

Integrate AI into the Curriculum: Future Proof Student's Skillset

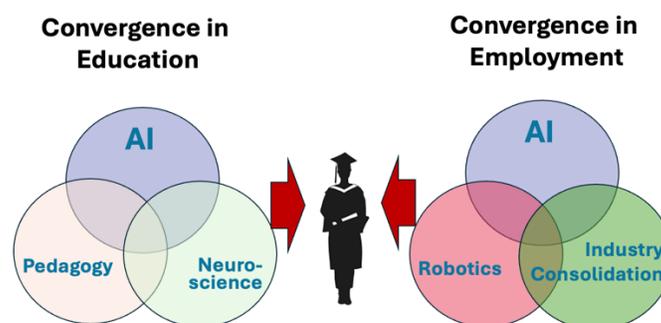
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The future of our students has never been more unpredictable or more promising, according to Sal Kahn, the founder of Kahn Academy. He said this while being mindful of the tectonic shifts in recent years from improved pedagogy, understanding of neuroscience, and of course AI. These are the very components that affect the core elements of a student's education. On the flip side of the very same coin of technological changes, the job market that graduating students is entering is no longer needing as many entry level workers given the availability of AI as more cost effective and a flexible substitute. This is evident by the massive layoffs by the likes of Amazon, Microsoft, Apple, and Facebook to address efficiency and cost-cutting. Outside of Silicon Valley, Goldman Sachs, Accenture, and McKinsey are also either making layoffs, freezing hires or offering early retirement.

So, what are we as parents need to do to future proof our children for the upcoming world filled with AI and not to mention robotics and industry consolidation.

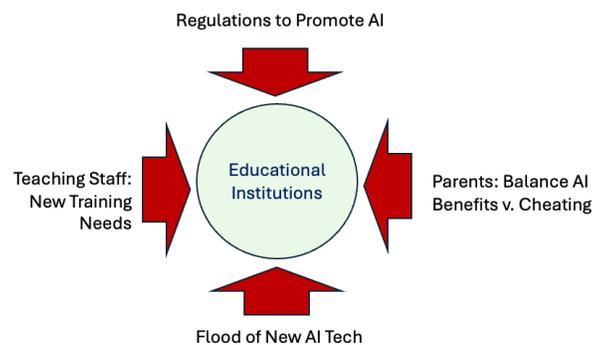
Simultaneous Shocks to the Student Market



Advances in the elements of education and the transformation in the job market will require a change in the skill sets of the graduating student. The educational revolution for students is a multi-front upheaval: AI is dismantling traditional barriers to information, advanced pedagogy is optimizing knowledge acquisition, and neuroscience is decoding the very process of learning itself—all uniting to empower students not just to know, but to

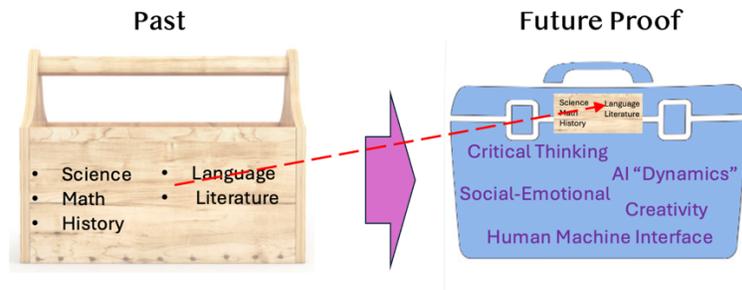
understand, create, and thrive in an unpredictable world. We need to prepare our children for the rapidly changing education and job markets by training them to acquire the skill set required today. Educational institutions have historically been slow to adopt new approaches and methodologies to ensure that only proven and fact-based methods are adopted. While this approach may have worked well to varying degrees in the past, this is no longer the case. The reason is that new and powerful inventions, methodologies and understanding are advancing at an astounding pace that are overwhelming the ability of educational institution's ability to adapt. The offering of these institutions needs to be revamped rapidly to keep pace with the transformation occurring in the technology, education and job markets.

