

“A Cybernetic Meadow?”

Workshopping the Limits and Potential of Generative AI

AI in Teaching & Learning Symposium, Texas State University, March 2025

WELOME! WHO WE ARE:



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A poem!

I like to think (and
the sooner the better!)
of a cybernetic meadow
where mammals and
computers
live together in mutually
programming harmony
like pure water
touching clear sky.

I like to think
(right now, please!)
of a cybernetic forest
filled with pines and electronics
where deer stroll peacefully
past computers
as if they were flowers
with spinning blossoms.

I like to think
(it has to be!)
of a cybernetic ecology
where we are free of our
labors
and joined back to nature,
returned to our mammal
brothers and sisters,
and all watched over
by machines of loving grace.

“All Watched Over By Machines of Loving Grace” (1967) — Richard Brautigan

GOALS:

1. We can't hide from this.
2. Understand that students, faculty, staff *are* using it.
3. Get away from philosophy and explore use-cases.
4. Show how we might use this to teach, learn, manage.

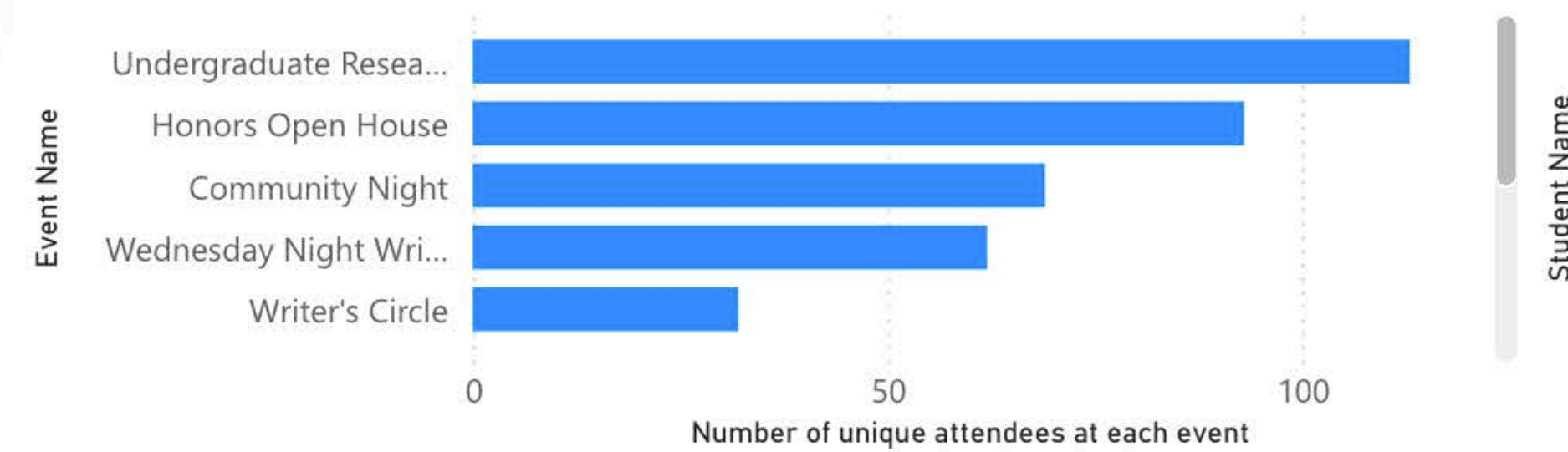


Actual Use-Cases for AI Help

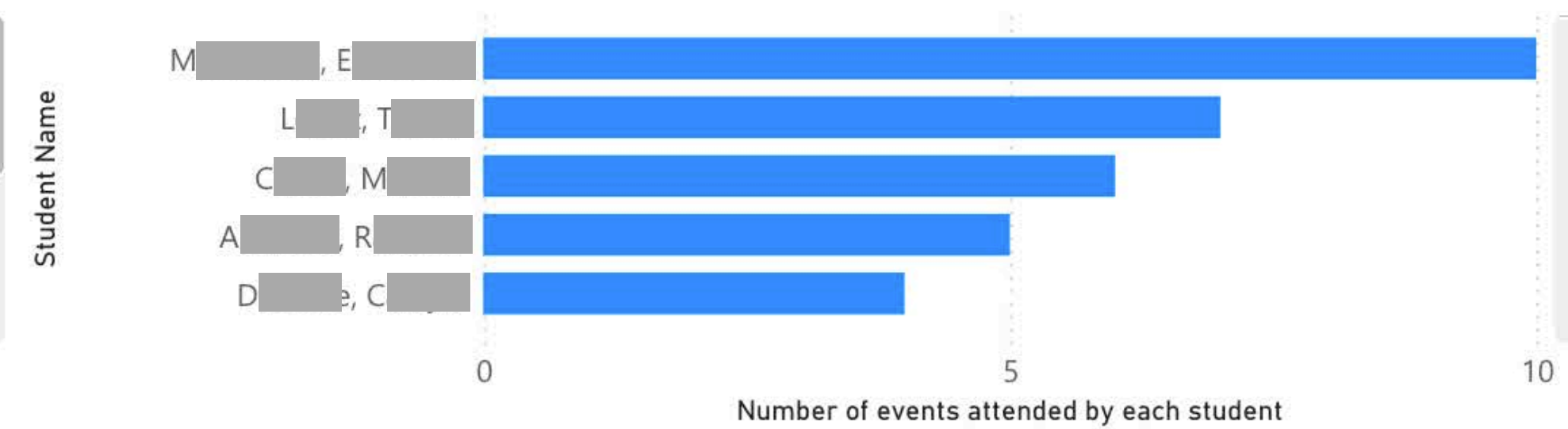
#1a - Generating Data for Workflow Testing

