



THE FOUR-QUESTION AI TOOL MAP FOR EDUCATORS

When a new AI tool, model, policy, article, or prediction crosses your path, run it through these four questions to decide what matters most.

1 DOES THIS AI TOOL CHANGE WHAT STUDENTS CAN PRODUCE?



Can students now produce something faster, more polished, more complex, or more convincing than before?

➔ If yes, the finished product may not show what it used to. Rethink how it's evaluated.

Ask students to show their thinking:

- 💡 What choices did they make?
- ✍️ What did they revise?
- ❌ What did they reject?
- 📋 What criteria did they use?
- 👤 Where did their own judgment enter the process?

✅ AI doesn't make final products irrelevant—it makes the process behind them more important.

2 DOES THIS AI TOOL CHANGE HOW STUDENTS LEARN?



What part of the learning process does this tool touch?



Explains concepts



Tutors & coaches



Simulations & practice



Drafts & creates

POTENTIAL UPSIDE

- 👍 More practice
- ⚡ Faster feedback
- 🛑 Get unstuck
- 📚 Approach hard topics

POTENTIAL RISKS

- ⚠️ Skips productive struggle
- 👤 Outsources thinking
- 🧠 Illusion of mastery
- 📉 Weaker learning

❓ **BOTTOM LINE:** If it supports practice, reflection, questioning, or feedback—explore it. If it helps students skip the thinking your assignment is designed to build—add guardrails.



3 DOES THIS TOOL CHANGE WHAT PROFESSIONALS IN THE FIELD ARE EXPECTED TO DO?



👤 AI is already reshaping how work gets done. Students may need to:



Use AI to draft, analyze, research, code, plan, communicate



Know when not to use it



Evaluate AI output with discipline-specific judgment

★ **THE KEY: HUMAN JUDGMENT.** The more capable AI becomes, the more important human judgment becomes.

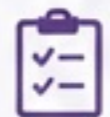
Judgment isn't automatic—it must be:



Taught



Practiced



Tested



Applied

🔍 **ASK:** Does this affect the kind of judgment my students will need in their field?

4 DOES THIS CREATE A POLICY, ETHICS, OR EQUITY ISSUE I CANNOT IGNORE?



Look for practical and ethical concerns:



Privacy & data security



Bias in AI outputs



Accessibility



Uneven access to paid tools



Confusion about what's allowed



Student dependence

💡 **REMEMBER:** A tool can be interesting and still wrong for your class if it risks privacy, creates inequity, or conflicts with your values or policies. A "no AI" policy can be hard to apply consistently when access is not equal.



HOW TO USE THIS MAP



Run the new AI tool through all four questions.



Identify what matters most right now.



Decide your response: explore, adapt, set guardrails, or avoid.



Revisit as the tool, your students, and your field evolve.