



AUGUST 2026 FLEX SCHEDULE

- Zoom links are embedded in titles as well as provided with workshop descriptions.
- Please note that each session is tailored to All Campus or Faculty.

 Approved by the **Faculty Professional Development Committee** as student equity focused and qualifies as training required by AP7120.

 Session led by JEDI Academy graduates incorporating practices for advancing student equity by fostering equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist practices.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12, 2026

- 8:45 – 9:15 a.m. **Gathering: Coffee and Pastry**
All Campus | RM 2609
[Please RSVP here](#) by
Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.
- 9:15–10:15 a.m. **Title 5 Workshop: IDEAA in CORs**
Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)
- 10:30–11:30 a.m. **Working with the Cuestionian:
What Faculty and Staff Should Know**
All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)
- 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. **Lunch Break** | RM 2609
[Please RSVP here](#) by
Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.
- 12:15–2:15 p.m. **Accessibility Toolkit at Cuesta College**
Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)
- 2:30–3:30 p.m. **Maximizing the Positive Impacts
of Embedded Peer Tutors (EPTs)**
Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)
- 3:45–4:45 p.m. **Exploring the Benefits of The Writers' Room**
Faculty | [Zoom](#)
- 5–5:30 p.m. **Research Ready: Embedding Library
Support in Your Course**
Faculty | [Zoom](#)

THURSDAY, AUG. 13, 2026

- 8:30–9 a.m. **Gathering: Coffee and Pastry**
All Campus | RM 2609
[Please RSVP here](#) by
Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.
- 9–9:45 a.m. **Wellness Workshop: Events,
Rewards and Resources**
All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)
- 10:00–10:45 a.m. **Active Shooter Training**
All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)
- 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. **From Policy to Practice: Strengthening
College Support for Undocumented Students**
All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)
- 12:30–1 p.m. **Lunch Break** | RM 2609
[Please RSVP here](#) by
Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.
- 1–3 p.m. **Presence with Purpose:
RSI Strategies That Work**
Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

UPCOMING FLEX OPPORTUNITIES

Tech Tidbits will be offered on Tuesday, Aug. 11th during Flex week and throughout the semester. These are quick, practical sessions to help you build confidence with teaching tools and course design. For the full Tech Tidbits schedule, plus session archives and past recordings/resources, visit the [Teacher Community](#).

 **Updates and Strategies for Equity in Dual Enrollment**
Friday, Oct. 16, 2026 | 3:30 – 5 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

AUGUST 2026 FLEX SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12, 2026

Gathering: Coffee and Pastry

8:45–9:15 a.m. | All Campus | RM 2609

Please RSVP [here](#) by Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.

Title 5 Workshop: IDEAA in CORs

9:15–10:15 a.m. | Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Steve Leone, Matt Knudson, Emily Kane,
and Mario Espinoza-Kulick



Since Oct. 2025, Title 5 now requires California Community Colleges to integrate Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-racism, and Accessibility (IDEAA) principles into all Course Outlines of Record (COR), syllabi, and curriculum processes by 2030. This new legislation mandates that all CORs include inclusive teaching approaches and anti-racist, equity-focused language. The IDEAA in Curriculum Taskforce of the Curriculum Committee will be presenting a draft of our IDEAA Course Review Checklist and discuss the next steps of implementation and related updates to our curriculum processes.

Working with the Cuestionian: What Faculty and Staff Should Know

10:30–11:30 a.m. | All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Jeremy Shermak



The Cuestionian has been Cuesta's student newspaper since 1966. This session is a chance to get to know it: who the students are, how the newsroom operates, and what the paper does.

We'll cover what to expect when a student reporter reaches out, including interviews, follow-ups, and source questions. We'll also talk about how you can bring story ideas to us. Faculty and staff often notice things worth reporting before anyone else does.

Equity runs through both sides. How to interact with student journalists so sources are heard fairly, and how the paper works to make sure the people being covered are genuinely listened to, especially those whose perspectives often get overlooked. We'll touch on student press rights in California and walk through common scenarios. No media background required.

Lunch Break

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. | RM 2609

Lunch provided by the Faculty Professional Development Committee

Please RSVP [here](#) by Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.

Accessibility Toolkit at Cuesta College

12:15–2:15 p.m. | Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Cynthia Wilshusen



This hands-on workshop will help you make quick, meaningful accessibility improvements to your materials while also keeping you aligned with the updated ADA Title II requirements for accessible web content and mobile apps. We'll briefly review what the updates mean for teaching and learning at Cuesta and focus on what matters most: removing barriers so students can succeed, often through small, manageable changes to the materials you already use.

During the session, you'll learn to spot the most common accessibility barriers on Canvas pages, files (PDFs, Word, and PowerPoint), use Cuesta-supported **and AI tools** to identify issues quickly and apply high impact fixes, and create a realistic next steps plan to keep improvements sustainable week to week. We'll introduce and practice with a **CCC created AI Bots in PlayLab (remediation for PDF and UDL)**, PopeTech in Canvas (web scanning and issue identification), Ally in Canvas (quick checks, guided fixes, and alternative formats), Adobe Acrobat Pro (PDF OCR and accessibility checks), and Microsoft Office accessibility checkers (Word/PowerPoint best practices).

This is a workshop, not a lecture, so you'll have time to work on real materials and leave with updates already made. Bring a laptop, access to a Canvas course, and 1–2 files you commonly use (PDF, Word, or PowerPoint).

Maximizing the Positive Impacts of Embedded Peer Tutors (EPTs)

2:30–3:30 p.m. | Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Matthew Fleming

In this workshop, we will discuss the most effective methods of integrating Embedded Peer Tutors into online and in-person courses and review the results from the spring 2026 "Survey for Impacts of Embedded Peer Tutoring."

