

Using Artificial Intelligence Responsibly

The emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) powered writing aids has provided students with valuable writing assistance. The university encourages the use of writing aids, however, each student must inform themselves of the ethical pitfalls and dilemmas of overreliance on AI writing assistance. The university's expectations, as stated in the [Liberty Way](#), are that students cannot use AI writing aids to generate content for their assignments. This expectation honors the university's long-standing values of originality and authenticity in student work.

The principles of originality and authenticity are what drive our position on AI. We do not ban ChatGPT, Grammarly, or any other AI-powered writing aids. Many AI tools have very helpful features that can be used ethically by students. **What we prohibit is allowing AI to generate content that is presented as original work or allowing AI to significantly modify existing work to the point that the assignment is no longer in the student's own words.** It is this behavior that causes concern and can be considered academic misconduct due to the infringement on assignment originality and authenticity. This use of AI is also highly likely to be detected by the Turnitin AI detector. Just as students should not hand off their work to another person to add content to it, the same is true of AI.

The use of Grammarly is very common and is not prohibited by the university. Grammarly can be an immensely valuable tool for students. However, students are advised to take precautions to avoid the use of generative text AI features within Grammarly or any other writing aid. Students should not accept AI-generated 'improvements' to their work. If Grammarly suggests modifications to your work beyond basic spelling and grammar edits, those modifications should not be accepted. We encourage students to let their true writing voice be prominent in their work and not allow it to be diluted by AI generated content. When possible, turning off generative text AI features in Grammarly or any other writing aid is highly recommended.