

## Statement on Generative Artificial Intelligence

As part of our commitment to academic integrity and excellence, Columbia College recognizes the need to address the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) within our community. This statement defines GenAI, clarifies its implications, and explains how it fits within academic policies.

Instructors are encouraged to share their expectations regarding students' use of GenAI tools both at the beginning of a course and throughout the semester. Instructors may choose to communicate their expectations to students in writing in a variety of ways such as their syllabi, in Moodle course pages, and within assignments and/or activities. Clearly communicating expectations early and often promotes academic integrity and prevents confusion.

### Definition of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI)

GenAI refers to a class of artificial intelligence systems capable of creating new content, such as text, images, music, or code, based on patterns learned from existing data (McKinsey & Company, 2023). These systems use machine learning algorithms to generate outputs that resemble the data they are trained on. Examples of GenAI include large language models like ChatGPT, Copilot, image generators like DALL-E, and a growing number of other systems designed to produce outputs.

These tools can fulfill simple and complex requests, such as writing essays, solving math problems, fixing code, generating images, and writing emails. ChatGPT is a prominent GenAI tool that can produce among other things writing and code. It has a growing ability to cite external sources, but may produce factually incorrect results as it is trained on existing writing.

### Interpretation within College Policy

In examining GenAI within the College, we must align it with our core values of integrity, responsibility, and academic rigor. The following principles and definitions are established to ensure the ethical use of GenAI in accordance with our existing policies on [Academic Misconduct](#), [Plagiarism](#), [Classroom code of conduct](#), and [Academic Freedom and Code of Ethics](#). The intention is to identify areas of academic misconduct related to the usage of GenAI.

In accordance with our existing policies and procedures, violative uses of GenAI may be defined as the following:

College Policies	Violative uses of Generative AI
In accordance with our <a href="#">Plagiarism and Cheating Policy</a> and <a href="#">Academic Misconduct</a> plagiarism is defined as a type of academic dishonesty in which the presentation of another's words, thoughts or inventions as one's own without citation, usually with	Based on these policies, the following uses of GenAI are considered plagiarism and cheating.  <b>Using AI-generated content without citation</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Submitting AI-generated content without proper citation.</li><li>2. Using direct quotations or sections of paraphrased or summarized material generated by AI without acknowledgement.</li></ol>

the intention of gaining academic advantage.	3. Using GenAI tools to generate entire assignments or significant portions of assignments and presenting them as one's own work without acknowledgement.
In accordance with our <a href="#">Plagiarism and Cheating Policy</a> and <a href="#">Academic Misconduct</a> , the use of unauthorized materials or resources is considered academic misconduct.	<p>Based on these policies, the following uses of GenAI are considered academic misconduct.</p> <p><b>Using GenAI as Unauthorized Assistance</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Using GenAI to complete assignments, exams, or any form of assessment without explicit permission from instructors.</li> <li>2. Relying on GenAI to generate solutions for take-home exams, online tests, or any other graded assignments where independent work is required.</li> </ol> <p><b>Using GenAI as Unauthorized Materials or Resources</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Using GenAI to bypass the learning process by generating final products instead of engaging with the material, such as generating code for programming assignments without understanding the underlying concepts.</li> <li>2. Employing GenAI tools to produce responses or outputs for discussion posts, reflections, or other assignments intended to assess personal understanding and critical thinking.</li> </ol>
Where GenAI Usage is Permitted	<p><b>Failing to adhere to the following is considered as academic misconduct:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Failing to disclose the use of GenAI in assignments where the use of such tools is permitted but must be declared.</li> <li>2. Not providing accurate attribution for any AI-generated content included in submissions.</li> </ol>

Student use of GenAI (cited or uncited) in assignment submissions without explicit permission from instructors is considered misconduct. If explicitly allowed within a course or assignment, AI-generated content must clearly be cited, indicating the tool used and the extent of its contribution. This includes text, images, code, and any other AI generated material.

Students must use generative AI responsibly and transparently, ensuring it supports their learning without compromising honesty. Instructors should clearly communicate their expectations to promote a culture of integrity.

## References

McKinsey & Company, "What is Generative AI?" 19 January 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/mckinsey-explainers/what-is-generative-ai> [accessed 18 July 2024]