

Engaging with AI — Resources

The following are resources you may want to consider listening to or reading to delve deeper into AI topics we cover in class. I will organize these broadly by which session will cover material that these readings will complement as we go along.

Prior to Session 1

Which AI to Use

If you have not yet tried a general AI model, the link below will provide insights to get started.

Ethan Mollick is the author of Co-Intelligence. He publishes a Substack newsletter on AI, *One Useful Thing*. There is a free version which covers developments in AI. The following is his post on Picking a Model. Note this is 8 months old but the advice is still timely. You will be asked to register, but you do not have to pay for the free version.

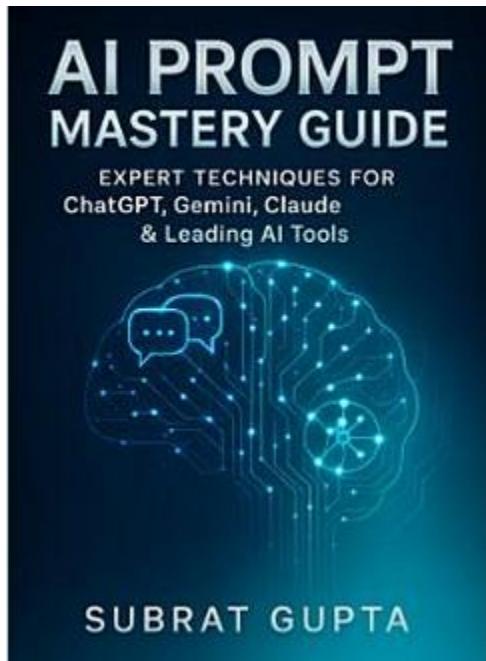
>> [One Useful Thing Picking a Model](#)

What Makes a Good Prompt

A Prompt refers to the input you give an AI System that tells it what you want it to do or generate. We will cover broad prompting techniques in our first class. If you'd like more insight and examples there are dozens of resources online. Here is one free book available through Google Play.

[AI Prompt Mastery Guide, Expert Techniques for ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude & Leading AI Tools](#)

>> [AI Prompt Mastery Guide](#)



Books To Borrow

Visits to the Topsham and Bath Public Libraries revealed limited books on AI, although reference librarians offered to secure within the inter-library system.

I will bring the following books to class for anyone to borrow.

Co-Intelligence (Mollick):

Suggests that humans and AI can become partners, combining judgment and creativity with scale and speed, transforming work, learning, and everyday problem-solving while demanding new habits, ethics, and governance.

ChatGPT and the Future of AI (Sejnowski):

Explains how large language models work, what they can and cannot do, and how they will reshape communication, education, and knowledge work, highlighting risks, misconceptions, and emerging opportunities.

The Coming Wave (Suleyman):

Warns that rapidly advancing AI and synthetic biology will disrupt societies and empower small actors, urging bold new containment, governance, and international cooperation to avoid catastrophic misuse.

How to Think About AI (Susskind):

Urges focusing on AI's outcomes rather than human-like "intelligence," mapping scenarios for professions and institutions, and offering a structured way to reason about benefits, risks, and policy.

The Worlds I See (Fei-Fei Li):

Memoir of an immigrant scientist building modern computer vision, intertwining personal story, ImageNet's creation, and a call for human-centered, ethical, inclusive AI that benefits society.

Life 3.0 (Tegmark):

Explores futures where AI can redesign its own hardware and software, outlining scenarios from flourishing superintelligence to extinction and stressing alignment and long-term stewardship of intelligent life.