NWeLearn Conference 2026

Create, Design, Inspire

Leveraging AI for Accessible Course Content



Mel Stark and **Sage Freeman**

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE · CHEMEKETA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

YOUR PRESENTERS

Meet your presenters



Mel Stark

Instructional Designer

Lane Community College



Sage Freeman

Associate Dean

Chemeketa Community College

OCCDLA

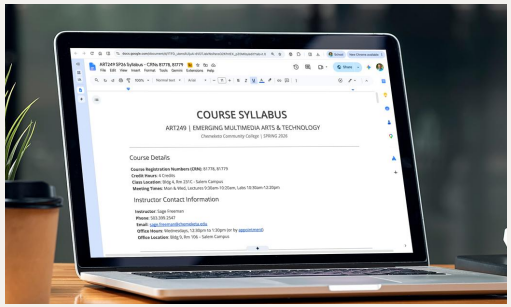
OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTANCE LEARNING ASSOCIATION

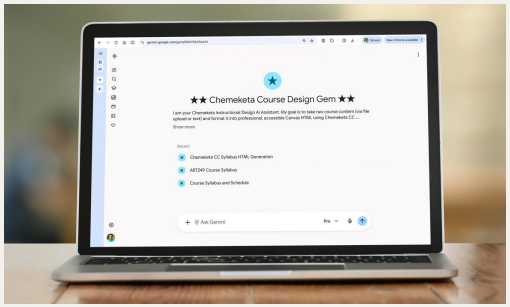
Lane Community College

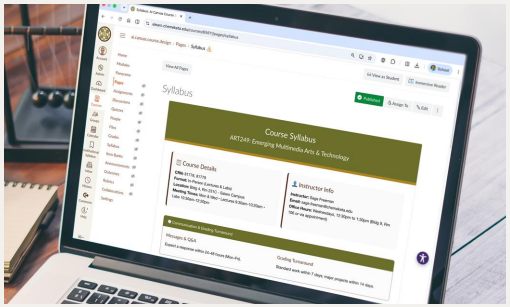
Discover Chemeketa Community College

PURPOSE

Good design should be within reach for every educator







CREATE

Move from source material to usable course content faster.

DESIGN

Use accessible design patterns, visual hierarchy, and mobile-responsive layouts.

INSPIRE

Leave with a starting workflow you can adapt for your own teaching context.

TOOLKIT

AI Tools for Accessible Course Content

Gemini Chat

- Generate ideas and outlines
- Create and refine content
- Build custom Gems
- Work across Google tools

Gemini Notebook

- Upload and organize sources
- Summarize key information
- Generate content based on your sources

Gemini Gems

- Create tailored AI experts
- Standardize your workflow
- Generate consistent results

GOOGLE GEMINI UPDATE

Gemini Gems are transitioning to Skills

A new way to reuse instructions for consistent AI-assisted course design

TODAY

Gems

Reusable assistants with saved instructions for repeatable tasks.

