

Students can now major in AI; lawyers should too

By: Max Langley

“Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young.”

- Henry Ford

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 is a historic day, or perhaps a futuristic day. The University of Pennsylvania became the first Ivy League School to say it will offer the major of AI-engineering.

It is no secret that lawyers are slow to embrace technology and are generally technologically inept. But that does not have to remain true.

More and more CLEs are focusing on teaching lawyers technology. The cost-benefit analysis of embracing eDiscovery platforms and new legal technology leads to only one right answer: do not go the way of the dodo. Try out new software; test the limits of Generative AI; ask questions; pave new pathways; invest in yourself and in your tech.

eDiscovery is generally *the most expensive* part every single lawsuit (according to the ABA, about 80% of litigation costs are spent on eDiscovery). Not doing discovery right can be the most expensive mistake a company and a lawyer can make.

Discovery is eDiscovery. Paper is a pastime.

Learn new technology. Approach with a student's mindset. Technology is a tool, not a replacement for doing your own thinking.

Blindly relying on ChatGPT leads to tough lessons, but ostriching technology leads to even more expensive lessons.

Buy the right tools, hire the right lawyers, study the new tools, and your investment will pay dividends.





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To "Go Green", our firm uses recyclable paper or ceramic cups and no longer uses Styrofoam cups. In addition, we have adopted a less-paper office environment.

We hope that these changes make big differences in the future.

Well done is better than well said.

- Benjamin Franklin



There is ample room for both use and misuse of AI in the law. Last month, in January 2024, another New York lawyer faced discipline for misusing generative AI, which cited another fake case (<https://news.bloomberglaw.com/business-and-practice/ny-lawyer-faces-possible-sanctions-for-citing-phony-chatgpt-case>).

Despite this misuse of ChatGPT and other generative AI in the law, lawyers should not shun the potential good side of AI.

Large language models (LLMs) like ChatGPT, GPT4, and Bard are not yet trained to do all things well. Their core strengths differ model-to-model. Using generative AI to create novel work product poses no guarantee for accuracy or truth. Hallucinations will occur.

But do not let recent malpractice of AI dissuade you from using AI to innovate your legal practice.

Langley LLP is proud to test out AI to modernize its legal practice, and we hope you join us in making mainstream these legal technology tools in practice in 2024 and beyond.



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