



Students' voices on generative AI: Perceptions, Benefits, and Challenges in Higher Education

What is this Research About?

As Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) continues to evolve, perceptions within the higher education sector are notably mixed. GenAI leverages advanced machine learning algorithms, such as Variational Autoencoders (VAE) and Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs), to create new data samples that closely replicate existing datasets. This approach allows for the innovative application of AI in various fields by generating realistic and useful data. In this study, researchers explore the advantages and challenges of integrating GenAI tools like ChatGPT into educational processes, assessing their impact on teaching and learning environments.

What did the Researchers Do?

The researchers conducted a survey among university students in Hong Kong to assess their understanding of GenAI technologies and their views on integrating AI into higher education. The survey, which included both Likert scale and open-ended questions, aimed to identify potential challenges and evaluate AI's impact on teaching and learning. This approach helped gather detailed insights into students' perceptions and knowledge of AI technologies.

What did the Researchers Find?

The researchers found that students generally hold positive views on AI and GenAI technologies, appreciating their potential to enhance educational experiences and outcomes. Despite this, concerns remain about ethical issues, plagiarism, and academic integrity. Students have varied levels of familiarity and comfort with AI technologies, with some also worried about their potential impact on employment opportunities and ethical considerations.

SoTL

Snapshot

A synopsis of a scholarship of teaching and learning journal article

➔ How to Implement this Research in Your Classroom

To effectively integrate this research into the classroom, educators can start by introducing discussions about AI and GenAI technologies in relevant courses, enhancing students' awareness and understanding. It's also crucial to engage students in critical thinking about the ethical considerations and limitations of AI, including concerns about plagiarism and academic integrity. Facilitate hands-on experiences with AI tools like ChatGPT in controlled environments, guiding students on ethical use. Additionally, incorporating student feedback into curriculum design and teaching strategies can help tailor the educational approach to better meet their needs and address their concerns.

➔ Citation

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➔ Keywords

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