

# AI Pedagogy @ SCRP Summer 2026

Extending Pedagogical with Voice, Communication Theory, and AI Literacy

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I will be presenting on the work I am doing this summer to extend Pedagogical with voice, communication theory, and AI literacy.

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## 1 What is Pedagogical?

### 1.1 An AI platform built for learning, not just answers

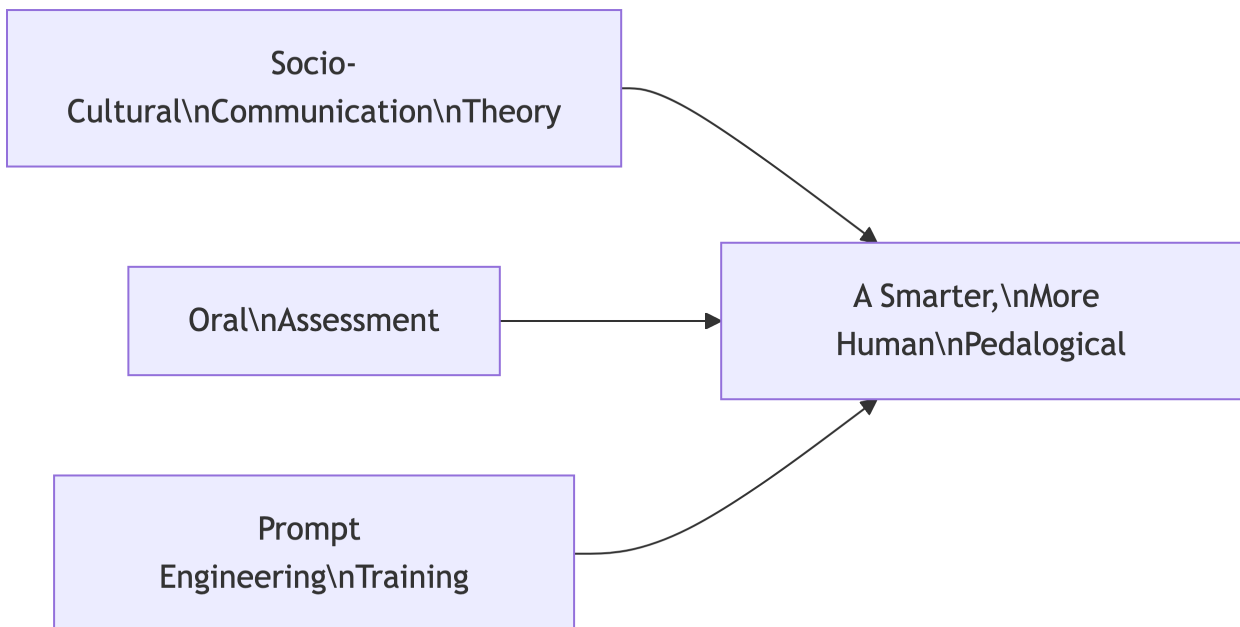
Pedagogical is an AI-infused platform developed by students in the Cordova Lab at Willamette University. It helps instructors quickly build high-quality assessments and learning experiences without needing to become experts in educational technology or AI tooling.

## 1.2 What it already does

- Supports multiple assessment types for any discipline, including textual and chat-based assessments designed to strengthen understanding and explanation
- Grounded in psychological learning theories:
  - **Feynman Technique**: learn by explaining in your own words
  - **Zone of Proximal Development**: meet learners where they are
  - **Cognitive Load Theory**: keep feedback focused and manageable

## 2 This Summer: Three Big Extensions

### 2.1 Summer 2026 roadmap



We are extending Pedagogical in three major directions this summer, each designed to make the platform more responsive, more human, and more useful across disciplines.

## 3 Direction 1: Communication Theory

### 3.1 Learning is communication, not just correctness

We are expanding our theoretical foundation to include **socio-cultural communication theory**, which treats learning and explanation as situated communication that depends on:

- Audience and context
- Social norms and expectations
- Purpose and intent

The goal is to make Pedagogical's feedback more sensitive to *how* learners express knowledge in real settings, not just *whether* they have the correct information.

## 4 Direction 2: Oral Assessment

### 4.1 Say it out loud

We are integrating **oral assessment** into Pedagogical. Students will be able to practice explaining and expressing their understanding out loud and receive feedback that supports growth in:

- Conceptual understanding
- Communication skills
- Confidence

### 4.2 Beyond the classroom

The pedagogical intent supports oral exams, discussion-based learning, and reflective explanation, but it also connects directly to real-world scenarios:

- Interview preparation
- Presentation rehearsal
- Professional communication practice

## 5 Direction 3: Prompt Engineering Training

### 5.1 Teaching students to use AI well

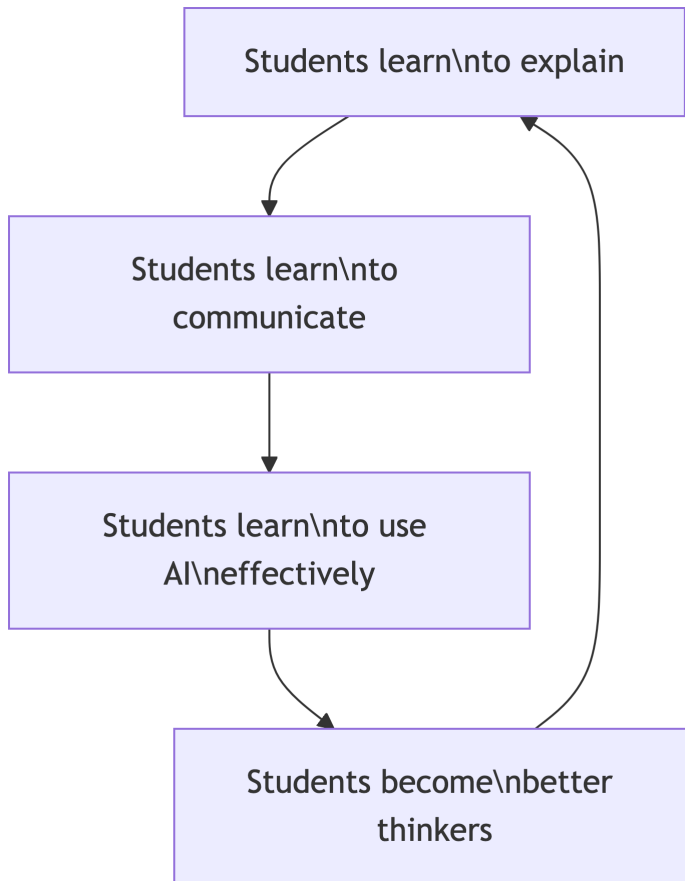
We are building a **prompt engineering training module** to help learners use generative AI effectively as a learning tool. The focus is on moving beyond one-shot prompting toward iterative workflows:

- Planning and decomposition
- Adding constraints and context
- Verification and revision

The goal is to equip learners with **durable AI literacy skills** that transfer across disciplines and tasks.

## 6 Why This Matters

### 6.1 The big picture



Pedagogical is not just a learning tool. It is a platform for building the skills that matter most: articulation, reflection, communication, and critical use of AI. This summer's work makes it more responsive to real human learning.

### 6.2 Thank You!

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