STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

This guidance aims to help students use artificial intelligence in a way that supports their learning and doesn't breach the expected behaviours of academic integrity.



Understand what AI is

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the simulation of human intelligence by computers. It does this through recognising patterns but does not 'think' in the way we understand thinking. Many of us use AI in our day-to-day life when we use Google searches, ChatGPT, digital assistants such as Siri, image-creation software, and assistive technology such as text-to-speech software. There are also plenty of apps that support academic work, such as SciSpace Copilot, which helps translate texts into plain English.

Consider how you are using AI

When used well, AI can be a great tool to support your learning. It can help you develop ideas, translate languages, generate images, create a waiata, or summarise texts. But AI stops being a good idea when you are not learning and the AI is doing too much of the work. Consider this: If you have to complete a task in an exam without using AI, would you be okay? Using AI when it's not permitted on a piece of work might breach the ethical standards of academic integrity.

Get to know the AI tools available

Artificial intelligence technology can help make learning more accessible. Take time to consider what tools you are using so that you can use the right tool for the right process. Some AI can support writing or the rapid development of artifacts in the creative disciplines, while others can help you summarise ideas or test your knowledge. There's also AI specifically designed to help support you if you have additional learning needs.



Take time to understand expectations around the use of AI

Expectations may vary from course to course or even from assignment to assignment. There may be rules around how you can or can't use AI, and what kinds of AI are acceptable to use. For example, it might be okay to use translation software but not generative AI such as ChatGPT. Your course coordinators should make it clear when you can and cannot use AI and if there are any limitations on how you use it. If you're not sure, just ask.



Acknowledge when you use AI

If generative AI is permitted in your course, and you use it, acknowledge how you have used it. See library referencing guides here.



Understand the limitations of AI tools

Sometimes, AI may produce inaccurate or biased content, including imaginary ideas and inaccurate or outdated data. Generative AI such as ChatGPT has 'hallucinations', so can't be relied on to generate high quality summaries or text. Different AI tools will have different strengths and limitations; for example, ChatGPT is not a search engine. Users of AI need to be critical and understand what the AI can and can't do well.



Watch this space

We'll keep developing guidance and support for students on how to use AI well. If you have concerns about this, or want to add something, contact us.