File

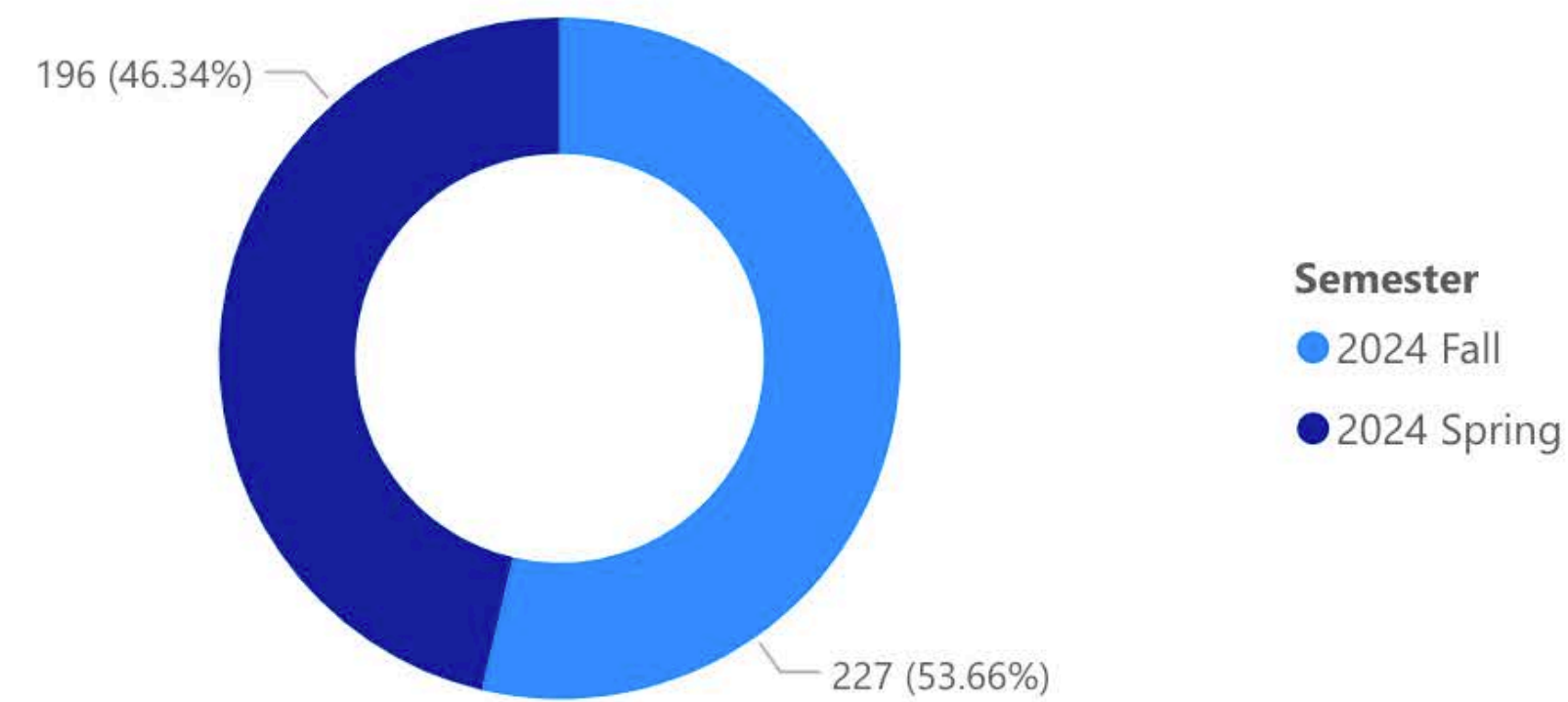
Number of unique attendees at each event by Event Name



