# The Future of Al in Higher Education: Navigating Innovations

**AFIT Summer Institute** 

August 2024



## We Are Glad You Are Here!



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Al Threatens the Core of Higher Education: Are We Ready for the Fallout?

Higher Ed in Crisis: Leadership Chaos and Financial Turmoil

Retention Meltdown: Why Colleges Are Struggling to Keep Students Engaged

The Cost Conundrum: Is Higher Education Becoming Unaffordable?

Accessibility Crisis: Are Universities Failing Students with Disabilities?

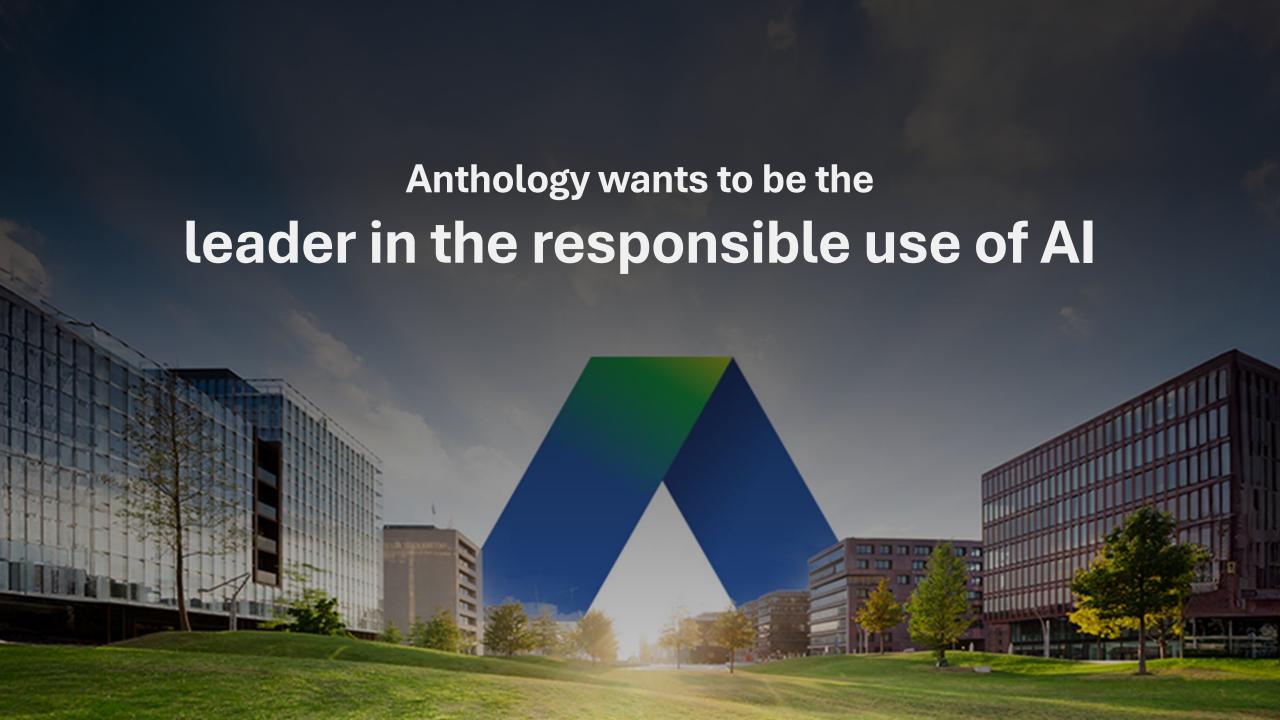
The Enrollment Cliff: A 'Netflix Moment' for Higher Ed

Addressing Rising Costs and Student Debt in Higher Education



The winners will be those that better apply technology in teaching and learning and develop different approaches to credentialing.

The Chronicle of Higher Education



For this
Session, we
hope you'll
walk away
with...

1

A clear understanding of how AI is enhancing learning experiences and streamlining administrative tasks in higher education.

2

Practical strategies to implement AI in a way that ensures data privacy, security, and equity.

3

Ideas on how to approach building your own policies and frameworks for managing Al responsibly at your institution.

## **Forward-Looking Statement**

Statements regarding our product development initiatives, including new products and future product upgrades, updates, or enhancements, represent our current intentions but may be modified, delayed, or abandoned without prior notice, and there is no assurance that such offering, upgrades, updates, or functionality will become available unless and until they have been made generally available to our customers.

## **AI & Education Today**

## **Generative AI**

Concern Hype

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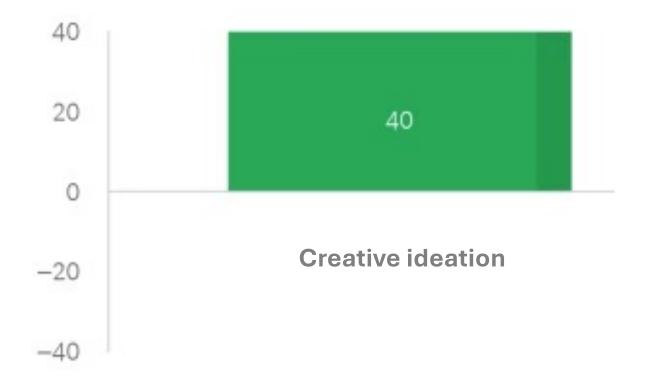


# Where did you fall on this spectrum?

Al will lower the quality of courses.

