

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Teaching Guidance

1.0 What is AI?

- 1.1 Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the ability of machines to perform tasks that are typically associated with human intelligence, such as learning and problem-solving. [AI applications](#) include [generative](#) or [creative](#) tools (e.g. [ChatGPT](#) and [AI art](#)), advanced [web search](#) engines (e.g., [Google Search](#)), [recommendation systems](#) (used by [YouTube](#), [Amazon](#), and [Netflix](#)), [understanding human speech](#) (such as [Siri](#) and [Alexa](#)), [self-driving cars](#) (e.g., [Waymo](#)), and competing in [strategic games](#) such as [chess](#) and [Go](#).¹
- 1.2 Generative AI (GenAI) refers to 'artificial intelligence systems and algorithms that are designed to create new content, data, or information that is not explicitly programmed or provided by humans. Instead, these AI systems generate content autonomously based on patterns, rules, and examples they have learned from large datasets during their training. These systems can create text, images, music, code and more, often demonstrating human-like creative abilities in the generation process.'² A Large Language Model (LLM) is a type of GenAI system that has been trained on vast amounts of text data to generate plausible textual responses to prompts written in natural language.
- 1.3 The boundary between AI and other technologies is blurry, and AI is increasingly being incorporated into digital systems in ways that are neither visible nor obvious to the user.

2.0 The University of Manchester's Position

- 2.1 Our University's position is that when used appropriately AI tools have the potential to enhance teaching and learning, and can support inclusivity and accessibility. Output from AI systems must be treated in the same manner by staff and students as work created by another person or persons, i.e. used critically and with permitted license, and cited and acknowledged appropriately³.
- 2.2 With approval at School level, this position may be broadened or narrowed for Course Units or assignments level to encourage, require, or disallow specific uses of AI. In such cases students must be given detailed information that explains the rationale for the variation from the default position, as well as what is and isn't

¹ Modified and licensed under [CC-BY-SA 4.0](#) from the first paragraph of Wikipedia's '[Artificial Intelligence](#)' article, accessed [11th September 2023](#).

² Generated by the free version of [ChatGPT-3.5](#) in response to the prompt 'Give me a concise definition of Generative AI. Refer to models as systems.' and used verbatim, 16th September 2023.

³ [Library's guidance on how to cite AI](#).

allowed. Students may be required to sign up to a School-approved Code of Conduct.

- 2.3 Presenting work created by GenAI without suitable acknowledgement is plagiarism, and must be treated using the same principles⁴ and processes⁵ as plagiarism of a person.
- 2.4 Where the use of AI is encouraged or required, the University must ensure students have equitable access to tools at no additional cost to themselves. Where the use of AI requires students to provide personal data to a third party, an alternative mechanism must be available that does not disadvantage any student that declines to provide such data. Students must be made aware of how third-party systems use their data, including their authored prompts and other uploaded content.
- 2.5 Tools to detect AI-generated content are unreliable and biased⁶ and must not be used to identify academic malpractice in summative assessment. Output from such tools cannot be used as evidence of malpractice.

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⁴ <https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=2870>

⁵ <https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=639>

⁶ <https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.15666>