Redesigning Learning Activities in the Age of AI

The Learning Ideas Conference
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Presenters' Introduction

AI-Generated Podcast

"Highlight faculty-led redesigned assignments that integrated generative AI to advance critical thinking, creativity, and academic writing in undergraduate and graduate courses"

Theoretical Framework

- Research on the effective applications of technology and learning science (Darling-Hammond, Flook, Cook-Harvey, Barron, & Osher, 2020)

- Integration of AI tools into education (Mollick & Mollick, 2022)

- Examination of generative AI tools to enhance teaching and learning (Gleason, 2023)

- Reimagination of educational practices for the AI Age (Heaven, 2023; Swaak, 2024; Vox, 2023)

Redesigning writing assignments in
Graduate Courses

Portfolio/Thesis Requirement

Consulting Skills for Leading Business Transformation

Intercultural Business Communication

G: Portfolio/Thesis Requirement

Program-approved use of generative AI tools for **literature review research.**

Focusing on selecting, curating, and "interviewing" sources, this case highlights one graduate student's reframing of this milestone writing task.

Scaffolded pre-writing tasks of the literature review research:
(1) selecting and curating background research,
(2) reviewing and organizing background research, and
(3) moving from consuming to producing through categories and outlines, often viewed as a pre-synthesis writing task

This student self identifies as ADHD and shared he "has focus issues and is also a perfectionist." Documented anxiety disorder | Time accommodations

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G: Portfolio/Thesis Requirement

(1) Selecting/Curating

- Cast a wide net: collected @350 sources
- Flagged as relevant, printed with serial numbers on cover page for closer review "interview" and organization

*Using the AI tools was an **emotional relief** for this student. He was able to **confirm that he hadn't overlooked anything.** Which he shared was one of his biggest anxieties.*

(2) Reviewing & Organizing

- Developed unique "digital and print" review process

*For selected articles, this student described how he would use the AI tool **while holding the hard copy in hand, for targeted questions and then would read part(s) of an article on the physical copy to decide if it should be read fully in another round.** This was not time saving, but it was thorough. He moved between digital and physical reading and re-organized files in both spaces for future use.*

G: Portfolio/Thesis Requirement

(3) Consuming to Producing

- AI tools failed to complete pre-synthesis task to the student's satisfaction and the frustration/ correcting of the tool encouraged the student to begin drafting

The student explained how every attempt at an outline "failed" because he couldn't get the categories to work or match the ideas in his head. Correcting the tool was frustrating– but also helped him articulate how he wanted to put articles in conversation to support his project concept. He had a lot of examples of what the tool did and what he did to improve on it.

You
Please give me the same exact list, but when listing each article, present it in numerical order

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conte

Sub-g

You
I am tagging academic papers as part of my research for designing an app that will help kids with ADHD plan their homework and daily routines. I have designed the following tags. Please put them into logical groups:

ChatGPT
Of course! First, let's take a look at the tags you've provided. Once I understand them, I'll group them logically.

[Please provide the list of tags you have for the academic papers.]

You
Sorry, not like that. Pay attention to the article titles. Each title has a 5 digit number which is what I want you to consider when ordering the articles. Again, use the same subgroups

ChatGPT
Apologies for the confusion. I'll reorder the articles using the 5-digit numbers in the titles. Here's the revised list of journal articles sorted into sub-groups based on their potential contents, presented in numerical order:

G: Consulting Skills for Leading Business Transformation

- Linking the assigned reading to a NotebookLM "audio review"
  - critiquing the audio review
  - identify analytical gaps
  - gain insights and critically engage with the content

- Using AI tools to develop a consultant self-assessment tool based on course materials and readings
  - Completing the self-assessment
  - Writing reflective essays discussing findings and insights

- Using Gemini to create a project leadership checklist from a case study
  - Using the checklist to guide an in-class writing assignment

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- Linking the assigned reading to a NotebookLM "audio review"

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- Using AI tools to develop a consultant self-assessment tool based on course materials and readings

Consulting Competency Assessment Tool

Instructions: Rate yourself on the following consulting competencies using the scale below.

