
 جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة United Arab Emirates University UAEU	Generative AI Usage by the Students Policy		
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Generative AI Usage by the Students

Overview

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is a type of artificial intelligence that can learn from large amounts of data to generate diverse content such as text, images, music, videos, code, and more, based on user's inputs or prompts. UAEU is committed to fostering an environment that encourages innovative thinking and learning. As part of this commitment, the university allows students to use GenAI tools for academic and research purposes. However, it is essential to establish guidelines to ensure responsible and ethical use of this technology. This policy outlines the rules and procedures for using Generative AI on campus.

Objectives

The goal of this policy is to ensure that university students are using GenAI in ways that support their learning, enhance their ability to achieve their Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) and Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), and prepare them to succeed in their future careers. Inappropriate use of AI undermines all of these benefits and damages their learning. This policy provides guidelines for the appropriate use of GenAI tools by university students, ensuring academic integrity, ethical considerations, data privacy, information security, and compliance with relevant laws and regulations. This policy applies to any university-related work that is made either on campus or outside campus.

Scope

This policy applies to all university students and any student work submitted for academic credit, including but not limited to exams, essays, research papers, theses, dissertations, and projects.


Policy

Article (1): Academic and Research Use

GenAI tools are to be used exclusively for academic and research purposes. GenAI systems and tools should complement human creativity and decision-making, but not replace it. While these tools are powerful and easy to use, they can also provide irrelevant, inappropriate, misleading, or incorrect information. Students are strongly encouraged to take a critical approach to the use of any output from a GenAI.

Article (2): Responsible Use

A mandatory statement regarding the terms of use of GenAI must be included in every course syllabus referencing the current Policy and Procedures. Students are expected to use GenAI responsibly, respecting intellectual property rights, privacy, and confidentiality agreements. Plagiarism or unauthorized use of copyrighted materials generated by GenAI is strictly prohibited.

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2-1 Assessments where the use of GenAI by students is prohibited*

- Assessments where the use of GenAI is prohibited for the delivery of the specific learning activities or skills to be assessed might include:
 - Demonstrating foundation-level skills such as remembering, understanding, independently developing critical thinking skills,
 - Applying knowledge or demonstrating fundamental skills that are required throughout the educational program.
- Also, using GenAI is prohibited for (unless stated otherwise by the course instructor):
 - In-class examinations, or assignments (unless explicitly permitted and instructed)
 - In-person unseen examinations
 - Class tests
 - Online tests
 - Laboratories and practicums
 - Discussion-based assessments

* It is permissible for a GenAI-type software (i.e., Grammarly) to be used to check areas of academic writing such as structure, fluency, presentation, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and language translation. However, “this may be considered Academic Misconduct if substantive changes to content have been made by the reviewer or software or at their recommendation.”

2-2 Using GenAI tools by the students in an assistive role which are allowed


GenAI tools can be utilized to enhance and support the development of specific skills in specific ways, as specified by the tutor and required by the assessment. Students may be permitted to use AI tools for specific defined processes within the assessment. Students may be allowed to use GenAI for tasks such as data analysis, pattern recognition, or generating insights. The course instructor should support and guide the students in the use of GenAI to ensure equity of experience, but the use of GenAI is not in itself a learning outcome. Skills include:

- Brainstorming, drafting and structuring content;
- Supporting the writing process in a limited manner;
- As a support tutor;
- Supporting a particular process such as testing code or translating content;
- Giving feedback on content, or proofreading content.

2-3 Where GenAI tools are allowed for use as an integral part of the learning process and/or assessment

GenAI can be used as a primary tool throughout the assessment process. Students can demonstrate their ability to use GenAI tools effectively and critically to tackle complex problems, make informed judgments, and generate creative solutions. The assessment provides an opportunity to demonstrate effective and responsible use of GenAI. Abilities include:

- Brainstorming, drafting and structuring content;
- Developing ideas;
- Comparing content (GenAI versus human-generated);
- Creating content in particular styles;
- Producing summaries;
- Analyzing content;
- Reframing content;
- Researching and seeking answers;
- Creating artwork (images, audio, and videos);
- Playing a Socratic role and engaging in a conversational discussion;

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11. Developing code;
12. Translating content;
13. Developing initial content to be critiqued by students.

