POP Culture

Centering Process Over Product in the Age of Al

CSU Commons: Guidelines for Faculty Regarding Al in Instruction



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Guidelines for Faculty Regarding AI in Instruction

A systemwide Academic Senate (ASCSU) Resolution, May 2025.



The Possible Use of Al in Instruction_Resolution.pdf

(PDF, 77.56 KB)

Contents

- Warm-Up / Reflection
- Sweeten Student Learning with Process-Based Design
- Make Learning Visible
- Remix an Assignment





Warm-Up

- Think of a take-home assignment you've given many times.
- Now imagine a student uses ChatGPT or another Al tool to complete it.
- Would you notice?
- What parts of the assignment would be most vulnerable?
- What, if anything, would still *require* the student's thinking?



Process Over Product (POP) =

This approach prioritizes the stages of learning and development

(e.g., brainstorming, drafting, revising, reflecting)

rather than focusing solely on the final outcome

(the polished essay, report, etc.).

Why POP?

- Students might still use AI tools, but they must critically engage with them.
- It becomes harder for students to simply *substitute* a ChatGPT output as their work without participating in meaningful steps.
- It promotes *metacognition* and *ownership* of learning.





Examples

- Annotated Drafting
- Process Portfolios
- Collaborative Drafting with Al
- Writing as Dialogue
- In-Class Writing and Reflection

POP Pedagogy

- **Transparency**: Students understand why each stage matters.
- Scaffolding: Encourages development through multiple drafts and checkpoints.
- Reflection: Builds self-awareness about their own learning and decision-making.
- Authenticity: Engages students in ways Al can't easily replicate (e.g., classroom discussion, peer feedback, personal connections).





Example #1: Art History Essay

Original Assignment	Remix A	Remix B
	"Process Portfolio Assignment"	"Al Critique Assignment"
Compare and	Create a mini portfolio that	Use an AI tool to generate a
contrast Leonardo da	includes:	comparison of the two
Vinci's <i>Last Supper</i>	- Initial observations	paintings. Then, critique the Al's
with Tintoretto's <i>Last</i>	- A mind map of themes	analysis: What did it miss?
Supper.	- A draft comparison	What did it get right? How does
	- Peer feedback	your own interpretation differ?
	- Final insights	Submit your critique along with
	Include a short commentary on how	your own revised comparison.
	your thinking changed throughout.	

Example #2: Lab Report

Original Assignment	Remix A	Remix B
	"Lab Journal with Annotations"	"Data Storytelling"
Write a formal lab report analyzing your results from the photosynthesis experiment.	Keep a lab journal throughout the experiment, documenting observations, decisions, and unexpected results. Annotate your entries with questions or reflections about what you were thinking at each stage.	Create a visual 'data story' that explains your photosynthesis results using graphs, diagrams, and a narrative voice. Include a section on how your interpretation evolved as you analyzed the data.

Example #3: Research Paper

Original Assignment	Remix A	Remix B
	"Research Log & Reflection"	"Concept Map & Source Analysis"
Write a research paper	Keep a research log as you	Create a concept map showing the
analyzing the impact	explore sources on social	relationships between key ideas,
of social media on	media and political	theories, and evidence related to
political polarization.	polarization. Document your	social media and polarization.
	search strategies, key findings,	Annotate the map with short notes
	and moments of confusion or	explaining how each source
	insight. At the end, write a	contributed to your understanding.
	reflection on how your	Submit the map with a brief
	understanding evolved and	narrative explaining your analytical
	what shaped your final	journey.
	perspective.	





POP Remix Menu

• POP Remix Menu - Google Docs



1. Early-Stage Process Prompts

- ☐ Submit a brainstorm, concept map, or outline
- ☐ Include 3 questions you're still puzzling over before writing
- ☐ Reflect on your planning process (What are you prioritizing?)
- ☐ Use AI to help generate topic options and compare their quality



2. Drafting & Peer Interaction

- ☐ Submit multiple drafts with timestamps or version control
- ☐ Conduct or participate in peer review and include feedback notes
- ☐ Write a "revision memo" explaining what changed and why
- ☐ Respond to a specific guiding question for the first draft (e.g., "What's your argument-in-progress?")



3. Reflection & Metacognition

- ☐ Write a process reflection: What did you learn while completing this?
- ☐ Reflect on what you would do differently next time
- ☐ Annotate your final product with comments on why you made certain choices
- ☐ Compare your current work to an earlier one. What's different?



4. Al-Specific Add-Ons

- ☐ Include screenshots or transcripts of your AI interactions
- ☐ Reflect on what the AI got right or wrong
- ☐ Revise or fact-check Al-generated content and explain how
- ☐ Create your own prompt for an Al tool to explore your topic

Directions

- Think of an assignment you have given students in the past.
 - What do I really want students to learn from this?
 - What might I tweak to spotlight the thinking during the work, not just the final product?
- Choose 1–2 process elements from the "POP Remix Menu" and redesign the assignment prompt.
 - How could you make learning visible (even if AI is used)?

Tips for Implementation

- Use **rubrics** that reward process elements (e.g., revision, engagement with feedback).
- Be explicit about **learning goals** and how process steps connect to them.





What's one "pop" of inspiration you're taking with you?