Competency	Assessment Statement	Rating
Problem-Solving & Analytical Thinking	I can quickly break down complex business challenges, identify root causes, and develop structured, data-driven solutions.	★★★☆☆
Strategic Thinking & Business Acumen	I understand industry trends, business models, and market forces, allowing me to provide insightful strategic recommendations.	★☆☆☆☆
Communication & Stakeholder Management	I can effectively communicate complex ideas, tailor my message to different audiences, and influence decision-making in stakeholder interactions.	★★☆☆☆
Change Management & Implementation	I can guide organizations through change by implementing structured methodologies, managing resistance, and ensuring sustainable transformation.	★★☆☆☆
Emotional Intelligence & Relationship Management	I demonstrate self-awareness, empathy, and adaptability in professional interactions, fostering strong client and team relationships.	★★★☆☆

Self-Assessment

Competency	Rating	Justification
Problem-Solving & Analytical Thinking	★★★★☆	I have strong analytical skills and have successfully built automation tools to solve complex problems, but I can further improve my structured approach to problem-solving at a strategic level.
Strategic Thinking & Business Acumen	★★★☆☆	I understand business objectives and have experience aligning product roadmaps with company goals, but I need to refine my ability to anticipate market trends and business risks proactively.
Communication & Stakeholder Management	★★☆☆☆	While I can effectively collaborate across teams, I sometimes struggle to simplify technical concepts for non-technical stakeholders and improve clarity in high-stakes discussions.
Change Management & Implementation	★★☆☆☆	I have introduced process improvements and automation that led to efficiency gains, but I lack significant hands-on experience in leading or driving large-scale organizational change.
Emotional Intelligence & Relationship Management	★★★☆☆	I am empathetic and adaptable in team settings, but I am still learning to manage difficult stakeholder dynamics and navigate high-pressure situations with more confidence.

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- Using AI tools to develop a consultant self-assessment tool based on course materials and readings

5 Key Consulting Competencies

01. Problem Solving:
Requires a thorough understanding of various problem-solving frameworks, such as root cause analysis, combined with a strong ability to apply data-driven strategies to develop solutions. This skill involves breaking down complex issues into manageable parts and using logical reasoning, data, and expert insights to create effective solutions.

02. Strategic Thinking:
Entails the ability to see the big picture and understand how different aspects of a client's business interconnect. Consultants need to develop strategies that balance immediate benefits with long-term sustainability, considering risks and constraints while innovating within practical limits. This competency involves thinking ahead, planning strategically, and aligning short-term actions with long-term goals.

03. Emotional Intelligence:
Understands and recognizes social cues and using effective interpersonal communication strategies. It allows consultants to accurately gauge and manage their own emotions as well as those of others, building strong, trustworthy relationships with diverse groups. Key to this competency is the ability to listen actively and respond empathetically, fostering genuine connections and understanding different perspectives.

04. Effective Communication
Revolves around the ability to conduct and manage meetings efficiently, understanding stakeholder dynamics, and handling conflicts adeptly. It requires clear, concise communication that ensures everyone in the room is on the same page, respects diverse opinions, and drives discussions toward concrete outcomes.

05. Flexibility & Adaptability
Involves understanding change management principles and being aware of various cultural norms and business practices. Consultants must quickly adjust their strategies and methods in response to new information or changing conditions. This competency is about being versatile in communication styles, managing stress in fluid situations, and demonstrating resilience and resourcefulness when faced with challenges.

Consulting Competency Assessment Tool

Competency 1: Problem Solving

Problem Identification: I can identify and clarify complex problems quickly and effectively

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Using Data-Driven Strategies: I apply data and analytics to formulate solutions.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Solution Implementation: I develop and implement effective solutions based on logical reasoning & expert i

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Competency 2: Strategic Thinking

Long-term Planning: I effectively align short-term actions with long-term goals.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Risk Management: I assess and integrate potential risks and constraints in strategy formulation.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Innovative Strategic Development: innovate within practical limits to achieve sustainable results.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Competency 3: Emotional Intelligence

Self-Awareness & Self-Regulation: I effectively manage my emotions to foster constructive interactions.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Empathy & Relationship Management: I listen actively and respond empathetically to build trust and understanding.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Competency 4: Effective Communication

Meeting Management: I conduct & lead meetings in a manner that drives efficiency and ensures concrete outcomes.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Conflict Resolution: I handle conflicts adeptly, ensuring respectful and productive outcomes.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Competency 5: Flexibility & Adaptability

Change Management: I adapt strategies quickly in response to changing conditions.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

Cultural & Situational Adaptability: I adjust my communication style and approach based on cultural norms and business practices.

