



HEA Teaching and Learning Conference December 2024

Driving Changes in Teaching and Learning through Policy and Innovation

HEA AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS
HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY



Are You AI Ready? Investigating AI Tools in Higher Education

Name of Institution/Organisation
University College Dublin
Who led the initiative?
Project Co-leads: Orla Daly – TEL Manager, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems & Liam Fogarty TEL Manager, College of Social Sciences and Law.
Date and timeframe of the initiative
April 2023 – December 2024
What was the reach of the initiative?
Project is situated at university level with intended reach to both students and faculty.

Frameworks, Policies, or Strategies Aligned (internal, local or national)
DigComp 2.2: The Digital Competence Framework for Citizens (Vuorikari et al., 2022)



Aims/Objectives
<p>Project Aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical evaluation of the current use of high-profile AI applications (e.g., Grammarly, Perplexity, ChatGPT) in higher education, utilising the DigComp 2.2: The Digital Competence Framework for Citizens framework (Vuorikari et al., 2022). Findings will be used to co-design (in accordance with UDL principles) online ‘AI Readiness’ resources, which on completion will provide students and faculty with the necessary knowledge to make informed decisions regarding the integration of AI tools in higher education. Co-development of AI digital capabilities matrix with best-practice guidelines for contextualisation of the ‘AI Readiness’ resources across disciplines. <p>Project Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-design a critical evaluation framework to investigate faculty and student AI digital capabilities, from a digital competence perspective of knowledge, skills, and attitudes (Vuorikari et al., 2022). Collaboratively investigate AI tools for data collection and analysis, such as using ChatGPT for survey generation and anonymized data analysis. Co-design online resources using AI tools. Co-develop online resources including interactive learning materials; formative and summative assessments; and additional supporting resources. Pilot and implement resources to identify areas for improvement. Co-evaluate, revise, and refine based on feedback. Co-develop recommendations and disseminate findings
Rationale and Identified Needs
<p>Since November 2022, the rapid adoption of AI tools in higher education has raised concerns about their impact on teaching, learning, and assessment. In response, an interdisciplinary team of faculty, staff, and students from two UCD Colleges launched a SATLE-funded project in April 2023 to address these challenges. The project aims at commencement were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically evaluate the use of high-profile AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Copilot) across three schools, guided by DigComp 2.2: The Digital Competence Framework for Citizens (Vuorikari et al., 2022). Develop co-designed online ‘AI Readiness’ resources for both faculty and students, informed by evaluation findings. Create an AI digital capabilities matrix to adapt the ‘AI Readiness’ resources across different disciplines in the university. <p>‘AI Readiness’ is defined by Luckin et al. (2022) as guiding students and faculty from limited awareness of AI to a clear understanding of its capabilities and limitations. Additionally, DigComp 2.2 emphasises developing knowledge, skills, and attitudes for engaging with AI systems, rather than focusing solely on technical expertise.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>Luckin, R., Cukurova, M., Kent, C., & Boulay, B. d. (2022). Empowering Educators to Be AI- ready. Computers and Education Artificial Intelligence. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.caeai.2022.100076</p> <p>European Commission: Joint Research Centre, Vuorikari, R., Kluzer, S. and Punie, Y., DigComp 2.2, The Digital Competence framework for citizens – With new examples of knowledge, skills and attitudes, Publications Office of the European Union, 2022, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/115376</p>

Categories	Elements	Topics	Target Groups
Commit	Innovation in Teaching	Academic Integrity	
Create	Professional Development		
		Student Engagement and Partnership	
		Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Approaches	
		Artificial Intelligence	