

## **The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on university level students**

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## Introduction

Imagine a world where information needed can simply be pulled by an AI (Artificial Intelligence) where almost any question can be answered. Or even a world where any task, programming command, projects, and even your homework can be completed in a matter of seconds. This world is slowly becoming reality as new AI technological advancements are allowing AI to become smarter and to be able to interact on a basic level with humans to help with request the person may have. To many this is a great leap in technology as information has never been easier to find.

A program called Chat GPT is the most popular and most recent interactable AI program that can answer almost any question with accuracy by simply asking it. This specific program is seeing an exponential spike in usage and is taking the world by storm. The most popular place we are seeing this program being used in is learning environments, especially in universities. This is good for people in college for a quick and convenient way to get help with assignments or questions they are stuck with in their classes. However, this software is slowly becoming abused in these learning settings and is causing a lot of legal and ethical problems. The biggest issues arising with chat GPT is plagiarism which could even cause legal issues if taken to a high enough severity in universities. CHAT GPT and artificial intelligence are seeing a spike in popularity and will only become more mainstream, however, this technology of the future is not without its problems.

## **Current Use**

So, what is chat GPT and what is its main purpose. According to a video posted by a credible youtuber “How it Works”, he states that CHAT GPT was made with the purpose of using AI bots to have “Human like interactions” to assist you with general information. (How it works, 2023) Its purpose is to allow for smooth convenient interaction with a solution given by the AI. Many refer to this as a more advanced “Chat Bot” with more complex interactions.

In a university setting, CHAT GPTs main use is answering questions regarding information found in classes or help regarding assignments by giving university students an outline on where to start with their assignments. This is great as it allows for a faster response in many instances when a professor is unable to answer questions. It’s even being used to design brochures and posters with information provided by the students. College can be very confusing for many students and with this new technology, it provides a convenient help in the right direction for many to achieve a solution for the task at hand. This technology is new and is only getting more advanced. With these advancements being foreseen for the future, expect more students to rely more and more on this program.

## **Security/Legal issues**

The main problem with this technology at universities is seeing an exponential spike in plagiarism and more exposure to security breaches. Plagiarism is an easy thing to do without being careful and CHAT GPT is a very easy way to not only accidentally plagiarize, but to also find yourself in legal trouble if caught to a high enough level. According to an article on Scribbr, CHAT GPT gets its information by being programmed to scan a large pool of sources (such as Wikipedia, books, News articles, and more) to get the information needed to answer your question. (Scribbr, 2023) As a university student, this can cause a major issue due to lack of citations and credit given to the original source of the information. University grading criteria are starting to be able to detect if chat GPT is being used. With this, the university can call an honor code on you which can result in a punishment ranging from a zero on the assignment, to even being kicked out of school if it is a severe enough case. In an news article written by Insider News, two philosophy professors caught two students using artificial intelligence only a few weeks after CHAT GPT was launched. (Nolan, 2023). It was stated in the article that it was hard to prove that these students used CHAT GPT, however, many schools are implementing detection software that can accurately pinpoint when chat GPT is being used. This program is only being used by more and more students each day so this is a massive problem that can't be overlooked.

Another problem is seeing a high spike with the use of chat GPT and is causing a breach of personal information. Other forms of this technology are being used and many require personal information in order to be able to use the program. Cybercriminals are very clever in this modern day and using your personal information on an untrusted site can cause your information to be leaked. College students can get very reckless when it comes to deadlines for assignments. This can cause a panic which can result in using the first software you see to get the answers you need. This puts these students at a higher risk of using an unreliable source which can easily use your information for their personal gain. It's important to ensure you are using a trustworthy website or software, especially with this technology exploding and more and more companies are jumping in on this train of artificial intelligence.

### **Ethical and Social Implications**

CHAT GPT has a variety of social and ethical implementations that have many benefits with a variety of problems as well. The main social implementation for college students that CHAT GPT is seeing is the massive use of social media which many college students use. It's not a false statement to assume many college students use social media, especially with technology being everywhere. Social media is a very good way for college students to keep us with their friends and family and post what is going on in your life. With AI taking a leap, we are seeing a huge spike in fake social media post and AI generated post and articles written by these programs. An interview was done by Cal Poly News Interviewing Professor Donig, she states

that the spike of AI and social media is causing a big question mark for the accuracy of information. (Ferreira, 2023).