1 Not Competent — Slightly Competent — Moderately Competent — Competent — 5 Strongly Competent

G: Consulting Skills for Leading Business Transformation

- Using AI tools to develop a consultant self-assessment tool based on course materials and readings

B. Consulting Competency AI Coach

Consulting Competency AI Coach

By Vedant Jain A.

This AI helps students assess their consulting competencies using a structured Likert-scale assessment. It collects responses, analyzes skill levels, and provides AI-driven feedback based on consulting best practices.

Sign up to chat

Sign up or Log in to chat

Assessment tool that I created for this project -

https://chatgpt.com/g/g-67a8cb2184108191ba904c7c3b4439f4-consulting-competency-ai-coach

My conversation with the AI Chatbot Link -

https://chatgpt.com/share/67a977af-1e90-8013-bd25-9a2542a2fbe9

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G: Consulting Skills for Leading Business Transformation

- Using Gemini to create a project leadership checklist from a case study to guide an in-class writing assignment

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G: Intercultural Business Communication

- Using generative AI tools to create two sets of cultural insights for a hypothetical business partner

  - Designing prompts and assessing the AI's accuracy
  - Blending own cultural understanding
  - Composing an email addressed to their partner

Role of silence in intercultural communication

G: Intercultural Business Communication

Review chapters 4 and 5 in the book which discuss the role of silence in communications. Assume that a business partner from a foreign country is visiting yours and is asking for your advice on how to interpret silence in your culture. For the purpose of this exercise, you need to do the following:

1. Identify a specific country this business partner is coming from. This can be any country other than yours.
2. Using Gemini and ChatGPT, generate two lists of things that this person needs to know about the following:
   1. Prompt 1: in what ways silence is viewed or used in your culture (low- or high-context communication) differently from their culture
   2. Prompt 2: how other factors such as gender, age, social status, home/family and business environments may impact how silence is perceived.
3. You need to contextualize and refine your prompts to get better responses.
4. Click on the share icons (for ChatGPT and   for Gemini), copy the generated links to your prompts and the responses you get from each of these two AI platforms, and include them in your submission.
5. Evaluate these AI-generated responses and determine which ones are accurate and which ones are not.
6. Write an email (450-500 words) to this business partner, summarizing your findings and your own cultural knowledge about the role and interpretation of silence, and include specific examples to help this person navigate silence if occurred in the scheduled business meetings.

G: Intercultural Business Communication

Basic Prompt

You are an employee of company. A business partner from a foreign country is visiting your company and is asking for your advice on how to interpret silence in high context communication culture. Please develop 2 prompts to help business partner understand our culture. Prompt 1 should include in what ways silence is viewed or used in high context communication culture differently from low context communication culture. Prompt 2 should include how other factors such as gender, age, social status, home/family and business environments may impact how silence is perceived.

G: Intercultural Business Communication

Prompt 1

I'm preparing for a business meeting with a partner from America and I'm from India. I've read that communication styles can vary significantly between our cultures, especially regarding the use of silence in conversations. My business partner from America is seeking advice from me in what ways silence is viewed or used in India (low- or high-context communication) differently from America. Could you provide specific examples for each type on how silence might be interpreted differently in Indian business settings compared to American ones? I aim to use this information to enhance my communication skills and ensure a successful meeting and give me a section for the advice I can provide my partner with.

Prompt 2

In the context of a business meeting in India, how might factors like gender, age, and social status influence the interpretation of silence during discussions? My business partner from the USA is visiting India and is keen on understanding these nuances to ensure effective communication. Could you provide specific advice or examples on how these factors may play a role in a professional setting? The aim is to help my partner navigate these interactions smoothly and respectfully. Cover these topics Gender, Age, Social Status, Home/Family vs Business Environments, Practical Examples, Final Tip. Under practical examples you can include topics such as Inviting participation, acknowledging non-verbal cues etc.

