

The AI-Enhanced Design Thinking Framework

THE 5-STAGE AI-ENHANCED WORKFLOW



THE FOUNDATION OF DESIGN THINKING

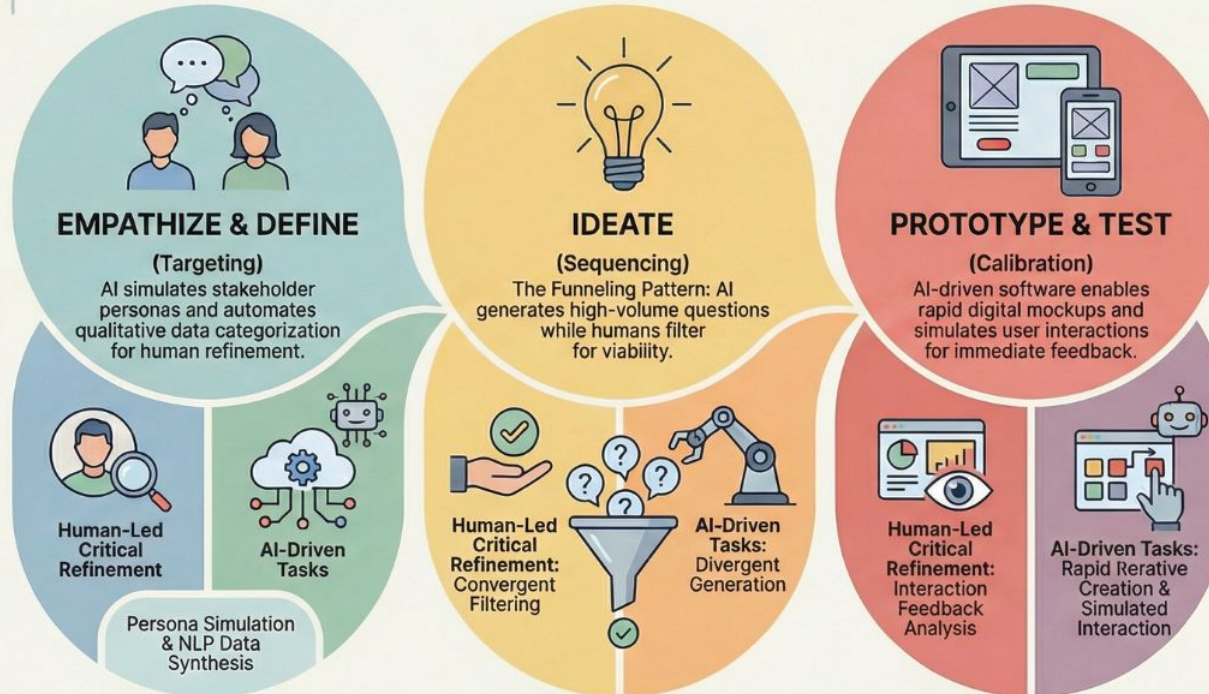
What is Design Thinking?

A methodology combining empathy, rationality, and creativity to solve complex, ill-defined problems.



The Impact of the Framework:

It transforms vague intentions into desirable solutions by prioritizing user empathy and iterative learning.



Developed using Notebook LM

A lot has happened in a year. I tried to summarize some of key findings in a brief set of slides.

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A Brief Tour and Overview of My Work with AI

Natalie R. Laderas

ACTIVITY SAMPLER(SELF-PACED)- AI Enriched

Remember

Create your own herb memory cards using Notebook LM

Create your own knowledge quizzes

Use AI as a drill partner regularly to ask questions to check your learning

Use AI to create matching pairs

Summarize

Create a social media short video promo or 'elevator speech'

Create a lo-fi infographic that summarizes a lesson or module and explain it verbally including why the information is included

Use AI to create a visual post. Develop brief video to promote it

Apply

Given a scenario, explain what to do next in your own words.

Ask AI to write 5-7 recipes with a selection criteria you devise for herbs you choose and find all the issues or contraindications

Look up references for remedies or recipes and use an AI tool to vet the articles for these claims. Explain the issues you encountered.

