

AI News Digest

03/02/2026 - 03/08/2026

WEEKLY DIGEST: ARTS, MEDIA & PERFORMANCE

AI's Transformative Role in Arts and Humanities

This week, discussions surrounding the integration of AI in the arts and humanities have gained momentum, highlighting both opportunities and challenges. From the establishment of new academic programs focusing on AI Humanities to innovative AI applications in creative expression, the landscape is rapidly evolving. However, concerns about the quality of AI-generated content and its impact on creators and consumers persist. As AI tools become more prevalent, the dialogue around ethical implications and effective methodologies continues to grow.

KEY FINDINGS

- ✓ The Journal of Asian Studies reports increased manuscript submissions influenced by AI tools.
- ✓ A new MA Programme in AI Humanities at the Chinese University of Hong Kong will explore AI's role in creative expression and language innovation.
- ✓ Research indicates that low-quality AI-generated content is saturating creative markets, affecting both consumers and creators.

IMPLICATIONS

- The rise of AI in academia may redefine scholarly publishing and research methodologies.
- Educational institutions are likely to expand AI-focused programs, shaping future generations of artists and scholars.
- The ongoing challenges of low-quality AI content may prompt calls for regulatory measures to protect creative industries.

Key Metrics: Increase in manuscript submissions to The Journal of Asian Studies.; Launch of a new MA Programme in AI Humanities at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.; Study highlights the saturation of low-quality AI content on platforms like YouTube and TikTok.

1. Report: The Journal of Asian Studies and AI

Category: Education

Departments: Educational Leadership, Communication, Political Science & Public Administration

Topics: AI Ethics, AI-Generated Manuscript Detection, Scholarly Publishing Impact, Critical Thinking in Education

Impact Score: 23.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 4

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 4

Ethical / Policy Implications: 5

The article discusses the significant influence of AI tools like ChatGPT and Claude on academia and scholarly publishing, particularly in the context of increasing manuscript submissions. The author, as editor of The Journal of Asian Studies, notes a rise in submissions from approximately 350 per year two years ago to nearly 800 in 2025, with expectations of surpassing 900 soon. The author emphasizes the challenges of distinguishing between AI-generated and authentic manuscripts and expresses a preference for fostering critical thinking through face-to-face communication and experiential education rather than relying solely on AI in teaching.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/03/the-journal-of-asian-studies-and-ai-association-for-asian-studies/>

2. Job Announcement: Assistant Professor (AI Humanities) at the Chinese University of Hong Kong

Category: Education

Departments: Art, Communication, Philosophy, Educational Leadership, Computer Science

Topics: AI Humanities, AI and Creative Expression, AI and Language Innovation, Interdisciplinary Collaboration

Impact Score: 23.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 4

Educational Value: 5

Innovation / Novelty: 4

Practical Impact: 3

Interdisciplinary Potential: 5

Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

The Faculty of Arts is establishing a new MA Programme in AI Humanities, featuring two streams: AI and Creative Expression, and AI and Language Innovation. The first stream emphasizes the integration of AI with art and cultural production, while the second focuses on AI's impact on language-related fields such as communication and translation. The program aims to attract applicants with a blend of computational skills and a strong foundation in the humanities, encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration and the development of innovative interpretive methodologies. Candidates can choose to specialize in one or both streams and are invited to propose relevant courses for the curriculum.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/03/job-announcement-assistant-professor-ai-humanities-at-the-chinese-university-of-hong-kong/>

3. Describe the vibe, see the look: An AI-based system projects makeup onto the user's face

Category: Applications

Departments: Computer Science, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Art

Topics: Consumer AI, AI-based Makeup Projection, Real-time Style Adaptation, Lifelike Virtual Makeup

Impact Score: 22.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 4

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 5

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 4

Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

Science Tokyo has developed an AI-based projection makeup system that allows users to verbally describe their desired mood or style, which the system then translates into corresponding makeup colors displayed on their faces. This technology adapts to individual preferences in real time and utilizes realistic lighting to accurately reflect each user's skin tone and texture. The system aims to provide a more lifelike experience compared to traditional virtual makeup applications that rely on two-dimensional projections.

<https://techxplore.com/news/2026-03-vibe-ai-based-makeup-user.html>

4. 'AI slop' hurts consumers and creators, but high-quality AI could help both

Category: Research

Departments: Communication, Computer Science, Political Science & Public Administration

Topics: Generative AI, Content Quality Assessment, AI-Enhanced Creativity, Market Impact of AI

Impact Score: 22.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 4

Educational Value: 4

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 3

Ethical / Policy Implications: 4

A recent study examines the impact of generative AI on creative content markets, highlighting the challenges posed by an influx of low-quality, AI-generated material on platforms such as YouTube, Reddit, and TikTok. The research indicates that this saturation can hinder professional artists and creators from distinguishing their work. However, it also posits that as generative AI tools advance, consumers will encounter higher-quality content, and professionals may leverage these tools to enhance their existing high-quality outputs.