Redesigning assignments in **Undergraduate Courses**

Writing Workshop II
Internship

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UG: Writing Workshop II
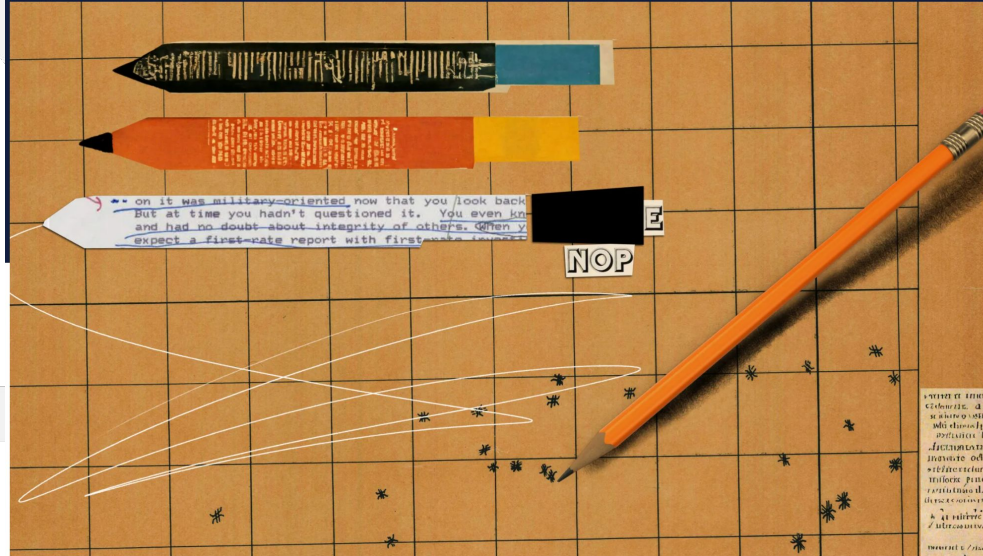
How to spot AI-generated text

The internet is increasingly awash with text written by AI software. We need new tools to detect it.

By Melissa Heikkilä

December 19, 2022

DECEMBER 28, 2022 | 6 MIN READ

ChatGPT Explains Why AIs like ChatGPT Should Be Regulated

We asked the text-generating AI ChatGPT to talk about its own flaws

BY SOPHIE BUSHWICK & MADHUSREE MUKERJEE

UG: Writing Workshop II

"Before ... this semester, I wasn't aware of ChatGPT... developed by the artificial intelligence research company Open AI. My first impression was a pure surprise with lots of question marks. How can AI write a 500 words essay within a second? Which source does AI use for its writing? With my lack of knowledge of AI, the fact that AI can generate a well-written essay was shocking. I couldn't believe it, but it was true the moment I used ChatGPT, within a second I wrote down the question in the chatbot, they gave me an essay with a clear structure and thoughts. If I was a professor, it would have been hard to distinguish if AI or a student wrote it. Sophie Bushwick explains why AIs like ChatGPT should be regulated using ChatGPT itself. Since it has the ability to imitate human-like text using a high level of fluency and language models, there is a high possibility that some people can use ChatGPT for nefarious purposes.

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UG: Writing Workshop II

1. Create an A.I. Avatar and respond to the following questions with your A.I. Avatar:

a. What are 2-3 questions you might ask in a focus group to explore participants' thoughts on the regulation of artificial intelligence to create content.

b. What are some policies or guidelines you would implement around the use of A.I. technologies to ensure they are used responsibly and ethically?
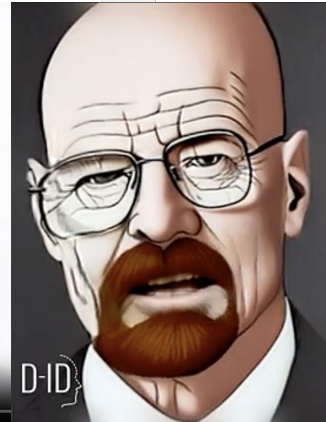
UG: Internship

Job Application (5 points) - DUE Feb 14, 2024

▼ Hide Assignment Information

Instructions

Use a generative AI tool (e.g., Microsoft Co-Pilot, Google Bard, ChatGPT, Claude) to prepare a cover letter and a resume for a job/internship connected to your professional goals.

