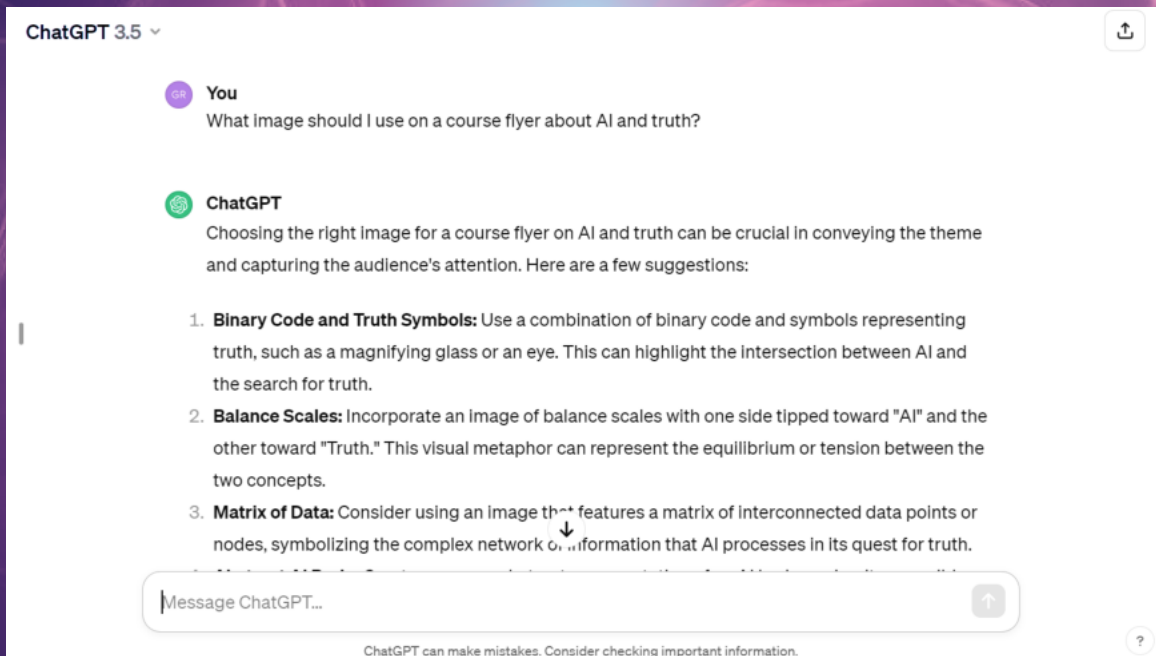


AGE OF AI



How can we move beyond debates over whether current generative AI programs help or hurt our capacity to depict reality, and instead think about how these technologies shape our perception of truth? What happens when “authenticity” is created procedurally, when a neural network can mimic a documentary without human intervention? From whimsical AI-generated landscapes to politically-motivated deepfakes, in our present moment we are constantly grappling with constructed truths that feel real. This class specifically looks at recent media experiments in audiovisual remix and generative AI to consider both the potential benefits and drawbacks of these emerging technologies. We will discuss the current state of artificial intelligence, but also the debates within various creative industries about the use of AI, such as the 2023 WGA strike and other questions of labor. Many scholars have expressed concern that this application of big data to fabricate the illusion of reality will destroy our faith in images and our collective understanding of truth. We will listen to these concerns, but instead of looking at generative AI as the beginning of the end of civilization, this class will examine what possibilities—and problems—emerge as we incorporate these new technologies into our lives and our art.