INTDSC 3010
Writing with Generative AI
Syllabus

Class Information
Meeting times: Tuesdays and Thursdays - 2:00 PM-3:15 PM
Location: Tuesdays: Arts and Sciences 114; Thursdays: Zoom
Instructor: Dr. Kevin Brown (email: brownkevin@missouri.edu)
Office: Fine Arts 249
Office Hours: Please contact for appointment
Teaching Assistant: Jace Ellis (email: aiwriting@missouri.edu)
Credit Hours:3
Format: Lecture (standard)
Grading: A-F Grade Only

Description
This course explores how generative AI is changing the way we write, research, and create digital content across academic, professional, and artistic contexts. Students will learn to use AI tools in support of their work while examining the creative, cultural, and ethical issues that come with this technology. Coursework includes studying AI-generated texts, engaging in critical reflection and experimentation, and developing a research-based project. By the end of the course, students will be able to use AI thoughtfully and effectively in their own academic and creative projects.

Learning Objectives
- Identify and explain key concepts, terminology, and foundational principles related to writing with Generative AI.
- Apply best practices and core theories to produce original work in collaboration with Generative AI tools.
- Analyze and evaluate AI-generated and human-AI collaborative texts to improve critical thinking and writing skills.
- Reflect on the ethical dimensions of using Generative AI, including questions of authorship, originality, and creative responsibility.

Important Dates
Aug. 24 - Classwork Begins
Sept. 18 - Last day to Drop Without a Grade
Nov. 21- Nov. 29 - Thanksgiving Recess (NO CLASS)
Dec. 7 - Last day to Withdraw
Dec. 11 - Classwork Ends
Dec. 16 - Final - 12:30-3:30pm

Required Text Books
AI and Writing by Sidney I. Dobrin*, 2*nd ed., Broadview Press, 2026. ISBN: 9781554817108

Handouts
Teaching with AI by José Antonio Bowen and C. Edward Watson, 2nd ed., Johns Hopkins University Press, 2025.
Co-Intelligence: Living and Working with AI by Ethan Mollick, Portfolio, 2024.
The Process of Generative AI Writing: A Practical Guide for Undergraduates Across Disciplines by Nathan Jung, Palgrave Macmillan, 2026.
Bad Ideas about AI and Writing: Generative Practices for Teaching, Learning, and Communication, edited by Christopher Basgier, Anna Mills, Mandy Olejnik, Miranda Rodak, and Shyam Sharma, The WAC Clearinghouse/University Press of Colorado, 2026.

Zoom Access and Thursday Classes
Thursday class meetings will be held online. Unless otherwise specified, Thursday classes will meet synchronously via Zoom. Live attendance at Thursday Zoom sessions is optional; however, students are responsible for the content of each Thursday class. Students may satisfy the Thursday attendance requirement either by attending the synchronous Zoom session or by viewing the recorded session in Canvas. Some Thursday classes may be conducted asynchronously, as indicated on Canvas and the course schedule. Students are expected to attend all synchronous Zoom meetings. Zoom links and recordings of synchronous sessions will be available through Canvas via the Zoom menu link.

Online Course Access
You may access the course through Canvas at courses.missouri.edu using your PawPrint. If you have difficulty accessing the course, please contact the Mizzou IT Help Desk at 882-5000.

Expectations
- Arrive on time, remain for the full class, and be prepared to participate.
- Complete assigned readings before class and come prepared for discussions and activities.
- Participate actively in discussions, in-class exercises, peer review, and other collaborative activities.
- Use laptops, phones, and other devices only when appropriate for class activities.
- Complete assignments on time and follow the specific requirements provided for each assignment.
- Treat classmates with respect, listen thoughtfully to differing perspectives, and contribute to a constructive and inclusive classroom environment.

