



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
IN SOCIETY
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<http://csus.edu/ai>

AI Competency Development Scale

Stage 1: The Novice Prompter

- Provides basic, generic prompts with limited understanding of AI's capabilities and ethical use.
- Expects AI to do most of the work without providing original ideas or critical thinking.
- Generates outputs that lack originality, creativity, and discerning thinking.

Stage 2: The Developing Prompter

- Offers more detailed prompts with some context, but still relies on conventional approaches.
- Begins to break down tasks and provide additional context to guide AI, but prompts may lack clarity or specificity.
- Demonstrates a growing understanding of how to craft effective prompts but struggles with generating original ideas and demonstrating critical, creative, and discerning thinking.
- Shows little ability to evaluate the quality and relevance of AI-generated output.

Stage 3: The Iterative Collaborator

- Engages in multiple iterations of prompts, refining them based on AI's outputs and feedback.
- Provides rich context and key ideas to guide AI towards desired outcomes.
- Demonstrates a deeper understanding of how to leverage AI's capabilities to generate creative and insightful outputs.
- Exhibits some critical thinking skills and the ability to develop some non-trivial ideas in prompts and evaluate AI's outputs.

Stage 4: The Discerning Integrator

- Develops a keen eye for distinguishing high-quality, original AI outputs from mediocre or generic ones.
- Provides targeted feedback and guidance to refine AI's performance, providing original ideas to generate more insightful responses.
- Establishes an effective collaboration with AI, complementing its strengths with one's own, while critically evaluating and reflecting on its outputs.

Stage 5: The AI Jedi

- Creates sophisticated, authentic, highly iterative prompts that showcase originality, creativity, and critical thinking as well as deep understanding of AI's capacities and limitations.
- Shapes AI's output to align with their unique voice, style, and perspectives, while maintaining a high level of academic integrity.
- Models productive, ethical relationships with AI, using it as a tool for learning and growth rather than a shortcut.
- Pushes the boundaries of their own thinking and writing, using AI to assist in generating novel insights and ideas that are thoroughly evaluated and integrated into their work.
- Embraces the role of being a part of blended intelligence, who values insight over ownership.