Forces Impacting Educational Institutions



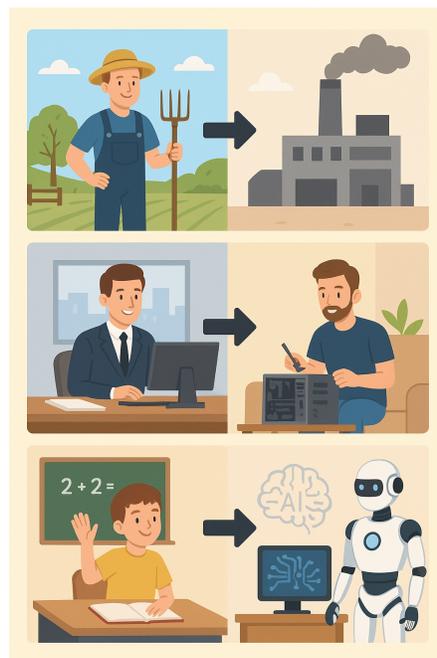
The toolbox that the students are currently being given was a carryover legacy from prior generations and in its current form is no longer suitable for today or going forward. Traditionally, students would just need to learn across the several key disciplines like science, math, history, language, and literature. The templates provided by the school's curriculum would align with these disciplines. While the student would still need these skills in the future, they would also need new ones. These new skills include Critical Thinking, AI "dynamics" tools, social-emotional frameworks, and more. As AI has proven its value to employers for repetitive and low value tasks in entry-level positions, the need for students is to learn new skills that reflect and emphasize higher value tasks that AI cannot perform, such as assessing validity, reasonableness, and equity in a holistic context. Nevertheless, the students still need to know the fundamentals of the lower value functions that AI would perform and provide the results, so that the students can assess whether the results generated are within reason and suitable.

Shift in the Toolbox Skills



It is because the students that had hope to be entry level workers do not possess this future skill set that much of learning achievements will be obsolete even with a hard earned and costly diploma in hand. This clash in mismatching of training and structural changes in the market had happened many times before in history. Farmers that learned agricultural skills were unprepared for the work in factory during the dawn of the industrial revolution. In the mid-1950's, workers trained for a life-long career in a single industrial corporation or a skill trade, ended up unprepared in the 1970s-80s with de-industrialization, globalization, and the rise of the service economy.

History of Workers Unprepared for Market Changes



When an uber powerful invention like AI is treated simply like one of many apps on a mobile, then this technology becomes a tremendous lost opportunity for the students as their cognitive and critical thinking performance could have been enhanced. While at the same time, if the other tools in the future proof toolbox like Critical Thinking, Creativity with Functionality, Human to Machine Interface, and others are neglected – then from the market’s perspective – the value of the student post-graduation will inevitably fall in the face of the shifting and growing demands of the market.

We do not need to multiply numbers with many digits inside our heads, we have calculators for that. But we do need critical thinking – as a double check – to assess the output of the calculator is within reason. We do not need to perform all the processes of the AI, but we do need to have the training necessary to assess where the output of AI is logical, rationale, just and proper. Following the AI blindly without the human checks and balances would lead the students totally unprepared for a fluid world where automation and AI become our blind spot.

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For over two decades, Peter Yeung has dedicated his career to enhancing educational experiences across K-12, higher education, and executive training. He leverages a unique expertise at the intersection of pedagogy, technological innovation, cognitive science, and AI.

*His consulting work with international institutions like the **Western Academy of Beijing**, the **British School of Beijing**, and **China's Central Academy of Fine Arts** has helped administrators and educators redesign learning environments with improved measurable metrics. Peter lectures at various conferences, including most recently at the SENIA 2025 in Beijing, and CAFA 2025 Design with AI. This educational focus is underpinned by a previous career in corporate strategy, where he guided multinational companies through periods of significant restructuring.*

Peter's practical insights are backed by a formidable academic portfolio, including an MBA from New York University, a BS in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, US Certified Flight Instructor Certificates, and certifications ranging from K-12 Instruction, Differentiated Teaching -Vanderbilt University, Digital Teaching – Cambridge University, Special Education, and Artificial Intelligence. He is also a US patented inventor, having developed various technologies to facilitate individualized learning. Peter

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