

Experiments in Artificial Intelligence — Continuing, Winter 2026

Session 4 | March 4, 2026 | OLLI at Southern Oregon University

Session Outline

I. Opening Concepts

- AGI vs. superintelligence — definitions and current state
- Demis Hassabis (AlphaFold, AlphaGo) and Geoffrey Hinton (backpropagation) — Nobel laureates in AI

II. Vocabulary for the Session

- Cognitive load, effective altruism, hyperscale, emergent behavior, workflow/storyboard
- (Full definitions in the companion Terms & Concepts document)

III. AI as Augmentation, Not Replacement

- Radiology as a working example of AI assisting rather than replacing professionals

IV. Microsoft Copilot / Microsoft 365 Ecosystem

- Navigating copilot.microsoft.com vs. [m365.cloud.microsoft](https://m365.cloud.microsoft.com)
- What's free vs. what requires a paid plan

V. Live Demo — Microsoft Designer

- Generating images and clip art from a text prompt
- Storyboard feature: building a full lesson-plan slide deck from an idea

VI. Video — AI and the Future of Work

- PBS NewsHour interview with economist Robert Reich
- Making, thinking, and caring jobs — which are most at risk from AI
- Universal basic income as a possible policy response

VII. Live Demo — Old Photo Restoration

- Iteratively restoring a 1930s family photograph in Copilot
- Comparison to an earlier restoration/animation done in Google Gemini

VIII. Copilot Labs

- AI-generated voice narration (Audio Expressions)
- “Chat with a portrait” persona demo (Q&A on branches of Islam)
- Early multilingual and 3D-image experiments

IX. Shopping Assistant Demo

- Mixed results searching for a couch, eye drops, and a floor lamp — an honest look at current limitations

Prepared with AI assistance from a transcript of the recorded session.