

# The AI Diaries: Lessons Learned in Humanities and Science

Tara Blaser

Philosophy/English

**she / her**



David Turnbull

Biology

**he / him**



# Special Thanks to Sue Nugent

Lake Land College  
Online Support &  
Instructional Specialist



# Biology Assignments

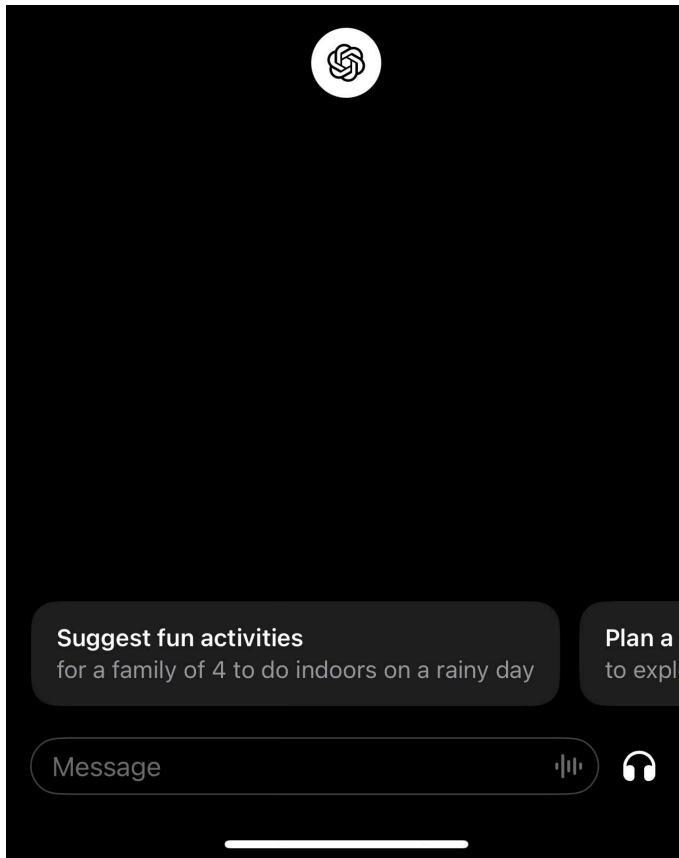


## Reinforcing Concepts

*Generate 10 statements about the neuromuscular junction, randomly mixing 5 true and 5 false statements. Please number them from 1 to 10. Do not provide explanations for the accuracy or inaccuracy of each statement.*

