Hello and Welcome everyone! My name is Gwen Nguyen, and I am very excited to be co-facilitating this FLO Facilitating Learning Online MicroCourse on An Introduction to the GenAI in Teaching and Learning Toolkit with my two teammates Helena Prins and Britt Dzioba. I am an advisor with the Teaching and Learning team at BCcampus. Today I am recording this from my home office in the traditional territories of the Lekwungen Speaking Peoples including the Songhees Nations, the Esquimalt and the W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples. It is another beautiful sunny summery day here on the island and I feel grateful every day to live on this peaceful land so close to nature. I can step outside and touch the trees, or walk just five minutes to reach the beach—it’s truly a gift.

I wanted to record this short welcome message to greet you personally as we begin this learning journey. I’ll be honest—I still get a bit nervous on camera! This is my third attempt at recording, and you’ll likely hear a few grammar or pronunciation slip-ups along the way. But I chose not to use any AI tools for this video. No filters, no voice edits—just me, speaking to you directly. I drafted a simple script, recorded via Zoom, and uploaded it as-is to our course site. Why? Because I believe that teaching and learning begin with *us*—with real people, human connection, and our willingness to show up as we are. And as we explore AI in education, I think authenticity and human values matter more than ever.

Let me start by saying this: the goal of this course isn’t to turn you into AI experts. What we are here to do is to support you in beginning—or continuing—your journey with generative AI in a mindful way. In another word, the whole microcourse is an invitation. It’s a chance to try out a few tools, reflect on what matters most to you in your teaching, and start exploring some pedagogical implications of those tools and make some informed decisions within your teaching practice.

Over these five days, you’ll have a chance to explore our open-access **BCcampus GenAI Toolkit Pressbook**, try out some hands-on activities to spark your curiosity, and engage in rich discussions with colleagues who are also navigating these big questions.

We’ll also host two optional live Zoom sessions on **Tuesday and Thursday, from 11:00–12:00**. You’ll find the links in the Moodle course—we’d love to see you there if you’re able to join!

Please do take a moment to introduce yourself in the discussion padlet and engage with your fellow participants. These spaces are meant for conversation, exploration, and shared learning. As Joy Buolamwini reminds us that *As long as you have a face, you have a voice* And your voice truly matters here.

You’ll find the course syllabus—with outcomes, activities, and resources—posted in the course site. Helena, Britt, and I have also included our contact information in the course shell. Feel free to reach out anytime—email works best, but for urgent matters, you’re welcome to call or text me directly.

So, let’s explore. Let’s reflect. Let’s ask hard questions—together.

I truly look forward to learning with you in this course!