Brief AI Pre-Lecture Chats Match Human Tutors on Neural Engagement — HKUST's GPT-4 Instructor Study

AI in Education · Good practice · Hong Kong

Quality score: 20/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

HKUST gave 57 students a brief pre-lecture chat with a human instructor, a GPT-4 instructor, or none. Human and AI chats produced similar learning gains, though AI sessions showed lower gaze alignment and social closeness.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of learning impact	2/3
Equity & inclusion	0/3
Transparency, ethics & data protection	1/3
Teacher capability & pedagogy	0/3
Scalability & sustainability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-08-27

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) — accessed 2026-08-27

EurekAlert coverage — accessed 2026-08-27

Phys.org coverage — accessed 2026-08-27

Neuron journal (DOI) — accessed 2026-08-27

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