

Generative AI guidance

Over the past couple of years, there has been a considerable and across-the-board increase in students submitting very poor-quality coursework assignments that, while fairly well written, display barely any relevant knowledge of the material studied on the corresponding module. In most cases, this is caused by the use of generative AI by students, to write large parts of their essays.

On this module, you are not permitted to use generative AI to plan, structure, or write your coursework assignment (either in part or in full) for you. This is in line with the 'minimal' criteria of appropriate use as set out in the [College's student guidance](#).

If there is clear evidence that you have used generative AI in this way, then we will treat it as a case of academic misconduct. This could involve your essay being referred to Student Conduct and Appeals, who will invite you to attend an Academic Misconduct Committee. Cases where students use generative AI to write their essays for them may be treated under the offence of 'Third-party involvement', for which the penalties include expulsion from the College.

It can be difficult to prove the use of generative AI – although the quality of detection software is increasing rapidly – but even in cases we have come across where the evidence is inconclusive and students have been given the benefit of the doubt, the quality of the essays in question is usually extremely poor, very often leading to failing marks.

Some modules might allow the use of generative AI for certain purposes. If you are unsure whether you can or cannot use generative AI on another module, then check with the module convenor.

For further reference, the following sections of KCL's [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) are especially relevant:

4.2 The College accepts that there is an increasing integration of artificial intelligence into everyday word processing software and a range of tools are externally available. However, **the use of generative AI tools to produce output which is then copied as part of a submission is not appropriate.** ... Any use of writing technologies must adhere to the same principles as third-party services. This means that any work submitted must represent a genuine demonstration of the student's own work, skills and subject knowledge, adheres to the guidelines of the assessment task, and respects the College's value of academic integrity and honesty.

4.3 Where a student chooses to ask another individual to proof read their work, engages a private tutor to assist with assessments, or uses writing technologies, this should be limited to learning activities which do not form part of the final stages of assessments submitted for credit, or highlighting errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar. **The service should not assist with substantive content creation or structuring of the assessment. Above all, third parties cannot make substantive changes which compromise the authorship of the text (for example, translating whole sections of text, rather than individual phrases), revise calculations, formulae, equations, or code, alter charts, figures or diagrams, correct information or references, or involve any tutoring.**