Analysis

Use AI to create Top 10 facts to share with a client on an herb. Vet these claims and show your proof

Describe how you would apply X knowledge or practice IRL

Have AI develop a case study for an imbalance, and you analyze case study's primary concern & background

Compare 5-7 Herbal Monographs and identify similarities, contradictions and gaps

Categorize

Create an infographic that compares two similar herbs or essential oils

Use a whiteboard to categorize topics

Create a catalogue with your own specs and criteria. Do 2 iterations & edits. Explain your edits and changes

Students rank different types of herbal evidence from weakest to strongest and justify their reasoning

Evaluate

Correct & critique a set of flashcards created by AI

Review a sample business plan created by AI. Per your current restrictions or state laws

Use AI to analyze a peer's lesson, and rewrite this assessment in your own words

Give nutritional requirements and have AI create a meal plan and recipes. Evaluate for ease of use and affordability based on your region

Do It (Create)

Create a presentation or set of slides using AI and redline with your corrections and suggestions

Develop your own lesson plan for the module content. And evaluate it

Create an infographic using AI that summarizes the module. Record audio or write a paragraph in your own language that explains it

Use AI to develop an outline learning plan for a future student. Create 1 set of slides on your own to introduce the topic

Developed and tweaked this set of activities based on Bloom's Taxonomy last year. They've shifted to apply more reflection and evaluation as AI's capabilities evolved rapidly.

Define how you use AI in a story...

When I develop an eLearning, I first work with a SME to get the best content possible. This is well-written, vetted and researched content that has some rich ideas that I can work with to visualize or tell a story around. We build this content around learning outcomes we evaluate for sequencing, relevance for learner knowledge and skills based on the original objective, and ability to evaluate these outcomes.

I look for common themes that may drive the aesthetics of the content. Are we working with herbs and their uses? Maybe a clean and natural apothecary with green plants and natural ingredients might be a good choice. It might be tempting to choose rustic looking workshop shots but this is an academic course, so I will probably choose something that looks like a home kitchen with appropriate supplies and equipment vs. bucolic country living. But I want to choose graphics that are reassuring and friendly, approachable to build a reassuring tone.

I format the content and research images that could support this content. I pre-identify opportunities that may need customized images like complex comparisons or processes. These might be good candidates for AI generated diagrams or infographics. I look for opportunities to explain content in scenarios. Or to have the students evaluate these scenarios and apply their knowledge to them.

Recently, I worked on content around building resilience. Some of the topics focused on deep and emotional experiences including depression and trauma. I worked with AI to develop art using certain styles and genres like abstract expressionism that depict feelings or interpretations of feelings or experiences using selected color palettes and brush strokes and techniques to describe the desired artwork.

I look for opportunities to make the content fun or approachable. Like building a rainbow colored form that tracks what you eat each week to support your health allowing you to eat a rainbow. I may ask the AI to help me spitball ideas for presentation, but I adapt and revise or combine the output that AI gives me. I avoid any ratholes for developing content in detail and try not to veer from the original learning outcomes. I always go back and review the activities, learning assessments and content to ensure that the learning outcomes are met.

Recently, I tried to draft a story illustrating how I work and use AI.

Write effective prompts.

Remember to review and revise output shared by AI, using it primarily as a brainstorming or springboarding tool.

Use the knowledge you have of instructional design and project implementation.

Project implementation

I am seeking to implement an AI course assistant in our undergraduate courses in Canvas. Pretend you are a seasoned Agile Project Manager and Change Consultant with PROSCI certification, can you give me a list of information you will need to create a robust and thorough project plan to successfully implement this tech in 1 month, and create a project plan in Asana? Please include any items that may be out of scope for that timeline but explain how to do it after the launch in 1 month. Also, Please ask me any clarifying questions you may have.

Developing principles for AI friendly learning activities

Act an instructional designer with >20 years of experience and knowledge of use of AI tools for learning, and write 7 principles of authoring learning assessments and activities that ensure that learners practice metacognition around the subjects they learn. **Ask any clarifying questions.**

