

EXPLORING TRANSFER 2027: CALL FOR FACULTY - COMMUNITY COLLEGE

For more than forty years, the [Exploring Transfer Program \(ET\)](#) has introduced talented, intellectually curious community and tribal college students from across the country to the possibilities of transferring to a four-year residential liberal arts institution. Through a fully funded four-week immersion in the liberal arts, ET gives students the opportunity to experience the academic and residential life of Vassar College.

We are currently soliciting course proposals from faculty interested in teaching in ET 2027; the course will be taught from *June 28, 2027 through July 23, 2027*. Please continue reading for additional information about ET, for instructions on how to apply to teach in the program, and for links to upcoming informational sessions.

What types of course proposals are we looking for in the Exploring Transfer Program?

ET students will take one course over the program and receive one unit of Vassar credit (equivalent to 3 – 4 credit-hours) for the course that is completed successfully. ET courses are normally co-taught by a Community College faculty member and a Vassar faculty member. The course must be suitable to a liberal-arts curriculum and taught in a four-week period with 4 two-hour meetings a week. One day a week is reserved for workshops that support student learning and prepare them for the transfer process. First-year writing seminars, introductory courses that incorporate quantitative reasoning, and multidisciplinary courses provide excellent examples of the types of courses that have been successful in ET.

In addition to teaching, what is expected of ET faculty?

During the spring semester of 2027, ET faculty will participate in four workshops which are designed to support collaborative course development and to provide general preparation for the ET summer program. This includes one meeting to select the student participants which involves reading the applicant files prior to the meeting.

In addition to class sessions during the summer, ET faculty are expected to hold office hours, participate in debriefs with other faculty and staff, and attend a weekly community dinner, lunches, or other events. Faculty are also expected to attend a welcome dinner at the start of the program and a closing ceremony that showcases the students' achievements and experiences. Extracurricular events are optional, but many ET faculty find that participation in these gatherings is enjoyable and helps form a strong sense of community. The course is supported by three residential teaching fellows (RTF) who provide academic support for the course; interviewing, selecting, and mentoring the RTFs is also an expectation of faculty.

How will I be compensated for teaching in Exploring Transfer?

Each faculty member will receive a \$8,000 stipend for course development, advising, and teaching during the program. Housing and meals will be provided for faculty living on campus for the duration of the program. Faculty that choose to not live on campus will be provided one meal per day for the duration of the program.

I'm excited about the possibility of teaching in ET, how do I apply?

We are accepting course ideas from individual faculty and from pre-formed teaching teams that include a Community College faculty member and a Vassar faculty member. If you are applying as an individual, we will attempt to pair you with a Vassar College faculty member who has similar or complementary teaching interests. The teaching team that is selected will then co-develop the final course to be offered. If a teaching pair cannot be formed, a course may be individually taught, but *our goal is to offer a team-taught course to the greatest extent possible.*

Faculty applying individually should submit:

- A *one-page* statement of interest that includes a description of one or two course ideas and how they are suitable to the ET program.
- A list of three to five courses you have developed and / or taught in the past and which you could draw from in terms of course structure and materials. You may also include syllabi.
- A list of any specific needs associated with your course (e.g., art supplies, lab space, classroom configuration, etc.).
- A *curriculum vitae*
- Your thoughts on the possible disciplines represented by a co-teacher
- Your thoughts on AI and pedagogy, and the role that they may play in a liberal arts college.
- A community impact statement - you can find more information here: <https://offices.vassar.edu/dean-of-the-faculty/positions/community-impact-statement/>

Pre-formed teaching teams please submit:

- A **one- to three-page** joint proposal which describes the course you would like to teach in ET. (A draft syllabus along with a brief explanation of how the course is suitable to the ET program will suffice.)
- A list of any specific needs associated with your course (e.g., art supplies, lab space, classroom configuration, etc.).
- A *curriculum vitae* for each faculty member
- Your thoughts on AI and pedagogy, and the role that they may play in a liberal arts college.

- A community impact statement from each faculty member - you can find more information here: <https://offices.vassar.edu/dean-of-the-faculty/positions/community-impact-statement/>

Please submit course proposals and CVs no later than Friday, November 13, to ET@vassar.edu.

The Director of the Exploring Transfer program and members of the Executive Committee (the Dean of Faculty, Dean of the College and Dean of Strategic Planning and Academic Resources) will meet in November to select one course for the summer of 2027. The selection committee will seek a course that provides curricular coherence, is appropriate for students who have completed one year of work at a community college, and that involves both faculty with experience in the program and faculty who are new to it.

If you are interested in teaching a class to these talented, intellectually curious community college students we invite you to attend one of two *optional* virtual informational meetings at the following times:

Monday, October 19, 2026, 4:00 pm

<https://vassar.zoom.us/j/94055808440>

Thursday, October 29, 2026, 5:00 pm

<https://vassar.zoom.us/j/95957156698>

For further information or if you have questions about the proposal process, you can also write to us directly or at ET@vassar.edu.

Sincerely,

Kelli A. Duncan,
Dean of Strategic Planning and Academic Resources

Charlotte Gullick
Director, Exploring Transfer