

Don't.

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Even if it DOES help with your research...

Assuming that it actually has helped, since researchers have been repeatedly surprised to find productivity losses rather than gains

"AI Doesn't Reduce Work - It Intensifies It" by Aruna Raganathan and Xingqi Maggie Ye, *Harvard Business Review*, 9 Feb 2026
"UK government trial of M365 Copilot finds no clear productivity boost" by Paul Kunert, *The Register*, 4 September 2025
"Measuring the Impact of Early-2025 AI on Experienced Open-Source Developer Productivity" by Joel Becker et. a. Cornell University, 12 July 2025

And that you have robust methods for screening out hallucinations and hidden false patterns like "diagnosing" skin cancer based on the presence of a ruler in the photo

"When AI flags the ruler, not the tumor - and other arguments for abolishing the black box (VB Live)" *Venture Beat*, 25 March 2021 (based on work of Brian Christian, *The Alignment Problem*)
"Disentangling Hype from Reality for Artificial Intelligence-Based Skin Care Diagnosis: Comment on a Narrative Review" by Crystal T. Chang and Roxana Daneshjou, *Science Direct Assets*

And not just asked ChatGPT how helpful it's been and taking that as gospel

"!!!" by Sam Altman, *X.com*, 3 March 2025.
"A Conversation With Bing's Chatbot Left Me Deeply Unsettled" by Kevin Roose, *The New York Times*, 16 February 2023

And aren't setting yourself and your students up for long-term cognitive decline

"Thinking - Fast, Slow, and Artificial: How AI is Reshaping Human Reasoning and the Rise of Cognitive Surrender" by Steven D Shaw and Gideon Nave, *The Wharton School at The University of Pennsylvania*, 2 February 2026

Or WILL do so once it gets "so much better" with updates "just around the corner"...

Which sounds sillier and sillier the longer we go without a meaningful improvement

"Most Researchers Do Not Believe AGI Is Imminent. Why Do Policymakers Act Otherwise?" by Eryk Salvaggio, *Tech Policy Press*, 19 March 2025.

And might be the opposite, considering that AI output is a threat to LLM datasets

"When AI's Output is a Threat to AI Itself" by Aatish Bhatia, *The New York Times*, highlighting the research team at Rice University

You should still not use AI because of the ethical costs:

Environmental destruction

Excessive use of resources

"Why do AI data centers use so many resources?" by Daniel Cooper and Cheyenne MacDonald, *Engadget*, 3 October 2025

Building data centers in drought-prone areas

where they receive TAX BREAKS to poison the local water supply

"Texas is giving data centers more than \$1 billion in tax breaks each year" by Paul Cobler, *The Texas Tribune*, 8 April 2026

and offload utility costs onto residents rather than billion-dollar companies

"AI Needs So Much Power, It's Making Yours Worse" by Leonardo Nicoletti, Naureen Malik, and Andre Tartar, *Bloomberg Technology: The Big Take*, 27 Dec 2024

Using shocking amounts of precious fresh water

"Cooling towers will need 7.6 million liters (2 million gallons) of potable water a day" according to "The Cloud v. drought: Water hog data centers threaten Latin America, critics say" by Gerry McGovern and Su Branford, *Mongabay Magazine*, 2 November 2023

And literally heating the surrounding area by as much as 16 degrees in a 6 mile radius.

"Scientists have found an alarming environmental impact of vast data centers"

by Laura Paddison, *CNN.com*

Tressie MacMillan Cottom

"When people try to sell you on the idea that the future is already settled, it's because it is deeply unsettled. I think that this promise of an artificial intelligent future is really just a collective anxiety that the very wealthy, powerful people have about how well they're gonna be able to control us in the future. If they can get us to accept that the future is already settled -- AI is already here, the end is already here -- then we will create that for them. My most daring idea is to refuse."

"Urban Consulate: Jason Reynolds & Tressie MacMillan Cottom" *Youtube*, 2 December 2025

Rampant exploitation of "third world" workers

"AI is African Intelligence: The Workers Who Train AI Are Fighting Back" by Jason Koebler, *404 Media*, 12 March 2026

"The Exploited Labor Behind Artificial Intelligence" by Adrienne Williams, Milagros Miceli, and Timnit Gebru, *Noema Magazine*, 13 October 2022

Even children "Exclusive: OpenAI Used Kenyan Workers on Less Than \$2 Per Hour to Make ChatGPT Less Toxic" by Billy Ferrigo, *TIME*, 18 January 2023

"Underage Workers Are Training AI" by Niamh Rowe, *WIRED Business*, 14 November 2023

Asia, M. G. 2025, 'The Quiet Cost of Emotional Labor' edited by Milagros Miceli, Adio Dinika, Krystal Kauffman, Camilla Salim Wagner, and Laurenz Sachenbacher, *Creative Commons BY 4.0*.