## "AI will lower the quality of courses"

Difference in individual performance with GPT-4 compared with control group (%)



"In our experiment, participants using GPT-4 for creative ideation outperformed the control group (those who completed the task without using GPT-4) by 40%"

Opportunities to improve course design and quality

Al will replace me.

### **AI** Hallucinations

"Hallucination in the context of language models refers to the generation of text or responses that seem syntactically sound, fluent, and natural but are factually incorrect, nonsensical, or unfaithful to the provided source input"



### **AI Hallucinations**



"AI 'hallucinations' are more feature than bug. One of the sort of non-obvious things is that a lot of value from these systems is heavily related to the fact that they do hallucinate. If you want to look something up in a database, we already have good stuff for that."

https://www.marketwatch.com/story/openais-sam-altman-tells-salesforces-marc-benioff-that-ai-hallucinations-are-more-feature-than-bug-1c035c52

## "AI will replace me"

Lessons learned on bringing GenAl tools to market quickly, securely, and effectively

2. We have gathered learnings from building and implementing **100+ GenAI** solutions for clients and ourselves

Non-exhaustive



GenAl is not the answer to all problems: Consider a holistic combination of traditional All and gen All methods to capture maximum value, as gen All may not be the most optimal solution in certain situations (e.g. highly regulated environments, basic forecasting, disease diagnostics)

GenAl is net new but your business is not: Look for opportunities to build on your existing strengths (e.g., layer a hyper-personalization layer on existing customer analytics for product recommendation, next best action)

Models are commodity: Focus on identifying the right use cases and implementation model (taker, shaper and maker), fine tuning with domain specific context and setting up an effective op model to drive adoption and value

The model is only as smart as the data: Invest in proprietary data, and solve existing data quality and curation challenges (e.g., by building labelled datasets to quantify, measure, and track the performance of gen Al apps)

Thing big, move fast, start small: Build foundational enablers (including an ecosystem of partnerships, hard and soft assets) to enable scalability and flexibility to keep up with the rapid evolution of gen Al

There are no silver bullets for hallucinations: Understand tradeoffs between model safety and sharpness of answers (i.e., it can be safe and dumb or smart and dangerous). Include human-in-the-loop to validate outputs and ensure awareness of responsible Al guidelines

Instructor still owner of content and in control

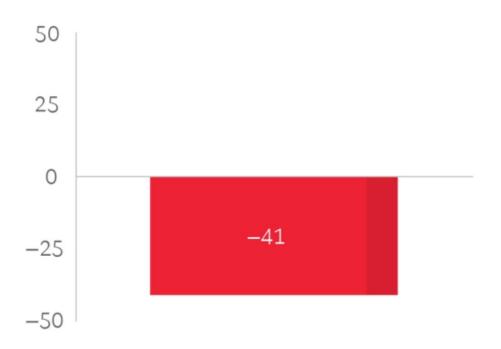
Instructors are notoriously busy

Provide inspiration and efficiencies to help save time

## "AI will replace me"

#### Collective diversity of ideas

Total change compared with control group (%)<sup>2</sup>

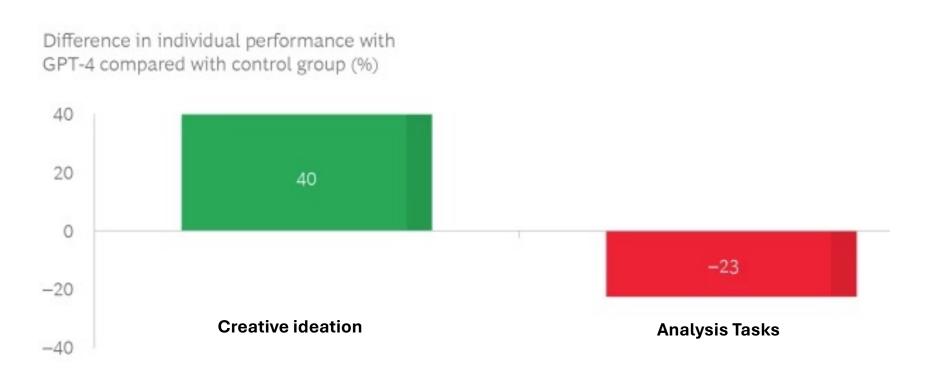


"Creativity trap: The diversity of ideas among participants who used GPT-4 for the creative product innovation task was 41% lower compared with the group that did not use the technology"

Instructor is responsible for differentiation

Al will do all my grading and will automatically personalize the course.

## "AI will do all my grading and will automatically personalize the course"



"For analysis tasks, using GPT-4 resulted in performance that was 23% lower than that of the control group."

"Paradox: People seem to mistrust the technology in areas where it can contribute massive value and to trust it too much in areas where the technology isn't competent."

## How was Al being used in Education in November 2023?



Source: AI in Education Microsoft Study (November 2023) Survey questions: For which of the following tasks are you using AI tools in your role? For which of the following tasks are you using AI tools as a student?

## Work Trend Index 2024

http://aka.ms/wti24

To ready leaders and businesses for the age of AI, Microsoft surveyed 31,000 people across 31 countries, analyzed labor and hiring trends from LinkedIn, and productivity patterns of Microsoft 365 customers globally.



## Three findings stood out



Employees want Al at work—and won't wait for companies to catch up.

