ІМЕРСИВНІ ТЕХНОЛОГІЇ В ОСВІТІ
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USING OTTER.AI AND MICROSOFT COPILOT FOR TEAMS IN EDUCATION: EXPERIENCE OF DEPARTMENT OF HISTOLOGY, CYTOLOGY AND EMBRYOLOGY ZAPORIZHZHIA STATE MEDICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL UNIVERSITY

Tools that improve learning outcomes, expedite workflows, and foster collaboration are crucial in today's digitally first educational environment. Otter.ai and Microsoft Copilot for Teams are two notable tools that educators and learners can utilize to maximize their experience in virtual or hybrid learning environments using Microsoft Teams. Although both platforms have special features designed to meet the demands of contemporary education, their functionality, integration, and use cases are very different. This article compares the advantages and disadvantages of these tools and examines how teachers and students can use them effectively.

Copilot for Teams on Microsoft An AI-powered assistant called Microsoft Copilot is incorporated into Microsoft Teams and other Microsoft 365 programs. It uses cutting-edge machine learning and natural language processing (NLP) to help users create content, automate tasks, and work together more effectively. It serves as a virtual teaching assistant for teachers, providing real-time assistance with lesson planning, meeting summaries, assignment tracking, and other tasks.

The Otter.ai is an artificial intelligence-powered note-taking and transcription tool is called Otter.ai. It offers live transcriptions, audio recordings, keyword extraction, and search capabilities, and was primarily created for recording spoken conversations. Otter.ai allows instructors and students to record lectures, meetings, and discussions, which can then be readily reviewed at a later time.

To increase efficiency and engagement, educators and learners can incorporate Copilot straight into their Microsoft Teams environment:

For Teachers:

– Copilot assists with lesson planning by producing outlines, quizzes, and curriculum-based resource recommendations.

– Meeting Summaries: Copilot automatically creates succinct summaries of the main topics covered during a class or parent-teacher conference.

– Student Feedback: Using predetermined criteria, teachers can request that Copilot create customized feedback for assignments.

– Task management: Copilot can help with grading rubrics, remind teachers about forthcoming events, and set deadlines.

For Students:

– Study Notes: Students can ask Copilot to highlight key ideas from shared materials or to summarize long texts.

– Collaboration: Copilot's features for document drafting, meeting scheduling, and progress tracking make group projects simpler.

– Accessibility: Copilot's multilingual features aid non-native speakers in comprehending the course content.

Otter.ai provides strong APIs and plugins that enable smooth syncing with Teams meetings even though it is not directly integrated into Microsoft Teams:

For Teachers:

– Lecture Transcription: Teachers can share precise notes with students after class thanks to Otter.ai's ability to record and transcribe live lectures.

– Keyword Extraction: Study guides and glossaries can be made using the platform's identification of important terms and themes.

– Attendance Tracking: Otter.ai can assist in verifying attendance during virtual sessions by examining participant voices.

For Students:

Note Review: To make sure they don't miss anything, students can go over the lectures that have been transcribed at their own pace.

Searchable Content: Students can easily find particular topics within hours of recorded material by using Otter.ai's search function.

Focus Improvement: Students can focus entirely on comprehending the lecture rather than taking notes by hand.

Microsoft Copilot for Teams offers strong integration with Microsoft 365 apps, enabling seamless workflows that benefit both administrative and academic users. Its versatile features make it a practical tool for schools, especially those already subscribed to Microsoft 365 Education plans, as it adds value without incurring additional costs. However, Copilot's transcription capabilities are limited when compared to specialized tools like Otter.ai, and its effective use may require training for educators and students who are less familiar with AI-powered assistants. On the other hand, Otter.ai excels in delivering highly accurate and fast transcriptions, with a strong emphasis on accessibility and inclusivity for students with disabilities. Its intuitive sharing features also promote easy collaboration among peers and instructors. Despite these advantages, Otter.ai comes with added costs outside of the Microsoft ecosystem and lacks native integration with Microsoft platforms, which can complicate setup and ongoing use.