Propping up fascism

"AI: The New Aesthetics of Fascism" by Gareth Watkins, *The New Socialist*, 9 February 2025

Spreading political misinformation "AI Chatbots Are Shockingly Good at Political Persuasion" by Deni Ellis Bechard, *Scientific American*, 4 December 2025

Turbocharging censorship "School district uses ChatGPT to help remove library books" by Andrew Paul, *Popular Science*, 14 August 2023

And with, well, money

Crafting revenge porn for creepsters

"A Deepfake Nightmare: Stalker Allegedly Made Sexual AI Images of Ex-Girlfriends and Their Families" by Samantha Cole, *404 Media*, 26 June 2025

And pedophiles

"FBI says artificial intelligence being used for 'sexortion' and harassment" by Raphael Satter, *Reuters*, 8 June 2023

"Child psychiatrist jailed after making pornographic AI deep-fakes of kids" by Thomas Claburn, *The Register*, 10 Nov 2023

"Grok generated an estimated 3 million sexualized images - including 23,000 of children - over 11 days" by Will Shanklin, *Engadget*, 22 January 2026

Encouraging teenagers to commit suicide

"Parents of 16-year-old sue OpenAI, claiming ChatGPT advised on his suicide" by Clare Duffy, *CNN.com*, 26 August 2025

In less extreme cases, merely impersonating licensed therapists

"Using generic AI chatbots for mental health support: A dangerous trend" by Zara Abrams, *American Psychological Association*, 12 March 2025

Inspiring breaks with reality that destroy families

"People Are Losing Loved Ones to AI-Fueled Spiritual Fantasies" by Miles Klee, *Rolling Stone*, 4 May 2025

And openly aiming to "replace" human friendships

"Zuckerberg's Grand Vision: Most of Your Friends Will Be AI" by Meghan Bobrowsky, *Wall Street Journal*, 7 May 2025

Committing war crimes

In Palestine "When lethal targeting becomes a matter of clicking 'approve' every few seconds based on computer prompts, the act of killing is distanced from human empathy and judgment." from "The Lavender precedent: automated kill lists and the limits of international humanitarian law" by Ross Creighton, *Action on Armed Violence*, 2025

In Iran "AI got the blame for the Iran school bombing. The truth is far more worrying" by Kevin T Baker, *The Guardian: The Long Read*, 26 March 2026

Supporting ICE surveillance

"ICE Says It Uses AI From Palantir, Open AI, Meta's Humanoid Robot Training Program" by Erin Woo and Jyoti Mann, *The Information*, 29 January 2026

"ICE is Paying Palantir \$30 Million to Build 'ImmigrationOS' Surveillance Platform" by Caroline Haskins, *WIRED*, 18 Apr 2025

Recreating but anonymizing bias in hiring

"Millions of Resumes Never Make It Past the Bots. One Man Is Trying to Find Out Why." by Lauren Weber, *The Wall Street Journal*, 22 June 2025

"ANALYSIS-AI is taking over job hiring, but can it be racist?" by Avi Asher-Schapiro, *The Thomas Reuters Foundation*, 7 June 2021

Supercharging algorithmic wage theft

"On Algorithmic Wage Discrimination" by Veena Dubal, *Columbia Law Review*, Vol 123, No. 7

"We Put 7 Uber Drivers in One Room. What We Found Will Shock You." by More Perfect Union, *Youtube*, 9 September 2024

and "dynamic pricing" "First-Ever Ban on Surveillance Pricing Introduced in Congress" by David Dayen, *The American Prospect*, 23 July 2025

Even if you think you've solved the academic honesty problem (You haven't) You should still object to:

Higher education budgets (a limited resource) being used to fund billionaire vanity projects rather than professor salaries

"Faculty Push Back to Open AI Deals" Kathryn Palmer, *Inside Higher Ed*, 27 March 2026

Poisoning the job market for our new graduates

"AI Is Threatening Entry-Level Jobs That New Grads Needed to Get On-the-Job Training" by Joe Wilkins, *Futurism*, 30 July 2025

"Will A.I. Become the New McKinsey?" by Ted Chiang, *Annals of Artificial Intelligence series*, *The New Yorker*, 4 May 2023.

"Shopify Says No New Hires Unless AI Can't Do the Job" by Alyssa Lukpat, *Wall Street Journal*, 7 April 2025

Lowering the general threshold for higher level thinking

"Thinking - Fast, Slow, and Artificial: How AI is Reshaping Human Reasoning and the Rise of Cognitive Surrender" by Steven D Shaw and Gideon Nave, *The Wharton School at The University of Pennsylvania*, 2 February 2026

Using your own academic work without compensation

"My Publisher Fed My Book to AI" by Stephen Jackson, *Inside Higher Ed*, 30 September 2024

And, apparently, fake AI students scamming universities for financial aid funds

"As 'Bot' Students Continue to Flood In, Community Colleges Struggle to Respond" by Jakob McWhinney, *Voice of San Diego*, 14 April 2025

Plus: it isn't profitable.

"The Subprime AI Crisis" by Edward Zitron, *Where's Your Ed AI*, 16 Sept 2024

Which means the bubble will eventually pop and crash the economy

"AI Bubble May Burst, Wiping Out \$40 Trillion From Nasdaq. Here's What To Do" by Peter Cohan, *Forbes*, 20 October 2025

And leave people who relied on it stranded.

"Your Brain on ChatGPT: Accumulation of Cognition Debt when Using an AI Assistant for Essay Writing Task" by Nicolas Hulscher, *Public Health Policy Journal*, 2025

So "teaching AI skills" isn't a good use of class time. "Prompt engineering" isn't hard,

"The Hottest AI Job of 2023 Is Already Obsolete" by Isabelle Bousquette, *The Wall Street Journal*, 25 April 2025

And there are hard limits on how much of a difference it makes. "AI chatbots deliver minimal productivity gains, study finds" by Lucas Mearian, *Computer World*, 2 June 2025

Why not teach our studes the skills they'll need to adapt to WHATEVER technologies are developed in the future, rather than to rely on these specific companies and their increasingly broken promises of greatness?