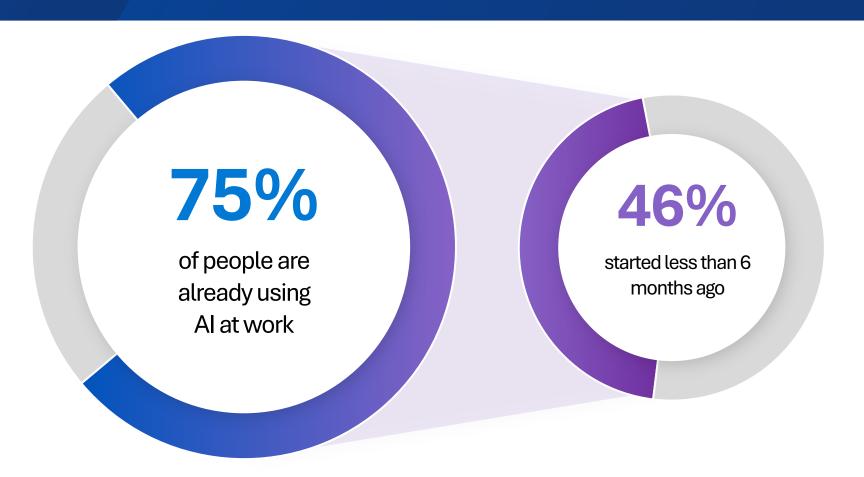


The rise of the Al power user—and what they reveal about the future.



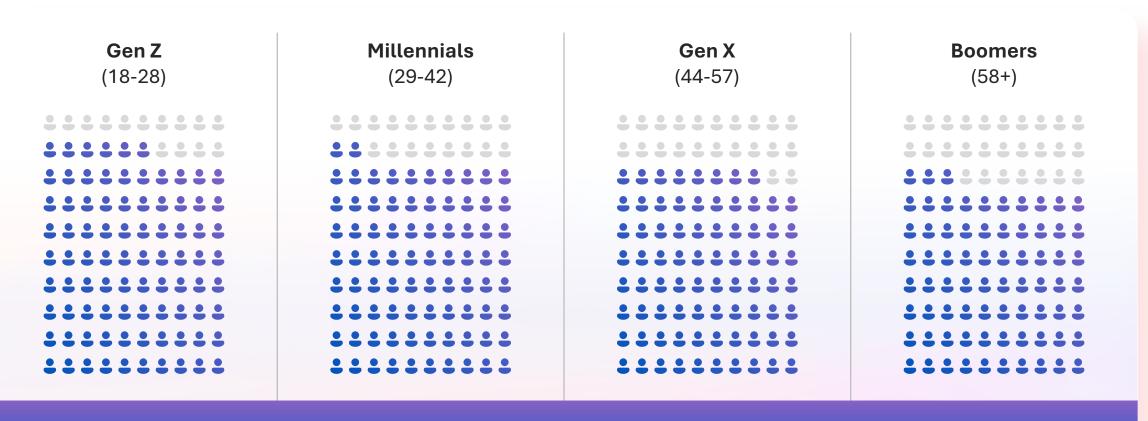
For employees, AI raises the bar and breaks the career ceiling.

# Three Out of Four People Use AI at Work



### **BYOAI Is Not Just for Gen Z**

Employees across every age group are bringing their own Al tools to work



Share of survey respondents who have used AI tools at work not provided by their organization

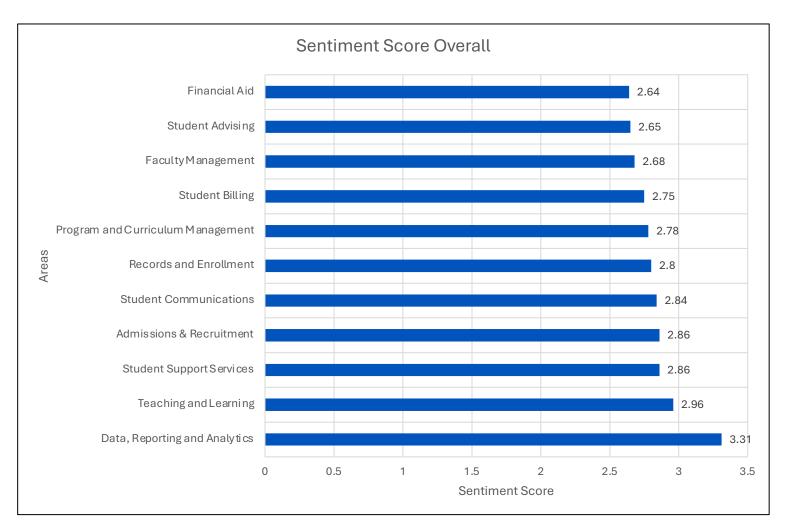
## Anthology Sentiment Survey on AI usage in higher education administration

Aimed towards gaining a better understanding of

- What are higher education administrators and users excited about with respect to AI?
- What are higher education administrators and faculty cautious about with respect to AI?
- Where do they feel they need AI within the institution?
- Would they use AI to automate administrative processes at the institution?
- Do they have policies and process frameworks to evaluate and support responsible AI usage today?

- Respondent count: 134
- 113 working at institutions of higher education (84.3%) while 21(15.7%) worked as higher education professionals.
- 41% were at doctoral granting institutions
- 68.6% of respondents were at the Director Level or below.
- 76.8% claimed to understand the basics of AI or have substantial expertise in AI.

