

To: CPP Faculty

From: Marisela R. Chávez

Subject: What's Brewing in CAFE This Fall: Programs, Resources, and Opportunities!

Date: Mon, Sep 3, 2026

Dear faculty,

I hope that the fall semester is off to a wonderful start! I'm excited to be starting my second year at CPP. I love to see our campus come alive at the beginning of a new academic year.

We have many exciting things brewing in CAFE this semester! We are bringing back our Canvas in Practice and Teaching and Technology in Practice series and introducing a new series, AI in Pedagogy.

We have also welcomed two new Faculty Associates for Teaching and Learning to the CAFE team for the 2026-2027 academic year. Drs. Marisol Diaz and Gyasmine George-Williams will be leading Teaching Toward Possibility, a new Faculty Learning Community.

Dr. Martin Sancho-Madriz is returning to CAFE as a Faculty Associate. In this role, he will continue to work with new faculty and lead CAFE's professional development for department chairs among much more.

All three Faculty Associates will offer consultations to CPP faculty on a variety of teaching, learning, and professional development topics, including navigating CPP. They will also support new tenure-track faculty, and Dr. Sancho-Madriz will provide additional guidance for department chairs and faculty seeking support with leadership.

And there is more! This fall, we are launching The Writing CAFE, a Virtual Scholarly Writing Community for Faculty where faculty can connect with colleagues and make progress on their writing projects. Stay tuned for information on CAFE's upcoming courses on Hybrid and Flipped Course Design and Fundamentals of Accessibility.

Below you will find more information about these programs, additional upcoming CAFE offerings, and events from Friends of CAFE. I hope that you will find something that sparks your interest, supports your goals, or gives you an opportunity to connect with colleagues. CAFE looks forward to seeing you this semester!

All the best,

Marisela

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Teaching and Learning

- [Call for Participation | Teaching Toward Possibility Faculty Learning Community](#)

CAFE invites faculty to apply for Teaching Toward Possibility: Reflecting on Ourselves, Understanding Our Students, and Reimagining Our Teaching, a Faculty Learning Community facilitated by Dr. Gyasmine George-Williams and Dr. Marisol Diaz during the 2026–2027 academic year.

Through four interactive, 90-minute sessions, participants will reflect on how their experiences and disciplinary backgrounds shape their teaching, deepen their understanding of the students and communities we serve, and develop an intentional pedagogical change for one of their courses or learning environments. No prior expertise in equity-minded, culturally sustaining, interdisciplinary, or multimodal pedagogy is required—only curiosity about your teaching and a willingness to try something new.

Faculty from all disciplines, appointment types, and levels of teaching experience are encouraged to participate.

Additional compensation may be available for eligible participants, subject to applicable university policies, funding, and completion of program requirements.

Application due date: 9/15/2026

- **CAFE Fall Workshop Series**

CAFE invites you to our Fall series of engaging, 45-minute zoom workshops designed to help with different aspects of teaching, technology, and strategies for course design and student success. Please check our website for workshop descriptions. Click on each series title to register.

- [Teaching and Technology in Practice Series](#)
 - Accessible by Design, Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - Turnitin in Canvas, Thursday, September 17, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - Active Learning for Engaged Classrooms, Tuesday, September 22, 12-12:45 pm
 - Canvas Analytics for Early Student Support, Tuesday, October 6, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - Inclusive Syllabus: Effective Practices, Tuesday, November 17, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
- [Canvas in Practice Series](#)
 - Canvas Course Organization and Learning Outcomes, Thursday, September 10, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - Transparent Assignments & Assignment Collection, Tuesday, September 29, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - Online Testing (Quizzes), Tuesday, October 13, 2026, 12-12:45 pm

