

AI Literacy Curriculum

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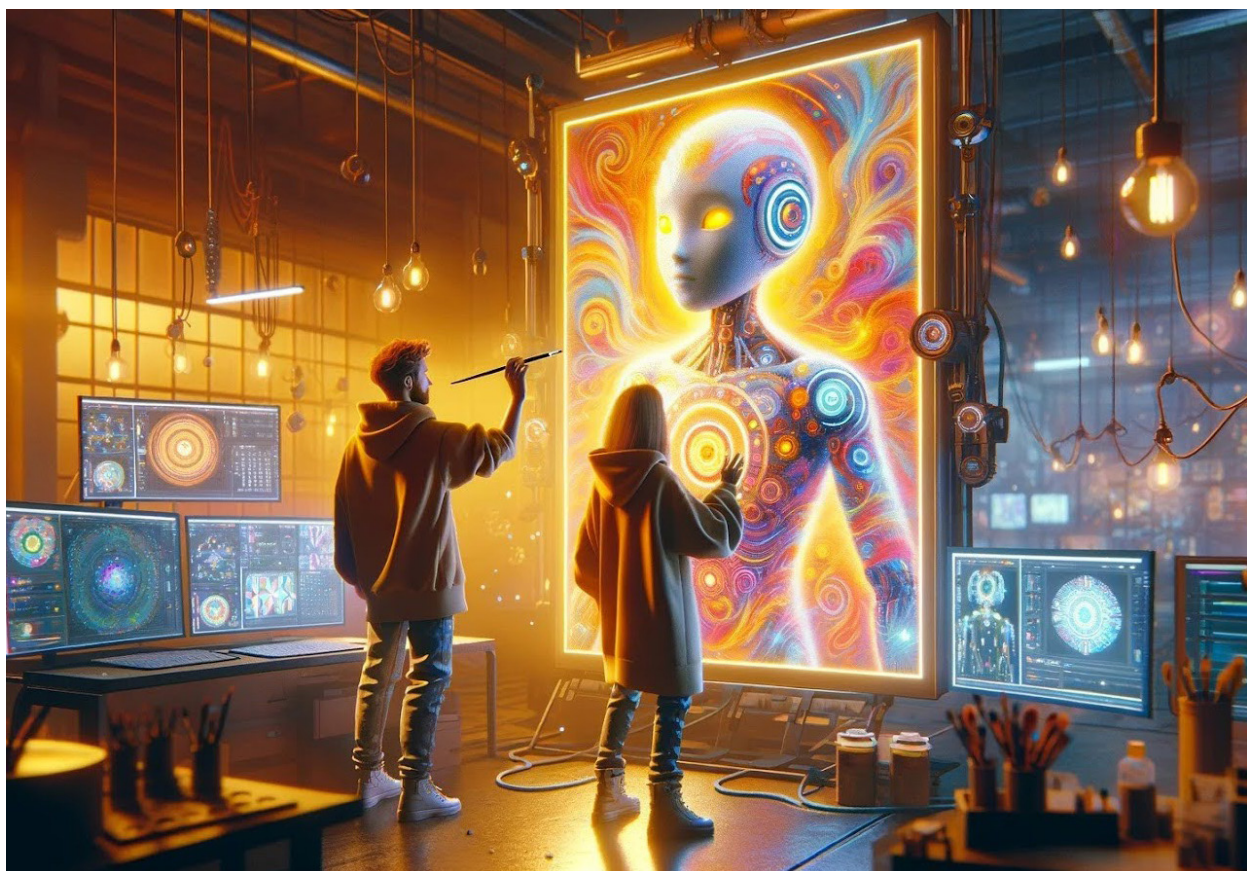


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Statement

We think AI literacy is a core competency for navigating futures through practical engagement with tools that are available and imagining tools that are not yet available. We need to consider all ethical guidelines and be inclusive but not prohibitive while keeping the space open for artistic freedom

What is AI literacy?