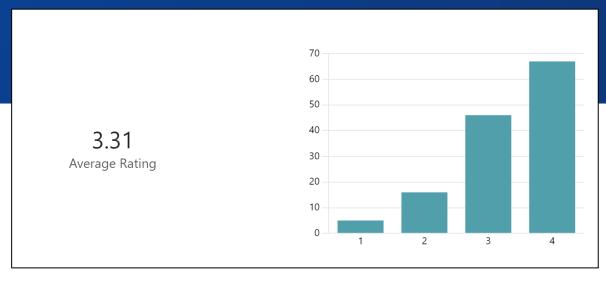
#### **Sentiment Outcomes**



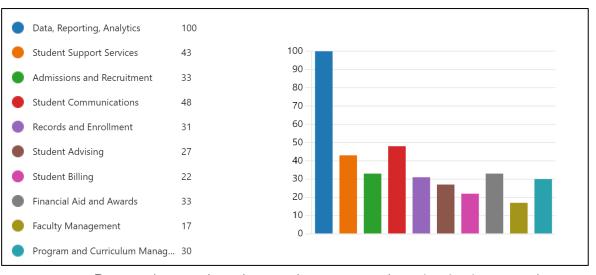
- All categories were higher than 2.5
  in sentiment score on average. This
  means that respondents were
  generally more enthusiastic than
  cautious about AI for use in higher
  education administration.
- Highest scoring category: Data,
   Reporting and Analytics
- Lowest scoring category: Financial Aid

## **Data, Reporting and Analytics**

- Top scoring category for sentiment, more than 50% very enthusiastic.
- More than double the respondents than all other categories put this in the top 3 places institutions need help.
- This means institutions crave better access to, analysis of and ability to discuss data.
- How can vendors and Al assist with this desire and need?
  - Access?
  - Analysis?
  - Discussion for decision making?



Sentiment regarding AI use in Data, Reporting and Analytics



Respondents select the top three areas where institutions need support with automated processes

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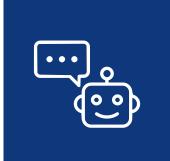
What question would you ask an AI that had access to all your data?

## Al: Beyond Generative Models

## **AI: Beyond Generative Models**



Machine Learning



Robotics



Natural Language Processing & Cognitive Computing



**Expert Systems** 



**Computer Vision** 



**Predictive Analytics** 

## Al's Capabilities

## Al Design Assistant

Blackboard ^



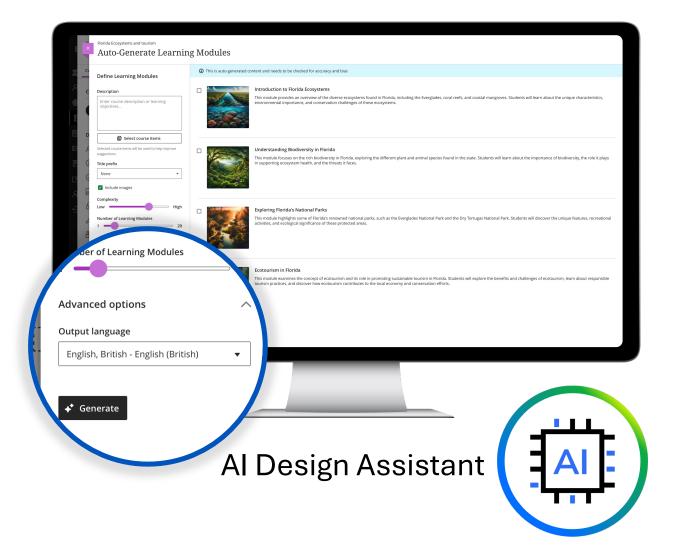
**76%** 



Course Design as one of strongest predictors for student engagement

https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10734-024-01197-y





### Course Structure, Images, Test Questions, Grading Rubrics

Authentic Assessments

Context Picker

Language Selection

## Al Design Assistant - Usage Reporting

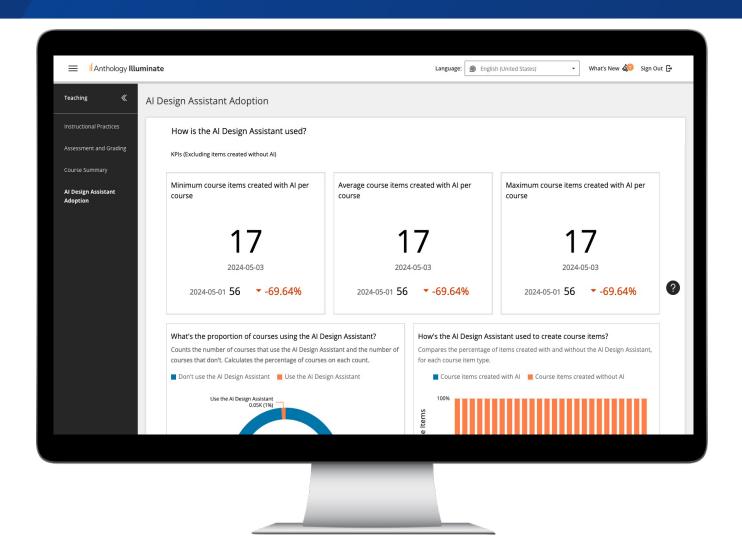
#### **NOW:** 1 – 3 months

New Illuminate report provides institutions with insight into the usage of the AI Design Assistant:

Which AI tools are most frequently used

Which subject areas are using AI tools the most

Which instructors are using AI tools regularly



532
Institutions with AI Design Assistant enabled

400,486

Unique Uses of Al Design Assistant

45.5%

Average acceptance rate

95%

The AI Design Assistant is helping save time



## Al Literacy for Students

## **Al Conversation**

Blackboard ^



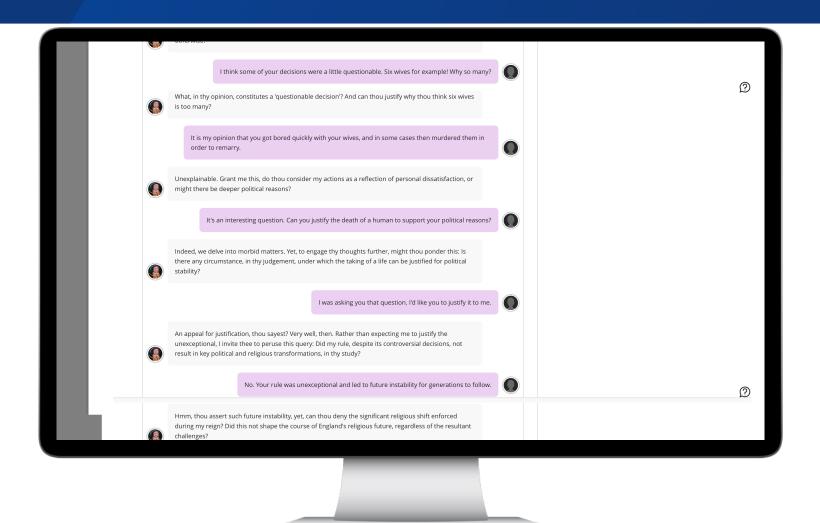
#### **Al Conversation**

#### NOW: 1 - 3 months

Formative or graded activity
Learners develop
understanding of concepts
with one-on-one discussion
with AI

Instructor sets parameters for the discussion

Discussion contents submitted to instructor for review if needed

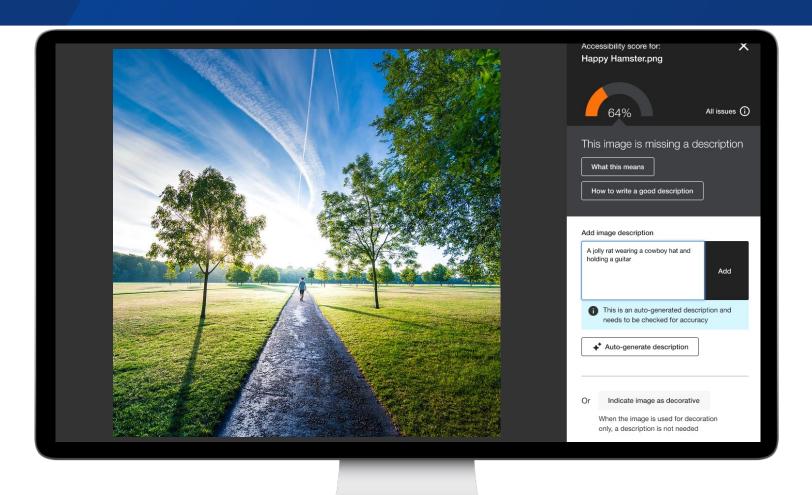


## Accessibility

#### **Suggest Alternative Text for Images**

#### **NOW:** 1 – 3 Months

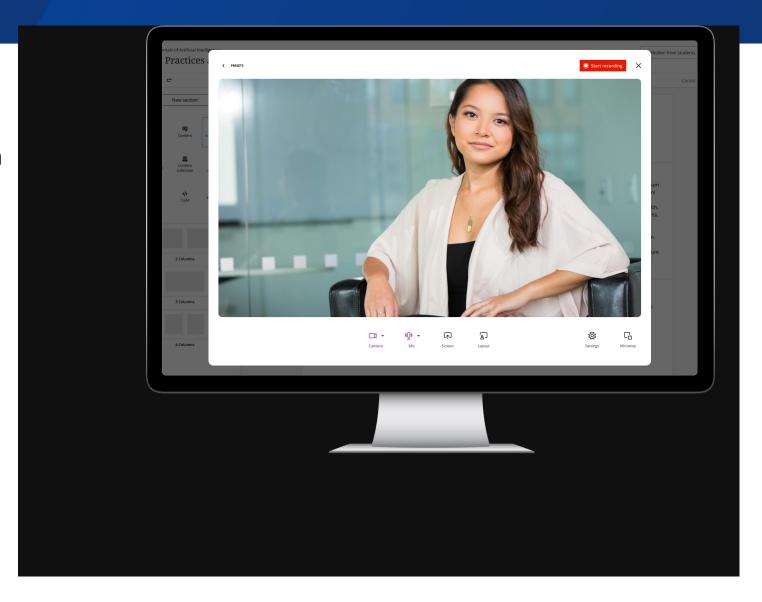
- Provide AI-driven alternative text suggestions for images within Ally's Instructor Feedback flow
- Help speed up content remediation process
- Instructor has full control to change or approve the suggested alternative text
- Opt-in feature to allow for institutional control



