

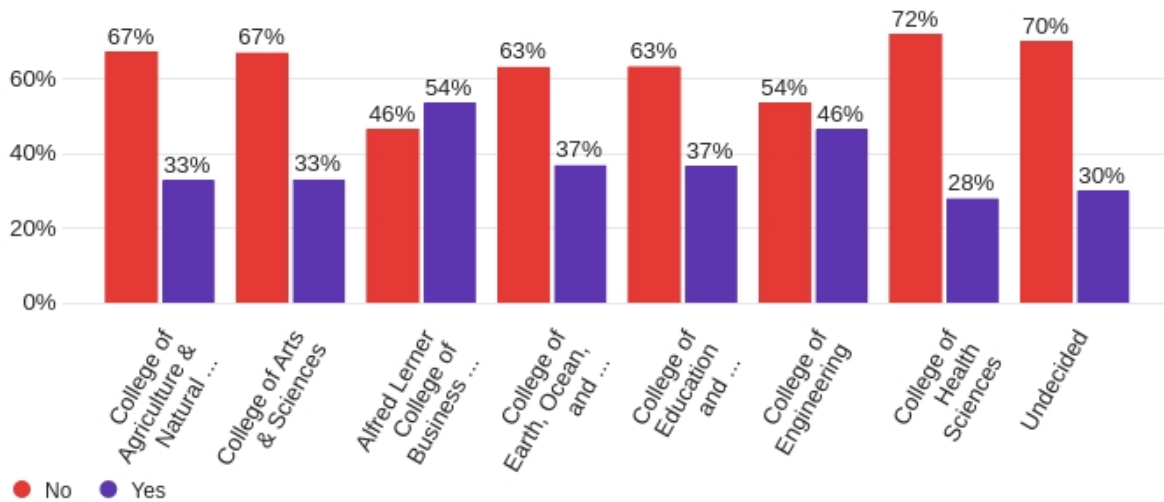


2023 Blue Hen Poll: University of Delaware Students on Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom

Plus opinions on discussing controversial topics, campus safety, career preparedness

NEWARK, Del., November 16, 2023 — A majority of University of Delaware students say they are somewhat or very aware of artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT, and students in some colleges are using it at greater rates than others.

Q2.3 - Have you ever used AI for a class assignment while at UD?



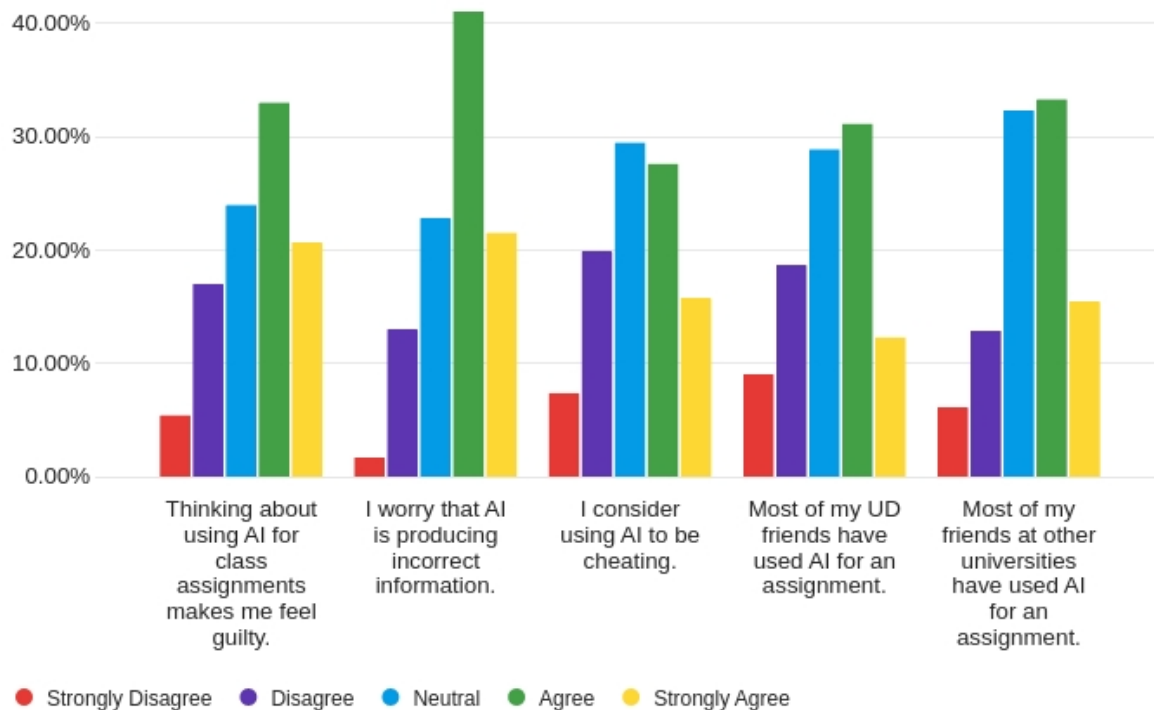
That’s according to this year’s Blue Hen Poll, a survey created in Dr. Lindsay Hoffman’s Public Opinion and Democracy course, sponsored by the University of Delaware Center for Political Communication. This poll — “for students, by students” — found that 82% of students surveyed were familiar with AI, and 34% reported having used it for class