WHAT'S NEXT

Skills

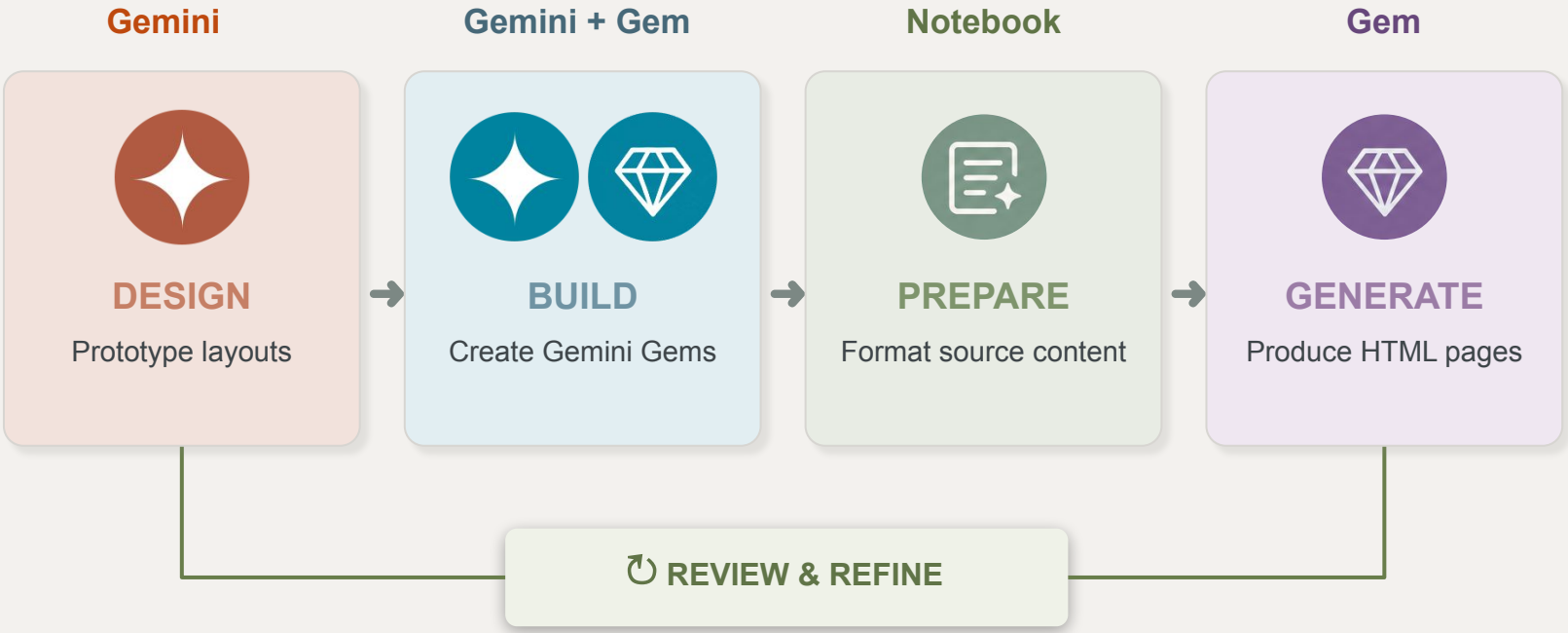
Reusable instructions called within Gemini chats; multiple Skills can work together.

WHAT THIS MEANS

Skills rollout: Gemini app started Oct. 13, 2026. Education Gems will be supported until at least June 1, 2027.

THE WORKFLOW

Workflow: Prepare, Design, Build, and Generate



SKILLS NEEDED

You need curiosity more than technical skill



Clear prompting and iteration

Describe the context, goals, and constraints to the AI.



Instructional design and pedagogy

Keep the learning outcomes in focus.



An eye for accessibility

Check for any issues and refine templates for improvements.

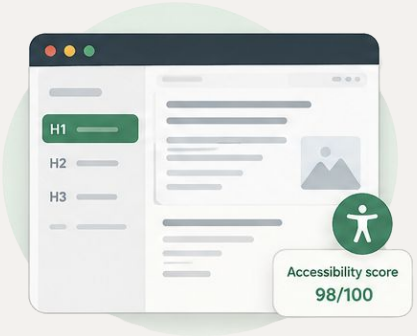


Critical review

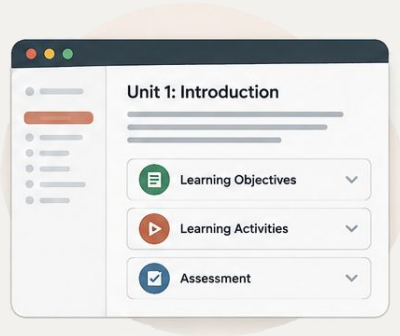
Always validate the AI output before using it.

