**Northern Kentucky University**

**College of Education – Response to AI questions**

1. **AI policies for faculty and staff.**

* We do have a syllabus statement that was pushed out to all faculty at the beginning of the fall semester. It reads as follows:

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**AI Applications & Academic Integrity**

The use of artificial intelligence is expected and encouraged when it is used in a way that aligns with academic integrity standards, maintains the originality of student work, and is used transparently and responsibly in accordance with stated instructor guidelines and the course’s learning objectives.

*Select one of the two options below.*

Option 1:

In this course, generative AI may be used for the following assignments and/or examinations:

Students are expected to remain informed about the AI tools they use and take full responsibility for their output, including factual accuracy. Toward such ends, students may be asked for additional supplementation to assignments, such as citation of AI work, an appendix of used tools, or a separate conversation with the instructor to showcase understanding of the assignment objectives. Additional guidelines on the use of generative AI in this course will be provided as part of the assignment/examination protocols.

Failure to adhere to these expectations constitutes a violation of NKU’s academic integrity standards and may result in disciplinary action.

Option 2:

In this course, students are expected to confine their use of artificial intelligence to traditional/non-generative AI, such as spell check, grammar check, and search algorithms. (The premium version of Grammarly qualifies as generative AI and should not be used.) Students are expected to remain informed about the AI tools they use and take full responsibility for their output.

Failure to adhere to these expectations constitutes a violation of NKU’s academic integrity standards and may result in disciplinary action.

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1. **Any training/guidance your institution provides on AI.**

* The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Innovation (CETI), under the direction of Denice Robertson, runs multiple sessions of the AI Institute for NKU faculty and staff. Here is a blurb on what the AI Institute offers to NKU: “The AI Institute is designed to equip you with practical tools and knowledge to integrate AI into your classroom. This eight-week, hands-on program will help you reframe your teaching, engage students actively, use AI tools effectively, and create AI-driven assignments. You’ll practice using AI to complete exercises related to each learning objective, ensuring you gain practical experience.”

* There will be additional AI learning opportunities coming for NKU faculty as a part of NKU’s involvement in the “AAC&U Institute on AI, Pedagogy and Curriculum”.  See more information below.

* The university also recently established a “stoplight” logo system of icons to assist faculty in visually identifying AI use in their courses. Red, yellow, and green icons are used to clearly identify allowed or prohibited  use of AI on assignments or components of assignments.

* Additionally, the **College of Education** holds multiple AI related professional development sessions each semester to inform and guide faculty on the use of technology in their courses. Topics have included:  ChatGPT, prompting, Diffit, AI image generators, AI ice breaker ideas, and SchoolAI.

1. **Links to any AI resources on your website.**

* The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Innovation (CETI) has multiple AI resources posted to assist faculty and staff. They can be found here: <https://inside.nku.edu/teachinglearning/teaching-resources/ai-resources.html>

* In the **College of Education**, we have a central repository of AI and other technology related trainings offered in the college. It can be found here:  <https://www.nku.edu/academics/coe/beyond/educator-resources.html>

1. **Information about task forces, committees, etc. related to AI.**

* There is a workgroup currently formed that is a part of the "AAC&U Institute on AI, Pedagogy and Curriculum” ([https://www.aacu.org/institutes/2024-25-iaipc-hub](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aacu.org%2Finstitutes%2F2024-25-iaipc-hub&data=05%7C02%7Cfairg1%40nku.edu%7Ca8e4141e6f494443dc5608dcdc0d572e%7Cac3218551f554d0bb2fa531085ca3022%7C0%7C0%7C638627197058641573%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8EDW6uCJT4wLIsTOXeRjw%2Bd5dF6nWo6TFt9MWGR2Vrk%3D&reserved=0) ). This yearlong workgroup has created goals and action items to continue to bring AI awareness and guidance to NKU as well as offer training and other opportunities for faculty to develop AI resources and activities for courses. The workgroup is run by Denice Robertson and also consists of 1 staff member (Evan Downing) and 3 additional faculty members (Nicholas Caporusso - COI, Chip Heath - COB and Shannon Eastep - COE).

1. **Information specifically about AI in teacher prep programs.**

* During their Admissions semester (usually sophomore year), all students receive direct instruction on AI through the Instructional Technology class (EDU 313). In this course, they practice using various Large Language Models (LLMs) for prompting, generate AI images, and create curriculum content with a range of AI education tools. Students are encouraged to critically evaluate AI-generated results and reflect on their implications. Additionally, they engage in discussions on the ethics of AI in the classroom and learn how to properly cite AI tools in their coursework.

* Additionally, students engage with and evaluate AI tools in their Professional Semester I and Professional Semester II courses as they progress through the program. For example, in the elementary social studies methods course, students use AI to create and assess lesson plans.

* Finally all current student teachers have participated in a one-hour workshop focused on the latest AI practices, tools, and the ethical responsibilities of using AI in education. This helps to prepare student teachers to use AI responsibly and effectively in their current classrooms, equipping them with both practical skills and an understanding of the ethical considerations to enhance student learning.

1. **Anything else (including a narrative) you would like to include in the information packet.**

**NKU’s College of Education** has taken steps to not only inform preservice teachers about current AI practices and tools but also address the ethical implications of this emerging technology. We believe it is our responsibility to ensure that our students are well-equipped and well-informed to address both the benefits and challenges of AI in the K-12 environment.

We are committed to staying up-to-date with AI advancements and identifying the most effective ways to integrate them into the classroom.

In addition to empowering our students to utilize AI, we have required all faculty to have AI training (as part of our annual Convocation) and also provide additional, more focused AI training on AI tools throughout the year. Ms. Shannon Eastep, the college’s technology coordinator, not only teaches our educational technology courses but also has provided training within the university and across the region for teachers, principals, and other college of education leaders.

**University Level**

* NKU is establishing an AI Teaching and Learning Task Force made up of faculty, chairs, and the AAC&U cohort to implement the AAC&U plans and provide general recommendations for pedagogical/curricular approaches in response to AI.
* The College of Education is involved with a university wide workgroup currently working on a new AI policy for review for campus implementation.