assignments while at UD. Business students, in particular, were more likely to have used AI for a class assignment (54%) than students in any other college.

Students expressed some concerns around using AI, with a majority of students (54%) agreeing that using AI for class assignments makes them feel guilty, and 63% agreeing that AI may be producing incorrect information.

Q2.6 - For the next sets of questions, read the following statements and indicate...

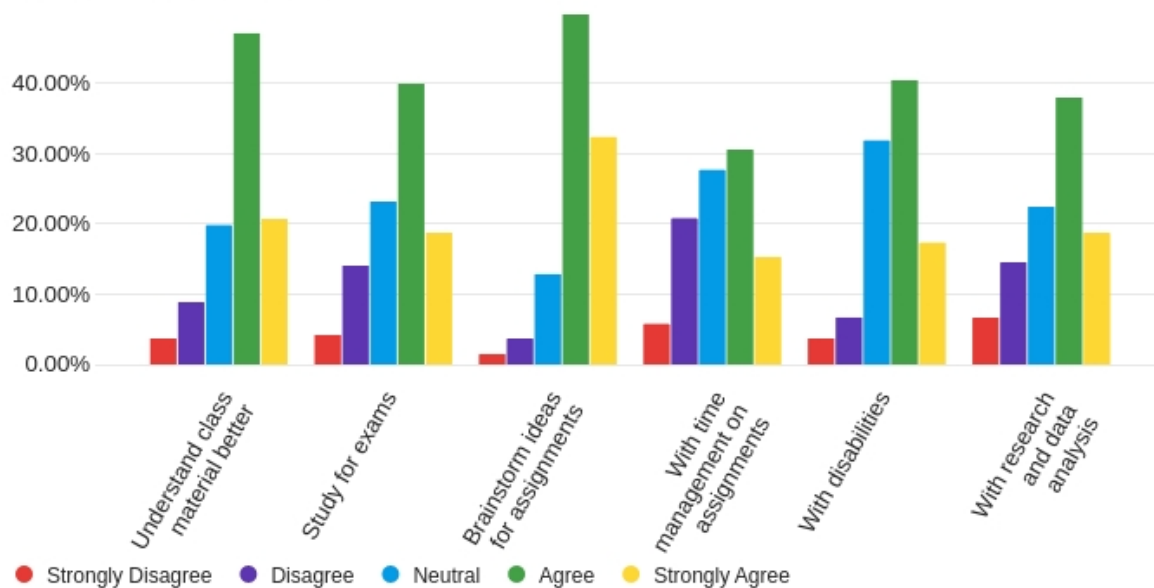


“The results suggest mixed feelings about AI for college assignments,” Hoffman said.

“While they generally agree about the downsides of AI, they also see benefits for using it, with a large majority saying it could help students brainstorm ideas for assignments and help them understand class material better.”