Attendance
- Attendance is an important part of this course. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting.
- For Tuesday classes, attendance requires being present in class. For Thursday classes, attendance may be satisfied either by attending the synchronous Zoom session or by viewing the recorded session in Canvas. A Thursday absence will be recorded only if a student neither attends the live Zoom session nor views the recording.
- Students may miss up to four class meetings/Zoom recordings without a grade penalty.
- Beginning with the fifth absence, 1% (10 points) will be deducted from the student's final course point total for each additional absence.
- Every two instances of arriving late or leaving class early will count as one absence.
- University-recognized or instructor-approved excused absences will be handled according to University policy and will not count toward the four-absence allowance when appropriate.
- Students are responsible for any material, assignments, or activities missed during an absence. An absence does not excuse a student from completing required coursework.
- If circumstances arise that significantly affect your ability to attend class, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Participation
Students are expected to participate actively in the course. Participation may include contributing to class discussions, completing in-class exercises and activities, participating in peer review and group work, and engaging thoughtfully with course material and classmates. Participation will be evaluated based on consistent, meaningful engagement throughout the semester.

Withdrawal/Incomplete/Medical Situations
Over the period of a semester there is the possibility of a medical situation, family emergency, or other problem that might impair your ability to participate successfully in this class. If this situation occurs, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with the instructor. If you have any emergency that causes you to miss an assignment, please provide the instructor with written documentation ASAP. Specific decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis on the discretion of the

instructor regarding all grades and possible recommendations for an official withdrawal or incomplete standing for the course.

Late Work
Do all homework assignments and turn in by due date. Your grade will be lowered one full letter grade for each week that any assignment is late (ex. an "A" becomes a "B."). An assignment is considered late if it is not turned in online by the day and time that the assignment is due. If you are worried about turning your essay on the day that it is due, I encourage you to turn it in earlier if you can.

Course Records
All papers / quizzes / tests/assignments will be kept on record by the instructor until after the end of the semester for 45 days, at which point they will be destroyed.

Formatting
Use standard formatting (double spaced, 12 pt. "Times" or "Cambria" font, standard margins, no space between paragraphs). For more information, please see the formatting guidelines posted on Canvas.

Plagiarism
Academic work should clearly distinguish your own ideas and writing from material drawn from other sources. Plagiarism occurs when words, ideas, or other material from a source are presented as your own without appropriate acknowledgment. When you quote, summarize, or paraphrase a source, you must provide appropriate citation. Because this course involves the use of generative AI, expectations for acknowledging AI assistance will be addressed separately in the GenAI Integration Policy and in individual assignment instructions. Plagiarism is a violation of the University of Missouri's academic integrity policies and will be addressed in accordance with those policies. If you are uncertain about whether or how to cite a source, please ask before submitting your work.

GenAI Integration Policy
We encourage the use of GenAI software in this writing-intensive course, allowing students to leverage these tools for drafting and editing their assignments. However, students must provide transparent notes regarding the GenAI's suggestions and corrections. This policy aims to foster collaboration between students and GenAI while emphasizing the importance of maintaining academic integrity and acknowledging external assistance.

Writing Lab
We encourage you to contact and utilize the services of the Writing Intensive Lab. The lab is very busy so make appointments at least one to two weeks in advance of the time you need the appointment.
Writing Lab: 100 Student Success Center Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: 573-884-8725 or 573-882-6853; *Email*: writingcenter@missouri.edu

The two most important Writing Center options:

- In-person and Zoom appointments will begin on Tuesday, January 16. We'll offer over 400 hours of appointments per week, Sunday through Friday, except during Spring Break. Our last day of appointments will be on Wednesday of Finals Week.
- An asynchronous option, the Online Writery (https://onlinewritery.missouri.edu) is always open and accepts submissions from anyone with an MU pawprint and password, even during breaks. Responses are usually available between 24-48 hours, depending on length and time.

