

A Study of Artificial Intelligence on Career Perceptions, Employment Anxiety of Mainland Chinese Higher Vocational Students

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Abstract: This paper mainly discusses the application and impact of AI tools in vocational college students' career planning and employment preparation in Chinese Mainland. Through a review and analysis of relevant literature, this article found that artificial intelligence tools can provide students with more information and assistance, thereby improving their career cognition and employment competitiveness. However, if artificial intelligence tools are not open to Chinese users or students overly rely on these tools, it may also bring some negative effects, such as job anxiety and decreased self-awareness. Therefore, the government and teaching departments should strengthen the education of career planning and employment preparation, improve the artificial intelligence system, establish personalized service mode and other measures to provide more comprehensive and personalized career recommendation and employment services for higher vocational students in Chinese Mainland.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence Tools; Higher Vocational Students in Chinese Mainland; Employment Anxiety

1. Introduction

AI tools have been widely used in higher vocational education in Chinese Mainland to provide more personalized career recommendation and employment services for students. But it also brings issues of accuracy, reliability, and dependence, such as how to avoid excessive dependence and how to improve students' professional and self-awareness abilities. Research has found that the rapid development and popularization of artificial intelligence technology have had an impact on the employment of college students, leading to an intensification of employment anxiety. Among them, traditional industries have been impacted by automation, and emerging professions have emerged, increasing uncertainty and anxiety.

2.1 The impact of artificial intelligence on students' career development cognition

According to the 2022 China College Student Employment Report, over 80% of college students express an urgent need for more career guidance and assistance in order to better cope with career challenges. In this context, the importance of artificial intelligence tools is increasingly prominent, as they can provide students with richer information and resources, thereby improving their career awareness and job competitiveness. For example, some professional career planning platforms can utilize advanced artificial intelligence technology to recommend suitable career development directions and employment opportunities for students based on their personal information such as interests, academic performance, and personality traits. These tools can also help students gain a deeper understanding of important information such as job content, salary and benefits, and development prospects for different professions, enabling them to develop more comprehensive and in-depth career plans and employment plans. These measures have positive implications for improving students' professional and self-awareness abilities.

In addition, artificial intelligence tools can provide students with accurate job market information by analyzing a large amount of employment data and trends. Artificial intelligence tools can also improve students' employment competitiveness through simulation interviews and vocational skills training. Through simulated interviews, students can understand the process and techniques of the interview, familiarize themselves with the interview environment in advance, and thereby increase their confidence and coping ability.

Vocational skills training can help students improve their professional abilities and skill levels, and increase their competitiveness in employment. Artificial intelligence tools have shown great potential in career guidance and assistance for college students, helping to enhance their career awareness and competitiveness in employment. Personalized Career counseling can solve employment problems.

2.2 The impact of artificial intelligence on students' employment anxiety

If AI tools are not fully and deeply open to the vast Chinese user community, or Chinese students rely excessively on such intelligent tools, they may also bring a series of negative impacts. Research shows that in the 2021 China College Student Employment Report, approximately 30% of college students reported experiencing significant employment pressure, partly due to their lack of confidence in their own abilities and vague understanding of self-awareness. If students excessively rely on artificial intelligence tools, this may significantly reduce their own independent and proactive spirit, which may affect their profound understanding of self-awareness and clear career development plans. In addition, some career planning platforms also have issues with inaccurate data and unreasonable recommendations, which are highly likely to cause students to have doubts and anxiety about their career planning and employment prospects. Overreliance on artificial intelligence tools may also lead to limitations in students' career choices. In order to address the potential negative impacts that artificial intelligence tools may bring, we should attach importance to and pay attention to these issues. According to authoritative data from the 2021 China College Student Employment Report, approximately 30% of Chinese college students say they feel at a loss when facing employment pressure.

This proportion is quite high, indicating that students have certain deficiencies in their self-confidence and self-awareness, which also provides a broad application space for artificial intelligence tools. However, if students excessively rely on artificial intelligence tools, it may limit their autonomy and initiative, and even affect their understanding of their career positioning and development prospects. In addition, the data accuracy and recommendation rationality of some career planning platforms also need to be improved, which may lead to students' doubts and anxiety about their career planning and employment prospects.

