



Will AI Replace Us? What is your Role in Shaping the Future of Work?

Job Market Magazine (25 April 2025)

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In recent years, at many seminars on artificial intelligence, I have heard university students voice a common concern: “Will AI replace our jobs?” It is indeed a question worth pondering, but even more important is how we respond in this rapidly evolving technological era.

Artificial intelligence, big data, machine learning, generative AI... these terms are no longer remote-sounding expressions. They are steadily permeating every industry. I often say, AI is not the enemy—it is a tool. Those who know how to use it will hold the advantage in the future. To face the rise of AI, young people need two core capabilities: first, the ability to learn; second, the right mindset and attitude.

Staying Flexible and Motivated to Learn

Technology evolves rapidly, and past knowledge or skills may not remain relevant for long. I often remind students: “You don’t need to master AI overnight, but you must be willing to learn how to use it.” For example, learning to use tools to assist with writing reports, analyzing data, or understanding basic language-processing skills like Python—these will be essential foundations for the future workplace. We must adopt open thinking and the flexibility to adapt. In the past, the emphasis was on professional expertise, but the future demands cross-disciplinary skills—grounded in technology, but also rooted in understanding people, communication, and collaboration. That is what makes you hard to replace.

Attitude Determines Altitude

AI can organize data, write articles, and even create, but it cannot replace human emotions and values. The workplace of the future does not just need “technicians” who operate tools—it needs “integrators” with judgment, empathy, responsibility, and teamwork. A marketing professional who uses AI to analyze market data but can also truly understand customer needs and propose creative, practical solutions is far more valuable than someone who only knows how to input commands. While AI performs the work, the wisdom of being human is still ours to carry. From my years of guiding students and young professionals, I have observed that attitude creates greater distance than skills. People who keep learning, embrace risk, stay grounded, and bounce back from setbacks will always find their way—even in uncertain times.

Defining Your Role in the Age of AI

1. Curiosity and a thirst for knowledge: not afraid of new tools, willing to explore and apply.
 2. Self-reflection: understanding your strengths and weaknesses, constantly improving yourself.
 3. Responsibility: honour commitments and own the consequences of one’s actions.
 4. Collaboration: respecting diverse opinions and building positive relationships.
- Humanity: in a digital era, showing care for others and enhancing your influence.



To young people: you are not here to compete with AI—you are here to learn how to dance with it. Let your curiosity lead, your passion ignite, your values guide, and your interpersonal skills connect. These are the strengths that will shape your future.