AI literacy refers to the critical understanding and knowledge of artificial intelligence (AI) concepts, principles, and applications from diverse, inclusive, intercultural perspectives. It involves comprehending how AI technologies work, their impact on society, (environment, cultural, political, economic, social, historical, spiritual practices, etc.) and how to use them responsibly with basic competencies and skills.



Artist collaborating with AI, Aibe Elukpo and Elena Said with DALL-E

Categories of AI literacy

AI literacy can be categorized into several aspects:

1. CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING

This includes knowledge of fundamental AI concepts such as:

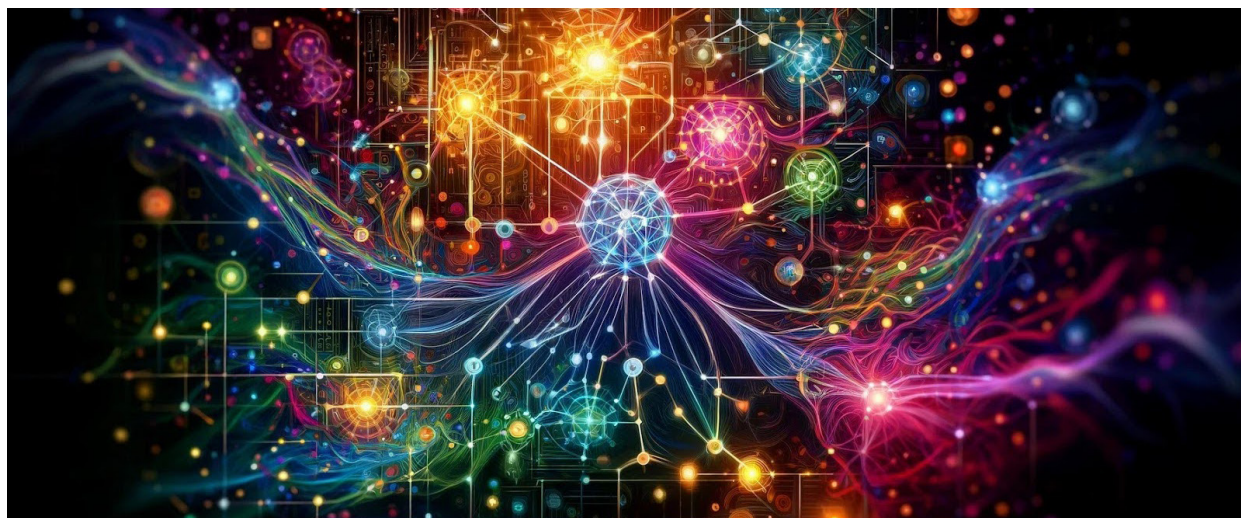
- **Machine Learning:** Teaching a computer to paint like Van Gogh by showing it his works, so it can create its own machine-generated masterpieces.
- **Neural Networks:** A vast, interconnected web of nodes that process information together, like an artist's mind weaving colors, shapes, and meanings.
- **Deep Learning:** Mastering the principles of art itself, with each layer of the neural network gaining a deeper grasp of features, from basic forms to intricate details.
- **Natural Language Processing (NLP):** Giving computers the ability to interpret and generate human language, like a paintbrush that responds to voice commands.
- **Computer Vision:** Endowing AI with the eyes of an art critic, able to analyze composition, color, and style, and even create or identify forgeries.