Assignments

Grade Breakdown (1000 points total)

Reading Discussion Posts: 25 points each (8 out of 10 count) = **200 points**

GPT Exercises: 25 points each (8 out of 10 count) = **200 points**

Research Paper: Part 1 = 1000 words = **100 points**
- Part 1: Research Question (250 words – 25 points)
- Part 2: Thesis Statement (250 words – 25 points)
- Part 3: Justification (250 words – 25 points)
- Part 4: Annotated Bibliography (250 words – 25 points)

First Draft: Part 1 (at least 1000 words) = **100 points**

Research Paper: Part 2 = 1000 words = **100 points**
- Part 5: Literature Review (250 words – 25 points)
- Part 6: Methodology (250 words – 25 points)
- Part 7: Analysis (250 words – 25 points)
- Part 8: Conclusion (250 words – 25 points)

First Draft: Part 2 (at least 1000 words) = **100 points**

Final Draft: Part 1 & 2 (at least 2000 words) = **100 points**

Presentation: **100 points**

MU Student AI Use Scale

This course uses the MU Student AI Use Scale to identify how generative AI may be used on assignments. Each assignment category is assigned an AI Use Level. Students should follow the designated level as well as any additional AI-use instructions provided for individual assignments.

Reading Discussion Posts: *Level 0, Sole Author*
Complete these assignments independently without the use of generative AI.

GPT Exercises: *Level 3, Supervising Author*
These exercises are designed for extensive use and experimentation with generative AI. Students remain responsible for the accuracy, originality, and ethical use of their work.

Research Paper Assignments and Drafts: *Level 2, Collaborating Author*
Students may actively collaborate with generative AI, including using it for developing ideas, drafting, revising, and other forms of support while maintaining critical oversight of their work.

Presentation: *Level 2, Collaborating Author*
Students may collaborate with generative AI in developing and preparing their presentation while remaining responsible for the final content.

Specific assignments may include additional instructions about appropriate AI use. When those instructions differ from the general categories above, the instructions for the individual assignment should be followed.

Detailed descriptions of all assignments will be posted on Canvas throughout the semester

Grade Equivalents of Points (Plus and minus grade system utilized)*
970 - 1000 = A+
940 - 969 = A
900 - 939 = A-
870 - 899 = B+
840 - 869 = B
800 - 839 = B-
770 - 799 = C+
740 - 769 = C
700 - 739 = C-
670 - 699 = D+
640 - 669 = D
600 - 639 = D-
Under 599 = F

*Final grade is at the discretion of the instructor.

Class Schedule

Week 1

Aug. 25

Introductions

Aug. 27

Syllabus

Week 2

Sept. 1

Writing with AI
Reading #1: Bowen & Watson, 2nd ed., Ch. 1 "AI Basics" (Handout)
Reading Discussion Post #1

Sept. 3

GPT Exercise #1: Hello World! (Show-Me AI)

Week 3

Sept. 8

Research Question
Reading #2: Dobrin 2nd ed., Ch. 2 "Generative AI"
Reading Discussion Post #2

Sept. 10

GPT Exercise #2: Research Question (Show-Me AI)
Research Question (250 words on Canvas)

Week 4

Sept. 15

Thesis Statement
Reading #3: Mollick, "Four Rules of Co-Intelligence"
Reading Discussion Post #3

Sept. 17

GPT Exercise #3: Thesis Statement (Show-Me AI)
Thesis Statement (250 words on Canvas)

Week 5

Sept. 22

Justification
Reading #4: Dobrin 2nd ed., Ch. 4 "Writing With GenAI"
Reading Discussion Post #4

Sept. 24

GPT Exercise #4: Justification (Show-Me AI)
Justification (250 words on Canvas)

Week 6

Sept. 29

Annotated Bibliography
Reading #5: *Bad Ideas*, Ch. 11, "Generative AI Can Do My Research for Me"
Reading Discussion Post #5

Oct. 1

GPT Exercise #5: Annotated Bibliography (Show-Me AI)
Annotated Bibliography (250 words on Canvas)

Week 7

Oct. 6

Peer Review

Oct. 8

RESEARCH PAPER - PART 1 - FIRST DRAFT (1000 words on Canvas)

Week 8

Oct. 13

Literature Review
Reading #6: Jung, "Research"
Reading Discussion Post #6

Oct. 15

GPT Exercise #6: Literature Review (Show-Me AI)
Literature Review (250 words on Canvas)

