

Finding a balance between generative AI and AI-based tools and critical thinking in legal education

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Increased use of AI

- AI is widely used in practice and AI
- Has become essential
- How does legal education deal with it?
- Especially regarding critical thinking skills?

Critical thinking skills

- Qualities: inquisitive, well-informed, relies and trusts reason,
- open-minded, flexible, acknowledges personal biases,
- prudent in judgments, willing to reconsider, identifies issues clearly ,
- reasonable in the selection of criteria, focused on inquiry

AI and developing critical thinking skills

- Two independent and contrasting studies
- One focusses on extensive use of AI - linked to context, specific situation and intensified training, use and feedback
- Other more generic - less training, less feedback , more general

AI can assist

- Positives: immediate feedback, guidance, improves motivation and confidence, if focused can be very useful, assists with research, clear improvements
- Issues: overreliance, more complex questions less successful, negates traditional methods which are also necessary and useful

Conclusion

- Necessary, useful and must be included
- However, there must be a balance

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