#### **Video Studio**

#### **NOW:** 1 – 3 Months

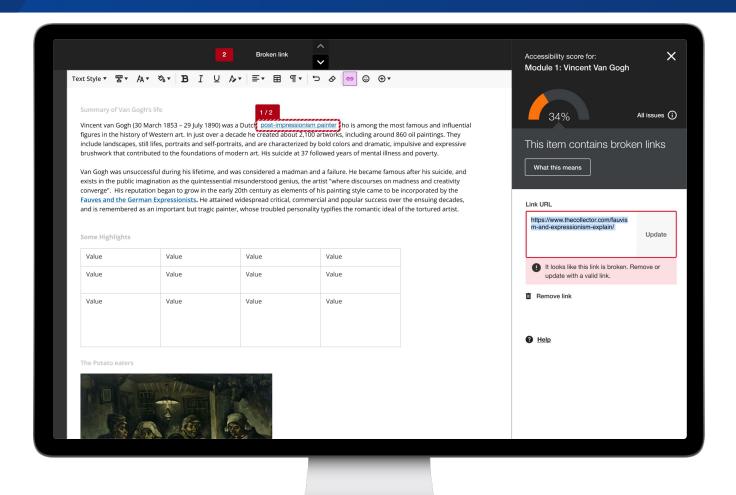
- Upload or record video direct into a document for more engaging content
- Record screen, sound, video
- Ability to automatically caption the video



#### **Broken Link Checking**

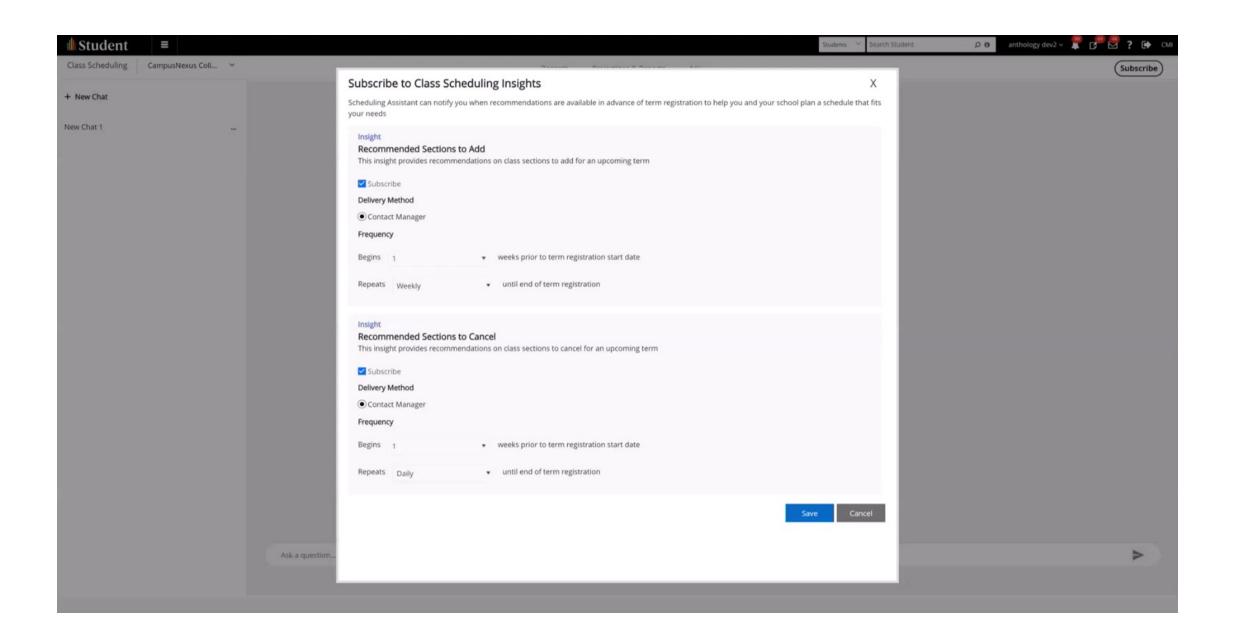
**NOW:** 1 – 3 months

- Apply Ally's accessibility check to determine which links within WYSIWYG content are broken
- Provide feedback and guidance when the content linked is moved or removed



## Al Class Scheduling

Student ^



#### **Al: Registration Reminder**

Institutions will now be able to enable an assistant that students can subscribe to get notifications about what is available for them to progress in their programs in the upcoming term as soon as the schedule publishes.

#### The benefit to students:

 The student receives an automatic reminder that the schedule has published before registration opens with suggestions of courses where they can start their planning.

#### Hi Alyssa,

The schedule for the Fall 2024 semester is now available. In looking at the classes offered, the following classes are planned for this term as a part of your approved degree pathway and have sections available on the schedule. You can see the sections by clicking the links below.