2. TECHNICAL SKILLS

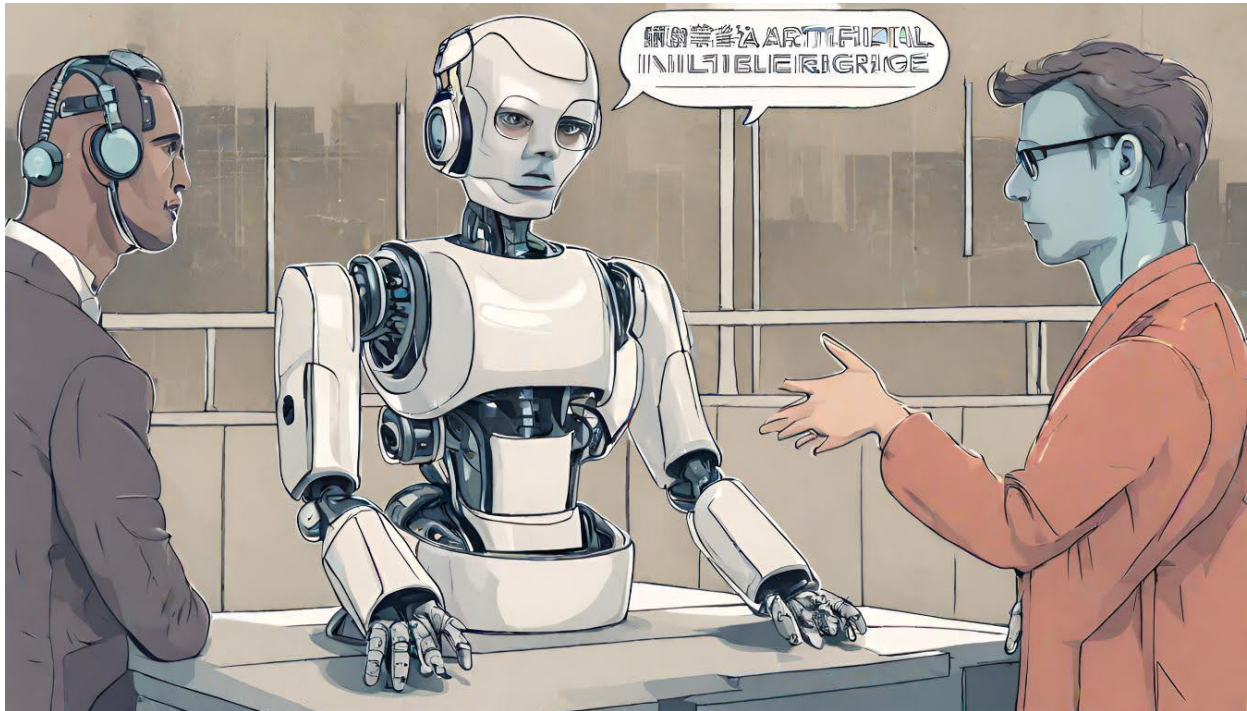
Proficiency in using AI tools and platforms for tasks like:

Level 1: Entry/Basic Level

- Knowledge of consumer AI tools
- Prompting
- Basics in combining multiple applications
- Integrating into your workflow



Artistic Image of Neural Networks, Aibe Elukpo and Elena Said with DALL-E



People talking about AI, Aibe Elukpo and Elena Said with Runway

3. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Awareness of ethical issues surrounding AI, including bias, fairness, transparency, privacy, accountability, authorship, copyright, plagiarism, theft, data, labor extraction, ghost work, opacity, automation, culture gatekeeping, and who profits.

4. SOCIETAL IMPACT

Understanding the societal implications of AI on areas like employment, healthcare, education, governance, environment, cultural, intergenerational, political, economic, social, historical, and spiritual practices.

5. CRITICAL THINKING

Ability to evaluate AI applications, claims, and potential biases critically and the ability to hold ambiguity and paradoxes.

6. CREATIVE APPLICATIONS

Applying AI techniques to manage efficiencies, enhance everyday processes, eliminate repetitive tasks, save time, and as an ideation tool, including understanding the limitations and constraints of AI systems.

7. COMMUNICATION

Comfortable talking about AI-related topics.

8. CONTINUOUS LEARNING AND EVALUATION

Keeping up with the latest developments and emerging trends to develop literacy skills and continuously reassess the use-value of AI.



