Hi. My name is Maggie Melo, and I'm an assistant professor at the School of Information and Library Science, where I research inclusive STEM learning environments such as library maker spaces in higher education.

Many researchers are interested in leveraging ChatGPT to gather valuable information, but may be uncertain about how to get started.

Today I'm going to talk about using ChatGPT for research, particularly for those unfamiliar with its potential applications. For instance, in policy research, chatbots has been used to gather expert opinions on complex issues like urban planning or health care policies. It has also been used to survey sample populations, such as collecting feedback on user experiences or opinions on social issues.

To shed some light on this, I'll provide an example of how ChatGPT can be used effectively. Specifically, I'm going to demonstrate how it can be used to gather insight from expert opinions. Why is this important? By looking at this example, we can get a clearer picture of how chatbots can be useful in our research and by extension, how this approach can be applied to other developing generative AI tools.

For example, let's say you're interested in expert opinions on teens use of social media and its impact on mental health.

The first thing you want to do is step one. Define the specific aspects that you're interested in potential correlations, challenges or benefits. Let's say you're interested in potential correlations. Step two You want to craft a question that captures expert opinions that you're looking for.

So for this example, I'm going to ChatGPT about potential correlations. Next steps. Step three Assign the role of expert and don't forget their credentials to ChatGPT three an input the question into the chat bot

Be as specific as possible. Add contextual information and additional instructions to guide the experts responses. So for this example, I entered this prompt into ChatGPT.

You are an interdisciplinary researcher with an expertise in mental health and teen usage of social media in the United States. You have a PhD in this research area and are a public intellectual. Explain the potential correlations between teen social media use and mental health to two audiences to a general audience and to an academic audience.

Next, step four Analyze and extract valuable insights from the responses generated.

Look for recurring themes, key points, and different perspectives shared by the expert. Also, consider using techniques such as thematic analysis or qualitative coding to organize and analyze the insights In my example, I found that the tool did a decent job tailoring the response to two different audiences and provided a high level overview of positive and negative correlations.

Now for the last step. This is crucial. Validate the expert opinions by comparing them with existing research, seeking consensus among multiple experts, or conducting further analyzes. This helps establish the credibility and reliability of the insights you obtain. It's also important to note that the knowledge cut off ChatGPT is September 2021. For this example, I cross-referenced the chat bots response with trusted sources, academic journals, government publications and expert reviewed articles in a similar approach to crafting a literature review.

I looked for consensus among multiple sources to verify the accuracy of the information provided. In conclusion, ChatGPT and other generative A.I. tools are increasingly being used by researchers. In this example, ChatGPT was used to glean opinions from mental health and teen usage of social media. This is just one strategy. You can also use a chat bot to offer alternative viewpoints and to even survey sample populations for feedback.

In the upcoming applied section, you'll have the opportunity to try using ChatGPT for productivity purposes. Good luck and remember it takes practice to chat. Get in the most effective ways for your research. I encourage you to try it out and remember it might take a few practice prompts before you get the results you're looking for.