

Artifact 1

My first Artifact for my final project is going to be an interview that I conducted with my sister, she is a freshman in high school and AI is a growing concern in the educational space.

Are you aware of the growing amount of students using Artificial Intelligence to not only assist with school work but also to have it done for them 100%?

Yes, i know that a lot of students either use AI to complete work because they don't have time to complete their work or simply don't feel like doing their work.

Have you ever used Artificial intelligence to help you with an assignment? Have you ever used it to do an assignment in its entirety?

I have used Artificial intelligence to help me with finding basic answers to questions that I have but often do more research on those questions. I have never used AI to complete an entire assignment, only to give me ideas of what to do.

Are you aware that there are instructors who are using artificial intelligence to create lesson plans for their students?

I was not aware of this, I knew that often teachers would use others lesson plans, handouts, or assignments or even reuse their own lessons from past years, but I was not aware that they used AI.

Regardless of whether or not you have used it or not, do you think that Artificial intelligence should be present in the classroom? Do you thin that instructors and students will ever use it in a good way? Or will it just be an easy way to get work done fast?

I believe that AI should definitely be limited in classrooms, however there are times where it is okay to use it. There have been times where certain teachers would recommend using a certain AI assistant, Perplexity, to help us start brainstorming ideas for research projects. I do believe that AI can be used in good ways, like my example, it can help students get started on work, acting like a guide rather than doing the work for them. There will most likely still be students who are going to use AI to get their work done fast and easy.

In your opinion, does using AI help students actually learn better, or does it make people more dependent and less engaged?

I believe that AI, if it is used to simply get a starting point then it will allow students to learn better, now having a better understanding of what they are doing, but students who use AI to complete the entire assignment will become more dependent and less engaged because they aren't putting in any effort to “their” work.

Has there been any class discussion or reaction from teachers about students using AI tools like ChatGPT or other apps?

There have been a few times that teachers have mentioned their disappointment in the use of AI in their classroom. They would make announcements talking about how it's easy for them to tell when a student does their work of if they used AI, for presentations they warned students that they are not going to know what they are talking about, and that it would lower their grade further for the use of AI and bad presentation.

Do you think it's fair if some students use AI to finish assignments while others don't?

I do not believe that it is fair as students have put in their time and effort into completing their assignments while other students are using AI and getting the same or better grades for less or no effort at all.

If your school banned AI tools completely, would you support that or push back? Why?

I don't normally use AI except for when I need ideas or a starting point, so I would support the ban as it is also unfair to me and other students are getting the same grades as us when they didn't put in any effort.

What kind of assignments do you think AI should or shouldn't be used for?

I think it's okay for AI to be used a little bit when doing research because it summarizes topics and gives its sources so you can do further research. However, the information from AI should not be copied but used as a starting point. AI should not be used to complete any type of assignment since the point is to learn and grow and using AI to do their work will not help students at all.

Do you think AI can be helpful for students who are struggling, like with learning disabilities or language barriers?

I think it's okay for these students to use AI as long as they don't use it to do their work but only to help them in the ways they need as it is important that students get the accommodations they need.

Would you feel proud of turning in something AI wrote, or would you feel like it wasn't really yours?

I would feel like the work is not really mine since all I would have done was ask AI to do my work, and honestly, I would feel ashamed of myself for not trying to do the work.

If your teacher used AI to grade your work, how would you feel about that?

Would it feel more objective or impersonal?

I think it depends on the assignment, if it's something like a multiple-choice test, maybe even with two or three short answer questions it would be okay to use AI. However, if it's a big assignment that took a lot of time or effort or just something where answers would be very different based on the students then the teacher should grade it themselves.

What would you think if one day your entire class was taught by an AI or chatbot instead of a teacher?

I wouldn't feel very comfortable being taught by AI, although most if not all the information is correct, AI isn't very capable of connecting with every student to help them learn in ways that are best for them.

Do you think students in the future will need to learn how to use AI responsibly, like a new skill?