- Assignment Grading and Feedback (Speedgrader), Tuesday, October 20, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
- Calculating Final Grades, Thursday, December 3, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
- [AI in Pedagogy Series](#)
 - Designing AI-Supported Self-Regulated Learning, Tuesday, September 15, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - AI in the Classroom Showcase, Thursday, September 24, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - GPTs for Teaching and Learning, Thursday, October 8, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - Authentic Assessment in the Age of AI, Thursday, October 22, 2026, 12-12:45 pm
 - Responsible AI: AI Policies for Your Course(s), Tuesday, November 19, 2026, 12-12:45 pm

- [Fall 2026 Online Course Services Professional Development Courses](#)

The fall [CSU OCS training courses](#) are open for registration. The program provides professional development training opportunities for FREE to prepare faculty, lecturers, and staff to design quality online and hybrid courses and use Artificial Intelligence in innovative ways. All of the courses are 3 weeks in length and in an asynchronous format. Registration is restricted to enrollment in one course over the fall to accommodate as many interested CSU faculty, lecturers, and staff.

Courses to design and deliver online and hybrid courses include:

- [Introduction to Teaching Online \(Register\)](#)
- [Advanced Course in Teaching Online \(Register\)](#)

Courses to use Artificial Intelligence in innovative ways include:

- [AI Tools for Teaching & Learning for Faculty/Lecturers \(Register\)](#)
- [AI Tools for Higher Ed. Professionals/Staff \(Register\)](#)

Fall Session 1: October 5-25, 2026

Fall Session 2: November 2-22, 2025

- [CSU-Wide Community of Practice on AI](#)

The Chancellor's Office is hosting a systemwide community of practice around artificial intelligence. The community will be a place where faculty can learn about

and showcase interesting use cases, get feedback from peers, share frustrations, and provide perspective on what we can do better as a system around the technology. Meetings will be on zoom. Depending on how many people are interested, meetings may be subdivided based on academic interests. Signing up just means you will receive an invitation to join future meetings. You can opt out at any time. If you have questions you can contact [Zach Justus](#) who is coordinating this effort as the CSU AI Academic Innovation Fellow.

[Fill out the Interest Form](#)

Canvas Support Reminders

- **Changes to iClicker**

iClicker has changed its licensing structure, and attendance-only access is no longer free for students. Students must now purchase an [iClicker Pulse license](#) for adding iClicker Pulse for the current or a future semester should contact the Bronco Bookstore for guidance.

- **Goodbye to Name Coach**

As of the start of this academic year, CPP no longer has an institutional license to Name Coach. Recordings users made using Namecoach and embedded in their email signatures should continue to function. However, the Canvas integration has been removed.

- **Changes to Perusall**

Beginning July 6, 2026, [Perusall no longer offers a free access option](#) for CPP users. Faculty must either: 1) adopt a book from the [Perusall catalog](#); or 2) select a student access fee of \$5–\$25 to use Perusall with other content. Faculty interested in using Perusall in their courses should list it with Bronco Bookstore as one of their textbook adoptions.

- **New Canvas Notebook Feature**

Canvas has introduced [Notebook](#), a new student-only feature that allows students to highlight content, mark passages as important or unclear, and add personal notes directly within Canvas Pages. Students can view all their notes and highlights in one course-level Notebook. This feature is visible only in the student view; instructors cannot access or view students' notes and highlights.

- **Changes to Turnitin**

CPP has upgraded to Turnitin's LTI 1.3 integration in Canvas. Please note that [assignment management](#) functions differently in the new integration. The functionality for students is largely unchanged. For an introduction to the new assignment workflow, please see the [Canvas LTI 1.3 Quickstart Guide](#). Please note, the functionality of the [Canvas Plagiarism Framework](#) tool remains unchanged. For instructors unsure of which Turnitin tool to use, here is a [chart comparing the features](#) of Turnitin LTI 1.3 and Plagiarism Framework.