Bias is also a big question mark as CHAT GPT can also do without the intent which can cause some ethical issues for information. CHAT GPT uses a wide range of databases to find the information needed. This large pool of sources can have a lot of bias imbedded in the information which can cause a huge problem if needing unbiased answers. A lot of universities require a lot of unbiased answers for assignments to ensure the reliability and accuracy of sources. If chat GPT is used on an assignment needing an unbiased opinion on a topic, then that puts the information's credibility at risk. These implications can cause a lot of question marks for social and ethical implementations and only the future will us what will happen with this kind of topics.

### **Future use**

CHAT GPT will only see an increase in use in the university environment. A new version of CHAT GPT called CHAT GPT 4.0 promises even more advancements in accuracy of information and even allows more tasks to be completed if asked. An article posted by Time Magazine states that CHAT GPT 4.0 will allow for more accurate information with a more multimodule approach to answering information. (Time, 2023) With Multimodule information being a goal for CHAT GPT 4.0, there will be many more approaches for answering information in the university setting. This new version of CHAT GPT can also solve the problem of lack of precise information provided by CHAT GPT. An article written by a variety of professionals and

published on ProQuest states that the biggest problem with CHAT GPT is that the information given can be accurate, but not exactly precise. This means that information by AI can be accurate but is not always 100% what the question is asking for. (Chen, 2023) The future is bright for AI, but this technology has a lot of big question marks regarding educational environments. Only the future will be able to tell us about the full impact on education and artificial intelligence.

## References

Bloomberg, A. M. /. (2023, March 15). Everything you need to know about ChatGPT-4. *Time*.

<https://time.com/6263022/what-to-know-about-chatgpt-4/><https://time.com/6263022/what-to-know-about-chatgpt-4/> (Used on 9/15)

-This source was mainly used to provide information on what the newest version of CHAT GPT 4.0 will be able to accomplish. It provided information for what exactly it is aiming to do while providing examples for how much better it will be than the current version. CHAT GPT 4.0 promises to be up to 40% smarter while adding more multimodule approaches to interactions.

Nolan, B. (2023, January 16). Two professors who say they caught students cheating on essays with ChatGPT explain why AI plagiarism can be hard to prove. *Business Insider*.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/chatgpt-essays-college-cheating-professors-caught-students-ai-plagiarism-2023-1><https://www.businessinsider.com/chatgpt-essays-college-cheating-professors-caught-students-ai-plagiarism-2023-1> (Used on 9/15)

-This article provided examples of how students began to get caught using CHAT GPT only a few weeks after its initial release. It further proves the point I made in the article that this program can cause a lot of problems with plagiarism. CHAT GPT uses a wide pool of databases and websites to pool information. This can easily result in uncited information being used that doesn't give credit to the original owner.

Scribbr. (2023, February 17). *Where does ChatGPT get its information from?*

<https://www.scribbr.com/frequently-asked-questions/chatgpt->



information/<https://www.scribbr.com/frequently-asked-questions/chatgpt-information/>  
(Used on 9/15)

-This source I used was for two reasons. One for general information about how CHAT GPT works, and two, for how the way it gets information can cause problems regarding plagiarism and biased answers. This article does a good job at showing that CHAT GPT does not get its answers from original thought, but from a variety of other sources.

*Ask an expert: What are the ethical implications of ChatGPT?* (2023, March 28). Cal Poly.

<https://www.calpoly.edu/news/ask-expert-what-are-ethical-implications-chatgpt> (Used on 9/15)

This interview is where I got a variety of my social and ethical implications and problems found with chat GPT. My focus was the problems CHAT GPT can cause in these scenarios. It's surprising even after reading this article as to what AI can really do and how much it will do in these setting in the future.

How It Happened. (2022, December 14). *What is ChatGPT? OpenAI's Chat GPT Explained*

[Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5MutYFWsM8> (used on 9/15)

This video provided great insight to not only how CHAT GPT works, but how it was created and how it works. I used this article in my introduction as I wanted to introduce this technology very early in the paper as soon as I could. This video is a very easy to watch video that is made by a very reliable youtuber who does other videos on technology.

*Artificial Intelligent Robots for Precision - ProQuest.* (n.d.).

<https://www.proquest.com/docview/2767094116?parentSessionId=5BTVZ6xebhK24NmBcCMvjCNoyI%2BNVaqEfOwZDLky%2FeU%3D&accountid=14541><https://www.proquest.com/docview/2767094116?parentSessionId=5BTVZ6xebhK24NmBcCMvjCNoyI%2BNVaqEfOwZDLky%2FeU%3D&accountid=14541> (Used on 9/15)

This scholarly article was found on ProQuest which is one of the most popular databases for reliable information on just about anything. This article went over how AI struggle to get information precisely which can cause problems for people who potentially abuse this technology in the future. This article provided great insight as an add on topic to discuss vaguely in the future use section of my paper.