AUGUST 2026 FLEX SCHEDULE

Exploring the Benefits of The Writers' Room

3:45–4:45 p.m. | Faculty | [Zoom](#)

Matthew Fleming, Sally Demarest, Marnie Parker, Rin Leonard, and Izabel Lima

Twice a month for the last two years, the Writers' Room has gathered Cuesta students from across campus to share food and beverage and receive writing support from English faculty and Writing Center tutors in a collaborative, communal space. The Writers' Room removes the stigma that keeps students from seeking support, introducing them to the idea that receiving help collectively lowers the emotional stakes considerably. Come find out how your students will greatly benefit from this unique approach to writing by hearing from the faculty and tutors who are part of the Writers' Room.

Research Ready: Embedding Library Support in Your Course

5–5:30 p.m. | Faculty | [Zoom](#)

Michelle Hopper and Sharon Haupt

Want to help your students succeed at research without adding more to your plate? Embedded librarians can join your course to provide targeted research support in Canvas. In this session, you'll see how librarians partner with faculty across disciplines (ex: English C1000, History 207B, Biology 201A, and more) to help students navigate the research process: from identifying keywords to finding and evaluating sources. We'll also look at why students often don't seek help on their own, and how simple, direct connections to a librarian can make a meaningful difference. You'll leave with practical ways to provide crucial support into your course without adding to your workload.



THURSDAY, AUG. 13, 2026

Gathering: Coffee and Pastry

8:30–9 a.m. | All Campus | RM 2609

[Please RSVP here](#) by Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.

Wellness Workshop: Events, Rewards and Resources

9–9:45 a.m. | All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Elisabeth DeSwart

Join our Wellness Program for all employees and students! Learn how to enter to win prizes for enjoying self-care activities, Wellness events, community connection and resources.

Active Shooter Training

10–10:45 a.m. | All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Jesse Herring

This will be a special presentation from the Cuesta College Police Department on critical incidents, active shooter protocols, and how to keep students and faculty safe during an active shooter/critical incident.

From Policy to Practice: Strengthening College Support for Undocumented Students

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | All Campus | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Dulce Corum and UndocuScholars



This professional learning session will feature an ethnographic, culturally informed approach to student services. Participants will explore the cultural and institutional barriers that shape the experiences of undocumented students, including recent federal policy shifts and the rapid changes these have produced within undocumented communities. The session will also address the cumulative burdens these challenges create for students. Participants will learn strategies that will make them more comfortable supporting undocumented students in their classrooms, outside of the classroom, and in their communities. Participants will also learn examples from sister colleges in the California Community College System.

AUGUST 2026 FLEX SCHEDULE

Lunch Break

12:30–1 p.m. | RM 2609

Lunch provided by the Faculty Professional Development Committee

Please [RSVP here](#) by Monday, Aug. 10, 2026 at noon.

Presence with Purpose: RSI Strategies That Work

1:30–3 p.m. | Faculty | RM 2609 | [Zoom](#)

Cynthia Wilshusen



Presence with Purpose: RSI Strategies That Work is a 2-hour, hands-on workshop designed to help faculty strengthen Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) in their online and hybrid courses through practical course-based work, not theory.

Faculty will bring a course shell and work alongside RSI mentors to assess current interaction practices, identify gaps, and develop clear, achievable improvements aligned with the RSI Guidelines.

During the session, mentors will guide participants through a structured review using an RSI-focused checklist/rubric, share examples, and offer tailored suggestions for increasing instructor presence, meaningful engagement, and feedback routines.

By the end of the workshop, participants will leave with actionable next steps they can implement immediately in Fall 2026 and a draft RSI plan customized to their course(s).

In this workshop, you will:

- Review your course using an RSI checklist with mentor support
- Identify practical, high-impact strategies to strengthen interaction and instructor presence in your course(s)
- Draft an RSI plan (communication + interaction + feedback) that fits your teaching style and course format
- Leave with suggestions and examples you can adapt right away

UPCOMING FLEX OPPORTUNITIES

Tech Tidbits | Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026

9–9:45 AM

Playlab for Faculty: Build Simple Learning Bots or Activities

Use cases for tutoring, practice, role-play, and course support.

10–10:45 AM

Canvas Course Copy + Term-to-Term Refresh

Copy your course, adjust dates, check links, and complete a quick readiness check.

11–11:45 AM

NectirAI: Build Your Course AI Assistant (Hands-On Training)

Build and customize an AI assistant and see where students need support.

12:30–1:30 PM

New Quizzes 101

Question types, item banks, settings, accommodations, and migration tips.

2–2:45 PM

Pronto for Student Communication

Communication norms, groups, nudges, and templates for quick outreach.

3–3:45 PM

Building Weekly Modules Students Can Follow

Chunking and page patterns, weekly checklists, and strategies to reduce “where do I click?” confusion.

For more information, view the full workshop schedule and archives from previous workshops in the [Teacher Community](#).

Updates and Strategies for Equity in Dual Enrollment

Friday, Oct. 16, 2026 | 3:30–5 p.m. | Faculty

RM TBA | [Zoom](#)

Mario Espinoza-Kulick and Tasha Williams



This session invites participants to listen and reflect on lessons learned at this year's California Dual Enrollment Equity Conference. Presenters will share key updates and direct resources from sessions, including enrollment processes, effective collaborations, and improving student outcomes. All are welcome to join and discuss how these strategies can be used in our classrooms and in service of student success.

RSVP: mario_espinozakulick@cuesta.edu