BOOK REVIEW

Teaching with AI: A Practical Guide to A New Era of Human Learning

Bowen, J.A. & Watson, C.E. (2024). *Teaching with AI: A practical guide to a new era of human learning.* Johns Hopkins University Press. 280 pages.

Teaching with AI: A Practical Guide to a New Era of Human Learning (2024) aims to challenge educators to consider how to integrate artificial intelligence into their course design, instruction, and assignments. Acknowledging that AI has the ability to produce C-level work, the authors encourage readers to redesign assignments and coursework that move beyond what AI is capable of producing. Bowen and Watson organize the book into two main sections. The first section is, "Thinking with AI," gives a broad overview of what AI is and the need for AI literacy. The second section walks readers through practical steps on "Teaching with AI," including how to effectively establish guidelines for appropriate use and how to use AI as an educational tool.

The book allows readers the flexibility to move from Chapter 1 to Chapter 12 or to move around through the material, addressing specific topics as interest dictates. For example, a reader who understands the basics of how AI works might prefer to read Chapter 7 first, addressing the need for institutional and classroom policies on properly using AI in college coursework. Another reader's interest may lie in understanding what it means to cultivate AI literacy, therefore delving into the content of Chapter 3.

Explaining the basics of how AI works, Chapter 1 explores the inner workings of learning language models (LLMs) while also providing some warnings regarding the limitations of AI. Chapter 2 then describes how AI is likely to change the future workplaces of college students. The authors provide several eye-opening examples of how AI is currently being utilized in the workplace, from crafting letters to detecting cancer.

Chapter 3's content on AI literacy contains valuable information, not only for educators, but for anyone navigating the world in the days ahead, by expressing the need for universal AI literacy. Here, the authors emphasize the core skill of asking better questions, a long-valued component of liberal arts education, and how this need will only increase with the use of AI. By crafting more effective prompts, what the authors call prompt engineering, both students and teachers can utilize the benefits of AI to create improved assignments and classroom discussions. Also

valuable to effectively using AI is to understand its limitations and the reality that AI can hallucinate or make things up. Cultivating AI literacy assists a user's ability to engage with AI in an effective and responsible manner. Learning how to ask the right question (prompt) will remain a valuable human skill that AI cannot exactly duplicate.

Moving into "Teaching with AI," the authors share specific ways that AI can assist higher education to improve advising, elevate class discussions, and teach AI literacy while sharing discipline-specific content. Here, the authors encourage educators to define for students how to effectively use AI and to model its appropriate use as a part of course design. Rather than designing policies around using AI as a method to detect cheating, educators are encouraged to engage in conversations with students about academic integrity and what this means in the age of AI.

One of the intriguing features of the book is the opportunity to utilize the authors' specific prompts to guide the reader through real-life examples, given in Chapters 7 through 12. Whether using AI as an educator to help grade assignments and offer instructive feedback or utilizing AI to design assignments, educators can benefit from Bowen and Watson's examples. Readers can insert their specific information following the well-designed prompts.

Educators at a Christian college may select this book to help guide conversations around effectively using AI in the classroom and preparing students for the future workplace. Christian higher education has an opportunity to be at the center of the debates around AI, moving beyond simply topics of cheating and academic integrity to leveraging new technology to increase human flourishing. Although this book tends toward the practical application of AI in higher education, the content could also be used as a springboard in faculty discussions and classroom conversations to discuss the deeper issues of approaching AI with a faith perspective.

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