IDST 399 Special Topics: Living & Learning with Artificial Intelligence
Western Kentucky University
Fall 2023, 2nd Bi-term

General information
Instructor: Kimberlee Everson, Ph.D.
Office: Gary Ransdell Hall 3082
Office hours: Wednesday & Thursday, 12:30-3:30; Friday 9:00-12:00; Appointments preferred.
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Catalog Description
A detailed study of selected topics in interdisciplinary studies that lend themselves to interdisciplinary problem-solving.

Course Summary
This course will focus on the theory surrounding and practical uses of AI in student lives and learning. While it will focus on generative AI such as ChatGPT, Microsoft Bing, or Google Bard, the class will, together, investigate other publicly available forms of AI.

In addition to being AI-intensive, this course is reading-based and research-intensive. The use of AI, reading, and research are not for their own sakes but aim to foster better thinking for all facets of life through engaging with various types of tools, facts, data, and evidence.

Course Objectives
The course will examine AI through the disciplinary lenses of computer science, education, and philosophy. By the end of the course, students will be able to:
- Use various AI tools, including content generators such as ChatGPT ethically, responsibly, and effectively.
- Describe conceptually how content generators such as ChatGPT work.
- Describe the current predictions about the near future of AI and how it will impact various disciplines.
- Describe and apply theories about ethics that apply to AI.
- Integrate various disciplinary insights into the uses of AI for living and learning.
- Describe how AI might be used effectively in the workplace in the student's desired career.
- Design a brief survey for understanding current student use of AI tools.
- Use Microsoft Excel to find summary statistics.
- Define and interpret basic summary statistics.
- Analyze and critique current theories about using AI for learning and writing.
- Create an individual or small group presentation on an AI tool.

Required Resources

- Repko, A. F., Szostak, R., & Buchberger, M. P. (2019). *Introduction to interdisciplinary studies.* Sage Publications. (Chapter 1 only for this course)

- A ChatGPT and/or Microsoft Bing account.
- Microsoft Excel

In addition, scholarly journal articles and internet readings will be assigned.

Grading

Syllabus Quiz	50 points
Unit Assignments (7 @ 100 points each)	700 points
AI Tool Presentation	150 points
Final Exam	100 points
Total	**1000 points**

Standard grading scale: 100%-90% - A; 89%-80% - B; 79%-70% - C; 69%-60% - D; 59%-0% - F

Description of Major Assignments

Syllabus Quiz
A quiz on the syllabus will be due during the first week of class. 50 points.

Unit Assignments
Depending on the unit of study, unit assignments will include written assignments, discussion boards, and quizzes. AI tools will be allowed on all assignments, and they will be required on most. Grading rubrics will be provided to you in Blackboard for each assignment. Assignments for each of the 8 units will be worth 100 points total.

AI Tool Presentation
Each student individually, or as part of a small group, will investigate the use of one AI tool not presented by the instructor of the course. As a whole, the class will brainstorm ideas for these presentations. Presentations will be 10 minutes or less and can use any available software, provided a link to the recorded presentation can be uploaded to the discussion board. 100 points. See Blackboard for more information.

Final Exam
A final exam will be given over Blackboard and can be taken at any time during finals week. The exam will have questions related to assigned readings and the practical use of various tools, and it will also include practical tasks done in AI. You will be allowed to use any AI tool you choose to help

you complete the exam. Your best preparation will be to do all assigned readings and practice using the AI tools. 100 points.

Late Assignments - Late assignments will be deducted 10% for each week they are submitted after the due date, regardless of the reason for the late submission. For example, an assignment submitted 1 minute to 1 week after it is due will receive a maximum score of 9/10. It is recommended that you do not wait until the last minute to do your assignments in case you have a last-minute emergency.

Artificial Intelligence (ChatGPT or similar)— *This instructor requires the use of ChatGPT, Microsoft Bing, or similar on most assignments (see Blackboard).* She allows the use of these A.I. tools in this course on other assignments so long as the use is credited, the response is rephrased in your own words, and the accuracy of the information is checked. This means that you are to state in your assignment something like: "I typed the following prompt into ChatGPT: _____ and ChatGPT responded that _____ (re-stated or summarized in your own words). I checked the ChatGPT response for accuracy using _____ (state source)." Please refer to the academic integrity policy below.

Student Policies

SLPS Academic Integrity Policy:

The School of Leadership & Professional Studies expects all undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students to demonstrate academic integrity and not participate in academic misconduct as defined by the University (https://www.wku.edu/studentconduct/process-for-academic-dishonesty.php). The SLPS has developed two tiers for academic misconduct. Examples of academic offenses include (but are not limited to) any act of plagiarism, cheating, or falsification or misuse of academic records.

Tier 1 Violations

Acts of plagiarism that involve not citing all sources and/or using papers previously written and submitted in other courses are considered a Tier 1 violation. Students committing violations in Tier 1 will meet with the instructor to discuss the incident and work toward a resolution. Students may receive a zero on the submitted work with feedback stating the issue; students are responsible for checking grades and reading feedback. Instructors will follow the policy for Tier 2 violations for additional Tier 1 violations.

Tier 2 Violations

Tier 2 violations include but are not limited to sharing passwords and login information with individuals not enrolled in the course, failing to cite any sources in submitted work when outside sources were obviously used, cheating on an assignment or test, employing a person, website, or artificial intelligence program to complete an assignment, and/or committing a second Tier 1 violation. Students committing violations in Tier 2 will meet with the instructor to discuss the incident and review evidential materials. If the instructor determines a Tier 2 violation has occurred, the instructor should report the student to the Office of Student Conduct and request that the Office of the Registrar issue a failing grade for the course. If the academic misconduct is severe and flagrant, the student may be dismissed from the program. Students who wish to dispute the allegation, dismissal, or grade should follow the Student Complaint Policy (https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-complaint.php).

Accommodation of Disabilities:
Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Room 445, Potter Hall. The OFSDS telephone number is (270) 745-5004 V/TDD. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

Affirmative Action:
Western Kentucky University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or military service. Inquiries or comments regarding these issues should be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity/504/ADA Compliance, Western Kentucky University, 1906 College Heights Blvd., Bowling Green, KY 42101, Telephone (270) 745-5121, TTY (270) 745-3030.

Extra Help:
The instructor will be available as need is indicated. Students are encouraged to discuss any questions or problems with the instructor.

Course Adjustments:
The instructor reserves the right to modify the course requirements, schedule, and syllabus. The syllabus and schedule for this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. No change will occur, however, *unless* proper and prior notice is given to students.

Date Prepared and by Whom:
Course syllabus prepared August 22, 2023 by Kimberlee Everson

Course Timetable

Unit of Study/Assignment:	Unit Assignments Due:
Syllabus Quiz	Thursday, October 19, 11:59 PM
Unit 1: Introduction	Monday, October 23, 11:59 PM
Unit 2: Intro to ChatGPT & Microsoft Bing	Monday, October 30, 11:59 PM
Unit 3: Ethics and AI	Monday, November 6, 11:59 PM
Unit 4: Other AI tools	Monday, November 13, 11:59 PM
Unit 5: Learning, Students, and AI	Monday, November 20, 11:59 PM
Unit 6: Surveys, Data, Statistics, and AI	Monday, November 27, 11:59 PM
Unit 7: The Workplace, Life, and AI	Monday, December 4, 11:59 PM
Final Exam	Thursday, December 7, 11:59 PM