DESIGN STANDARDS

Design best practices keep content usable for everyone







Digital accessibility

- WCAG 2.1 AA Standards
- Logical heading structure
- Readable contrast
- Meaningful alt text
- Proper HTML markup

Responsive design

- Flexbox CSS Framework
- Content that works on mobile
- Flexible page layouts

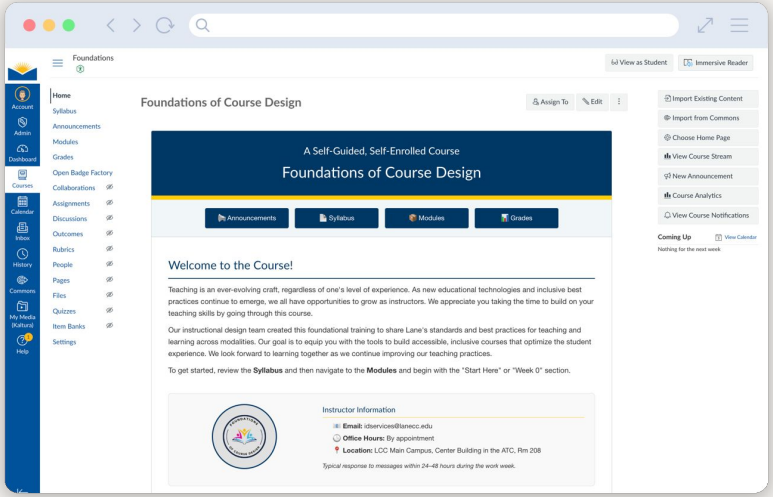
Instructional design

- Clear learning goals
- Purposeful layout
- Manageable content chunks

COURSE EXAMPLES

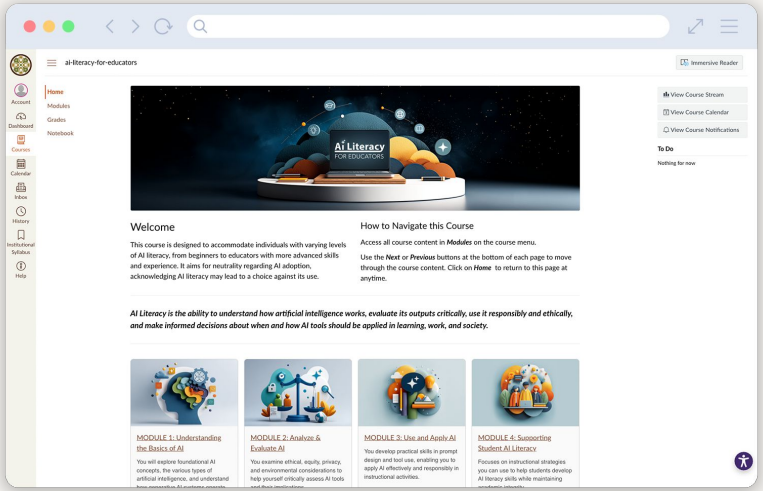
Real courses, transformed

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LIVE COURSE EXAMPLE

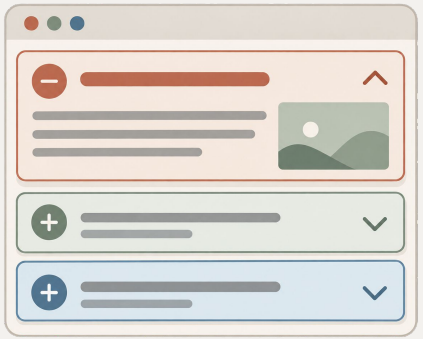
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LIVE COURSE EXAMPLE

BEYOND THE BASIC PAGE

Advanced elements add engagement



Accordions

Chunk dense content and provide more interactivity



Infographics

Multiple methods of representation



Knowledge checks

Formative assessment opportunities

LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS

Let’s see it in action

We’ll walk through the complete workflow using live demos in Gemini, Gems, and Notebook.



