AIM ABS Guidelines on the use of generative AI[1]

Background

This document provides guidance on the appropriate use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) for ABS students and academic staff aligned with the [Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021](#) (HESF). The HESF states that providers assure the quality of teaching, learning, research, and research training, with respect to content and skills developed, assessment and determination of learning outcomes, and the mitigation of foreseeable risks to academic and research integrity.

For Students

Students at AIM ABS are encouraged to use generative AI in an ethical and transparent manner that aligns with academic integrity principles. The below guidelines will assist you with that:

1. Acceptable use of AI-generated text: You may use AI-generated text for tasks such as brainstorming new assignment topics, generating summaries of longer texts for your own understanding only, translating text into another language, or generating new text based on existing content. You can also use generative AI to further increase your understanding of academic topics that are discussed in your unit. However, it should not be used to replace original thinking or writing, such as for completing assignments or publishing academic papers.

2. Unacceptable use of AI-generated text: Do not use AI-generated text to deceive or misrepresent as your original work. AI text cannot be submitted as your assignment without inserting relevant references. Do not use generative AI to create content that may mislead readers to believe that it is the product of your own work. All submitted work that is not cited or referenced must be your own original work.

3. Referencing AI-generated content: If you use AI-generated text in your academic work, you must properly cite and reference it. This includes providing details on the source of the AI-generated text, the type of AI algorithm used, and the date of access.

4. Formatting and editing tools: Please be aware that some programs that assist with correcting grammar, formatting and writing style can have generative AI included in their software which might impact the AI score of your assignment. For example, GrammarlyGo and Scribbr use generative AI to improve users' quality of writing. If you use AI enabled editing and formatting tools, it is recommended to not allow the program to change your sentence structure. We also recommend to keep a copy of the pre-edited version of your assignment prior to using any editing and formatting services. Should your final assignment submission then be flagged for a high AI score, you will be able to submit the pre-edited version of your assignment as proof that the content is the product of your own work.

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[1] OpenAI was used to create a first draft of these guidelines (OpenAI, 2023).

5. Ethical considerations: Consider the ethical implications of using AI-generated text. This includes potential bias in the data used to train the AI model and the potential misuse of AI-generated content for malicious purposes. Limitations of generative AI include but are not limited to biased or negative responses.

6. Transparency: Be transparent about the use of AI-generated text. Acknowledge when AI was used to generate text and explain how it was used in the creation of the final work.

7. Students also need to be aware of the possibility of "hallucinated references" or the tendency of generative AI language models to make up references from constituent parts of actual references.

Please keep in mind that AIM ABS facilitators check all student submissions for academic integrity which also includes AI-generated text. Student submissions of concern get forwarded to the Academic Team for further analysis. ABS has an Academic Integrity and Honesty Policy and Procedure. Both documents can be accessed via our [website](#) and guide our decision making in these instances.

For Academic Staff

Academic staff at AIM ABS refers to facilitators and any staff members who contribute to course delivery, content review and development.

AIM ABS does allow the use of generative AI for academic staff but asks you to use it in an ethical and responsible manner. The below points will assist you in doing that:
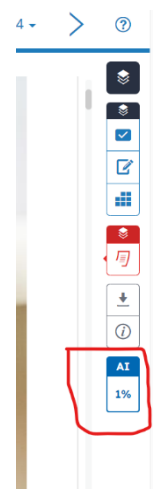
1. Use of AI-generated text in teaching materials: When creating teaching materials, you can consider using AI-generated text for brainstorming new topics, to generate summaries of longer texts, or to generate new text based on existing content. However, it should not be used to replace original thinking or writing of teaching content.

2. Ethical considerations: Consider the ethical implications of using AI-generated text in teaching and assessment. This includes potential bias in the data used to train the AI model and the potential misuse of AI-generated content for malicious purposes.

3. Transparency: Be transparent about the use of AI-generated text in teaching and assessment. Explain to students when AI-generated text is used, and how it was used in the creation of teaching materials or assessments.

4. For assessments where students are asked to use generative AI it is crucial that relevant AI literacy education takes place and student instructions on how to use generative AI are clear and communicated in all appropriate material such as unit guides and assessment guides. Educate students to be discerning and critical when using generative AI. Crafting a prompt that will produce a high-quality response is a skill in itself and students will need practice with this.

5. Assessment of assignments: When assessing student assignments, be aware of the use of AI-generated text. Do not accept AI-generated text as original work, and make sure students properly cite and reference any AI-generated content used in their work.

Here are some specific things teaching staff should look out for when assessing the authenticity of student assignments:

AI score in Turnitin

- Turnitin has an inbuilt AI score which is separate to the similarity index. The AI score can be accessed in the Feedback studio and is only available for academic staff and not for students. After opening a student's assignment click on the AI box as indicated in the screenshot to the right.
- Please keep in mind that the AI score in Turnitin is a suitable first indicator only and should not be understood as providing firm evidence. As general guidance an AI score of less than 20% is unlikely to raise genuine academic integrity issues. When reviewing the AI score please look out for instances where more than one consecutive paragraph is flagged as generative AI content and escalate these cases to our Academic Manager for further review.

Manual text analysis

When reading through a student's assignment please be aware of the following aspects which may help you identify AI generated text:

- The overall quality and coherence of the writing: AI-generated text may have a different quality or coherence than a student's writing, so inconsistencies in these areas could be an indication of the use of AI-generated text.
- The student's writing style and voice: AI-generated text may have a different writing style or voice than the student's own writing, so differences in these areas could be an indication of the use of AI-generated text.
- The complexity and sophistication of the writing: AI-generated text may be more complex or sophisticated than a student's own writing, so a sudden improvement in the quality of writing or a change in the level of complexity could be an indication of the use of AI-generated text.
- The use of technical or domain-specific vocabulary: AI-generated text may use technical or domain-specific vocabulary that is unlikely to be used by a student without specialized knowledge in that area.
- The consistency of language and grammar throughout the assignment: AI-generated text may have a consistent language and grammar throughout an assignment, while a student's writing may have inconsistencies or errors.
- Perplexity and burstiness: AI-generated text tends to produce sentences of low perplexity which increases overall understanding but also predictability. Burstiness refers to the level of variation in sentence structure and length and AI-generated text tends to have a lower burstiness level than human text.

It's important to note that these indicators should be used as a guide and not definitive proof that AI-generated text has been used in a student's assignment.

By following these guidelines, students and academic staff at AIM ABS can ensure they are using AI-generated text in an ethical and responsible manner, while also maintaining academic integrity.

Further Resources

- Training material on AI and ethics:
    - [TEQSA Academic Integrity toolkit](#)
    - [AAIN Generative Artificial Intelligence Guidelines](#)
- AIM ABS Academic Integrity and Honesty Policy and Managing Student Academic Misconduct Procedure. Both documents can be accessed on [our website](#).
- The [University of Queensland Library Digital Essentials module](#) which is an AI literacy module that is available for free.
- [ChatGPT Advice Academics Can Use Now](#)
- [How AI can be used meaningfully by teachers and students in 2023](#)
- [How to cite ChatGPT](#)

References

OpenAI. (2023, April 24). Guideline for students and staff at AIM ABS on the ethical use of AI-generated text. [Guidelines]. Retrieved from https://github.com/OpenAI/guidelines/blob/main/AIM-ABS-ethical-use-of-AI-generated-text.md