

# **Exploring the Use of AI in a Peer Tutoring Environment**

**Dr. Gregory Katsas,  
Director, SASS @ American College of Greece**

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# Introduction / Aim

- The discussion on AI
- Exploring use of AI in a College peer tutoring environment.
- The central argument is that the appropriate use of technology can be a useful tool in supporting the academic performance of students.
- Recognizing the dynamic environment (social, educational) in the use of AI
- Explore use of AI in supporting students
- Consider using this technology as an assistive tool
- Offer an alternative method of learning to students with particular learning disabilities.

# The StudyAid Platform

- web-based platform named “StudyAid,” uses ChatGPT
- developed by two high school students at Pierce College, a finalist in the Virtual Enterprise Competition 2024 in Greece.
- It aims to help all students with study skills such as time management, organization of educational material and exam preparation.
- An added value of the platform is that it can be of great assistance to students with specific learning disabilities.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbMUIjdmTQE>

# Case Study: SASS @ Deree - ACG

## Description / Overview

- Student Academic Support Services (SASS) provides **support to the learning** of DEREЕ students through a variety of approaches encouraging **participatory learning**. SASS follows a **learner-centered** approach in order to promote individual development and to respond to the needs of each student.

## Operation

- The academic support is provided by a group of Learning Facilitators (students with high grade average, at least half done with their degrees). They provide assistance with specific courses and study skills.

# StudyAid at SASS

## A Critical Approach

- What is StudyAid, how it could be used at SASS

## Methodology

- Anonymous questionnaire among SASS Learning Facilitators (15 responses out of 23 total workers)
- S.W.O.T. Analysis

# S.W.O.T. Analysis: Strengths & Opportunities

## Strengths

- Saving time
- Quick tool, easy to use
- Efficiency/Time Management
- Personalized assistance with note-taking
- Engage directly with material

## Opportunities

- Demonstrate the proper use of AI in an academic setting
- Become more advanced with the tools we use
- Restructure / redesign tutoring sessions
- More reliance on self
- Using AI is not inherently bad, it can intrigue students and make studying more fun.

# S.W.O.T. Analysis: Weaknesses & Threats

## Weaknesses

- Too much dependence on AI
- Too dependent on online
- Limits critical ability to organize academic work
- It may be inaccurate
- Over-reliance on technology rather than the Learning Facilitator

## Threats

- Replace part of the job of the Learning Facilitator
- Overuse may reduce creative thinking
- Growing dependent on AI is a danger
- Integrity comes into question
- Dependency on external sources for routine functions limits independence

# What We Can Learn from this

- My position
- AI is not seen as a panacea by students
- AI could be a valuable assistant in specific controlled situations
- Students possess a critical approach towards AI tools (both positive and negative views)
- It is important to listen to the end user before implementing a new tool
- A continuous trial & error process

