



MDEC - May 28, 2025

AI Literacy for Community Empowerment: A Course Coming Soon to University of Maryland

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Presentation at the AI and Digital Skills Building Webinar, Maryland Digital Equity Coalition





Presentation agenda



Context



Course Goals



Course Outline



Course Timeline &
Deliverables



A Call for Interest:
AI Literacy Providers



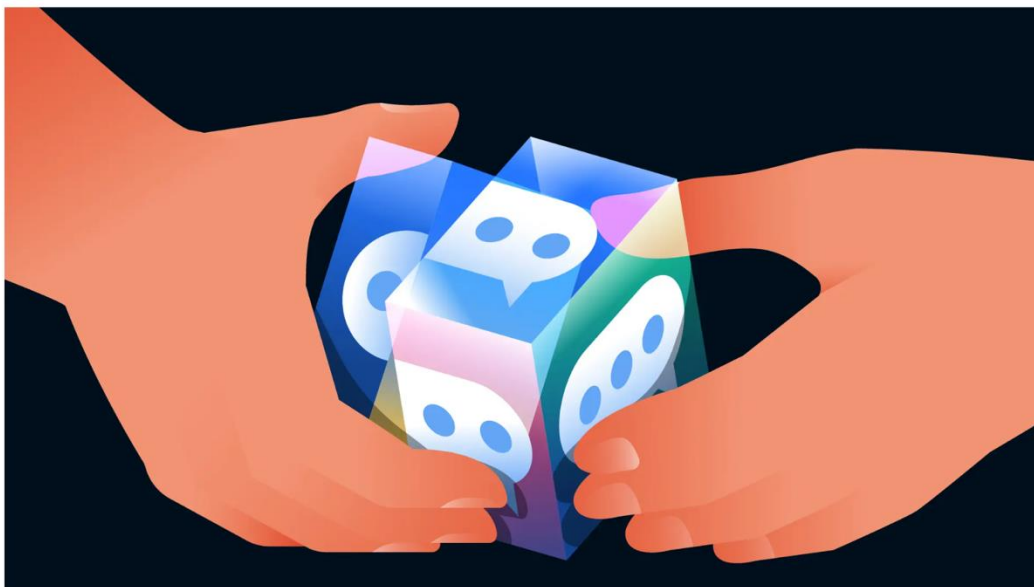
Q & A

Context for AI Literacy for Community Empowerment Course

7 Proposals for AI-Focused Courses Awarded New Grants

Funds Administered by AIM to Support Classes in Arts and Humanities, Public Health, Behavioral and Social Sciences, and Information Science

By Abby Robinson / May 05, 2025



Seven new UMD courses that delve into the role of artificial intelligence across art, public health, information science, psychology and more have received seed grants from the Artificial Intelligence Interdisciplinary Institute at Maryland (AIM).

Illustration by iStock

Available at: <https://today.umd.edu/7-proposals-for-ai-focused-courses-awarded-new-grants>



Course Goals



Describe, apply, and
facilitate the learning
of AI literacy



Use PD techniques to
co-design AI literacy
learning experiences



Adopt a mindset
centered around
community and public
service



Appreciate the
relationship between AI
and its ethical, social,
cultural impact



Develop dispositions
essential for advancing
AI literacy learning



Course Outline

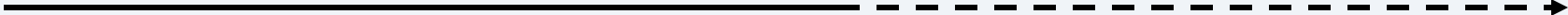
- **Weeks 1-5:** Students will develop a foundational understanding of **AI literacy**, cultivate **community engagement and public service mindsets**, and develop **co-design skills to co-design** the learning experiences with digital literacy providers. Using **participatory design techniques**, students will assess and identify **specific AI literacy gaps** within their communities.
- **Weeks 6-10:** Students will engage in **design sprints** in the classroom to create **tailored learning experiences** based on the identified **community needs and gaps**.
- **Weeks 11-15:** Students will refine and **co-develop** these learning experiences in **collaboration with digital literacy providers**, ensuring that they are **effective, accessible, and community centered**.



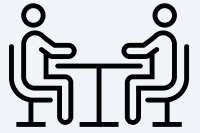
Course Timeline

Call for Projects:
May 2026

Deliverables:
December 2026



CFP	Process	Deliverables
Anyone interested in delivering an AI literacy learning experience to their community members? Complete an interest form.	Course activities include design sprints with digital literacy providers and community members	Ready to Deliver AI Literacy Lesson Plans/Learning Experiences/Services



Early Call for Interest in Proposing Projects

**If you would like me to be in touch in May 2026,
please complete this interest form:**

<https://forms.gle/zvfM5ZicSPHfrUE77>

The Joy of Working with UMD INFO Students



Figure 1

01 Research	02 Ideation	03 Iteration
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Interviews2. Card Sorting3. Observations4. Analysis	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Blue Sky Thinking2. Affinity Diagramming3. Sticky Notes4. Big Ideas5. Feature Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Storyboarding2. Combined Storyboarding3. Low-Fidelity Sketching4. Layered Elaboration5. Prototype Designing

Figure 2

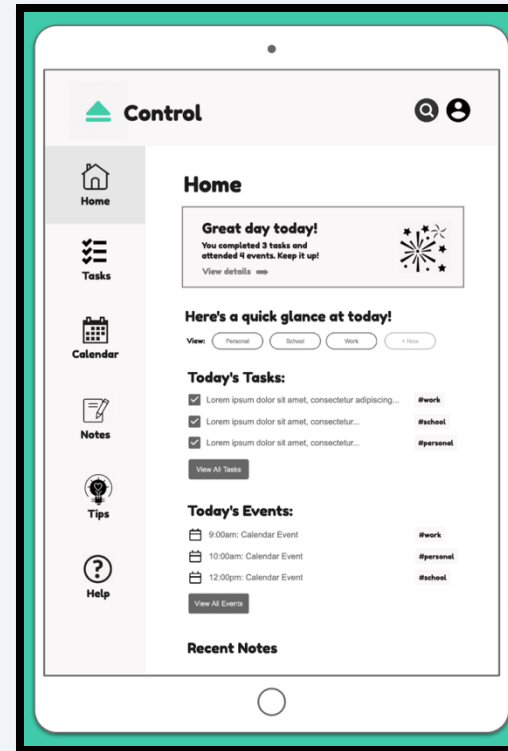


Figure 3



Figure 4

Counter-clockwise:

Fig 1: Design of Library Space for Children with Autism - Pit balls in low doggy gate;

Fig 2: Co-design techniques used in each design thinking stages;

Fig 3: Prototype of productivity and mental health App created by my student and the youth he worked with in INST652 in Spring 2020

Fig 4: Students from INST622 working with DCPL in offering an accessible makerspaces on the fly

Acknowledgments

My sincere thanks to



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



Our partners (thus far):





Thank You! Questions?

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