

## EMBRYO

### Student Catches Professor Using AI to Create Teaching Materials

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#### Key Themes

1. Double Standard
2. Ethical behavior
3. Generative AI usage
4. Pedagogical approach

#### Hook

Early in the 2025 spring semester, Ella Stapleton, a senior at Northeastern University (NEU), discovered her business professor, Rick Arrowood, had used ChatGPT to create teaching materials that he made available to students enrolled in the course. She was upset by the behavior, especially since the professor had explicitly forbidden students from using generative AI (GenAI) and chatbot tools to complete their assignments. Ella subsequently filed a formal complaint with the university asking for a full tuition refund for the course. On May 12, 2025, the day after she graduated from the university (Nordman, 2025), Ella was notified by the business school that she would not receive a refund (Hill, 2025). Various media publicized the outcome and expressed sympathy for her. The university did not have a formal policy to address the use of GenAI in the classroom though it was in the process of doing so (Northeastern University, 2025b,c). Now in the public eye, how should NEU address the appropriate use of GenAI in teaching and learning?

#### Closing Hook

Students are asked to place themselves in NEU's position and examine how they would address the appropriate use of GenAI in the classroom.

#### Learning Outcomes

In completing this assignment, students should be able to:

1. Describe the ethical challenges faced by college educators when incorporating AI in their teaching activities.
2. Examine the practice of Model the Way as related to leadership behavior.

3. Formulate a Generative AI usage policy for college educators.
4. Formulate a Generative AI usage policy for college students.

### Discussion Questions

1. Using Mienye and Swart (2025), what are the four ethical challenges Professor Arrowood should have considered when deciding to use ChatGPT as a teaching assistant? Identify and discuss each challenge. Which of the challenges were most problematic for him and why? (LO #1)
2. Based on Posner (2017), how did Professor Arrowood fail at modeling the way? Discuss in detail. (LO #2)
3. Create a comprehensive and ethical Generative AI usage policy for college educators to follow when using the technology as a teaching assistant. What aspects of your policy are of particular importance to you as a student and why? (LO #3)
4. Create a comprehensive and ethical Generative AI usage policy for college students to follow when using the technology in a course. What aspects of your policy are of particular importance to you as a student and why? (LO #4)

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