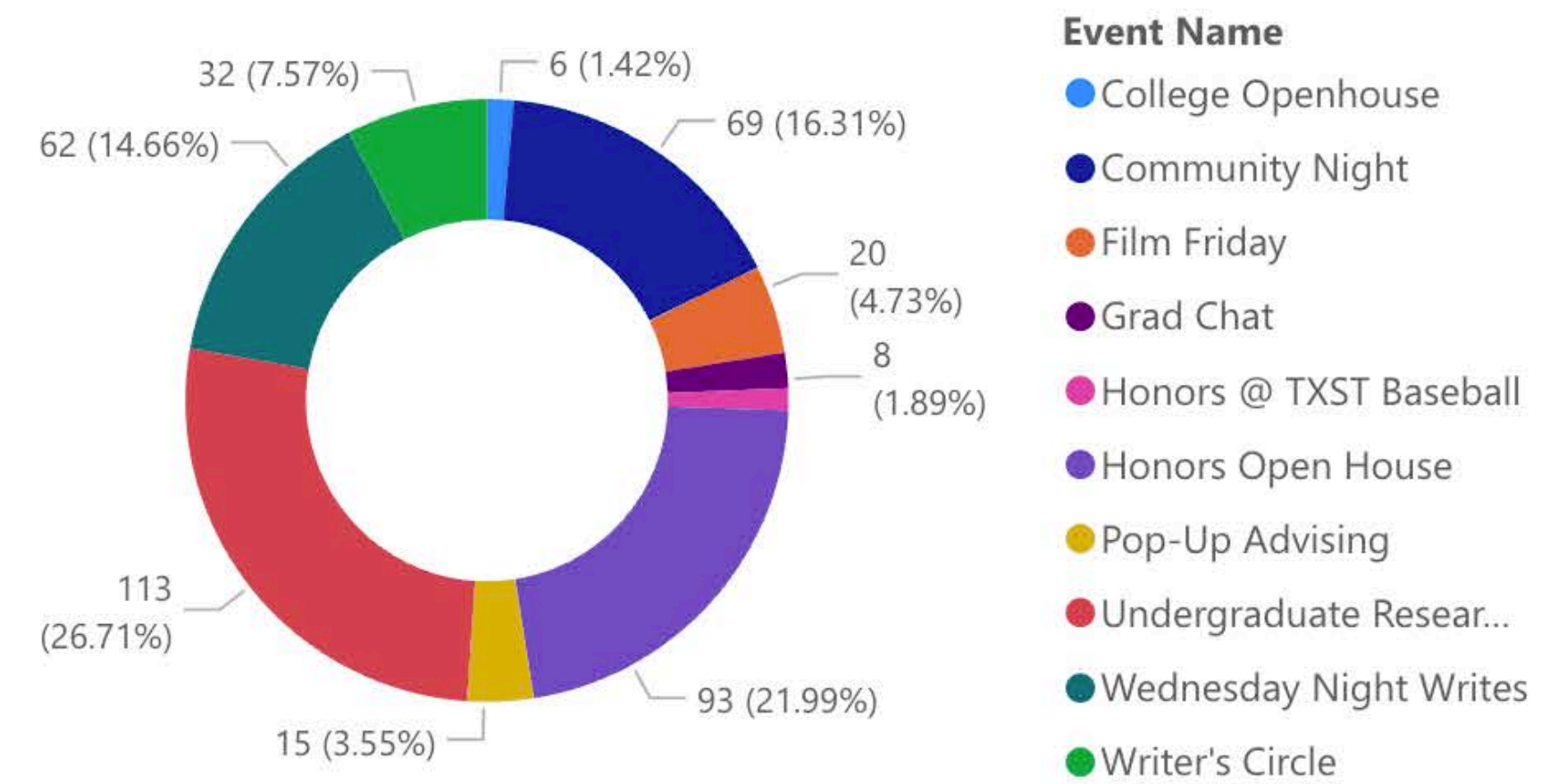
Number of events attended by each student by Student Name



