



Freddy Menendez

Director, IT Infrastructure

Breaking Barriers: AI-Powered Translation Services for Student Success

Project Description

This project introduces AI-powered translation tools to support non-native English-speaking students at Tallahassee State College.

Research Question

By providing students with tools that allow them to choose a language they are most comfortable with, can you increase student success and confidence in their course work?

Strategic Plan Alignment

- **Student Success** — Enhancing comprehension and engagement for non-native English speakers
- **Access & Affordability** — Promoting access for diverse linguistic backgrounds
- **Resources & Efficiency** — Leveraging AI to modernize the digital learning environment

Rationale:

The rationale behind this project is to **facilitate student success for non-native English speakers**, increase student confidence, promote inclusion, build future readiness, and leverage innovative technologies within the college.

Key Objectives

- Enhance student success and academic performance
- Promote inclusion across diverse populations
- Integrate innovative AI solutions into the college's technology stack
- Improve access to course content for multilingual learners

Capstone Results

AI Assisted Language Tools Survey | 163 Respondents | Tallahassee State College | March–April 2026

70%

find translation tools helpful for navigating student services

54%

likely to use an AI chatbot for registration and degree guidance

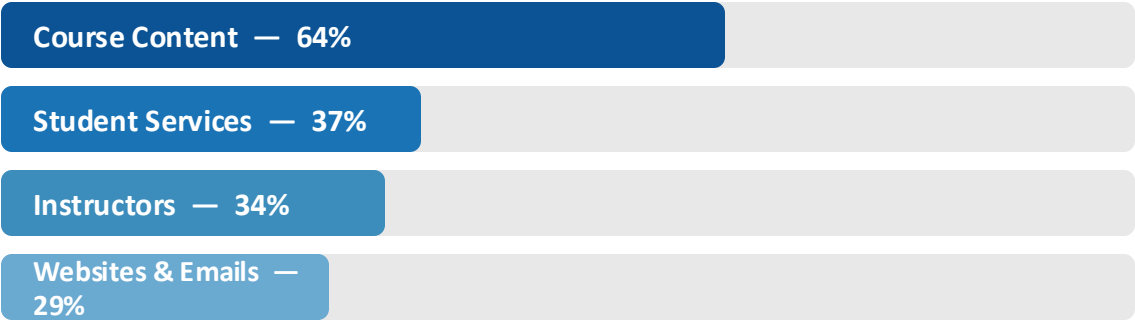
60%

believe tools would improve their academic success and confidence

49%

would use translation tools if available directly in Canvas

Where Tools Are Most Needed



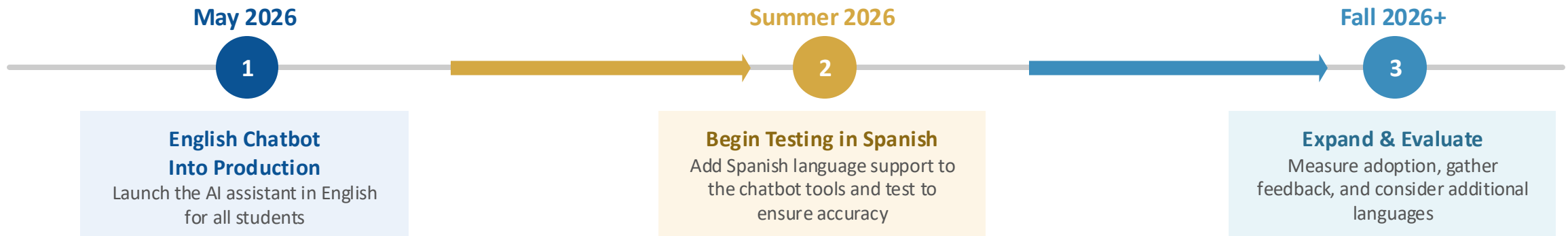
Key Insights

- **69% of students who have never used translation tools are interested** in trying them (50 of 101 non-users)
- **Non-English speakers Included** Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese, Nepali, Amharic
- **38% already use translation tools** for school tasks (occasionally or frequently)
- **Course content is the #1 area** where students want language support
- **Even native English speakers see value** in these tools for peer collaboration

Recommendations

Launch AI Tools to Assist Non-Native English-Speaking Population

Implementation Timeline:



Why Start with Spanish?

- **Largest non-English speaking group** — Spanish speakers represent most non-native English respondents in the survey
- **Proven demand from survey data** — 70% of students find translation tools helpful; 54% would use an AI chatbot in their preferred language