- **General Reminders**

- CAFE hours: Monday–Friday, 8 am–5 pm
- Studio 6 phone: 909-869-3099
- Canvas help: Email canvas@cpp.edu, call the number above, or submit a [Canvas Request Form](#)
- For consultations on accessibility, instructional design, multimedia development, or learning technologies, visit [CAFE's Request Services Page](#)
- Please note that CAFE and Studio 6 utilize IT's ticketing system. All responses to emails to canvas@cpp.edu or studio6@cpp.edu, and any requests submitted using the forms linked above, will come via email with CPP Service Desk as the sender

Community, Scholarship, and Faculty Success

- **The Writing CAFE**

Would you like dedicated time and a supportive community to help you make progress on your scholarly writing this fall?

CAFE is offering The Writing CAFE, a virtual scholarly writing community facilitated by Dr. Gabriel Granco, Associate Professor of Geography, who led the *Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks* group during Summer 2026. Faculty participants will meet regularly on Zoom to work on their writing, share progress, and support one another in reaching their writing goals.

Meeting schedule: Mondays, 10-11:30 am

Dates: September 14 – December 14, 2026

Location: Zoom

Please complete the following Form by Thursday, September 10, 2026 if you are interested in participating.

CAFE Fall 2026 Virtual Writing Community – Fill out form

- **Individual Consultations and Mentoring**

CAFE has three Faculty Associates who are available for confidential consultations and mentoring. Please contact them directly to schedule appointments.

- Dr. Martin Sancho-Madriz, Professor Emeritus, mfsancho@cpp.edu
- Dr. Gyasmine George-Williams, Associate Professor, gyasmineg@cpp.edu
- Dr. Marisol Diaz, Associate Professor, marisoldiaz1@cpp.edu

Friends of CAFE

- **Faculty AI & Pedagogy Discussion (CPP Digital Humanities Consortium)**

In collaboration with the CPP Digital Humanities Consortium, several faculty are engaging in research on how students think about and experience AI and on the role, if any, that AI could or should take in the classroom. Several faculty will be engaging with student focus groups this semester to learn more about their perspective.

On Thursday 9/10 @ 12-1, DHC affiliates Dana Marshall (COM) and Peter Hanink (SOC) will host a meeting open to all faculty **to explore what questions faculty would like answered and possible opportunities for future collaboration.**

Join in person (where the drinks and snacks are) in Room 5-115 or via [Zoom](#)

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) Webinar Series**

Join Cal Poly Pomona, NVIDIA, and Mark III Systems for [a virtual webinar series featuring industry experts introducing key trends in AI and ML](#). All live sessions are on Thursdays during University Hour (12 PM – 1 PM) and will be available on-demand afterward.

- **Sept 10:** Introduction to Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence
- **Oct 8:** Introduction to Deep Learning and Neural Networks
- **Feb 11, 2027:** Introduction to Computer Vision
- **Mar 11, 2027:** Introduction to Large Language Models (LLMs)

[Register to attend these virtual sessions.](#)

- **Office of Interdisciplinary Ethnic Studies (OIES) Fall Welcome**

Join the Office of Interdisciplinary Ethnic Studies for their Fall Welcome on Friday, September 11, 2026. Dr. Analena Hope Hassberg's talk, "From Survival to Sustainability: Carework as Ethnic Studies Praxis," will kick off this year's theme of Ethnic Studies as Care Work. Please RSVP [here](#)!

- **Polaris, CPP's New High-Performance Computing (HPC) Cluster for Research Projects**

The HPC Initiative supports research and instruction across colleges by providing access to high-performance computing resources. Whether you're working with large datasets, running complex calculations, or getting started. With a modern HPC platform, **Polaris** provides user-friendly experience and exceptional performance, speed, and memory capacity needed for today's most demanding workloads. To find out more about Polaris and the legacy HPC platforms, visit the [High Performance Computing Page](#).

- **[Faculty Mentor Workshop Series](#)**

Sponsored by the Office of Student Success, the 6-part series focuses on providing faculty members with tools, information, and resources to serve as mentors to students. Faculty who attend at least 4 of 6 sessions will receive a certificate that can be included in their RTP packet.