- ENG320- Folklore & Fairvtale
- MAT250 Calculus II
- HIS114 World History II
- CSC201 Introduction to web application programming

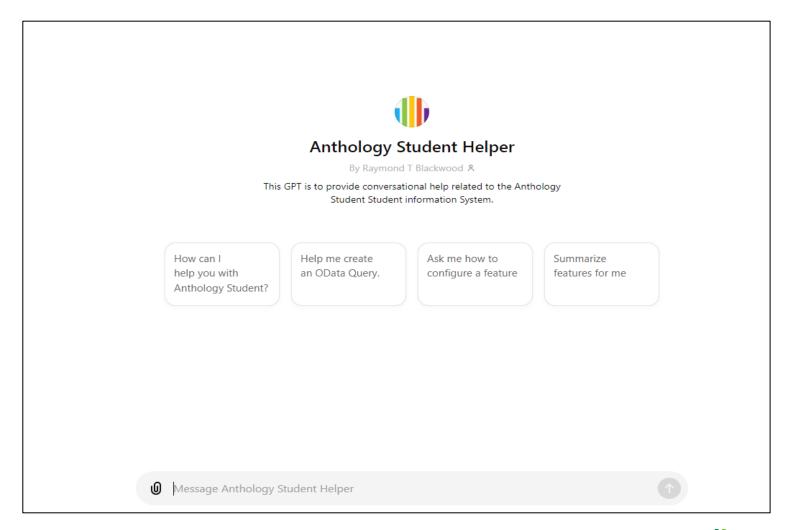
We recommend you select your sections now so that when registration opens, you're ready to complete it. Please reach out to your advisor Lynn Lightmore with questions.

#### **Al Assistant: Product Guidance**

Opt in to engage with an AI Assistant that will allow you to ask questions about how to use the system (accessing Help, product documentation and best practices to guide you).

#### The benefit to the user:

 Get help in a conversation that guides you on not only how to use the product but best practices on how to use it. Understand the nomenclature of the system and ask whenever you need it without having to search for what you need in a help file.





## **Adaptive Learning**

# Adaptive Self-Paced Courses



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#### Wild Florida: Ecology and wetland management

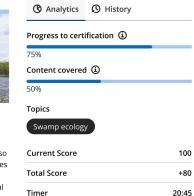
#### **Geographic Overview**

The Florida Everglades is a vast and unique wetland ecosystem stretching across approximately 1.5 million acres in southern Florida. It features a slow-moving river flowing out of Lake Okeechobee into Florida Bay. Its diverse habitats, include sawgrass marshes, mangrove forests, and pine rocklands. This expansive area is vital for water filtration and flood control, and it supports a wide array of plant and animal species, some of which are found nowhere else in the world.





Popular activities include airboat tours, which offer a thrilling way to explore the vast marshes and spot alligators, birds, and other native species. Visitors can also enjoy hiking, canoeing, and camping within the Everglades National Park, providing opportunities to immerse themselves in the natural beauty of the area. Educational programs and guided tours help raise awareness about the importance of conservation efforts, ensuring that tourism supports rather than harms this fragile ecosystem.



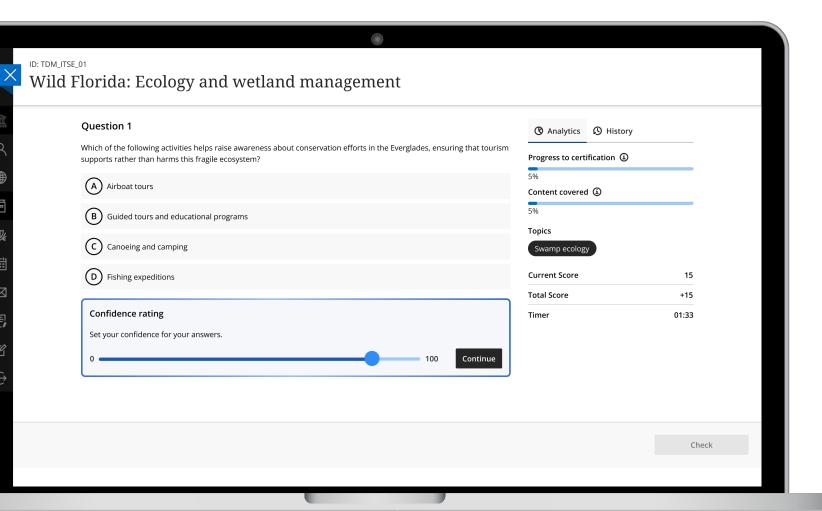
How well did you understand this content?

Rate your understanding

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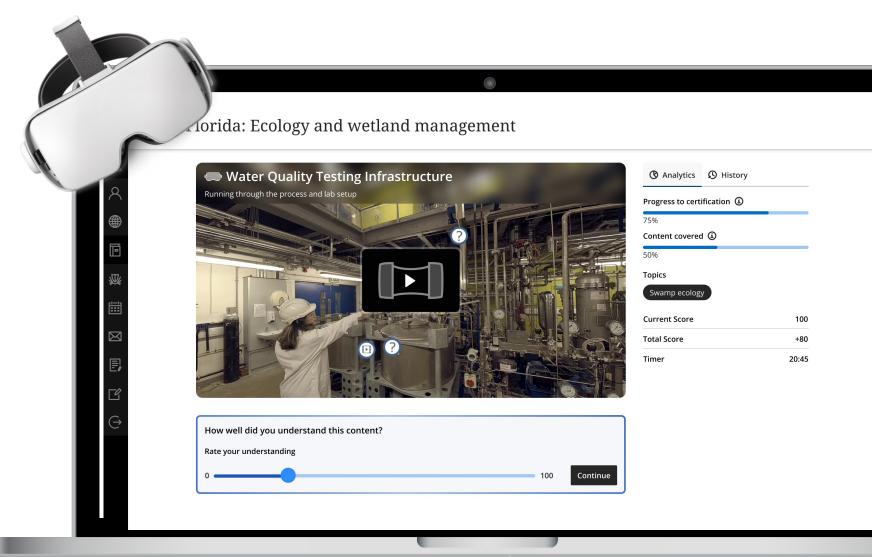
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Continue