# ChatGPT app (open ai)

---



Press headphones  
image to  
activate GPT's voice

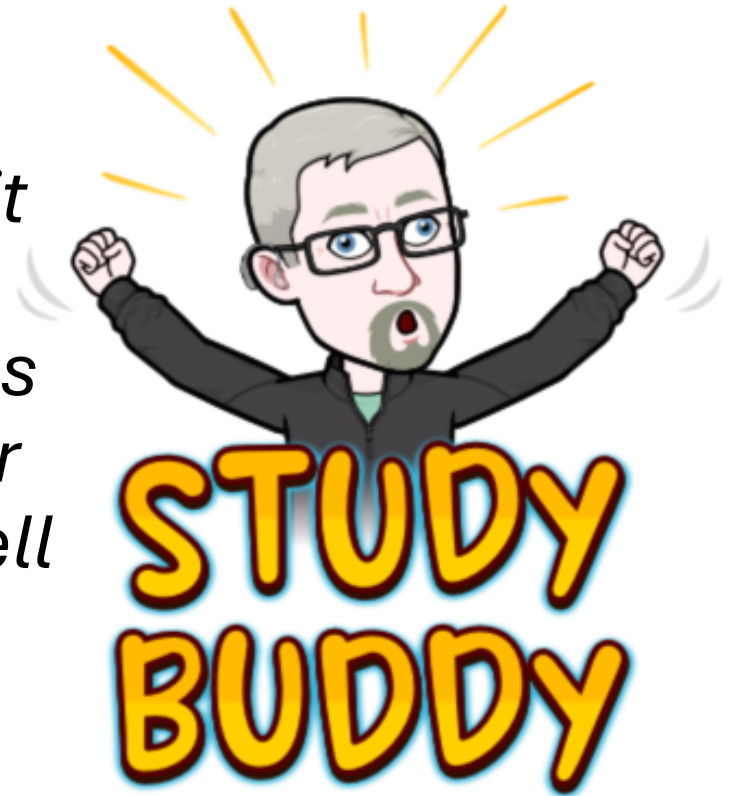
LET'S  
CHAT



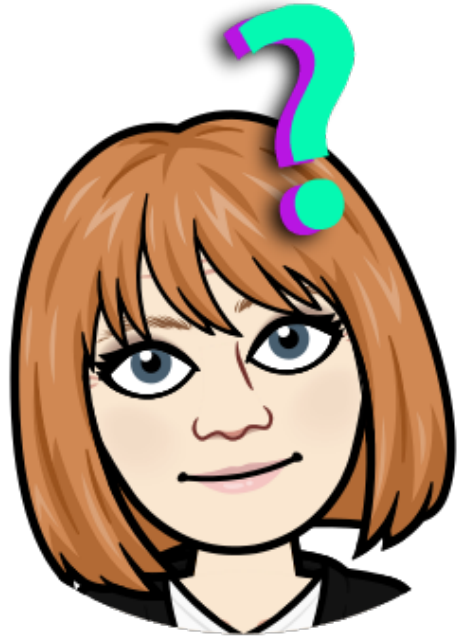
# Study Buddy

Are you familiar with \_\_\_\_\_.

*Let's play a game together. Please quiz me on \_\_\_\_\_ . Ask me a question and then wait for me to respond before telling me whether my answer was correct or incorrect. If my answer was correct, please let me know and then ask another quiz question. If my answer is incorrect, please tell me the correct answer. In either case, please be encouraging and friendly throughout the game.*



# Assignments



## World Religions:

- Compare GPT response w/ class notes/textbook
- Clarify areas of confusion
- Ask for analogies to explain things
- How are ideas present in future career

# Sample Assignment

**Step 1:** Begin by requesting AI to **explain** Ninian Smart's Seven Dimensions of Religion.

**Step 2:** Next, carefully **compare** the AI's explanation with the information provided in your Canvas notes where the Seven Dimensions are explained. Assess whether the AI's explanation is accurate and identify any discrepancies or errors. Remember, while AI can be helpful, it is important to verify its accuracy against reliable sources.

**Step 3:** Engage AI again, this time asking it to give you **analogies** for each of the Seven Dimensions. Once you read the analogies, reflect on whether they contribute to your understanding of these dimensions. If so, which ones?

**Step 4:** Now, select the three dimensions that you find most challenging to comprehend. Instruct AI to **elaborate further** on those dimensions or provide specific examples that can enhance your understanding. This will take some back and forth chatting with AI, so keep asking questions until you have a thorough understanding of Smart's Seven Dimensions.

# Another Sample

## Step 3: Inquiry into Ethical and Moral Principles

1. Utilize AI's capabilities to "research and elucidate Islamic ethical and moral principles that align with values in health care or business" (or whatever your future profession will be, so insert your profession in place of health care or business). **Copy and paste this prompt into AI to uncover valuable information.**
2. Review the list of principles provided by AI and identify three principles that you deem most crucial for your future career, whether it's in health care, business, or another chosen profession. Justify your choices, explaining why these principles resonate deeply with your aspirations. This part should be at least 200 words.





# More Assignments

---

- **Ethics last semester:**
  - AI Imposter surprise reveal
  - Paper – 2/3 identifying imposter & 1/3 what it means to be human
- **Ethics this semester:**
  - AI Imposter from the start

# Student Introduction

...I am also probably the oldest person in this class! I spent a little over 20 years in the military and recently retired a few years ago as a Sergeant First Class (E-7). I am actually really looking forward to this class, to uncover the AI monster hiding amongst us. I already have started researching classmates associated with this class, and called in a favor to my former DOD colleagues to begin work-ups on all peers in this class. (joking or not joking?) Totally joking!



# How Students Figured Out The AI Imposter

What students wrote about **others** to identify the AI imposter:

- Students can make responses bold or italics and AI cannot
- Humans make errors in writing, and AI doesn't
- AI won't skip any discussion boards
- Real students will be enrolled in Laker Point Online
- Real students will be enrolled in more than 1 class

What students wrote about **themselves** to show they are human:

- Humans can lie and AI cannot, so told a lie
- Humans make grammar mistakes, so made mistakes in post