Unique attendees by semester by Semester



Unique attendees by event by Event Name



Morgan, Emily

Most frequent attendee

423

Number of unique attendees

113

Max number of attendees

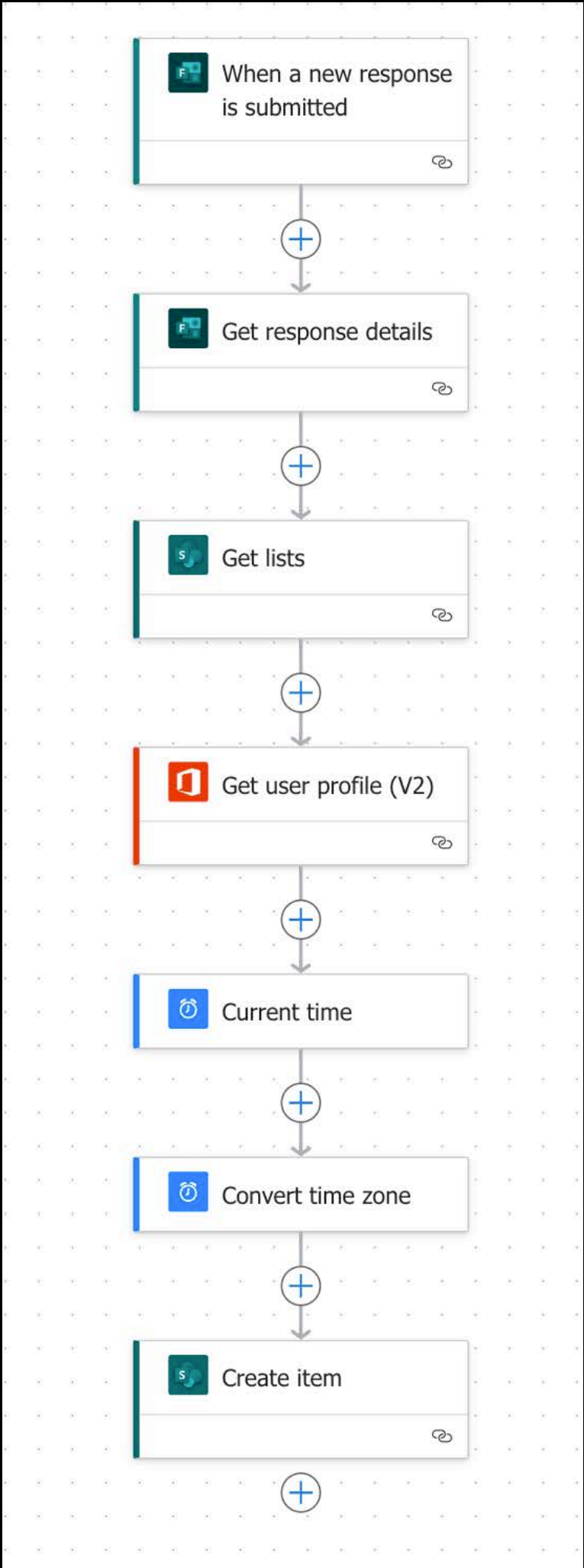
42

Average number of attendees

Undergraduate Research Conference

Most popular event

Title	Student Name	StudentNetID	Event Name	Event Date and Time
1	Data	data.data@studentnet.example.com	Intergalactic Diplomacy Conference	01/05/2023 00:00:00
2	Kathryn Janeway	kathryn.janeway@studentnet.example.com	Intergalactic Diplomacy Conference	01/05/2023 00:00:00
3	Wesley Crusher	wesley.crusher@studentnet.example.com	Intergalactic Diplomacy Conference	01/05/2023 00:00:00
4	Wesley Crusher	wesley.crusher@studentnet.example.com	Holodeck Adventure Contest	01/03/2023 00:00:00
5	Beverly Crusher	beverly.crusher@studentnet.example.com	Holodeck Adventure Contest	01/03/2023 00:00:00
6	Chakotay	chakotay.chakotay@studentnet.example.com	Intergalactic Diplomacy Conference	01/05/2023 00:00:00
7	B'Elanna Torres	b'elanna.torres@studentnet.example.com	Vulcan Science Academy Lecture	01/01/2023 00:00:00
8	William Riker	william.riker@studentnet.example.com	Vulcan Science Academy Lecture	01/01/2023 00:00:00
9	Kathryn Janeway	kathryn.janeway@studentnet.example.com	Warp Drive Engineering Workshop	01/04/2023 00:00:00
10	Hikaru Sulu	hikaru.sulu@studentnet.example.com	Vulcan Science Academy Lecture	01/01/2023 00:00:00
11	William Riker	william.riker@studentnet.example.com	Warp Drive Engineering Workshop	01/04/2023 00:00:00
12	Nyota Uhura	nyota.uhura@studentnet.example.com	Vulcan Science Academy Lecture	01/01/2023 00:00:00
13	Data	data.data@studentnet.example.com	Vulcan Science Academy Lecture	01/01/2023 00:00:00
14	Seven of Nine	seven.nine@studentnet.example.com	Starfleet Training Simulation	01/02/2023 00:00:00
15	Kathryn Janeway	kathryn.janeway@studentnet.example.com	Holodeck Adventure Contest	01/03/2023 00:00:00
16	Seven of Nine	seven.nine@studentnet.example.com	Vulcan Science Academy Lecture	01/01/2023 00:00:00
17	James T. Kirk	james.kirk@studentnet.example.com	Holodeck Adventure Contest	01/03/2023 00:00:00



#1b - Generating Sample Documents

Project Summary (500 words)

Introduction

The success of deep-space missions undertaken by Federation starships heavily relies on effective leadership. Commanding officers must navigate complex challenges, make quick decisions in crisis situations, and foster a cohesive and efficient crew environment. This study, led by Capt. James T. Kirk, aims to explore the intricacies of leadership dynamics on Federation starships to identify best practices and areas for improvement.