I think that in the future students will need to learn to use AI responsibly since over time technology is evolving more and more, but I think they should also learn not to use it in classrooms and when to use it for personal situations.

Should schools start teaching AI literacy the way they teach writing or coding?

I don't think that schools should teach students how to use or make AI since that will only make it easier for them to use it to complete their assignments and potentially make it easier to not get caught using it.

ARTIFACT 2

Interview questions about AI and its presence within the educational system from the perspective of a fellow peer here at Columbia College Chicago

Name: Alan Rodriguez-Martinez

Year: Sophomore

Major: Film and Television

1. Are you aware that many students are using AI not only to help them with their schoolwork, but also to complete their assignments entirely? How do you feel about this? Do you think it's a shortcut to success or is it part of the new age of education and learning?

- I am aware, I've seen this happen before, the fact that people are using AI to their advantage is smart, using tools to support them in their assignments. It's comforting to know that there is new technology for students to use and somewhat concerning the amount of lack of effort that is now put in daily into schoolwork and such. I think that in today's world, using tools that can help carve your way to success is ideal. With its ever-growing bar being raised every year, students can use what they can access to help them succeed in their assignments.

2. Have you ever used AI to support you through an assignment? If you have, did you use it sparingly or did you rely on it to complete the whole assignment? Do you think there is a way for instructors to prevent AI from being used to complete assignments in their entirety?

- Definitely, whether to generate a simple answer, or to use it to simplify a long reading, in order to cut the time it would take to complete an assignment. Probably not, since the growth of tech and AI is everlasting, and instructors can be behind on the methods the younger generation are using.

3. Did you know that some educators/instructors are using AI tools to develop lesson plans and teaching materials for their classes? How do you feel about AI being integrated into teaching? Do you think it can help the learning experience or will it remove all personality and interpersonal connections?

- That's being resourceful, instructors always have it rough, so them having a tool to support them in their work helps, as long as it's accurate and fits what they're teaching. AI being integrated into teaching can be done well, but can also turn out to be bad, since AI can be wrong, so teaching something that can possibly be wrong to students, can be catastrophic.

4. Regardless of your personal use, do you think that AI should have a place in the classroom? Do you think both instructors and students can use it productively, or will it just serve as a shortcut for quick results?

- I think it can help play a slight role in the classroom, but it can't be used for everything, as the instructors and students have to play a role too, in order to learn and succeed in other lessons and teaching, whilst not relying on AI completely.

5. From your perspective, does using AI to assist with assignments enhance learning for students, or does it risk making students more reliant and less engaged? Do you think there is a balance between using AI for help and doing the work on your own that can be achieved? How do you think this affects long term learning and retention of students?

- There definitely is a balance, I have that balance, letting AI explain a topic, and learning what that topic is, and then writing what I can remember. This can cause long term learning to be cut short, as the 16 years of school can finally be shortened as more and more people use the internet and the resources they can find to succeed in life, even without a college degree, but is overall cutting the retention of students due to them thinking that it's not worth it anymore to spend thousands of dollars on a degree.

6. Have you heard from any professors regarding student's use of AI tools? What have they said about AI use? Have you noticed changes in the way that assignments are structured or graded because of it?

- I've just heard what they always say, no using AI to complete assignments, and others tolerate it to help, if you also put in the effort to complete the assignment yourself. I haven't seen a noticeable change in assignments, but I am starting to see more assignments being more interactive and creative.

7. Do you think it's fair that some students rely on AI to complete assignments while others are putting in the effort themselves? How do you think AI use and presence affects academic integrity?

- It's difficult to answer that question, as some people do exploit AI to the extreme, having them be carried hundreds of times on their assignments, but overall, using what is available to you, and using the tools for success, is sometimes necessary to succeed now in the 21st century. There definitely has to be more regulation on AI, but overall, it's a tool that can help struggling students succeed.

8. If Columbia were to implement a complete ban on AI tools, would you support that decision or oppose it? Why? What impact would the ban have on your academic experience?