Week 9

Oct. 20

Methodology
Reading #7: Jung, "Prompt Engineering"
Reading Discussion Post #7

Oct. 22

GPT Exercise #7: Methodology (Show-Me AI)
Methodology (250 words on Canvas)

Week 10

Oct. 27

Analysis
Reading #8: *Bad Ideas*, Ch. 15, "Generative AI Does All the Work for the Writer"
Reading Discussion Post #8

Oct. 29

GPT Exercise #8: Analysis (Show-Me AI)
Analysis (250 words on Canvas)

Week 11

Nov. 3

Conclusion
Reading #9: *Bad Ideas*, Chapter 2, "AI Knows Everything" and Chapter 23, "Generative AI Can Write without Damaging the Environment"
Reading Discussion Post #9

Nov. 5

GPT Exercise #9: Conclusion (Show-Me AI)
Conclusion (250 words on Canvas)

Week 12

Nov. 10

AI Futures
Reading #10: Dobrin 2nd ed., Ch. 9 "Bias" and Ch. 10 "Materiality"
Reading Discussion Post #10

Nov. 12

GPT Exercise #10: Revisions (Show-Me AI)
RESEARCH PAPER - PART 2 - FIRST DRAFT (1000 words on Canvas)

Week 13

Nov. 17

Peer Review

Nov. 19

RESEARCH PAPER - PART 1 & PART 2 - FINAL DRAFT (2000 words on Canvas)

Week 14: Nov. 21- Nov. 29 (NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING RECESS)

Week 15

Dec. 1

PRESENTATIONS (Day 1)

Dec. 3

PRESENTATIONS (Day 2)

Week 16

Dec. 8

PRESENTATIONS (Day 3)

Dec. 10

PRESENTATIONS (Day 4)

****Turn in all Outstanding Assignments by Thursday, Dec. 10****

Final: Wednesday, Dec. 16 12:30-2:30pm - Presentations (if needed)

*** Note: The syllabus and schedule are subject to change**

Additional Syllabus Information

Academic Integrity
Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor or the Office of Academic Integrity.

Students are expected to adhere to this honor pledge on all graded work whether or not they are explicitly asked in advance to do so: "I strive to uphold the University values of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence. On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this work."

Academic Inquiry, Course Discussion and Privacy
When students record something that happens in a course (a lecture, class discussions, meetings, etc.) it has an impact on the rights of the people captured in that recording. For example, the instructor and the University may have rights to the intellectual property contained in that recording. At the same time, another student who may have been recorded has the right to privacy. In order to protect these rights, MU employs a policy (called "Executive Order No. 38") to govern both situations you may encounter while taking a course – when an instructor allows recordings and when they do not.

In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of course activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation undersection 240.040 of the Collected Rules.
Students who violate this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

FERPA
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of educational records; to establish the rights of students to inspect and review their education records; and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate and misleading data through informal and formal hearings. The law applies to any individual who is or has been in attendance at an institution *and* regarding whom the institution maintains educational records. Once students have matriculated to the University of Missouri, i.e. enrolled in course work, FERPA rights transfer to the student, regardless of the student's age.

Students can enable certain individuals to have access to their education records by signing a FERPA waiver. The consent must specify records to be disclosed, state the purpose of the disclosure and identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure must be made.

Intellectual Pluralism
The University community welcomes different points of view and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the departmental chair or divisional director, the Office of Academic Integrity, or the Office of Institutional Equity.

Mental Health
Mizzou is committed to supporting student well-being through an integrated network of care, with a wide range of services to help students succeed. The Mizzou Counseling Center offers professional mental health care, and can help you find the best approach to treatment based on your needs. Call to make an appointment at 573-882-6601. Any student in crisis may call or go to the Mizzou Counseling Center between 8:00-5:00 M-F. After hours phone support is available at 573-882-6601.

Visit our website to take an online mental health screening, find out about workshops and resources that can help you thrive, or learn how to support a friend.

Netiquette
Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Our differences, some of which are outlined in the University's nondiscrimination statement, will add richness to this learning experience. Please consider that sarcasm and humor can be misconstrued in online interactions and generate unintended disruptions. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course ambiance.

