

Beyond the Hype: An Ethical Framework for AI and Innovation in Higher Education

Dr. Amanda Baranski,
LCSW, LMNIT
Dr. Becky Cottrell,
CPACC

Metropolitan State University
of Denver, Colorado, United
States of America



Why Higher Education Needs Ethical Frameworks



- AI use is expanding
- Students + educators face unclear expectations
- Risks include: bias, inequity, over-reliance, inaccessible tools
- Institution needs
- Ethics isn't about limiting innovation

Theoretical Foundations

Bandura: Social Learning
Theory

Ethical Lenses &
Values-Based
Decision-Making

Global Access & Equity
Perspectives

*Accessibility is
an ethical
baseline of our
work, not a
bonus feature*

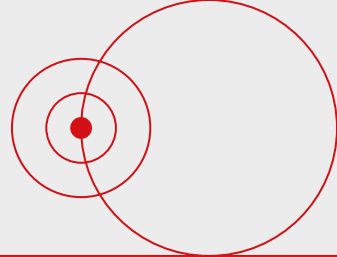
Our Ethical Frameworks (Educators)

- Are you using AI to better the profession and/or your ability to excel as an educator?
- Did you acknowledge any AI use to ensure accountability and professional integrity?
- Did you verify that the references provided are current, relevant, and accurate?
- Are you ensuring the information you use or upload is free from bias?
- Are you ensuring that the AI tools you ask students to use are accessible to all?
- Does what you have created using AI meet the accessibility needs of all of your students?

Our Ethical Frameworks (Students)

- Are you using AI to compliment/advance your education as opposed to replacing it?
- Did you verify that the references provided are current, relevant, and accurate?
- Did you acknowledge any AI use to ensure accountability and integrity?
- Are you ensuring the information you use or upload is free from bias?
- Does what you have created using AI meet the accessibility needs of all of your peers?

What This Looks Like in Practice



Shaping faculty guidelines for AI-supported assignments - bias checks

Integrating AI reflection prompts in graduate social work courses

Aligning AI use with institutional mission + accreditation expectation

Personalizing the Framework: Your Context

Questions to guide implementation:

- Values
- Guardrails
- Policies

*Ethics is not a checklist
— it's an ongoing
conversation.*

*Our goal:
better questions →
better decisions →
better learning.*

Questions?



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