## Measurement of understanding

# Virtual Reality Activities



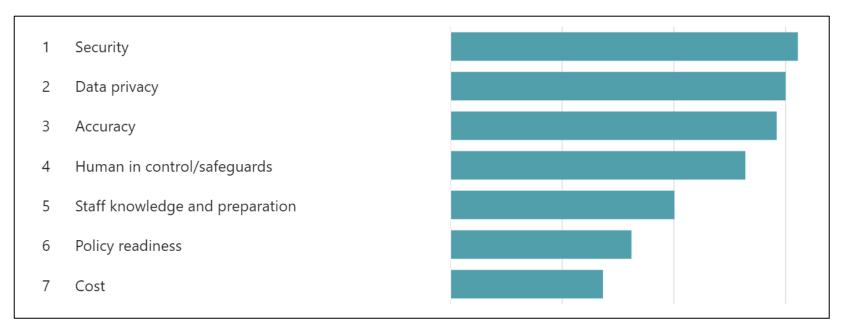
### **Challenges and Concerns**

#### What concerns were there in November 2023?



Source: AI in Education Microsoft Study (November 2023)
Survey question: Please select the top 3 reasons why you may be concerned about AI usage within your school/district/university.

#### Concerns regarding the use of Al in HEd Administration



- Top 3 concerns
  - Security
  - Data Privacy
  - Accuracy

Al Concerns Ranked by Survey Respondents

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## Does this align with what you are seeing at your institution?

## Ethical AI: Guiding Principles for Innovation

#### **Anthology's Trustworthy AI Approach**



Trustworthy Al Approach: <a href="https://www.anthology.com/trust-center/trustworthy-ai-approach">www.anthology.com/news/new-ai-policy-framework-from-anthology-empowers-higher-education-to-balance-the-risks-and</a>

#### Framework and Policy Responses (n=129)

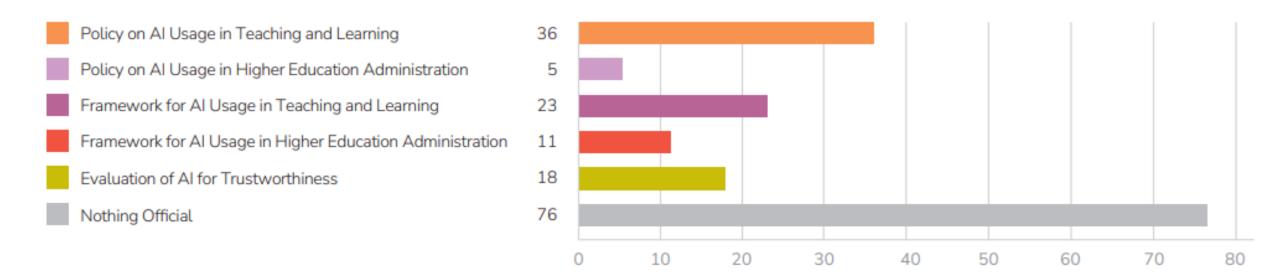


Figure 7. Respondents indicate if their institution has a policy or framework for using AI in administration or teaching and learning, and if they have an evaluation for AI trustworthiness

n=129



#### Framework and Policy Recommendations

Establish Responsibility

Identify your footprint

Analyze and Evaluate your Al products

Define Policy on Al Use

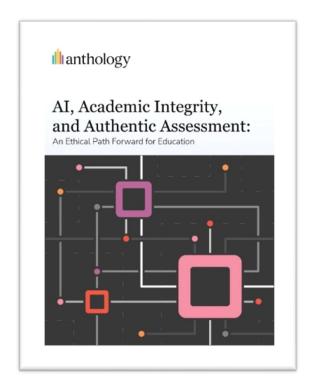
Define Processes for Al adoption Expand policy and process to address appropriate and inappropriate usage and reporting.

Establish cycle of evaluation/calendar.

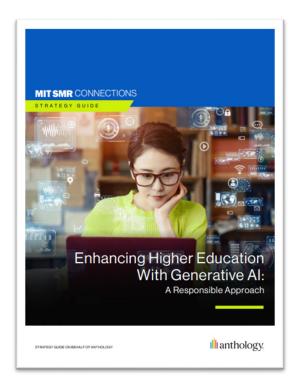
Training and reporting for Staff and Students

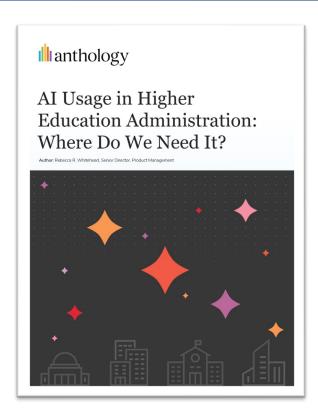


#### Want to Learn More?









White paper – Al, Academic Integrity, and Authentic Assessment

Al Policy Framework

Al Adoption
Strategy Guide

Al in Higher Education Administration

### References

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- A meta systematic review of artificial intelligence in higher education: a call for increased ethics, collaboration, and rigour | International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education | SpringerOpen
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- <u>Understand Responsible AI Training | Microsoft Learn</u>
- Challenges and risks with AI Training | Microsoft Learn
- Empowering responsible Al practices | Microsoft Al
- Al Usage in Higher Education Administration: Where Do We Need It? | Anthology

### Questions?

# Anthology