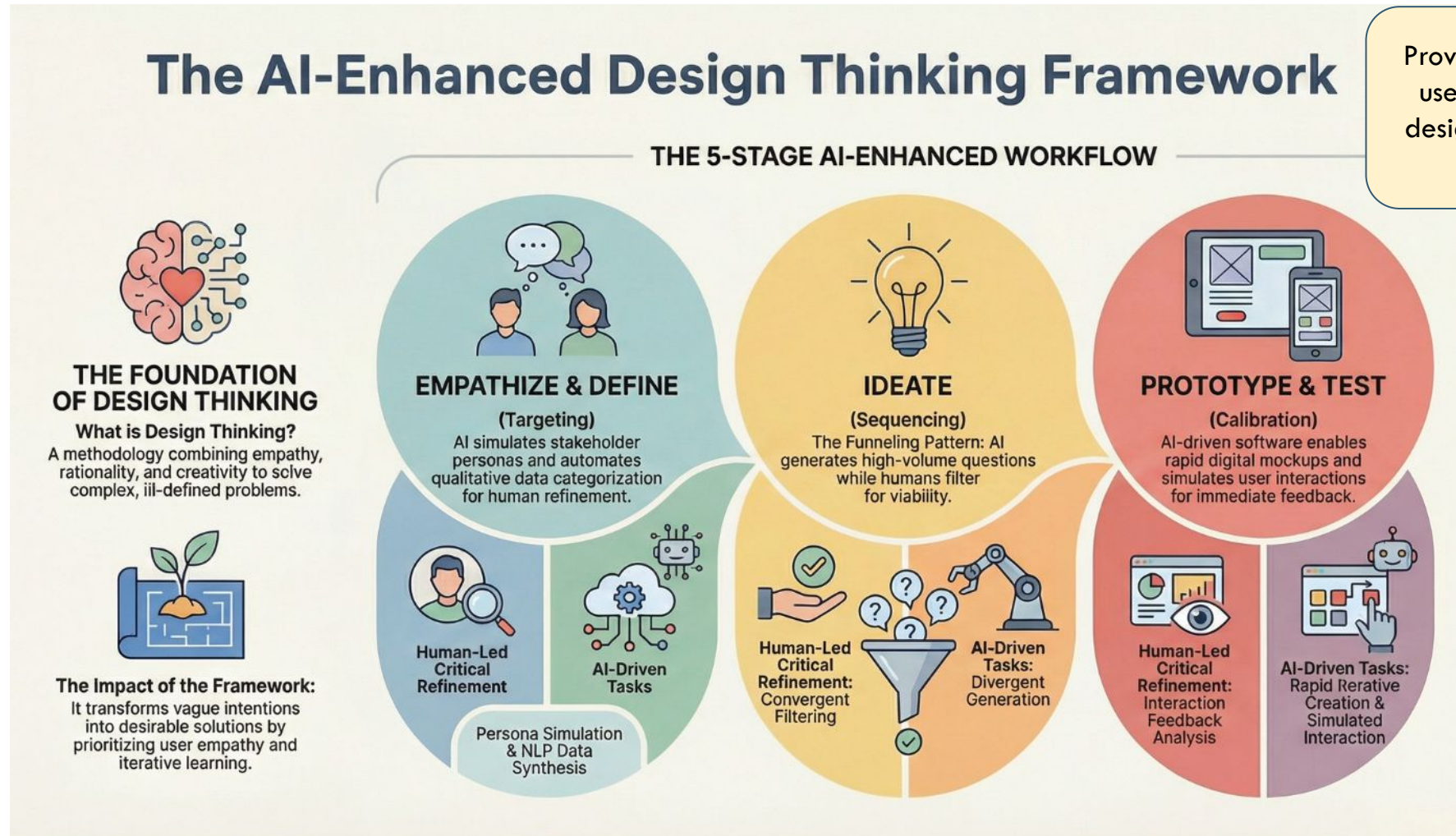


AI's clarifying question. My response in blues:

1. Audience level: (**undergraduate/graduate**/doctoral or faculty training.
2. Delivery contextt: **online**/hybrid, on-campus?
3. Assessment type: high-stakes **summative/low-stakes formative, portfolio-based**
4. AI stance: learner given permission to use or restricted from use. **Learners are encouraged to use AI, but transparently and thoughtfully.**

Use AI to create graphic drafts

Using AI with the Design Thinking process. This graphic was created using Notebook LM.



Provided the text content and asked it to use a specific palette and style. I save design prompts and tweak and use it for other designs.

