Peking University School of Transnational Law

AI Policy

Fall 2024

STL's current AI policy in its Academic Integrity Code, as approved by the faculty in 2024, is below.

PKUSTL Generative AI Rules for Inclusion in Academic Integrity Code

For the purpose of this subsection, the terms "generative AI" and "AI tools" refer to tools that allow users to generate text, images, photographs, and videos or other content through the use of prompts or instructions. AI tools may be stand-alone tools or programs or may be integrated into other programs, applications, or services such as legal research databases and search engines, among others.

STL's faculty believes that the use of AI tools will become increasingly integrated into daily life and work. Law students and lawyers must consider how to use these tools effectively and properly. In the meantime, these rules intend to provide guidance to students on when AI tools can be used now in the context of your studies at STL.

STL's rules on AI tools assume that AI tools can be used for many purposes in your studies that you can find useful or helpful. For example, you might find AI tools helpful for summarizing a case or explaining a legal doctrine. AI tools have also been used for brainstorming ideas or arguments, proofreading, translating, drafting emails, and other uses. Consistent with the assessment that AI tools will become commonplace, STL's rules do not prohibit students from using AI tools in many contexts. However, STL's rules do allow instructors or groups of instructors to set rules for their courses when the instructors consider that the use of AI tools for some purpose or by some means is not consistent with the pedagogical or instructional goals of their course.

While STL does not prohibit students from the use of AI tools generally, STL's faculty is aware that the use of AI tools presents risks, not just with respect to academic integrity, but also with respect to the professional responsibilities of legal practitioners. As they are now, AI tools can generate passages of text that resembles the text written by others word for word, creating a risk of accusations of plagiarism. AI tools can provide text that is inaccurate or plainly wrong and they have been known to generate citations to fictional cases and sources. Lawyers who have relied on AI tools without verifying their output have been sanctioned by judges. Users should also be aware that the text they input into AI tools

may be handled by the owners of the AI tools consistent with those tools' individual privacy policies and may be used by the tools for their own purposes.

We advise you to use the results from AI tools with care and without assuming that their output must be correct, accurate, or up to date. It is your responsibility to check the information you obtain via an AI tool. The use of invented or fictional data or information in a course may have adverse consequences for your grade.

Please note that because AI tools are developing rapidly, STL's rules on the use of AI tools may change as these tools develop and these rules may be revised in due course.

We acknowledge that this policy is influenced by the policy on generative AI developed by the University of Chicago Law School (link).

Default STL Rules on Generative AI

The below rules are default rules for the use of AI tools. Instructors are authorized to depart from these default rules if they communicate the departure from the default rule to students in writing with appropriate notice.

1. Students may use AI tools for tasks if it would not be a violation of an academic integrity rule for the same task to be performed by another person or tool.

Students may use AI tools to perform tasks if the performance of that task would not be a violation of an academic integrity rule if it were done by another person instead of an AI tool.

To illustrate, it is not a violation of any academic integrity rule to borrow another person's outline, case briefs, or notes to study. Using an AI tool to generate an outline or case brief would likewise not be a violation of an academic integrity rule. Speaking with another student about ideas for a research paper or asking another student to proofread a draft of a paper does not violate academic integrity rules. Using an AI tools to generate ideas or to proofread what you have written would also not violate academic integrity rules. Asking another student to explain a concept to you is allowed. Asking an AI tool to do so is also allowed.

The use of tools to perform tasks when the performance of those tasks with other tools does not violate academic integrity rules is also permitted. For example, many proofreading tools already exist, some directly integrated into word processing software or email services, and their use is not prohibited. The use of an AI tool to perform the same or similar function is likewise not prohibited. The use of translation tools is permitted so the use of an AI tool to translate text is also permitted.

2. By default, students may not directly use content generated by generative AI in work that is submitted for credit

While you are permitted to use AI tools and generative AI, you are, by default, not permitted to copy content generated by generative AI tools directly into the work that you submit to a course for credit. Work that you submit to a course for credit include, among others, final papers, research papers, reflection or response papers, practice documents such as legal memoranda and briefs, take-home assessments, and other work that you submit that will be taken into consideration for evaluating your performance in a course or determining your grade. <u>You may not copy such content even if you provide attribution to the generative AI tools as the source of that content.</u>

Work that you undertake for a course, but which is not submitted towards your evaluation is not subject to this rule. For example, your own notes about a course that you produce for yourself are not subject to this default rule.

The use of AI tools to generate standard citation formats for footnotes, proofreading, provide suggestions about language and editing, and translation are not subject to this default rule.

3. Instructors may depart from these rules

The preceding rules are default rules. Instructors are authorized to depart from these default rules if they communicate the departure from the default rule to students in advance in writing with appropriate notice.

If an instructor permits the use of AI tools, specifically those that produce content in response to user prompts, to compose part or all of a work that is submitted for evaluation, students are required to keep a record of the specific prompts and other interactions with AI tools that permits the instructor to review the prompts and other material provided to AI tools and the output produced by those AI tools. An instructor may depart from this requirement.