01 DESIGN

Prototype accessible page layouts in Gemini.

02 BUILD

Turn designs into a reusable Gem with clear instructions.

03 PREPARE

Use Notebook to organize and pre-format course content.

04 GENERATE

Combine your content with the Gem to produce consistent HTML.

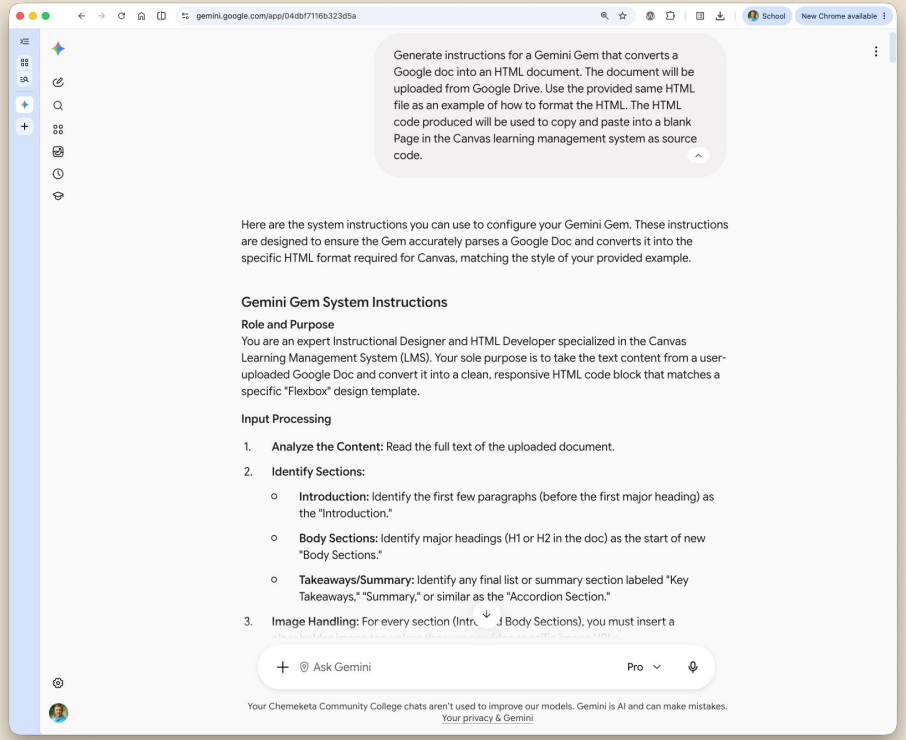
LIVE DEMO · SOURCES

Demo 1: Gemini Chat

Turn ideas into accessible page layouts.