Religious Holidays & Accommodations
Many religious faiths are represented in the student body. Mizzou does not restrict student free exercise of religion, unless 1) the restriction is in the form of a rule of general applicability and does not discriminate against religion or among religions; and 2) it can be demonstrated that the application of the restriction is essential to furthering a compelling university interest, and is not unduly restrictive considering the relevant circumstance. The policy of the University attempts to strike a reasonable balance between accommodating the religious practice of students and meeting academic needs and standards.

Consult the Guide to Religions for the form that can be used to notify an instructor of an absence associated with religious practice. Students are expected to notify their instructor(s) by completing and submitting this form in a manner that is consistent with the procedure outlined in the university's policy on student religious accommodation. Providing false information regarding sincerely held religious practice is a violation of the university's Standard of Conduct and will not be tolerated.

Nondiscrimination Policy (Prohibited Discrimination)
The University of Missouri prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex,* sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, veteran status, and any other status protected by applicable state or federal law. Discrimination includes any form of unequal treatment such as denial of opportunities, harassment, and violence.

*Including sex/gender and pregnancy discrimination; sexual assault; sexual harassment; dating/domestic violence; stalking; statutory rape; and incest. Retaliation for making or supporting a report of discrimination or harassment is also prohibited.

If you experience discrimination or sexual violence, you are encouraged (but not required) to report the incident to the MU Office of Institutional Equity. Learn more about your rights and options at the Office of Institutional Equity website or call 573-882-3880. You also may make an anonymous report online.

If you are a survivor, or someone concerned about a survivor, and need immediate information on what to do, visit RSVP.missouri.edu. Both the Office of Institutional Equity and the RSVP Center can provide assistance to students who need help with academics, housing, or other issues.

In the event that you choose to write or speak about having experienced any of these forms of prohibited discrimination or harassment, Mizzou policies require that, as your instructor, I share this information with the Office of Institutional Equity. They will contact you to offer information about resources, as well as your rights and options as a member of our campus community.

Students with Disabilities
The goal of Mizzou is to ensure an inclusive learning environment for all students. The Disability Center provides services and accommodations for students to participate fully in the learning experience and to experience equitable evaluation of their performance. Students (including online students) with a documented disability can contact the Disability Center to establish an Accommodation Plan. Documented disabilities include *hearing, vision, mobility, learning and attention, psychological health, and physical health*. Students' accommodations are implemented with the input of students to maximize the learning experiences. The Disability Center keeps information about a student's disability confidential.

Please notify me of your eligibility for accommodations as soon as possible. Additionally, if there are aspects of the course that present as barriers, such as inaccessible course content (e.g., learning assessments, PowerPoints, non-captioned videos, images, tables, PDFs) or if you need an immediate accommodation due to an injury, please contact me or the Disability Center as soon as possible.

Statement for Face-to-Face Courses
This course is listed in the course catalog as a face-to-face course. The instructional activities planned for this course are designed for face-to-face interactions with your classmates and instructors. These activities often do not translate well over online video platforms. Because of this, it is up to instructor discretion whether asynchronous instruction or recordings of class activities are an appropriate substitute for regular classroom attendance. For specifics regarding excused absences or disabilities accommodations, please see the relevant section of this syllabus.

MU Connect - Early Academic Alert
This This course participates in Academic Early Alert, a student success initiative at Mizzou. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from me through MU Connect related to your engagement, performance, or progress in this course.

These emails may include ***Kudos*** recognizing positive achievements, ***Referrals*** to help connect you to campus resources, or ***Flags*** identifying concerns that may impact your success. The goal of this process is to provide timely feedback, connect you with support, and help you stay on track throughout the semester. If you receive a ***Flag*** or ***Referral***, please take a moment to read it and follow any recommended next steps.

You can log into MU Connect at any time by going to MU Connect to make appointments with your support network. This system and process are intended to help you succeed at Mizzou by helping you address challenges early and build on your strengths throughout the semester.