- I would have mixed feelings, on one hand, I can see why they would have it banned, on the other, it's a tool that helps said struggling students in dire times, even if it's to have it explain a simple passage in simple terms, but exploiting it to the max would be bad. It wouldn't

have much impact, as ive always done my assignments myself, but overall it would cause me to retain the old ways of studying and reading boring long old passages on shakespeare.

9. Do you think AI could be beneficial for students with specific learning challenges, such as those with learning disabilities or language barriers? Should AI be a tool that they should rely on or do you think the school should do more to accommodate them?

- YES, definitely, as their struggle would be cut short with the help of AI. I think they should accomodate more help for students with learning challenges, but also implement resources that could help them succeed, maybe even using AI.

10.If your professor decided to use AI for grading your assignments, how would you feel about that? Would it make the grading process seem more objective and honest, or would it feel too impersonal and cant accomadate for specific scenarios?

It would, be an improvement. Some professors dont grade until the last second, so you have no idea that one assignment can indefinitely screw your grade over, this can help lighten the load on the hundreds of students they teach, as long as it can accomodate with certain lesson plans.

11. Looking ahead, do you think future students will need to learn how to use AI responsibly, similar to skills in writing or coding? If so, how should AI literacy be taught? Can AI be “Mastered”, or do you think its a tool reserved for small, menial tasks such as searching the web for answers?

- AI can definitely be mastered, but it can also be used for purposes other than just completing assignments, coding majors can be helped with this process, and writers can use the tool to try and help the author to speed up the long writing process. AI can be devastating however, and as long as us students put in the effort too, AI can be a useful tool to help out our 16 year learning experience.

ARTIFACT 3

For artifact 3, I want to focus on gathering more solid research about AI in the classroom for both the students and instructors, I also want to focus on some design choices that were made for some of the “Out there” web designs

Since 2022, universities all over the world, including Tulane (where the information came from), have integrated AI into their curriculum, faculty members from the Center for Community-Engaged Artificial Intelligence (CEAI) and the Connolly Alexander Institute for Data Science (CAIDS) are leading the way in teaching the application of Artificial intelligence. At Tulane, Julia Lang taught the “AI Unleashed” Course in Fall of 2024 as part of the TIDES program, which is aimed at teaching students how to use AI ethically and responsibly. Many students before this course had very little exposure to AI, and they were often discouraged from using it through high school. The course was focusing on the impact AI will have on the job market, the world economic forum predicted that 39% of key skills will change by 2030 because of AI. Students in the class were creating practical AI tools, including a photography assistant which was made by Xander D’Arcy and a multilingual AI translator made specifically for healthcare settings by Valerie Erazo Rodriguez. These projects were intended to help students learn about AI and its applications but also inspired the students to apply it to real world problems. Many students reported that using AI throughout their daily lives for time management or studying was very practical. While this source does not tackle the idea of AI infiltrating the classroom in an unintended way, it does show that AI is finding itself within the learning space.

<https://education.illinois.edu/about/news-events/news/article/2024/10/24/ai-in-schools--pros-and-cons>

Generative AI has the potential to transform education, it offers tools that can help foster creativity, personalize learning and can streamline administrative tasks. The advantages of AI in education include its ability to personalize learning to meet any individual students needs. Provide immediate feedback which can help students improve and it could possibly create and supplement educational content for a student based off of their needs. AI could also enhance inclusivity, as it would be able to provide personalized learning methods for students with learning disabilities or those who are trailing behind. By allowing AI to handle

administrative tasks, it would free up a teachers time, allowing for more focus on student interaction.

However, there are a lot of challenges that come with AI in education, privacy and security risks remain significant concerns, mostly because of data collection and protection. Also the information that is being provided by AI may be biased, the sources it pulls from are not always the best option when it comes to relevance to the topic about what was asked. It can also lead to a lack of human interaction, which can deprecate communication skills within students. Additionally, having the resources and ability to monitor every student while they are learning on their own would not only cost the school a lot, but with there is a huge risk of cheating on assignments.

<https://www.designrush.com/best-designs/websites/unusual-layout>

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