Resource Guide

Considering the use of AI in Your Course

Many faculty begin each semester thinking about changes they made or that could be made to their courses. One of the changes that we are faced with is whether we should include generative AI in our course or not. This resource guide will provide some of the benefits of using generative AI, some of the limitations and a few other considerations that may help inform your decision-making process.

There are several benefits that may be gained from using generative AI in a course.

- The use of generative AI may be helpful for students to produce rough drafts, outlines, or ideas about a topic.
- Generative AI can simplify dense or complicated text, making it easier to understand, which for non-native English speakers could save precious time which would otherwise be spent trying to translate and decipher these texts.
- The use of generative AI may contribute to language acquisition and improved grammar especially for those for whom English is not a native language.
- Providing opportunities to work and learn with generative AI may create a place to discuss rhetoric, style, voice, digital literacy, and ethics.

With benefits often come limitations and this is no exception.

- Generative AI can "hallucinate", completely make up facts or provide incomplete or inaccurate information.
- Citations can be mismatched or refer to articles that do not exist.
- There have been instances of direct quoting of authentic sources with no attribution.
- On many occasions, generative AI reiterates biases found in the training corpus.

Additional considerations may help you decide if employing AI is for you.
- What kinds of threats and opportunities do you perceive may exist for your teaching because of using AI in your course?
- Have you used one or more of the generative AI tools to determine if they will apply to the assignment you intend to use them for?
- Are there pre-existing policies in your School or College, Program or Department around using generative AI?

Resources:

Ohio State University. (n.d.). *AI: Considerations for teaching and learning*. Teaching and Learning Resource Center. https://teaching.resources.osu.edu/teaching-topics/ai-considerations-teaching-learning. Accessed 11 Aug. 2023.

Schmidli, Laura. "Considerations for Using AI in the Classroom." *L&S Instructional Design Collaborative*, idc.ls.wisc.edu/guides/using-artificial-intelligence-in-the-classroom/. Accessed 11 Aug. 2023.

Trust, T. (2023, August 4). *Essential considerations for addressing the possibility of AI-driven cheating, part 1*. Faculty Focus | Higher Ed Teaching & Learning. https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/teaching-with-technology-articles/essential-considerations-for-addressing-the-possibility-of-ai-driven-cheating-part-1/. Accessed 11 Aug. 2023

For more information or to discuss how you might incorporate these ideas into your courses, contact the Reinert Center by _email_.