Refer to the NYU Wasserman Center resource "Resumes and Cover Letters" for guidelines, recommendations, and samples.

You may also find the following resources to be useful:

What Makes a Great Resume?

Resumes with Impact: Creating Strong Bullet Points

NYU Tisch Office of Career Development Guide to Cover Letter Writing

NYU Tisch Office of Career Development Resume Guidelines and Samples

How To Write a Cover Letter (With Examples and Tips)

How To Make a Comprehensive Resume (With Examples)

<u>Submission Directions</u>

Upload the following documents to the class Job Application Assignment Folder:

1. Your cover letter - Label it "Last Name Cover Letter" (e.g., Torres Cover Letter)
2. Your resume - Label it "Last Name Resume" (e.g., Torres Resume)
3. Job application assignment process - Label it "Last Name Assignment Process" (e.g., Torres Assignment Process). This document should include the prompts you used to prepare your cover letter and resume. It should also describe the revisions you made to the AI-generated content.
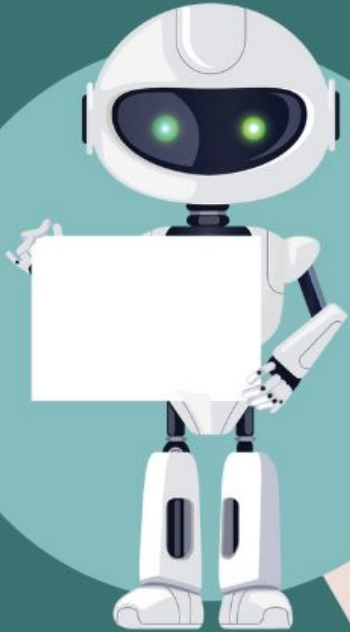
UG: Internship

Intern Communication: 7 Tips for Success

⚙ Settings · PRO · H

Sources

+ Add   C↺ Discover

☑ Select all sources

- 📰 7 Tips For Good Communication ... ☑
- ▶ Become a great strategic thinker |... ☑
- ▶ Five simple strategies to sharpen ... ☑
- ▶ How to be a creative thinker | Car... ☑
- ▶ Skepticism: Why critical thinking ... ☑

Chat

🗣

Intern Communication: 7 Tips for Success

5 sources

The collection of sources offers insights into various aspects of effective communication, critical thinking, strategic thinking, and creative problem-solving. One source emphasizes the **importance of clear communication in professional settings**, providing practical tips for interns, including the value of face-to-face interaction, directness, asking questions, and seeking feedback. Another source explores strategic thinking as a form of **meta-thinking** that involves recognizing patterns, considering different perspectives, and being open to revisiting one's worldview. The third source discusses critical thinking, highlighting the challenge of **confirmation bias** and the need for intellectual empathy, skepticism, and questioning sources of information. Finally, a source delves into creative thinking, emphasizing the importance of **developing one's own approach to problems** and connecting with diverse individuals to foster innovation and value creation in an era of artificial intelligence.

Studio

Audio Overview   ⓘ

🔈 You need edit access in order to generate an audio overview.

Customize   Generate

Notes   ⋮

+ Add note

⚙ Study guide   📝 Briefing doc

💬 FAQ   📈 Timeline

- 📄 **Intern Communication: Best and Worst Cas...**
  Here are the best and worst case scenarios regarding this resource, based on the source...

- 📄 **Professional Communication Skills for...**
  The primary beneficiaries of this resource are interns who are looking to improve their...

Limitations & Challenges

- Rapidly changing technology landscape / pace of change
- Time for faculty and students
- Shifts in assessments, evaluation criteria, and project timelines
- Access, privacy, cost, and policies may be different across schools, departments, and program needs

Going Forward

- Continue to **share examples** of redesigned assignments that are **illustrative rather than prescriptive**

- **Explore the potential and the challenges** of using generative AI to enhance student learning, foster creativity, and strengthen critical thinking while **maintaining academic integrity and student voice**

- **Build spaces for reflection & conversation as faculty** engage and prepare to lead in these critical conversations

- Continue to redesigning learning activities to **give students important guidelines and guardrails**, letting them practice with and prepare for generative AI tools

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Thank you

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