As a team of educators teaching Histology, Cytology, and Embryology at Zaporizhzhia State Medical and Pharmaceutical University, we are always looking for innovative ways to improve the learning experience for our students. With the university's licensed access to Microsoft 365, we were excited to integrate Microsoft Copilot for Teams into our workflow. To further enhance our teaching tools, we also

adopted Otter.ai for its transcription and accessibility features. Here, we share our collective experience of using these two powerful AI tools in our courses.

Microsoft Copilot for Teams has greatly streamlined our teaching process. The seamless integration with Microsoft 365 apps has enabled us to organize and share course materials more efficiently. For instance, lesson plans, presentations, and quizzes are easily created and shared within Microsoft Teams, reducing the time spent on administrative tasks and allowing us to focus more on teaching. The collaboration features within Teams have been particularly valuable for coordinating group meetings, updating course content, and tracking student progress. Copilot's ability to generate summaries and actionable insights during meetings has improved communication between our team and facilitated a more organized curriculum development process.

However, we did notice some limitations when it came to the transcription features. While Copilot helped with summarizing written content and meeting notes, it did not meet our needs for highly specialized transcription during live lectures, particularly for the complex terminology used in Histology and Embryology. This is where Otter.ai proved to be an essential addition.

We started using Otter.ai for transcribing our lectures online. Otter.ai's ability to accurately capture technical terms, including complex anatomical and embryological vocabulary, has been invaluable. Students have praised the real-time transcription, as it allows them to follow along more easily, especially for those who struggle with listening comprehension or have hearing impairments. The transcripts also serve as a useful study tool, enabling students to revisit lectures and reinforce their understanding outside of class time. Additionally, Otter.ai's easy sharing features allowed us to provide transcripts to students quickly, enhancing collaboration and reinforcing key concepts in a way that was more engaging and accessible.

However, there are some challenges with Otter.ai that we have had to navigate. The primary issue is its lack of native integration with Microsoft Teams, which means we need to manually upload or share the transcripts, adding an extra step to the process. Additionally, since Otter.ai requires a separate subscription, it comes at an additional cost, which could be a limiting factor for other departments or institutions without the necessary resources.

Despite these limitations, the combination of Microsoft Copilot for Teams and Otter.ai has significantly enhanced our teaching approach. Copilot has made course management and communication more efficient within the Microsoft ecosystem, while Otter.ai has ensured that our lectures are more accessible and inclusive for all students. The integration of these AI tools has not only helped us manage our workloads but has also allowed our students to engage with the material in new and more effective ways.

In conclusion, using these AI tools together has created a more organized, accessible, and student-centered learning environment in our department. We believe that continuing to explore and integrate such technologies will help us meet the evolving needs of medical education and further enhance the educational experience at Zaporizhzhia State Medical and Pharmaceutical University.

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NEXT-GENERATION FRAMEWORK FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN EDUCATION

Introduction. The rapid integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into education has revolutionized how learners engage with knowledge, transitioning traditional pedagogical approaches into adaptive, technology-driven systems. Despite these advancements, significant challenges persist in achieving truly personalized, inclusive, and contextually responsive learning experiences. Conventional AI-based educational tools often rely on reactive mechanisms that adjust content based on learner performance but fail to proactively address cognitive diversity, emotional engagement, or interdisciplinary connectivity. Moreover, the role of educators remains underexplored in many AI frameworks, limiting their potential as collaborative partners in the learning process. Systemic issues, such as equitable access, ethical data use, and alignment with evolving societal needs, further complicate the deployment of AI in education [1; 2].

The purpose of this research is to design and evaluate "AI-EduX," a next-generation AI framework developed by xAI, aimed at overcoming these limitations. AI-EduX seeks to transcend traditional adaptive learning by fostering a co-constructive, self-improving educational ecosystem. This model integrates cognitive modeling, deep reinforcement learning, and multimodal interaction to deliver personalized, immersive, and equitable learning experiences [3]. Additionally, it redefines the educator's role as a co-instructor and leverages systemic analytics to inform educational policy. The study aims to address the following questions: How can AI enhance learning through proactive cognitive and emotional engagement? How can