Q2.7 - AI can help students:

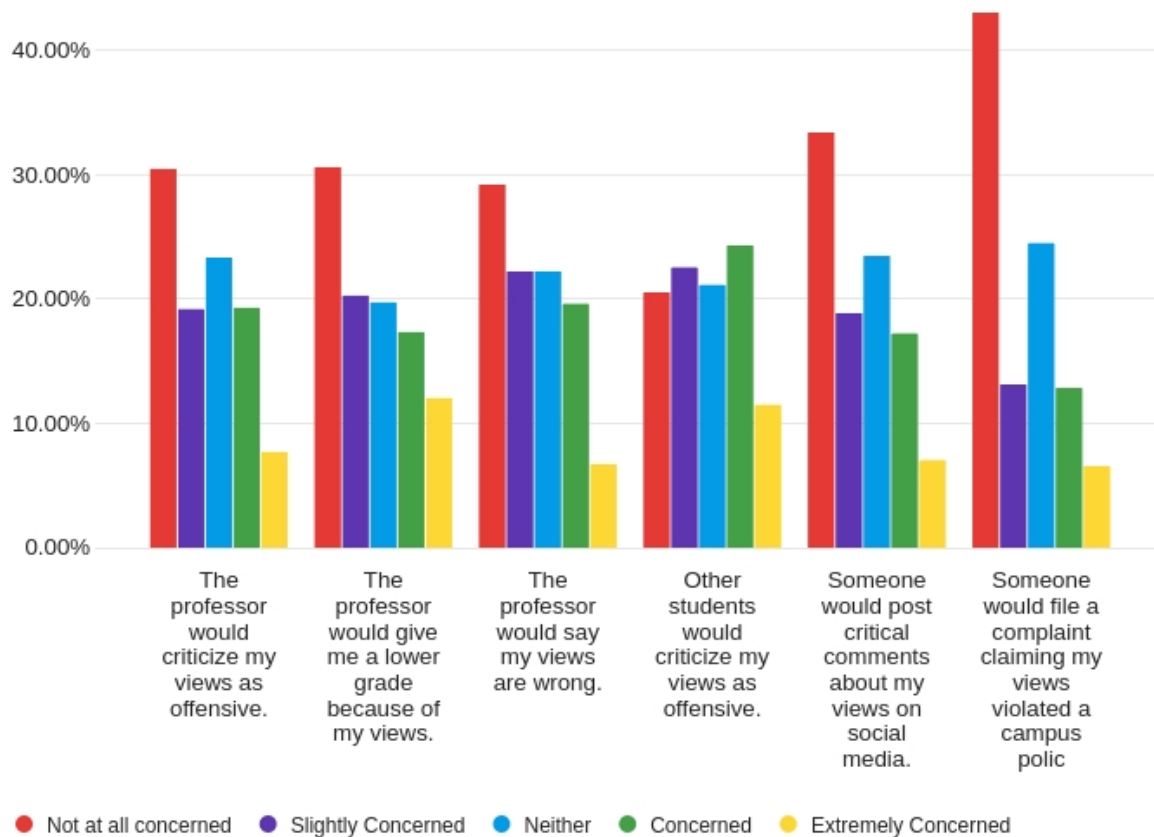


Discomfort discussing controversial issues in the classroom

When asked about their comfort with speaking up on controversial issues, 41% of students expressed reluctance while in the classroom. But students expressed greater comfort discussing such issues in conversations with friends (72% comfortable) or even with someone who has opposing views (44% comfortable). In general, students reported more concern about perceptions of other students criticizing their views (36% concerned) than criticisms from the professor, fear of a lower grade, or that the professor would say their views are wrong.



Q3.6 - If you were to speak up and give your views on a CONTROVERSIAL issue during...



“Given the wide variety of controversial issues facing Americans and college students in particular, it’s uplifting to see that students in general feel comfortable speaking their views at UD,” Hoffman said. “College is a time where students learn to become responsible citizens, and these results offer some hope that students feel they can contribute to important, and even controversial, discussions.”

Campus widely seen as safe; off-campus not so much



When asked about their safety on UD's campus, 85% of students agreed that they feel safe on campus. Further, 58% of students agreed that the campus's Blue Light System is effective at keeping students safe, and 70% agreed that the university is effective when communicating about safety updates and alerts. But when asked about general safety off campus in and around Newark, DE, only 32% of students agreed they felt safe.

About the study

The 2023 Blue Hen Poll was created and distributed by students in COMM418 "Public Opinion and Democracy" under the supervision of the Center for Political Communication's Associate Director, Dr. Lindsay Hoffman, a professor in the Departments of Communication and of Political Science and International Relations.

A random sample of 4,998 full- and part-time students on the University of Delaware's Newark campus was obtained from UD's Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness. The response rate was 26%, and the final sample size was 1,194, with a completion rate of 92%. Students were incentivized to take the survey with a random drawing of one of three \$50 gift cards.

Please contact Lindsay Hoffman at lindsayh@udel.edu for more details about the survey's methodology.