2-4 Information Accuracy

Information gained from GenAI should always be checked with other recognized sources of information and the latter should be cited to support the information.

Article (3): Ethical Considerations

Students must consider the ethical implications of the content produced by GenAI.

1. All content generated using GenAI should respect cultural, social, and individual sensitivities, avoiding the potential for harm or misinformation.
2. GenAI should not be used to generate content that impersonates real individuals, infringes on copyrights, or touches on highly sensitive subjects without appropriate oversight and caution.
3. Any content, including that produced using GenAI, that promotes hate speech, discrimination, violence, or illegal activities is not allowed.
4. Content or decisions generated by GenAI, especially those impacting individuals' rights or well-being, should undergo a review by those using the Gen AI tools (i.e., students, instructors, etc.).
5. Any use of GenAI for personal gain (excluding business plan or proposal development for a startup), or malicious activities is strictly prohibited.
6. Content generated by GenAI tools can be inaccurate, misleading, or entirely fabricated and should undergo an accuracy review by users of these tools (i.e., students, instructors, etc.).

Article (4): Data Privacy

Students must handle any personal or sensitive data used in conjunction with GenAI tools responsibly, ensuring compliance with relevant UAE data protection laws and university policies.

Article (5): Security


Students should take necessary precautions to secure their GenAI tools and related data to prevent unauthorized access or misuse.

Article (6): Training

To comply with this Policy, the UAEU students must complete a training session as part of their orientation, which covers all topics of the current Policy, including responsible usage, acknowledging the use of GenAI, ethical considerations, security, and privacy.

Article (7): Acknowledging the use of GenAI

Students should add a declaration when adapting material generated by GenAI, even if students were to completely rewrite and paraphrase the text or edit images generated by GenAI, or the material is being used to simply demonstrate the capability of GenAI.

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Article (8): Monitoring and Compliance

The university reserves the right to monitor the usage of GenAI tools to ensure compliance with this policy. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to academic penalties and loss of access to GenAI tools.

Content Screening:

1. Faculty shall use various plagiarism-checking tools in evaluating student work, including tools that screen for AI-generated content, and impose consequences accordingly.
2. Faculty are required to use AI-generated text detection tools to evaluate the degree to which it is present in student work, so that faculty can impose a significant penalty for low-energy or unreflective reuse of material generated by AI tools and assigning zero points for merely reproducing the output from AI tools.
3. Faculty may use a lower baseline for students who declare the use of AI tools, depending on how extensive the usage is, while rewarding creativity, critical nuance, and the correction of inaccuracies or superficial interpretations in response to suggestions made by AI tools.

Article (9): Reporting Violations

Any member of the university community who becomes aware of a violation of this policy must immediately submit a written complaint to the relevant authorities within the university.

Article (10): Enforcement

1. Violations of this policy are subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the university students' code of conduct. Consequences for violations may include academic penalties, suspension, expulsion, and legal action, depending on the severity of the violation.
2. Using AI-generated content without acknowledgment is considered plagiarism and a breach of academic integrity that may result in allegations of academic misconduct and subsequent punitive actions, as described in the "Plagiarism" section of policies for "Students' Responsibilities".

Article (11): Review and Revision

This policy must be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and relevance, considering the rapid evolution of GAI technologies and their implications. Revisions should be made as necessary to address emerging technologies, legal requirements, and changing ethical standards.

Article (12): Conclusions

The University is committed to maintaining the highest standards in the application of GenAI in higher education and research in order to continuously adapt to the evolving landscape of AI technology and ethics. While adhering to this policy, students harness the potential of GenAI for academic and research purposes simultaneously adhering to and promoting the university's values of integrity, responsibility, and ethical conduct.