Consent

Research Study Title: Students' Perceptions of Agentic AI Survey

Researcher(s):

- Margaret Kelley, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Scott Ruoti, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

We are asking you to participate in this research study because you use technology, are at least 18 years old, and are enrolled in a computer science major. The information in this consent form is to help you decide if you want to be in this research study. Please take your time reading this form and contact the researcher(s) if there is anything you do not understand.

Why is the research being done?

The purpose of the research study is to understand how computer science students perceive AI systems (such as ChatGPT, Gemini, DeepSeek, etc.) and how they use them in their CS coursework.

What will I do in this study?

If you agree to be in this study, you will complete an online survey. It should take about 5-10 minutes to complete. Your survey answers are completely anonymous and will not be shared with your institution.

Can I say "No"?

Being in this study is up to you. You can stop the survey at any time, and we will discard your response. After you submit the survey, we cannot remove your response because responses are anonymous and we would be unable to identify which response to remove.

Are there any risks to me?

There are no risks to being in this study. All responses are collected anonymously, with no way to tie your response to you.

Are there any benefits to me?

There is no compensation for participating. We hope the knowledge gained from this study will benefit researchers and educators.

What will happen with the information collected for this study?

The survey is anonymous, and no one will be able to link your responses back to you. Your responses to the survey will not be linked to your computer, email address or other electronic identifiers. Please do not include your name or other information that could be used to identify you in your survey responses. Information provided in this survey can only be kept as secure as any other online communication. Information collected for this study will be published and possibly presented at scientific meetings.

Who can answer my questions about this research study?

If you have questions, concerns, or experience a research-related issue, contact Margaret Kelley (mkelle37@vols.utk.edu) or Scott Ruoti (ruoti@utk.edu).

For questions about your rights as a participant:
Institutional Review Board
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Phone: 865-974-7697
Email: utkirb@utk.edu

Statement of Consent: By selecting “I Agree” below, I am providing my consent electronically and agree to be in this study. If I do not want to participate, I may close my browser and my responses will not be saved. I can save or print the above information for my records.

- ○ I agree

Agentic-AI Usage

How frequently do you use an LLM-powered AI (such as ChatGPT or Gemini)?

- ○ Never
- ○ Rarely
- ○ Monthly
- ○ Weekly
- ○ Daily

How long have you been using LLM-powered AIs (such as ChatGPT or Gemini)?

- Less than 1 year
- 1 year
- 2 years
- 3+ years
- Unsure

Are you currently paying money to use an LLM-powered AI?

- No, I have never paid to use one
- No, but I have in the past
- Yes, I'm currently paying to use one
- Unsure

Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements based on your usage of LLM-powered AI.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
It improves my ability to understand new concepts.	○	○	○	○	○
It improves my ability to complete work.	○	○	○	○	○
It makes me more willing to attempt new things.	○	○	○	○	○
It makes me more willing to attempt difficult things.	○	○	○	○	○

Why have you chosen to never use an LLM-powered AI (such as ChatGPT or Gemini)?

To what extent do you feel that an LLM-powered AI can fill the following roles?

	Not at all	Somewhat	Completely
A professor	○	○	○
A teaching assistant or tutor	○	○	○
A teammate on a group project	○	○	○

Agentic-AI-CS-Usage

The questions on this page are about using LLM-powered AI (such as ChatGPT or Gemini) to complete **computer science-related** coursework and assignments.

How frequently do you use an LLM-powered AI for the following tasks?

	Never	Rarely	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
Understanding computer science course lectures or reading material	○	○	○	○	○
Preparing for computer science quizzes or exams	○	○	○	○	○
Writing code for computer science homework or projects	○	○	○	○	○
Debugging code for computer science homework or projects	○	○	○	○	○
Completing non-code portions of computer science homework or projects	○	○	○	○	○

How helpful do you personally find using an LLM-powered AI for the following tasks?

	Not at all helpful	Somewhat helpful	Moderately helpful	Very Helpful	Extremely helpful
» Understanding computer science course lectures or reading material	○	○	○	○	○
» Preparing for computer science quizzes or exams	○	○	○	○	○
» Writing code for computer science homework or projects	○	○	○	○	○
» Debugging code for computer science homework or projects	○	○	○	○	○
» Completing non-code portions of computer science homework or projects	○	○	○	○	○

Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements about using an LLM-powered AI.

	Strongly disagree	disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Using an LLM-powered AI increases my confidence that I correctly understand my computer science coursework.	○	○	○	○	○
Using an LLM-powered AI increases my motivation to study computer science.	○	○	○	○	○
Using an LLM-powered AI increases my confidence that I can complete my computer science assignments.	○	○	○	○	○
When using an LLM-powered AI for computer science-related tasks, I am confident in the accuracy of the answers it provides.	○	○	○	○	○

Agentic-AI-CS-Perception

Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements regarding LLM-powered AIs and computer science jobs.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I think LLM-powered AIs will make it harder to get a job in computer science.	○	○	○	○	○
I think all computer science jobs will soon require using an LLM-powered AI.	○	○	○	○	○
I look forward to using an LLM-powered AI in my future job.	○	○	○	○	○

Is there anything else you would like to share with us about your thoughts on LLM-powered AI and computer science? *(optional)*

Is there anything else you would like to share with us about your thoughts on LLM-powered AI in general? *(optional)*

Demographics

Please provide your demographic information. **All questions on this page are optional.**

What is your sex?

- ○ Male
- ○ Female

What is your race/ethnicity? *(mark all that apply)*

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Middle Eastern or North African
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ White

What is your age?

How many years of your CS coursework have you completed?

- 0 (I'm just starting)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 + (super senior)
- I'm a MS student
- I'm a PhD student

Roughly, what is your college GPA? *(If you are just starting college, please enter your high school GPA)*

- Below a 2.0 (lower than a C)
- 2.0-3.0 (C or higher)
- 3.0-3.7 (B or higher)
- 3.7-4.0 (A or A-)
- I don't know my GPA
- Prefer not to answer

Do you have any physical disabilities? *(mark all that apply)*

	No	Yes; self diagnosed	Yes; professionally diagnosed
Visual impairment	○	○	○
Hearing impairment	○	○	○
Mobility impairment	○	○	○
Other	○	○	○

Do you have any mental disabilities? *(mark all that apply)*

	No	Yes; self diagnosed	Yes; professionally diagnosed
Anxiety	○	○	○
Depression	○	○	○
ADD/ADHD	○	○	○
PTSD/CPTSD	○	○	○
Autism	○	○	○
Dyslexia	○	○	○
Other	○	○	○

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