Objectives

The primary objectives of this research are:

- To analyze historical mission logs and crew performance data to identify leadership strategies that contribute to mission success.
- To examine the decision-making processes of starship captains in various scenarios, including crisis situations.
- To explore the impact of diverse crew compositions and interspecies collaboration on leadership effectiveness.
- To develop a set of recommendations for enhancing leadership training programs at Starfleet Academy.

Methodology

The research will involve a comprehensive analysis of mission logs from several notable Federation starships, including the USS Enterprise. Data will be collected from the Federation archives, focusing on missions that presented significant leadership challenges. Key metrics will include decision-making speed and accuracy, crew performance, and mission outcomes.

Advanced data analysis tools will be employed to identify patterns and correlations between leadership styles and mission success. Qualitative analysis will also be conducted on recorded captain's logs and crew testimonials to gain insights into the human aspects of starship command.

Expected Outcomes

The study is expected to yield several valuable insights, including:

- Identification of leadership styles that are most effective in deep-space missions.
- Best practices for crisis management and decision-making in high-stakes environments.
- The role of diversity and interspecies collaboration in enhancing leadership effectiveness.
- Recommendations for updating and improving leadership training programs at Starfleet Academy.

Conclusion

This research will provide valuable insights into the leadership dynamics on Federation starships, contributing to the advancement of leadership training programs at Starfleet Academy. By understanding what makes a starship captain effective, we can better prepare future leaders for the challenges of deep-space exploration and ensure the continued success of Federation missions.

CV - Captain James T. Kirk

USS Enterprise
United Federation of Planets
jtkirk@starfleet.ufp
Stardate: 2024.160

Professional Summary

Dynamic and resourceful Starfleet officer with over a decade of command experience aboard Federation starships. Demonstrated expertise in leadership, strategic planning, and crisis management. Renowned for innovative problem-solving and ability to foster team cohesion in diverse and high-stakes environments. Committed to the principles of the United Federation of Planets and the advancement of interstellar exploration and diplomacy.

Education

Starfleet Academy, San Francisco, Earth
Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Stardate 2245.6

- Graduated with honors
- Captain of the Academy Debate Team

Command School, Starfleet Academy
Advanced Command Training Program, Stardate 2248.1

- Specialized in starship command and tactical operations

Professional Experience

USS Enterprise, United Federation of Planets
Captain, Stardate 2264.3 – Present

- Commanded the USS Enterprise on numerous deep-space missions
- Successfully led crew through multiple first-contact scenarios
- Managed crisis situations with strategic precision and minimal casualties
- Developed and implemented training programs for junior officers

USS Farragut, United Federation of Planets
First Officer, Stardate 2257.5 – 2264.3

- Assisted in strategic planning and mission execution
- Played a key role in successful defense against Klingon incursions
- Mentored and trained junior officers

USS Republic, United Federation of Planets
Lieutenant, Stardate 2254.2 – 2257.5

- Served as a tactical officer and second-in-command during critical missions
- Recognized for bravery and quick thinking in combat situations

Key Achievements

- Awarded the Starfleet Medal of Valor for heroic actions during the Klingon War

Budget

- Data Acquisition: \$300
- Analysis Tools (Software, Subscriptions): \$200
- Research Assistance: \$200
- Report Preparation and Dissemination: \$200
- Miscellaneous Expenses: \$100

Budget Justification

The requested budget of \$1000 will be allocated as follows:

- **Data Acquisition (\$300):** Costs associated with accessing and obtaining historical mission logs and performance data from Federation archives.
- **Analysis Tools (\$200):** Subscription fees for advanced data analysis software and tools necessary for comprehensive data examination.
- **Research Assistance (\$200):** Compensation for research assistants who will help in data collection, analysis, and synthesis of findings.
- **Report Preparation and Dissemination (\$200):** Costs related to preparing the final report, including editing, printing, and dissemination of findings to relevant stakeholders.
- **Miscellaneous Expenses (\$100):** Additional unforeseen expenses that may arise during the course of the research.

Timeline

The project will be completed over six months, following the timeline below:

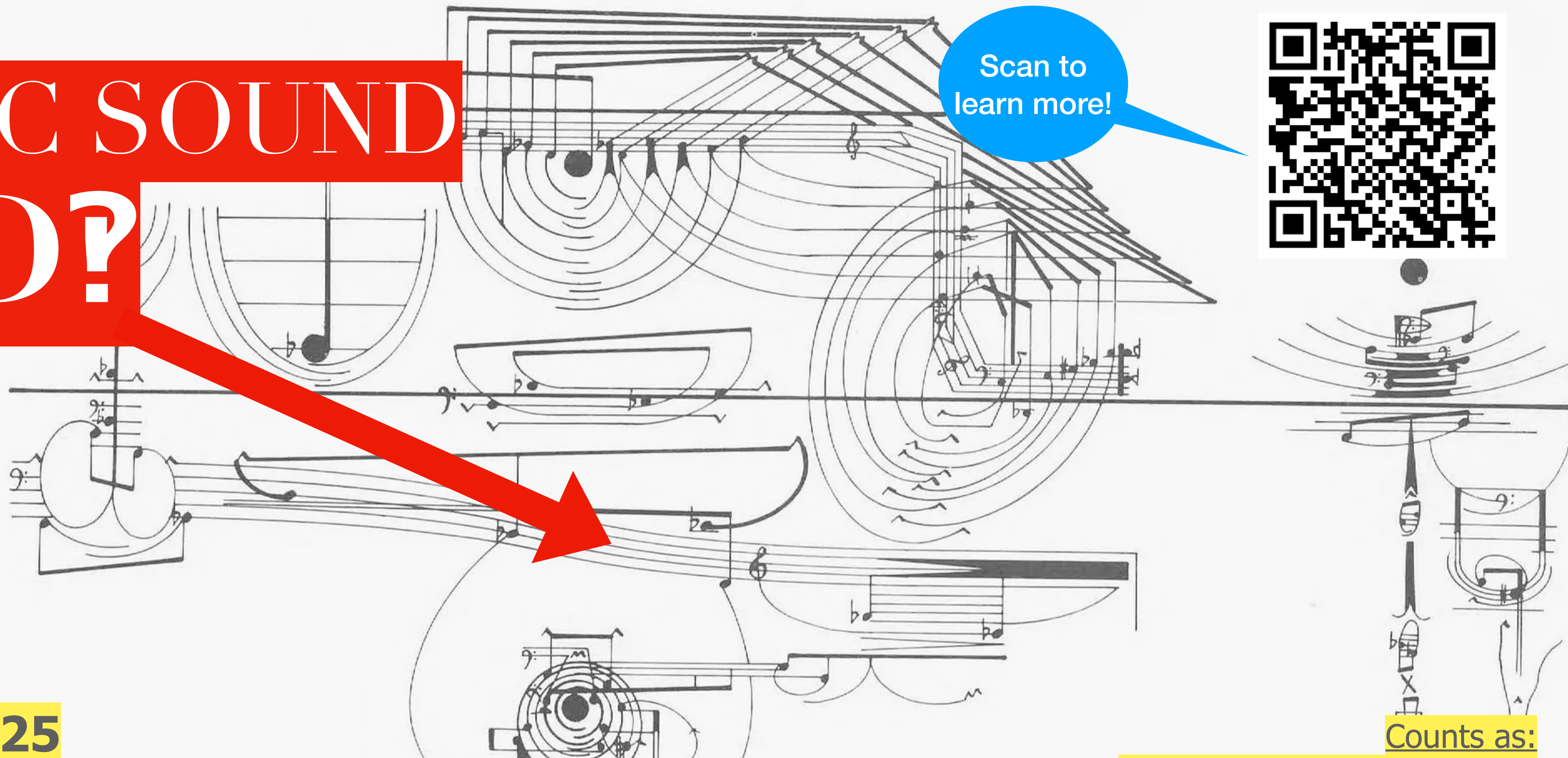
- **Month 1:** Initiate data collection from Federation archives.
- **Month 2-3:** Conduct detailed analysis of mission logs and crew performance data.
- **Month 4:** Synthesize findings and identify key leadership patterns.
- **Month 5:** Draft the comprehensive report and review findings.
- **Month 6:** Finalize and disseminate the report to Starfleet Command and Starfleet Academy.

#2 - Interactive Class Activities

Does this

MUSIC SOUND BAD?

Scan to
learn more!



SPRING 2025

Aesthetics of Failure

HON 3398I MW 3:30pm - 4:50pm

Counts as:

Advanced Philosophy elective

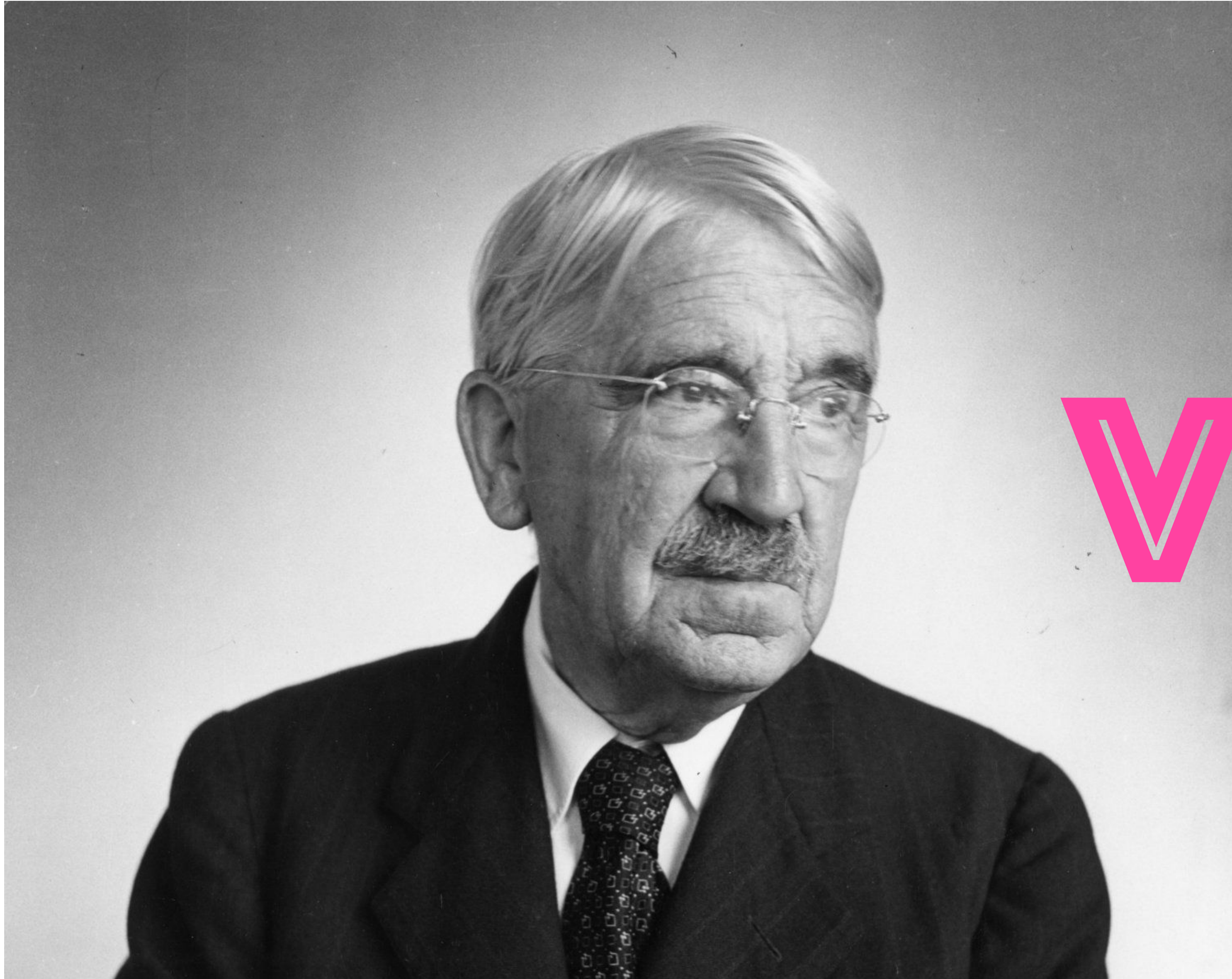
Advanced Music elective

"In Context" domain for

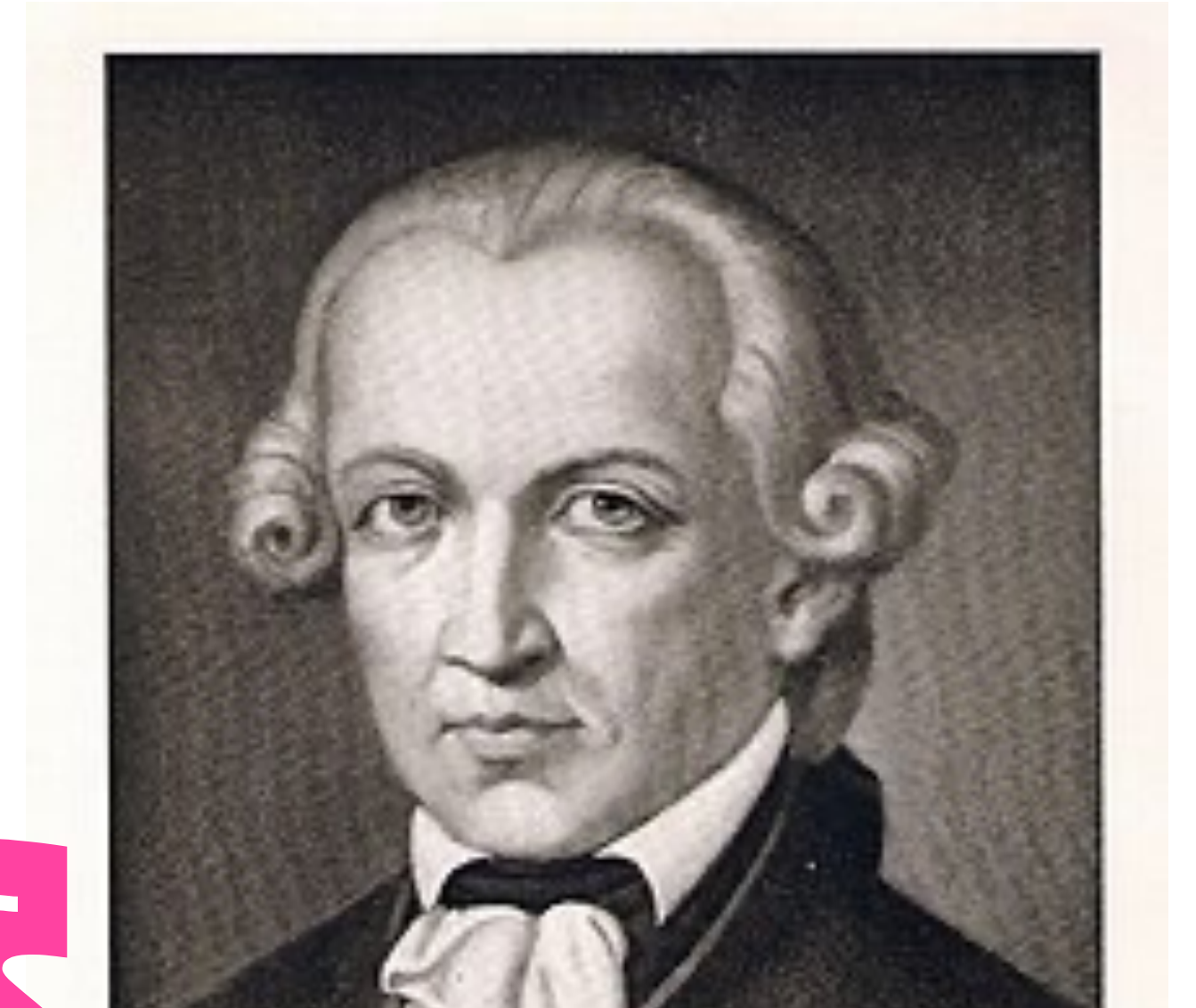
Minor in Innovation & Entrepreneurship

and

Credit towards Honors graduation!



VS



chatgpt.com

ChatGPT 4o

Share

I want to set up a role-play dialogue on aesthetics. I want to be John Dewey, and I want you to be Immanuel Kant. I want you to start by asking me a question about aesthetics, and I will respond as if you're Kant (and as if I'm Dewey); then I'll continue by asking you a question in return. Let's keep the dialogue going for as long as it makes sense. Sound okay?

Sounds great! I'll channel Kant, and you bring Dewey to life. Here we go:

Immanuel Kant:

Herr Dewey, you place great emphasis on experience as the foundation of aesthetic judgment. Yet, in my *Critique of Judgment*, I argue that true aesthetic appreciation arises from a disinterested pleasure—one that is not tied to personal utility or mere sensation. If beauty is found in the interaction between form and the faculties of cognition, how can your pragmatic, experience-centered view account for the universal validity of aesthetic judgment?

I would say that you are drawing false distinctions between unified parts of aesthetic experience. As I wrote in my book, *Art as Experience*: "The existence of this unity is constituted by a

Ask anything

Search

Deep research

ChatGPT can make mistakes. Check important info.



Scenarios for Consideration

**S1: What about a student waiting
three weeks for an appointment at
the campus writing center?**