<https://techxplore.com/news/2026-03-ai-slop-consumers-creators-high.html>

5. 'Thinking', 'helping', and 'replacing': what personification metaphors reveal about the social integration of generative AI

Category: Research

Departments: Communication, Political Science & Public Administration, Sociology & Anthropology

Topics: Generative AI, Personification Metaphors, Cognition Domain, Public Perception of AI

Impact Score: 21.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 4

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 4

Practical Impact: 3

Interdisciplinary Potential: 4

Ethical / Policy Implications: 3

This article analyzes the use of personification metaphors for generative AI on Twitter/X from 2022 to 2023, focusing on linguistic structures, conceptual domains, and sentiment polarities. The study categorizes personification expressions primarily as Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) constructions, which account for 89.5% of the instances, indicating a tendency to depict AI as autonomous agents performing human-like actions. The research identifies the COGNITION domain as the most prominent conceptual mapping, where AI is described using mental verbs, suggesting that users attribute cognitive abilities and beliefs to AI systems. The findings highlight the linguistic patterns that shape public perception of AI as more than mere tools, framing them as entities capable of thought and understanding.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00146-026-02934-w>

6. Report: Ways of working with the Wayback Machine

Category: Research

Departments: Communication, Art, History, Sociology & Anthropology

Topics: Digital Archiving, Web Material Repurposing, Collaborative Research Tools, Cultural Digital Investigations, Creative Project Methodologies

Impact Score: 21.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 3

Educational Value: 4

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 5

Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

On February 9, researchers convened at the Internet Archive Europe in Amsterdam to discuss methodologies for utilizing archived pages from the Wayback Machine. The gathering highlighted collaborative efforts between researchers, journalists, and artists in digital investigations and creative projects. Participants explored existing tools and methods for repurposing web materials and identified potential new tools to enhance these practices. The event underscored the significance of web archives in understanding and engaging with digital culture.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/03/ways-of-working-with-the-wayback-machine-internet-archiv-e-europe/>

7. 'Uncanny Valley': Iran War in the AI Era, Prediction Market Ethics, and Paramount Beats Netflix

Category: Policy & Ethics

Departments: Political Science & Public Administration, Computer Science, Communication

Topics: AI Ethics, Disinformation in AI, Prediction Market Ethics, Insider Trading in AI

Impact Score: 19.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 2

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 2

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 3

Ethical / Policy Implications: 5

This week's podcast episode discusses the intersection of disinformation and the AI industry within the context of the US-Iran conflict. The hosts also address the ethical concerns and insider trading allegations facing prediction markets such as Polymarket and Kalshi. Additionally, they explore Paramount's successful bid for Warner Bros, contrasting it with Netflix's efforts. The episode concludes with the hosts sharing their predictions for the future of these industries.

<https://www.wired.com/story/uncanny-valley-podcast-iran-war-artificial-intelligence-prediction-markets-paramount-warner-bros/>

8. How Axios uses AI to help deliver high-impact local journalism

Category: Business

Departments: Communication, Computer Science, Political Science & Public Administration

Topics: Enterprise AI, Newsroom Workflow Optimization, AI-Assisted Journalism, Resource Allocation in Newsrooms

Impact Score: 17.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 2

Educational Value: 3

Innovation / Novelty: 3

Practical Impact: 4

Interdisciplinary Potential: 3

Ethical / Policy Implications: 2

Axios COO Allison Murphy detailed the company's implementation of AI technologies to enhance the efficiency of local reporting. The AI tools are designed to support journalists by streamlining newsroom workflows, thereby enabling the production of high-impact local journalism at scale. This initiative aims to improve the quality and reach of local news coverage while optimizing resource allocation within the newsroom.

<https://openai.com/index/axios-allison-murphy>

9. CFP: Digital Humanities Congress 2026

Category: Research
Departments: Art, Communication, Philosophy, History, Sociology & Anthropology
Topics: Digital Humanities, Technology in Arts, Research Dissemination, Methodological Tools

Impact Score: 15.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 2	Educational Value: 3	Innovation / Novelty: 2
Practical Impact: 3	Interdisciplinary Potential: 4	Ethical / Policy Implications: 1

The University of Sheffield's Digital Humanities Institute will host a two-day conference on September 2-3, 2026, focused on the intersection of technology and research in the arts, heritage, and humanities. The conference will be conducted in-person and invites proposals from various disciplines within these fields. The event aims to explore the role of technology as both a methodological tool and a means of disseminating research findings.

<https://digitalhumanitiesnow.org/2026/03/cfp-digital-humanities-congress-2026/>

10. Grammarly's 'expert review' is just missing the actual experts

Category: Applications
Departments: Educational Leadership, Communication
Topics: Consumer AI, Expert Review Generation, Feedback Sourcing Techniques, Publicly Available Works Utilization

Impact Score: 14.0

Rubric Scores

Research Relevance: 1	Educational Value: 2	Innovation / Novelty: 2
Practical Impact: 3	Interdisciplinary Potential: 2	Ethical / Policy Implications: 4

Grammarly has introduced a new feature called Expert Review, which aims to enhance users' writing by providing revision suggestions framed as coming from renowned authors and thinkers, as well as tech journalists. Launched in August 2025, the feature generates feedback based on publicly available works of these figures, although it does not involve their actual participation or endorsement. Critics, including historian C.E. Aubin, argue that the suggestions do not constitute true expert reviews, as no experts are directly involved in the process. Grammarly clarifies that references to these figures are for informational purposes only and do not imply any affiliation.

<https://techcrunch.com/2026/03/07/grammarlys-expert-review-is-just-missing-the-actual-experts/>