How to Regulate Artificial Intelligence?

Dickinson College does not have a campus-wide Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy. Instead, it is up to individual faculty and staff to craft syllabi with clearly stated appropriate and inappropriate uses of generative AI tools in the classroom.[1] The rapid growth of generative AI in the United States, which currently has little regulation, has impacted the workforce, health sector, and education. According to a study conducted by the Pew Research Center, AI experts and the American public are concerned about a lack of government regulation.[2] Similarly, AI use in political advertising does not currently need to be disclosed, prompting debate among the public in states like Texas where Senate candidates have used AI in promotional material, both disclosed and undisclosed.[3]

AI technology is in its infancy in the public sphere, meaning its long-term effects on employment and personal cognitive abilities, among many other possible consequences are unknown. Proponents of the technology claim it is a tool for experts to maximize efficiency and scalability, which can be translated into the classroom.[4] Preliminary research shows that for students, an overreliance on generative AI models, like ChatGPT, can lead to "cognitive dependency" which decreases the "opportunity for active recall and problem-solving."[5] Further studies suggest that students using ChatGPT had lower "brain engagement" and "consistently underperformed at neural, linguistic, and behavioral levels" than students not using generative AI tools.[6]

---

[1] Cramer, Renée Ann. Statement of the Provost and Dean: Generative AI and the Academic Program/Academic Units. Accessed February 2026. https://www.dickinson.edu/download/downloads/id/16753/generative_ai_and_the_academic_program.pdf.

[2] McClain, Colleen, Brian Kennedy, Jeffrey Gottfried, Monica Anderson, and Giancarlo Pasquini. "How the U.S. Public and AI Experts View Artificial Intelligence." Pew Research Center, April 3, 2025. https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2025/04/03/how-the-us-public-and-ai-experts-view-artificial-intelligence/.

[3] Davis, Erin. "Use of AI in Texas Political Campaign Ads Sparks Debate." *spectrumlocalnews.com*, February 11, 2026. https://spectrumlocalnews.com/tx/south-texas-el-paso/news/2026/02/11/use-of-ai-in-texas-political-campaign-ads-sparks-debate.

[4] Gautam, Neelanjana. "Unraveling the Social Impacts of Artificial Intelligence." UC Davis Office of Research, August 7, 2024. https://research.ucdavis.edu/unraveling-the-social-impacts-of-artificial-intelligence/.

[5] Jose, Binny, Jaya Cherian, Alie Molly Verghis, Sony Mary Varghise, Mumthas S, and Sibichan Joseph. "The Cognitive Paradox of AI in Education: Between Enhancement and Erosion." *Frontiers in Psychology* 16 (April 14, 2025). https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2025.1550621.

[6] Chow, Andrew R. "ChatGPT May Be Eroding Critical Thinking Skills, According to a New MIT Study." *Time*, June 23, 2025. https://time.com/7295195/ai-chatgpt-google-learning-school/.

Not only is AI use scrutinized and studied in educational contexts, but the rapid development of the technology has also raised concerns on the national and international level. The Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Kristalina Georgieva, has pointed out the gap between AI technologies of countries of significant wealth (U.S., China) versus "low income" countries.[7] Georgieva has expressed concern that "regulation and ethics" related to the technology have fallen short, even in countries leading the AI development.[8] The discrepancy in international AI growth has made global policy and regulation challenging; the possibility of a global policy concerning the technology seems unattainable.

Amid the swift developments and implementations of AI technology in everyday life, from AI friendly Super PACs donating in the upcoming midterms to applications like Spotify, Zillow, and Walmart being directly accessed through AI, the ethics of the training of large language models, like ChatGPT, has been questioned and even taken to the courts.[9] OpenAI is currently involved in a legal battle with authors claiming that the company illegally downloaded pirated books to train its model.[10] On the other hand, Anthropic AI recently won a copyright infringement lawsuit when the court ruled that "AI companies could have the legal right to train their large language models on copyrighted works" if obtained legally.[11] The copyright cases, educational use of AI, and related ethical and policy concerns continue to raise questions about the fair use of Artificial Intelligence, especially in an environment without legal precedent on regulation.

---

[7] Shalal, Andrea. "IMF's Georgieva Says Countries Lack Regulatory, Ethical Foundation for AI | Reuters." Reuters, October 13, 2025. https://www.reuters.com/business/imfs-georgieva-says-countries-lack-regulatory-ethical-foundation-ai-2025-10-13/.

[8] Ibid

[9] Pereira , Steven Wolfe. "Everything Runs Inside AI Now. Including Your Business." *Forbes*, November 3, 2025. https://www.forbes.com/sites/stevenwolfepereira/2025/11/03/everything-runs-inside-ai-now-including-your-business/.

[10] Cho, Winston. "OpenAI Wins Key Discovery Battle as It Gains Ground Against Authors in AI Lawsuits." The Hollywood Reporter, February 9, 2026. https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/business/business-news/openai-wins-key-discovery-battle-as-it-gains-ground-against-authors-in-ai-lawsuits-1236500933/.

[11] Veltman, Chloe. "In a First-of-Its-Kind Decision, an AI Company Wins a Copyright Infringement Lawsuit Brought by Authors." NPR, June 25, 2025. https://www.npr.org/2025/06/25/nx-s1-5445242/federal-rules-in-ai-companys-favor-in-landmark-copyright-infringement-lawsuit-authors-bartz-graeber-wallace-johnson-anthropic.