

Pre-Event Workshop #1

New Orleans, LA

Sunday, March 9, 2025

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Cost: \$75.00

Navigating the AI Landscape: Charting an Equitable Path Forward in Teacher Education

DESCRIPTION

This hands-on workshop invites educators to explore the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) in teacher education. Participants will gain practical, hands-on experience with various generative AI tools while critically examining their impact on teaching and learning. Through collaborative activities, attendees will engage with AI applications in key areas such as assessment, lesson planning, and curriculum alignment. We'll delve into strategies for promoting responsible and ethical AI integration, addressing crucial issues of equity, privacy, and academic integrity. The workshop emphasizes transparency in AI use, providing frameworks for effective implementation in teacher education programs and K-12 classrooms. Participants will explore emerging AI technologies and gain insights into APIs and Large Language Models (LLMs), empowering them to make informed decisions about AI tool selection and use. Collaborative discussions and critical analysis will equip attendees to navigate the complexities of AI in education.

By the end of the workshop, participants will be prepared to:

1. Make informed decisions about AI integration in educational settings
2. Advocate for equitable and responsible AI use
3. Develop strategies for implementing AI while maintaining human-centered teaching practices

Join us in charting a path that harnesses the power of AI while prioritizing ethical considerations and educational best practices. Together, we'll shape the future of teacher education in the age of AI.

Workshop Facilitator/Presenter:

Dr. Jessica Herring-Watson - University of Central Arkansas
Assistant Professor in the College of Education

Bio: Dr. Jessica Herring-Watson is an Assistant Professor in the College of Education at the University of Central Arkansas where she teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses focused on digital age teaching and leadership. With over a decade of teaching experience, Jessica's work focuses on supporting meaningful uses of technology-enabled learning in K-20 classrooms. Her research investigates preservice and inservice teachers' development and persistent use of technology-enabled learning to cultivate more inclusive, creative, and engaging learning environments. She has presented and served as a featured speaker at a variety of national and international conferences, including ISTE, AERA, SITE, and SXSW EDU and has published research in educational technology-focused journals, including TechTrends and ISTE's Journal of Research on Technology in Education. She is an Apple Distinguished Educator and ISTE Certified Educator and currently serves on the advisory board for SXSW EDU.