

# Faculty VOlume



For this month's TLI Faculty Spotlight, we are proud to highlight **Dr. Shaneda Destine**, Assistant Professor of Sociology & Africana Studies. She is a dedicated educator whose commitment to student engagement and mentorship is making a lasting impact at the University of Tennessee.

Before joining UT, Dr. Destine spent a year as a lecturer at Iowa State University, where she developed five courses across three departments—Sociology, Women’s Studies, and African and African American Studies. Her engaging teaching style quickly

earned high praise from students as she led thought-provoking discussions in courses such as Social Class, Women of Color, and Introduction to African and African American Studies.

[Read More](#)



## **Graduate/PostDoc Spotlight: Chance Noffsinger**

**Could you tell us about your background? How did your experiences lead you to become a graduate student at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville?**

I'm originally from Whitefish, Montana, a town just west of the stunning Glacier National Park.

Growing up in Montana's mountains, I developed a deep appreciation for the region's biodiversity through hunting, fishing, and snowboarding with my family. This passion for the natural world led me to pursue a degree in environmental biology, followed by a master's degree in plant pathology at Montana State University in Bozeman.

[Read More](#)



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## TLI Faculty PathFinder Award

In Spring 2024, select faculty members received the Faculty PathFinder Award for their creative teaching at UTK. Each month, we'll feature a new video from an award winner!

This month, we feature Dr. Joy Marie Doan, Assistant Professor of Practice at the College of Communication & Information.



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## TLI Spring Conferences

### **Teaching Summit (UT Academic Community)**

**Date:** Tuesday, March 25

**Time:** The summit will take place from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm (ET)

**Location:** University of Tennessee Student Union (Rm. 262)

**Cost:** Free

**Visit the TLI Spring Conference page** on SharePoint to learn more about the speaker, view the full schedule, and register (for FREE!).

# Innovative Teaching & Learning Conference

(Open to All)

**Date:** Wednesday, March 26, 2025

**Time:** Conference events will take place from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (ET)

**Location:** Virtual Event (The schedule and link information will be provided closer to the conference date)

**Cost:** Free

Learn more about our **keynote speaker**. For information about this year's conference theme, visit our **ITLC Conference page**.

## **Conference Registration Deadline:**

Register by **Friday, March 21, 2025**, to secure your spot and receive conference materials and the Zoom link.

**Register for Our 2025 Spring Conferences**



## **Cultivating Critical AI Literacy in Your Classrooms**

March 4, 2025

1 - 2 PM





Zoom

In this session, guest faculty members will share how they cultivate critical consideration and review of AI's value and usefulness among their students through assignments and assessments.

[Register Here](#)

## Getting Acquainted with SoTL - A SoTL Social

March 6, 2025

2 - 4 PM

Mary Greer Room, UT Library



Join us for an afternoon of conversation, coffee, and snacks as we explore UT faculty's Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) studies! Drop by anytime between. Faculty presentations start at 2:30 PM

Hear from faculty across disciplines as they share their SoTL research, followed by Q&A and open discussion.

### Guest Speakers

- Kathryn Zirkle & Cameron Carr (College of Nursing)
- Grace Therrell & Erin Whitaker (UT Libraries)
- Joe Witt (Religious Studies, College of Arts & Sciences)
- Chris Mayer (English, College of Arts & Sciences)

[RSVP](#)

## Summer SoTL Retreat!

A consortium of teaching and learning offices within the UT System is considering offering a SoTL Retreat in June. This

retreat would allow faculty to leave campus for a secluded location in the natural world, attend presentations by SoTL experts, network, and even write! If this sounds interesting, [please tell us about it by completing our interest survey](#), and then stay tuned for more information!

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## Spring Faculty Roundtables!

The Office of the Provost and the Division of Student Success invite you to participate in our Spring Faculty Roundtables! These roundtables, which will be hosted twice, are designed to foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration between faculty and the Division of Student Success.

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## TLI is Here to Help!

You can request TLI support in various areas via our [Service Request form](#). We offer several services for both individual instructors, as well as departments and colleges, including:

- Classroom Observations
  - Course Design
  - Document & Material Review
  - Mid-Course Feedback
  - End of Course Evaluation
  - Scholarship of Teaching & Learning Support
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