# Early Struggles

---



## Being confused

- Why to use it
- How to use it
- What to use

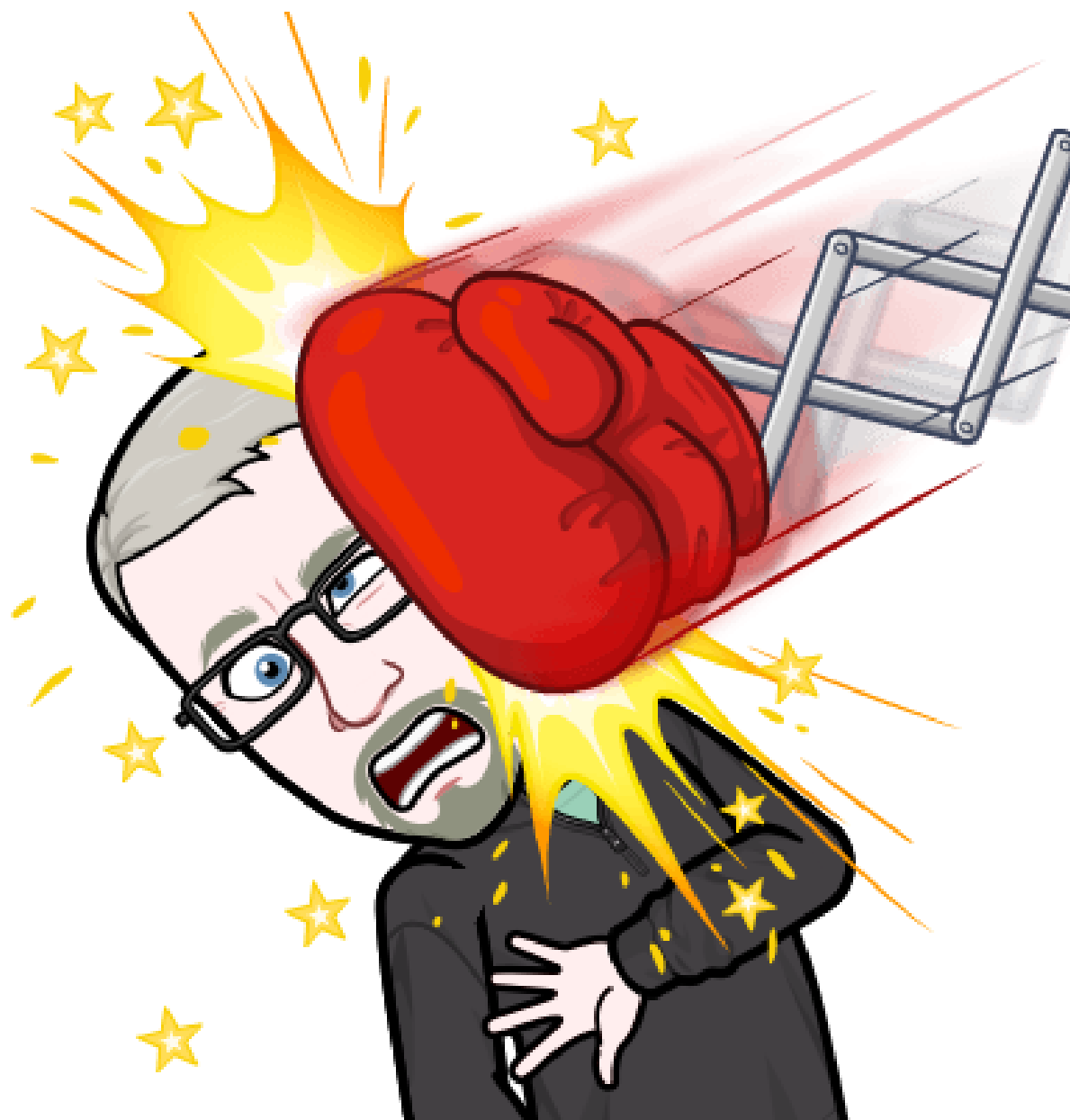
# More Struggles

---

## Being overwhelmed

- How much should I use?
- How do I create an AI policy?  
What even goes into the policy?





# Ups and Downs...

## Downs 1<sup>st</sup>

---

- Perplexity didn't work as well as hoped
- Major assignment too long and repetitive
  - Became busy work

# More Downs

---

- Used different AIs to learn what works best as imposter
- Reading assignments (formatting was a nightmare because my directions were not detailed enough)



# Examples of Early Student Submissions

## MY COLOR

### Step 1:

*This quote by Steven Cahn is very strong and brings up a good point about morality and God. What does God define immoral vs moral? Why would God command people to murder each other if God is omnibenevolent? Why would God make diseases, rats, storms, etc. cannot...*

*These analogies were great. They most definitely contribute to my understanding, as it puts the simple and even more complex dimensions into something easy to consume and learn. For example, the ritual dimension analogy helped me understand the idea of not just prayer and rituals and worshiping, but the idea of there being a group of people functioning like a team to reinforce their faith.*





