GenAI code of conduct for students (2024-2025)

Generative AI (GenAI) assistance tools can be used to generate text, image, code, video, music or combinations of these. It includes typical tools like (but this list is not limited to): ChatGPT, Google Gemini, MS Copilot, Midjourney, Claude.ai, Perplexity.ai, Dall-E, …

Student name: **Thijs Alens** ....

Student number: **r0886323** ....

> **Please indicate with "X" whether it relates to a course assignment or to the master thesis:**

O This form is related to a **course assignment**.

  Course name: ....

  Course number: ....

X This form is related to **my Master thesis**.

  Title Master thesis: User-friendly Home Automation using IDP...

  Promoter: S. Vandevelde…………… ....

  Daily supervisor: L. Van Laer ....

Please indicate with "X":

O **I did not use** any GenAI assistance tool.

X **I did use** GenAI Assistance. In this case **specify which ones** (e.g. ChatGPT, ...):

	Name of the GenAI tool used *Please indicate with "X" (possibly multiple times) in which way you were using GenAI:*				
GenAI assistance used as/for:	ChatGPT				
Language assistance	X				
Search engine					
Literature search					
Short-form input assistance					
Generating programming code					
Generating new research ideas					
Generating blocks of text					
Other (specify):					

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O **As a language assistant for reviewing or improving texts I wrote myself**

➢ *Code of conduct*: This use is similar to using spelling and grammar check tools, you do not have to refer to use of GenAI in the text.
Be careful:
- o Using GenAI tools on texts you did not write yourself to cover up plagiarism (by paraphrasing original texts) is not allowed.

O **As a search engine to get information on a topic or to search for existing research on the topic**

➢ *Code of conduct*: This use is similar to e.g. a Google search or checking Wikipedia. If you then write your own text based on this information, you do not have to refer to use of GenAI in the text.
Be careful:
- o Be aware that the output of the GenAI tool cannot be guaranteed as a 100% reliable source of information. The output may not be entirely correct and be limited due to the databases it uses. Knowledge evolves and may change over time, it may be that the database of the GenAI tool is not up to date.

O **For literature search**

➢ *Code of conduct*: This use is comparable to e.g. a Google Scholar search.
Be careful:
- o Be aware that the output is restricted to the database it is built on. After this initial search, look for scientific sources and conduct your own analysis of the source documents. Interpret, analyse and process the information you obtained; verify it and don't just copy-paste it.
- o Be aware that some GenAI tools (like ChatGPT) may output no or wrong references. As a student you are responsible for further checking and verifying the absence or correctness of references; don't just copy-paste it.

If you then write your own text based on this information, you do not have to refer to use of GenAI in the text.

O **For short-form input assistance**

➢ *Code of conduct*: This use is similar to e.g. Google docs powered by generative language models

O **To generate programming code**

➢ *Code of conduct*: Use of GenAI for coding should be explicitly allowed by the teacher. If used for coding, correctly mention the use of GenAI assistance and cite it.

O **To generate new research ideas**

➢ *Code of conduct*: Further verify in this case whether the idea is novel or not. It is likely that it is related to existing work, which should be referenced then.

O **To generate blocks of text**

➢ *Code of conduct*: Inserting blocks of text without quotes and a reference to GenAI assistance in your report or thesis is not allowed. According to Article 84 of the exam regulations in evaluating your work one should be able to correctly judge on your own knowledge, understanding and skills. In case it is really needed to insert a block of text from a GenAI tool, mention it as a citation by using quotes. But this should be kept to an absolute minimum. When you literally copy elements from a conversation with a GenAI tool: Quote between quotation marks and refer according to the specified reference style or as a personal communication within the text itself. Describe the use of the GenAI-tool (tool name, version, date, ...) in the method section (if there is one) and optionally add the (link to the) full conversation as an attachment.

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O **Other**

> - *Code of conduct*: Contact the professor of the course or the promoter of the thesis. Inform also the program director. Motivate how you comply with Article 84 of the exam regulations. Explain the use and the added value of ChatGPT or another AI tool: ….

Further important guidelines and remarks

- GenAI assistance cannot be used related **to data or subjects under Non-Disclosure Agreement.**
- GenAI assistance cannot be used related **to sensitive or personal data due to privacy issues**.
- **Take a scientific and critical attitude** when interacting with GenAI assistance and interpreting its output. Don't become emotionally connected to AI tools.
- As a student you are responsible for complying with Article 84 of the exam regulations: your report or thesis should reflect your own knowledge, understanding and skills. Be aware that plagiarism rules also apply to (work that is the result of) the use of GenAI assistance tools.
- **Exam regulations Article 84**: "Every conduct individual students display with which they (partially) inhibit or attempt to inhibit a correct judgement of their own knowledge, understanding and/or skills or those of other students, is considered an irregularity which may result in a suitable penalty. A special type of irregularity is plagiarism, i.e. copying the work (ideas, texts, structures, designs, images, plans, codes , ...) of others or prior personal work in an exact or slightly modified way without adequately acknowledging the sources. Every possession of prohibited resources during an examination (see article 65) is considered an irregularity."
- In order to maintain academic integrity and avoid plagiarism **more information about being transparent on the use of GenAI assistance and about citing and referencing GenAI** can be found on this website for students (Dutch/English).
- **Additional reading : KU Leuven guidelines on responsible use of Generative AI tools, and other information** (Dutch/English)

A few final words

If you are uncertain whether or not you should declare your use of AI tools, we suggest that you discuss the matter with your teacher or promoter. It is safer to declare AI use when it is not needed than to withhold that declaration when it is required.

Finally, remember that advanced AI tools are new and that they can do things they could not do, up until recently – so we do not have all the answers about how to use them responsibly yet. It is important to follow-up on most recent evolutions in AI technologies, to be a bit cautious, to communicate with teachers, teachings assistants, supervisors, promoters and peers with open minds, to be as transparent as we can, and to learn together as we move along.

This code of conduct can be used as a framework for academic year 2024-2025, changes will be made based on new evolutions.

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