3.1 Analysis of the negative psychological impact of weak AI generative tools on higher vocational production in Chinese Mainland at this stage

If AI tools are not open to Chinese users, it may lead to a significant lag in the employment competitiveness of higher vocational students in Chinese Mainland compared with international students. According to the 2023 China Artificial Intelligence Industry Development Report, as of the end of 2022, the number of patents in the global artificial intelligence field has increased to nearly 500,000, with China accounting for over 50%. This significant data indicates that China has taken a global lead in the development of artificial intelligence. AI tools are not open to Chinese users, which may bring some potential adverse effects to higher vocational students in Chinese Mainland. Higher vocational students in Chinese Mainland may not be able to use AI tools to gain more convenience in learning and employment like students in other countries and regions. This means that they may lose some advantages in competing with international students, such as efficiency in paper writing, data organization, and analysis. In this case, the employment competitiveness of vocational college students in Chinese Mainland may be affected to some extent. This is because they may not be able to fully utilize the convenience and efficiency provided by artificial intelligence tools, thereby reducing their competitiveness in the job market. In addition, with the development of globalization and digitization, the demand for artificial intelligence skills in many industries and professions is gradually increasing. If higher vocational students in Chinese Mainland cannot make full use of these tools, they will face more severe employment competition pressure.

Artificial intelligence tools may bring a subtle sense of anxiety to students. According to the 2023 China Youth Internet Use Report, over 70% of teenagers publicly stated that when they use the internet, they experience an uncontrollable anxiety and stress. Although these tools can provide students with rich and diverse information and thoughtful assistance, if students do not use these tools properly or receive timely and appropriate guidance, it may also have some negative consequences. For example, if students become overly superstitious about relying on artificial intelligence tools, they may lose their ability to self-reflect and independently solve problems. On the other hand, if the information provided by artificial intelligence tools does not match the actual situation, or if there are errors, it may also have a negative impact on students' career planning and job preparation.

4. What kind of response should the government and education departments need to make in the future to address the employment anxiety of vocational college students?

The government and teaching departments should strengthen employment guidance and counseling services to enhance students' employment competitiveness. According to the 2022 China Vocational and Technical College Graduates' Employment Quality Report, the average employment rate of vocational college graduates is 94.4%, but only 36.2% of graduates find satisfactory jobs within one month after graduation. This shows that vocational students in Chinese Mainland are facing great challenges in employment. Therefore, the government and teaching departments should strengthen their investment in employment guidance and counseling services to improve students' employment competitiveness and satisfaction. Teaching departments should establish a sound employment service system to provide students with more comprehensive and personalized employment services. According to the 2022 China Higher Vocational Education Development Report, there are still some problems in the employment service system of higher vocational schools in Chinese Mainland, such as insufficient resources, single service content, and uneven service quality.

Therefore, the government and teaching departments should strengthen the construction and improvement of the employment service system, providing students with more comprehensive and personalized employment services. The government and teaching departments should actively explore the application of artificial intelligence technology in employment services. According to the Report on the Development of China's Artificial Intelligence Industry in 2021, the current research focus in China's artificial intelligence field is to improve Algorithmic efficiency and performance, optimize human-computer interaction experience and other aspects. Therefore, the government and teaching departments can explore the application of artificial intelligence technology in employment services, such as using artificial intelligence Analysis of algorithms to analyze students' career orientation and ability characteristics, and provide more accurate career recommendation and employment services for students.

5. Conclusion

Artificial intelligence has an impact on students' occupational cognition and employment anxiety. The tools are widely used and promoted, providing diverse services to assist in career development awareness and enhance employment competitiveness. However, tools may cause dependency, affect independent thinking and judgment abilities, leading to job anxiety and cognitive decline. It is necessary to balance advantages and disadvantages, strengthen supervision and management, and schools and educational institutions should strengthen vocational education and guidance. Through activities, vocational cognition and self-awareness abilities should be improved to adapt to the new requirements of the artificial intelligence era.

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