An artist prompting, Aibe Elukpo and Elena Said with DALL-E



"They don't appear to want to take over. They just want to dance."

Empowering Artists: AI Literacy Workshops / Modules

MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION TO AI FOR ARTISTS

- Overview of AI concepts relevant to art and cultural practices
- Exploration of AI tools and platforms for artistic expression
- Case studies of AI-enabled artworks and collaborations
- Glossary of terms

Further readings/references

- <https://aipedagogy.org/guide/>
- <http://manovich.net/content/04-projects/107-defining-ai-arts-three-proposals/manovich.defining-ai-arts.2019.pdf>

MODULE 2: ETHICS AND BIAS IN AI AR

- Understanding ethical considerations in AI-generated art
- Discussion on bias, fairness, and representation in AI algorithms
- Strategies for creating inclusive and ethical AI artworks
- Considerations for privacy, consent, and data ethics in AI-powered audience engagement
- Case studies of AI art that reflect the ethics and biases within AI

Further readings/references

- Refer to the Salzburg Global Seminar Charter for AI Ethics
- Refer to the Salzburg Global Seminar Intercultural AI Creative Starter Pack
- <https://mitpress.mit.edu/9780262537018/artificial-unintelligence/>
- <https://atrium.ai/resources/ethical-ai-real-world-examples-of-bias-and-how-to-combat-it/>
- [AI generated images are biased, showing the world through stereotypes - Washington Post](#)
- [An MIT Technology Review Series: AI Colonialism](#)
- <https://researchvalues2018.wordpress.com/2017/12/20/tega-brain-the-environment-is-not-a-system/>
- <https://www.versobooks.com/products/735-the-eye-of-the-master>

MODULE 3: AI TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES FOR ARTISTIC CREATION

- Hands-on sessions with AI tools for image generation, style transfer, and text-to-image, text-to-video synthesis
- Introduction to generative adversarial networks (GANs), diffusion models, and other AI techniques for art creation
- Introduction to natural language processing (NLP) for interactive storytelling
- Creative exercises using AI to explore new artistic possibilities

Further reading/references

- <https://majusculelit.com/machine-marionettes/>
- <https://beta.dreamstudio.ai/generate>
- <https://midjourney.co/>
- <https://www.technologyreview.com/2022/04/22/1050394/artificial-intelligence-for-the-people/>
- <https://pharmapsychotic.com/tools.html>

Text to Image

- Midjourney
- Stable Diffusion
- <https://beta.dreamstudio.ai/generate>
- [RunwayML](#)

LLM (Large Language Model)

- ChatGPT
- [Claude 3](#)
- <https://aipedagogy.org/guide/tutorial/>



Ethics in AI, Aibe Elukpo and Elena Said with DALL-E

MODULE 4: APPLICATION OF AI-DRIVEN INTERACTIVITY AND COLLABORATION

- Exploring AI-driven immersive experiences (i.e. interactive installations, Generative Art, interactive performance)
- Designing AI-driven experiences for museums, galleries, and public spaces
- Strategies for interdisciplinary collaboration between artists, technologists, and researchers
- Case studies of (un)successful AI-artistic collaborations
- Workshop on co-creating AI-driven artworks with diverse teams

Further reading/references

- George Legrady - “[**Pockets Full of Memory \(2001\)**](#)” - to understand the basics of neural network concepts, such as classification of data, through an interactive piece
- Tega Brain [**https://tegabrain.com/artwork**](https://tegabrain.com/artwork)
- Anne Bogart’s ‘The Viewpoints Book’
[**https://stilluntitledproject.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/anne-bogart-and-tina-landau-the-viewpoints-book.pdf**](https://stilluntitledproject.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/anne-bogart-and-tina-landau-the-viewpoints-book.pdf)
- William Forsythe’s Improvisation Technologies

MODULE 5: SHOWCASE AND REFLECTION

- Presentation of participants’ AI artworks and projects developed during the workshops
- Reflections on the learning journey and insights gained
- Networking session for continued collaboration and knowledge exchange
- Bringing awareness to keeping up with the latest developments and emerging trends, in order to develop literacy skills and continuously reassess the use-value of AI.

