Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) in education

Forms of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI), such as ChatGPT, are playing an increasingly major role in the world and also in the professional field where you will end up as a graduate. At the Faculty of Humanities (FGw), we believe it is important that you, as a student, learn to deal with the possibilities that these resources offer in a responsible way.

At present, degree programmes are not allowed (yet) to actively deploy UvA GenAI for teaching and assessment purposes. Nevertheless, it is a good idea to find out how GenAI works and how it can be applied in a responsible way, so that it supports, instead of undermines, your learning process. A consultation with your lecturer is always the first step.

What is Generative AI?

GenAI is an umbrella term for algorithms that are able to create new material. This content can take on various forms, such as text, code, images, videos and music. GenAI creates output as an answer to a question or instruction (also referred to as a 'prompt') by using generative models bases on large quantities of data. Well-known examples of GenAI tools are ChatGPT for text, and DALL-E for images.

Generative AI in education

The technology of GenAI can be deployed for various purposes. If you would like to make use of GenAI as an FGw student, you need express permission for that from your lecturer in advance. In other cases, you may **not make use** of GenAI.

Please note: if you use GenAI when completing assignments and writing papers and theses, without having been given permission for this, that may be viewed as plagiarism, which is a form of fraud.

Below you will read more about what is and isn't allowed with GenAI in education.

Read the course information and/or consult your lecturer

You will often find rules about if and how you may use GenAI in the syllabus of your course. If you cannot find this information in the syllabus, the Course Catalogue or in Canvas, it is important to consult your lecturer before use. Explain why you want to use GenAI and which added value it has for your work and learning process. Transparency is essential in this regard. Always ensure that it's clear where you will be using GenAI in your work, as it is important that the lecturer can assess whether you have a command of the learning objectives yourself. Your use of GenAI may not stand in the way

Examples of responsible use of GenAI

The **examples** below **may** be allowed in your course, but always check this with your lecturer before your begin. The rules can differ from degree programme to degree

from course to course. Be aware that your lecturer must have given express permission for use of GenAI.

Editing

GenAI can be used as a language assistant to improve text you have written yourself, without the tool adding new content. You can use the prompt 'edit' for this. Prompts like 'rewrite' may lead to the AI tool adding new content.

Searching

GenAI can be used as a search tool to find initial information about a topic, or as a starting point when searching for literature. This method of collecting information is comparable with the use of a normal search engine. It is up to you then to search for academic sources, conduct an analysis, and to interpret and process the information obtained. Take into account that output generated by ChatGPT (or similar tools) is not always accurate or complete and may vary with each attempt.

Brainstorming

There are GenAI tools which you can use to brainstorm on formulating a research question or a research design. In this way, use of AI can support your own thought process.

Studying for exams

You can use GenAI to help you prepare for exams. There are tools in which you can upload texts. After that, you can ask the AI to come up with new knowledge questions about the relevant material. In this way, you use AI to order your own knowledge and formulate answers yourself.

Fraud and plagiarism

Use of GenAI in education, without the permission of the lecturer, will be reported to the Examinations Board as impermissible and may lead to disciplinary measures.
Material copied from GenAI without acknowledgement of a source will be viewed as plagiarism, and therefore as a form of fraud. Fraud and plagiarism is taken to mean acts or omissions of a student, as a result of which a correct assessment of knowledge, insight and skills is wholly or partially impossible. You do a degree programme to acquire knowledge and expand your skills. When writing a text, you learn to order your thoughts and to process them in a text that is written independently. We view material generated by GenAI as another person's work, unless it is permitted by your lecturer and your use of AI is transparent by making proper references.

With regard to GenAI, the following provisions from the *Regulations governing Fraud and Plagiarism for UvA students*, among other things, are applicable:

- making use of or reproducing another person's texts, data or ideas to a significant degree without acknowledgement of sources;

- presenting the structure or central body of ideas taken from third-party sources as one's own work or ideas;
- reproducing another person's audio, visual or test materials, software or program codes without reference to the sources, and in doing so passing these off as one's own work;
- submitting papers that have been written by someone else (whether or not in exchange for payment), including papers that were acquired from a commercial institution.