Considerations when using AI

It's essential to think about ethical and integrity concerns when using AI tools. Use the following considerations to ensure your AI use is ethical and appropriate.

Professional responsibility requires that using AI does not undermine legal standards. Legal professional bodies emphasise that practitioners remain fully responsible for AI use and ensure accuracy, ethical compliance, and well-reasoned judgement.

Critical thinking is increasingly important in the age of AI, as over-reliance on AI can undermine the learning process. At university and in legal practice, critical thinking underpins the ability to evaluate evidence, analyse arguments, and apply legal principles independently.

Privacy as a law student and future lawyer, safeguarding sensitive or private information is paramount. You should always be aware of the data protection and security levels of AI tools you use.

Data sovereignty refers to the right of nations, to control how data about them is collected, stored, and used. As AI systems rely on large, often cross-border datasets, questions of ownership, control, jurisdiction, and cultural authority are increasingly critical.

Copyright and AI raise complex issues around the use of copyrighted material to train AI models, the risks of uploading protected or licensed content into AI tools, and the uncertain copyright status of AI-generated outputs under Australian law.

Transparency in AI use requires law students and legal professionals to disclose when AI tools are used and remain responsible for the work produced. Black box AI systems pose particular risks in legal contexts because their lack of explainability makes it difficult to validate reasoning, identify bias, or ensure accountability.

Sustainability concerns are significant with AI due to the substantial impacts of AI on the environment across its lifecycle, from the development of AI models; the deployment of systems; and the building, decommissioning and renewal of the infrastructure that support and comprise AI technology.

Learn more: Ethical use of AI in your LLB(Hons).