AI for Teaching School Subjects: Practical Tools and their Functionalities

INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR

The webinar is co-organized by the UNESCO Institute for Information Technology in Education (UNESCO IITE) and Europass Teacher Academy (Italy). The event is part of the UNESCO IITE flagship webinar series “Harnessing Technology to Transform Education”.

DATE AND TIME

Wednesday, May 29, 2024; 13.00 – 15.00 CET
BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE:
Artificial intelligence (AI) tools have become increasingly prominent in education, offering transformative potential for teachers and students alike. These technologies can help educators to automate routine tasks, provide personalized learning experiences, and analyze data to guide instructional strategies. In essence, AI can serve as a powerful assistant in the classroom, helping teachers focus on what they do best: teaching and mentoring. With AI tools, educators can streamline administrative work, reduce time spent on grading, and gain insights into student progress, ultimately leading to a more efficient and effective educational process.

AI tools can also play a significant role in enhancing creativity in the classroom. Teachers can use AI to generate creative tasks, such as story prompts, design challenges, or interactive simulations, allowing students to explore topics in unique and engaging ways. By incorporating AI-generated elements into their lesson plans, educators can encourage students to think critically and collaboratively. Moreover, AI can help personalize learning experiences by adapting content and pacing to suit individual learning styles, ensuring that every student has an opportunity to succeed.

Given the rapid growth of AI applications in education, it's crucial for teachers to gain practical experience with these tools. Hands-on experience allows educators to understand how AI can complement their teaching style and curriculum. By experimenting with AI-based lesson planning tools, educators can discover new resources, teaching methods, and interactive elements to engage students. Additionally, direct experience with AI helps teachers feel more comfortable and confident in integrating technology into their daily routines, thereby fostering a more innovative learning environment. As educators become more adept at using AI, they can better tailor their instruction to meet individual student needs and foster a more inclusive classroom experience. Ultimately, the integration of AI in education represents an opportunity to transform teaching and learning, making education more accessible, personalized, and effective.

Recognizing all of the above, the webinar “AI for teaching school subjects: practical tools and their functionalities” intends to familiarize educators (primary, secondary, high school teachers as well as TVET educators) with various AI applications, such as tools for generating lesson plans, designing assessments, and creating interactive learning activities. The webinar will focus not only on technical skills but also on pedagogical and ethical implications, guiding teachers on how to use AI to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes, building awareness about privacy and personal data use when interacting with GenAI tools, discussing expectations of different stakeholders and ways to turn AI into a truly educational tool for students instead of making it a substitute for students' learning.

TARGET AUDIENCE:
- School teachers (primary, secondary, high school) from across the world teaching a variety of school subjects;
- TVET educators;
- **Having no to little familiarity with using GenAI tools for educational needs**;
- Minimal requirement for the level of English: B1+

NB: depending on the country, there may be a need in using VPN to access certain online tools.
THE EXPERT PANEL WILL ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING SCOPE OF ISSUES:

- What are the most common AI tools for education?
- What kind of training and professional development do teachers need to effectively use AI tools in the classroom?
- What measures should schools and teachers implement to ensure data privacy and security when using AI tools with student data?
- How can schools in general and teachers specifically identify and address biases in AI algorithms to ensure fair representation/reproduction of facts?
- What are the ethical and moral implications of using AI in education?
- How can schools ensure the reliability of AI tools, and what protocols should be in place to handle errors or inaccuracies?

Registration for the Webinar: [LINK]

Language: English

INVITED SPEAKERS:

- Ms Marianna Ganiushkina, winner of CONNECT 2.0 pre-conference teacher competition (2023), participant of the course ‘AI for CLIL’ (by Europass Teacher Academy, April 2024), teacher of English and Theory of Knowledge in an IB school in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia;
- Ms Alenka Miljević, Europass Teacher Academy Course director in Split (Croatia), teacher mentor and teacher trainer, British Council certified teacher trainer for the integration of ICT in education, co-author of the digital teaching resources, author of face-to-face courses for teachers on ICT and AI tools;
- Ms Yanella Ojeda, teacher trainer at Europass Teacher Academy in Barcelona (Spain), expert in Innovative Teaching and Online Teaching;
- Mr Patrick O’Hare, Head Teacher Trainer in Dublin (Ireland) with diverse professional background that encompasses Management, English Language Teaching, ICT, education, and psychotherapy, author of courses on coding and robotics and digital teaching essentials.

Facilitator:

- Ms Tatiana Shutova, Programme Specialist, Unit of Teacher Professional Development and Networking, UNESCO IITE

THE WEBINAR PARTICIPANTS WILL ELABORATE ON THE KEY ACTIONS FOR POLICY MAKERS TO TAKE, INCLUDING:

1. How can educators and policymakers bridge the digital divide to ensure equitable access to AI technology for all students, teachers, and schools?
2. How should assessment strategies and guidelines be changed to ensure that students actually learn and are able to critically assess the facts provided by GenAI?
3. How can schools ensure the reliability of AI tools, and what protocols should be in place to handle errors or inaccuracies?

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2 At the time of registration for the webinar, please mind that you need to consent to processing of your personal data according to the UNESCO Online Privacy Policy.
4. What are the regulatory and compliance challenges associated with adopting AI in education, and how can schools navigate the legal landscape to ensure compliance?
5. How might AI impact the roles and job security of teachers, and what strategies can be employed to ensure AI complements rather than replaces traditional teaching methods?

REGISTRATION FOR THE WEBINAR
The webinar will be held in Zoom;
The registration link: https://unesco.org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIkcuirqD4jEtd66NUNWs477mUplUGiXMO#registration
Please note that registration will close 2 days before the event!

PROVISIONAL AGENDA
WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2024

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<td>13:00 – 13:05 (CET)</td>
<td>Opening remarks and welcome address</td>
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<td>Ms Tatiana Shutova, Programme Specialist, Unit of Teacher Professional Development and Networking, UNESCO IITE</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:05 – 14:10 (CET)</td>
<td>Presentation and practical demonstration of AI tools for education</td>
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<td>14:10 – 14:55 (CET)</td>
<td>Panel discussion (45 min), including questions from the audience</td>
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REFERENCES AND INSIGHTFUL RESOURCES