---

# Now for the Ups

- Sparked my creativity
- Students engaged more with course material
  - Used portable study buddy
- Started teaching me how to use AI



# More Ups

- I learned areas of confusion so I could address them
- Fun for me
  - Thinking of assignments
  - Seeing students so engaged
- Individualized contextualization, not just at class level
- Created my AI policy



---

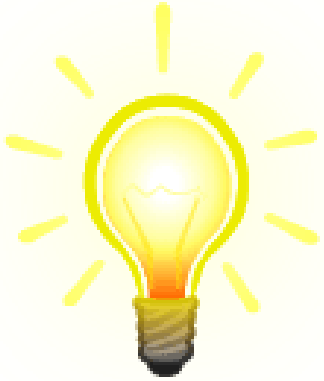
# AI Policy:

*You will use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in this course. AI can be an awesome aid for learning, but let's use it the right way. You're totally welcome to dive into AI when I specifically say so – it's going to help you tackle assignments and projects like a pro. But hey, here's the deal: if you're using AI outside of those instructions, it's a no-go and counts as cheating. We're all about learning here, instead of shortcuts. Remember, if you've got any doubts about using AI, just give me a shout. Let's keep it fair, square, and AI-aware.*



---

# Breakthrough Moments

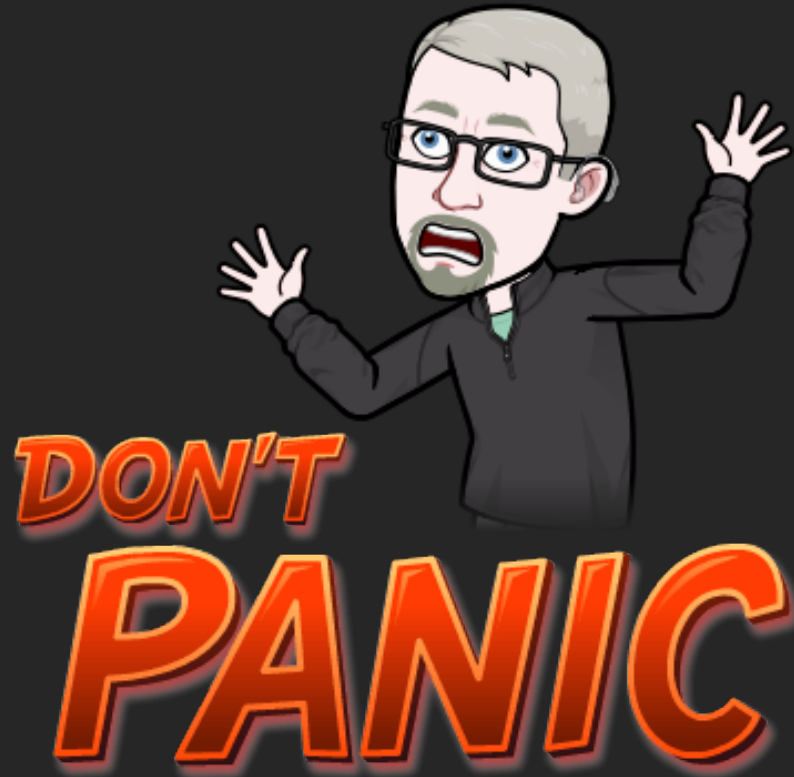


- Don't have to use AI for everything / all at once
- Use GPT to generate better prompts
- Use GPT to clarify directions for assignments
- Ask GPT to point out main facts used for the response

# Breakthrough Moments

- Realizing AI is a tool to be used and not blocked
- Don't have to know everything about AI to use it and/or teach students to use it
- Ways to get GPT to write in a particular style
  1. GPT can analyze your writing style
  2. Tell GPT to write in a style (ex: pirate, valley girl, philosopher)
  3. Under custom instructions
- Some AIs better than others for writing





# Beginner Friendly Advice

- Don't try to add AI to all assignments in all classes at once (pick a small project, and work your way up to a class)
- If you don't like the results, ask for 5 or 10 more, or ask it to be more specific, professional, quirky, etc.
- Keep asking (it's a conversation)

# More Beginner Friendly Advice

- Know mistakes will happen
- Provide LOTS of context within your prompts (the more specific, the better)
- Find someone in a different area to bounce ideas off them – the different perspective is valuable
- Give ChatGPT a personality – it makes it more fun and lively for interactions

thinking  
of you!





# David

dturnbul@lakelandcollege.edu

# BYE!



# Tara

tblaser@lakelandcollege.edu