Further reading/references

- [**https://futurium.de/de/futurium-lab**](https://futurium.de/de/futurium-lab)
- [**https://www.newinc.org/**](https://www.newinc.org/)

Throughout the curriculum, emphasis will be placed on hands-on learning, group discussions, and peer collaboration to foster a supportive and creative learning environment for artists and cultural practitioners to explore and harness the potential of AI in their artistic practice.

Principles for Ethical AI Use in Art and Cultural Practices

The following principles are intended to increase awareness but not limit artistic expression & creative freedom:

1. PROMOTE INTERCULTURAL, INTERSECTIONAL, AND INTERSPECIES JUSTICE

- Be accountable to these aims at multiple levels (e.g. epistemological to distribution) to ensure AI-generated artworks and projects reflect diverse perspectives and avoid reinforcing stereotypes or biases based on race, gender, ethnicity, or other characteristics.
- Seek out and maintain a diverse web of trusting relationships (e.g. people to people, people to AI, people to planet)
 - Reduce barriers to participation, particularly at the margins.
 - Understand the diverse worldviews and both implicit and explicit biases that we bring to the use of all tools.
 - Protect and promote diverse intelligences, cultural identities, abilities, imaginations, and cultural logics.

2. POWER AND EMPATHY

Create space for all peoples to express their power by using AI to amplify the voices, stories, and experiences of diverse communities and individuals. Foster empathy and mutual understanding through AI-driven engagement that promotes social cohesion, care, and intercultural, intergenerational, interdisciplinary, and interspecies dialogue.

3. TRANSPARENCY AND ATTRIBUTION

- Proactively acknowledge your source materials.
- As appropriate, obtain free, prior, and informed consent.
- Cultivate trust as a precondition for building a safe environment for this work. For example, label the art piece with “AI-Generated...” as if it were a medium, like acrylic paint, marble, found footage, etc.
- Support the sharing of resources and data sovereignty.

4. ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Using AI technologies is resource-intensive, allowing colonial patterns of harm to persist. These harms include intensive extraction of natural resources, exploitation of marginalized communities, and inequitable accumulation of wealth. Understanding these impacts will provide you the ability to make conscious choices that reduce these effects.



Bias in AI, Aibe Elukpo and Elena Said with DALL-E

5. DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND THEIR IMPACTS

These are continually evolving in context- and culture-specific ways. Therefore, it is necessary to stay in tune with emerging developments while also considering those who do not use this tool and the implications for your artistic practice.

By adhering to these principles, artists and cultural practitioners can harness the transformative potential, of AI while upholding social, ethical, and cultural awareness in their artistic endeavours.

6. CONCLUSION

We need to recognize that AI is essentially human-driven. The “information and knowledge” supplied to AI platforms is populated with text, images, data, opinions, etc., uploaded by humans with access to internet/software/social media/media platforms—and that to be “AI literate” is to [equip individuals with the knowledge, skills and ethical framework] to recognize this situation, and that those who use AI should proceed with mindfulness—such as fact/bias/source checking, etc.

Given the significant human influence on AI, and vice versa AI’s influence on humans, it is important to place a strong emphasis on ethics. We need to think critically about the backend of AI development, considering factors such as *who* is designing the platforms, *who* owns the datasets, *who* develops the business models, and *who* has the right to train and control AI models.

** This is a first draft/framework of a living curriculum document that was co-written with ChatGPT. It can be edited, added to, and changed. As a next step, refinements need to be applied with regards to schedule, further readings, exercises & assignments.*

This is about artists, creative expression, and thinking creatively about social arrangements. The enhancement of human creativity and imaginations in many realms.

“We prompt therefore we are.....perhaps”