil of Saginaw to the unlikely position of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet. Attendees will learn about Campbell's theories, learn about local literary legend Theodore Roethke, and perhaps also be inspired to take their own hero's journey...a fitting presentation for the beginning of a new school year as Delta's new batch of students begins their own hero's journey.</i>	
J134 1:40 – 2:25pm	Stalking on College Campuses <i>Allie Martinez</i>
<i>This session will define stalking, outline key indicators of stalking behavior, and provide insight on how to recognize and respond. Stalking is characterized by a sense of fear and/or emotional distress and can be challenging to navigate on a public campus. This session will outline key support and safety considerations.</i>	
J137 3:30 – 4:15pm	Student Success Modules: Connecting Students to Support When They Need It <i>Casey Armour, Kendra Rogers, David Baskind, Dorian Phelps, Donny Winter and Kayleigh Nelson</i>
<i>This session will introduce the Student Success Modules being launched in D2L courses to help students connect with resources that support academic success and persistence. The modules provide just in time support in areas such as time management, study strategies, communication, technology use, and navigating online learning expectations. Participants will explore how the modules were developed, how they are being integrated into courses, and early feedback from implementation. The session will also highlight ways faculty can incorporate student success supports into their courses with minimal added workload.</i>	
J132 3:30 – 4:15pm	Sustainability at Delta College: Updates and Townhall Discussion <i>Andrea Bair, Jordan Hoffman and Sustainability Team Members</i>
<i>What's happening with sustainability at Delta? Please join new Faculty Sustainability Co-Coordinators Andrea Bair and Jordan Hoffman in a townhall discussion in which they will share updates, future goals, and facilitate brainstorming and feedback from the Delta community. Everyone is welcome to participate!</i>	
J131 3:30 – 4:15pm	Transitioning to Colleague SaaS – Project Update <i>Meghan Sadler</i>
<i>Join us to get an overview and update on the status of the Colleague SaaS project. We will be going over the remaining timeline, project milestones, hours allocated thus far and more. Please bring any questions you may have, and we will do our best to answer them!</i>	
K115 12:45 – 1:30pm	Using Notebook LM for Study Guides <i>Allyssa Thomas</i>
<i>This session will show how to create audio podcasts, videos, flash cards, and quizzes using Notebook LM.</i>	
K108 3:30 – 4:15pm	Writing to Learn: A Tool for Thinking and Participating in the Classroom <i>Erin Corle, Jerrard Johnson, Natascha Rivet, Jenelle Salisbury and Cynthia Veldt-Dietsch</i>
<i>This interactive session will describe, demonstrate, and allow for dialog on the subject of using writing in the classroom to enhance learning, thinking, and participation. The presenters recently took Delta's EDU 398W Writing to Learn class and are prepared to share their insights and takeaways from the course along with the outcomes they experienced in their classrooms. Faculty teaching a "W" class and staff who would like to get richer participation at meetings from their work groups should consider attending for ideas.</i>	

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

9:00am – 4:00pm	All Faculty Meeting	Lecture Theater
9:00am – 9:05am	Welcome, Dr. Reva Curry	
9:05am – 9:45am	Title IX, Allie Martinez	
9:45am – 10:00am	Campus Safety for Faculty, Chief Robert Battinkoff	
10:00am – 10:15am	SP2 Technology Committee Update, Jon Foco	
10:15am – 10:30am	SES Update for Faculty, Karry Kiste-Toner & James Perry	
10:30am – 10:45am	In-Person & Online Tutoring, Danielle Petersen	
11:00am – 4:00pm	Lunch & Division/Discipline Meetings <i>(Details provided by each division office)</i>	
3:00pm – 4:00pm	Ice Cream and Chips <i>Sponsored by the Foundation</i>	Founder's Hall