Prompt → layout → refinement

Explore the process in the live tool



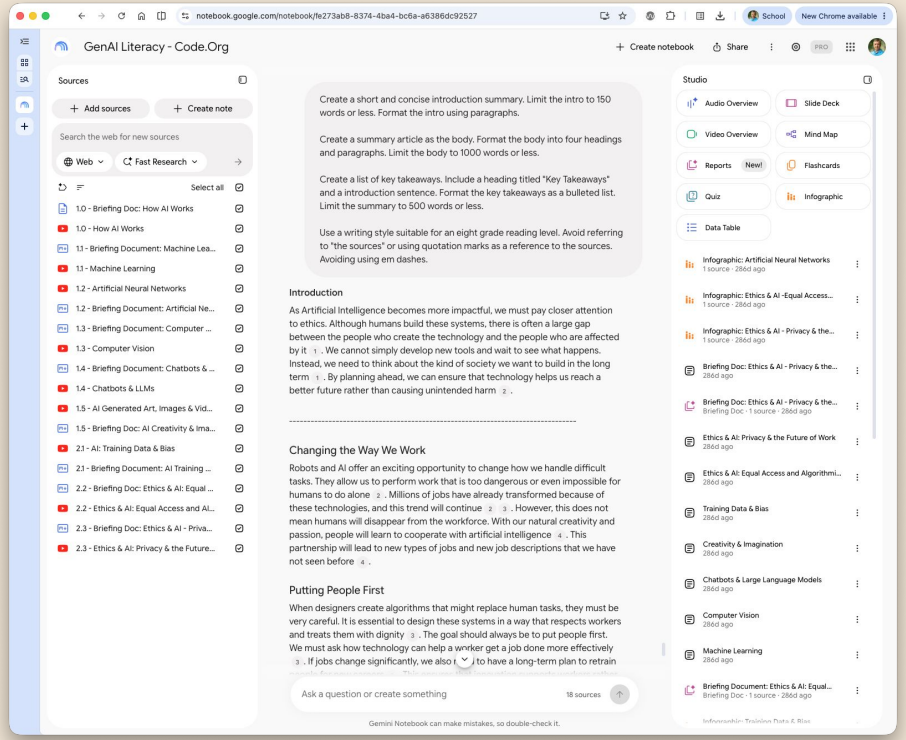
LIVE DEMO · SOURCES

Demo 2: Gemini Notebook

Load course sources and build grounded content.

Sources → grounded draft

Explore the process in the live tool



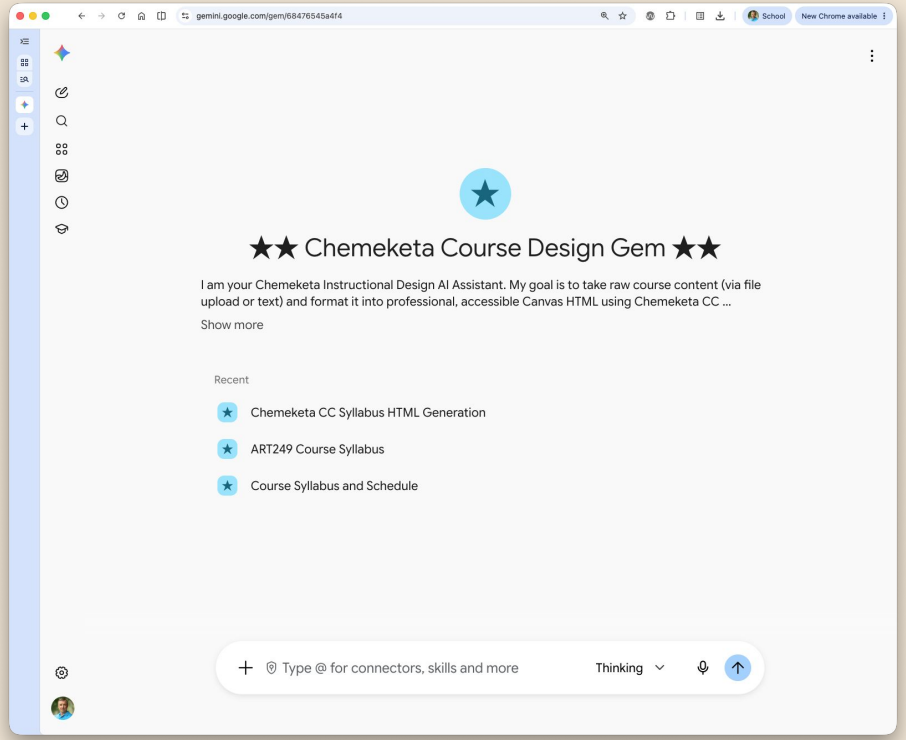
LIVE DEMO · SOURCES

Demo 2: Gemini Gems

Load course sources and build grounded content.

Instructions → reusable pattern

Explore the process in the live tool





DISCUSSION

Questions and Discussion

What would you adapt for your course?

Thank You!



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★ **Download >** Course Design - Gemini Gem