



Art and AI: Creative Thinking in the Age of Algorithms

Course Syllabus

Course Description

What happens when creativity meets code? This course invites educators to explore the rapidly evolving role of artificial intelligence (AI) in the creative arts. Participants will investigate how AI systems are trained to generate visual art, music, and written language, while also considering the cultural, ethical, and philosophical questions these technologies raise. Through real-world examples and critical analysis, educators will gain insight into both the potential and the limitations of AI in creative contexts.

By the end of the course, educators will be better equipped to understand AI's influence on artistic expression in our culture and schools. They will also be prepared to help students decide when and how to use these tools. To approach them with curiosity and creativity, but also with a strong sense of responsibility in an increasingly algorithmic world.

This course enhances classroom teaching effectiveness and supports improved student outcomes by introducing new knowledge in the ethical, cultural, and pedagogical implications of artificial intelligence in the creative arts.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Describe the evolution, presence, and role of artificial intelligence in contemporary life and creative practice to build a foundational understanding for deeper exploration in future modules.
2. Differentiate between human and artificial forms of creativity and intelligence in order to assess whether AI can demonstrate creative intelligence.
3. Analyze how bias manifests in artificial intelligence systems and evaluate the implications for equitable classroom use.
4. Evaluate the potential uses, benefits, and challenges of artificial intelligence in education to determine its appropriate role in your own classroom.
5. Critically examine how artificial intelligence is transforming visual arts practice and interpretation, and consider how educators can meaningfully integrate AI tools while upholding artistic and ethical integrity.
6. Evaluate how artificial intelligence understands, generates, and influences written language in order to support informed, ethical, and pedagogically sound approaches to writing instruction.



7. Evaluate the processes, cultural impacts, and classroom applications of artificial intelligence in music by analyzing media examples, scholarly perspectives, and creative tools to make informed, ethical decisions as educators.
8. Construct a personal and professional perspective on AI's future by analyzing competing visions and their implications for society and education.

Modules

- Module 1: Decoding the Machine: Understanding Artificial Intelligence, Quiz 1
- Module 2: Mind Meets Machine: Understanding Intelligence, Creativity, and AI, Quiz 2
- Module 3: Code and Consequence: Understanding Bias in AI, Quiz 3
- Module 4: Artificial Intelligence in Education: Cultural Shifts and Classroom Practice, Quiz 4
- Module 5: Artificial Intelligence in Visual Art: Cultural Shifts and Classroom Practice, Quiz 5
- Module 6: Artificial Intelligence in Writing: Cultural Shifts and Classroom Practice, Quiz 6
- Module 7: Artificial Intelligence in Music: Cultural Shifts and Classroom Practice, Quiz 7
- Module 8: Charting Humanities Future: AI, Society, and the Classroom, Quiz 8

Grading

Each quiz must be passed at an 80% or higher (three attempts allowed).

Format

This is a self-paced, asynchronous (no required live meetings) course. Throughout the PD course, you will find it helpful to take notes along the way to assist with the quizzes. Within each module, you will find reflection assessments that are not graded but will help in your journey through the course. There is an interactive forum in the course to help you connect with peers and instructors, share ideas, and collaborate on best practices throughout your learning journey.