

Empowering Transversal Creativity: Integrating Practice-Based Encounters and Traditional Pedagogies in AI Education – A Case Study from Vietnam

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Keywords: Transversal Creativity, Practice-Based Encounters, Emancipatory Pedagogy, Design Thinking, AI Education

Abstract

This paper underscores the importance of integrating traditional pedagogical considerations with innovative approaches in creative education to prepare and empower Generation Z students to lead in an increasingly AI-driven world. Using a case study from Vietnam, it proposes a visual arts education strategy centred on practice-based encounters to enrich creative learning. The study focuses on Vietnamese second-year university graphic design students (born approximately 1997-2012), who utilised their knowledge from the ‘Design Thinking’ class to investigate the intersection of AI with their experiences. Working in teams, the students created projects that narrate their assessments and propose insightful solutions, revealing AI’s innovative potential and ethical considerations, and presenting both opportunities and challenges for young artists and designers.

By examining AI’s relational dynamics through self-initiated student projects, the study highlights Gen Z students' recognition of their voices and autonomous roles in shaping an AI-integrated future. It evaluates the nuanced impacts of AI integration within creative educational practices through the lens of emancipatory pedagogy. Dialogues initiated as teaching tools also serve as reflective exercises addressing dynamic aspects of AI, such as ethical responsibility and social equity, while fostering transversal creativity beyond technological advancements. The findings of Gen Z’s insights offer Art and Design educators practical insights into harmonising AI's innovative potential with ethical responsibility, suggesting strategies for evolving visual arts education to better respond to technological and social changes and promoting creativity and social progress.

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Bio

Dr. Do Nguyen Lap Xuan is an artist, researcher, and educator from Vietnam. Her research focuses on practice-based encounters, exploring knowledge production in community practices through creative mediums.