Analyze AI's Capacity

Took the idea of this exercise from this podcast: "Preserving Learning in the Age of AI Shortcuts." I found it reassuring.

https://youtu.be/PXp59FDQ_3o?si=SuS9MU0Mq5H4cw49

What humans are good at

Emoting, responding emotionally, connecting authentically, evaluating whether we like something, responding critically to content or ideas, editing a draft with a perspective in mind, responding spontaneously to a work, choosing different perspectives, expressing empathy, working with their hands.

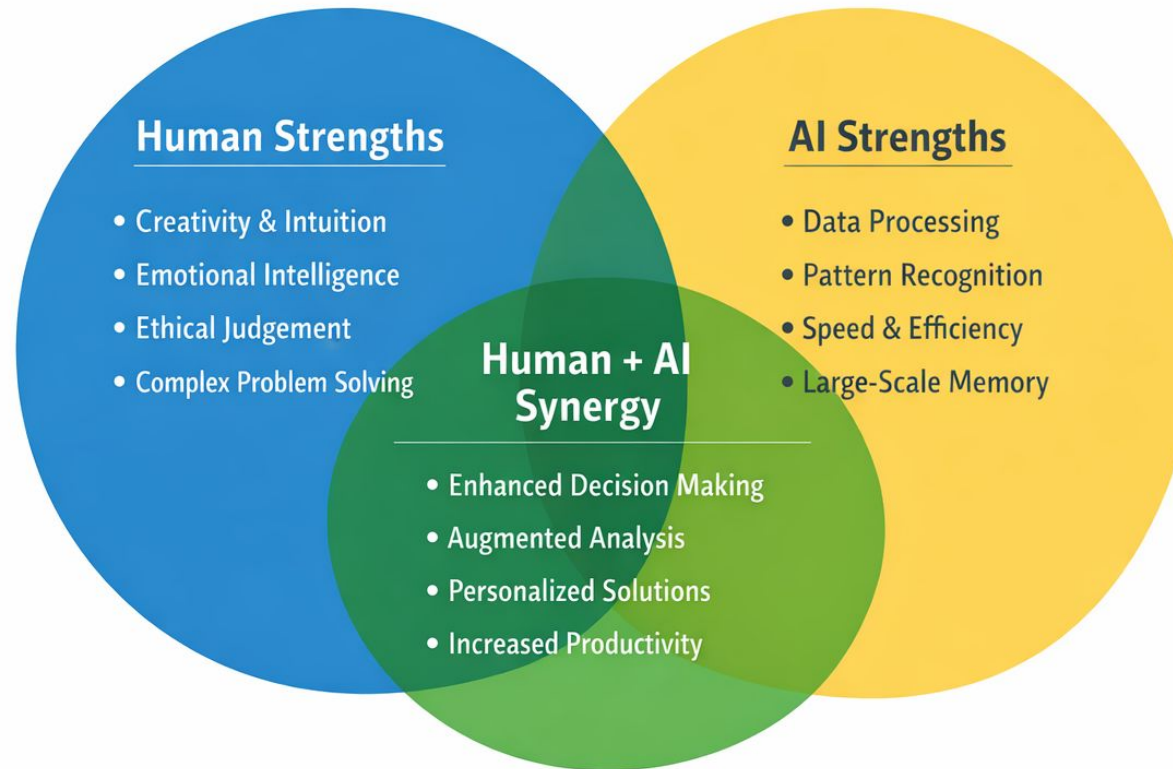
What both are good at Brainstorming

What AI is good at

List making, compiling information, brainstorming, computing, aggregating data, writing a draft, mimicking different tones and styles in writing and visual art

This is what Chat GPT came up with.

Humans and AI: Who Does What Best?



What Humans Excel At



What AI Excels At

What's become more real for me: 6 takeaways after using AI for a year

Teach handwriting especially cursive. Writing by hand connects you personally to ideas.

Encourage love and discovery of physical books and content. Make sure you have a library card.

Encourage engaging with physical and hands-on activity and finding joy in that.

Engage and listen to good examples of human storytelling and comedy. Find the authentic and revel in it.

Build human relationships wherever possible.

Find your own voice.

I probably could write a long article explaining why I came to these conclusions, but I could summarize them by saying that I found it self-affirming to stay connected to the real world of people, making things, and how I perceive the world. Stay connected to what makes you valuable as a human.