S2: What about a high school senior from a large campus with one college counselor for 400 students, and no family funds to hire a private counselor?

The Guru Who Says He Can Get Your 11-Year-Old Into Harvard

Jamie Beaton's Crimson Education offers a pricey, yearslong boot camp preparing kids to apply to the Ivy League. Parents, and Wall Street, are on board.



S3: What about a student working on a research or writing project that could benefit from illustrations, but who lacks the ability themselves to produce them, or tends to get sidetracked on the ancillary “stuff”?



Excellence in
Product

vs.

Excellence in
Learning

ACTIVITY

txst.edu/honors/nchc

txst.edu/honors/nchc

A yellow speech bubble with a black outline, pointing towards the main text area.

Make sure to right click all the links to open in new tabs/windows!

This exercise has several phases. Instructions for you, the human-user, are added [in brackets], and you should not copy this text into the AI dialogue box.

Begin by copying the information after [the first set of brackets] into the Large Language Model “AI” of your choice (Copilot, ChatGPT, etc.), then press “Enter.” Proceed according to the information in brackets, but do not copy/paste the information in brackets. Respond to any prompts generated by the AI, and be as honest as you care to be! The outputs can only ever be as strong as the inputs.

Scenarios Recap

1. Student writing center backlog.
2. Under-resourced college guidance.
3. Student who needs inspiration, but who tends to waste time.

Discussion



REACTIONS

???



COMMENTS



THOUGHTS



THANK YOU! HOW TO CONTACT US:



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